

# 2019 Southern Iowa Fair Comments

**\*\*only comments that included a valid name and phone number were included in this listing.\*\***

Notes from the Post-Fair Meeting are on the last page

## Barns/Maintenance

Build a small Dairy Barn – Clayton Hester Potential growth for project areas, maybe a future project - Clayton

Can we get a barn speaker and a pavilion speaker outside the pavilion, by the sale ring? There was a dead area there where we couldn't hear what they were announcing in the barns or the pavilion. – Jenny Van Zante - Fairboard will look into, may have missed when the beef barn came down – Adam

Clubs are leaving their wires hanging from rafters in the barns and those need removed for fair board to use for winter storage. – Fair Board

All gates in the sheep-hog barn were left along the wall and were supposed to go back on the trailer when done. – Fair Board Hog barn gates

## Beef Tie Outs

Any way a hydrant could be placed near the south end of the tie outs so kids don't have to carry/haul water from the barn or have parents carry water for them. – Melinda Groenendyk Fairboard will look into, more fixes are planned for the future with wash racks and tie outs first – Shawn & Erica

Tie outs can't be reserved before 5:00PM at stall assignments – Jenny Van Zante Can hang signs early, just no mulch early – fairboard

Fair book needs to say that all cattle at tie outs are required to have a neck tie. I don't see it there and our first year we didn't know except for a fellow club member parent told us. 4 separate cattle were walking around at tie outs – 3 without neck ties. – Melinda Groenendyk We will add to the beef section in rules

## Beef

We like the new beef barn, much cooler! Very few stall cards were placed this year. Not sure why some didn't place on outside walls but for center isle kids, any way a wire could be strung from one end to the other to attach cards to? I had 2 people I didn't know ask why so many others didn't have stall cards like we did because they like to see who have animals and one was looking for a specific kid they knew. – Melinda Groenendyk Once the barn is finished, but zip ties worked well for the middle aisle – fairboard

Reserved parking for one vehicle by the Advanced Feeder Pens for the Advanced Feeder participants. We bring a lot of feed, hay, supplies, etc and could use a reserved spot by the pens. – Jenny Van Zante Maybe have a 1-2 parking sections reserved for unloading. Fairboard is for it, but people don't follow rules, just take down the signs, so no guarantees

Need a no-fit breeding heifer class – Jenny Van Zante Beef superintendents will discuss this fall

Need guidelines to keep a certain width open for an alley-way on show day. – Jenny Van Zante **Beef superintendents will discuss this fall**

Return Bucket Bottle class – kids need some sort of educational assistance on how to show. Bucket bottle class is on the “educational aspect”, but the Return Bucket Bottle class is on “showing” the calf. – Tami Goemaat **Have showmanship clinic for kids to learn – Beef Superintendents**

## **Swine**

Extend weigh-in time for swine until 10:30 AM and push back Advanced Feeder and Sheep to accommodate for the time swine weigh-in takes. – Megan VerSteegh **maybe portable scale in the swine barn? – swine superintendents and fairboard**

Adjust swine schedule to only have pigs on the grounds for 72 hours. Iowa State Veterinarians and County Swine Extension Specialists are pushing for expositions and fairs to have pigs on grounds under 72 hours for biosecurity reasons, especially non-kill shows. Or at least send swine going home (that are not going on truck or through auction) after the show, since they are likely returning home where more pigs may be on the premise. Biosecurity is a huge part of the swine industry, it's being proactive before something goes wrong. – Ashtin Harris **Something we can definitely discuss – Kenny Wanders**

Swine – need a couple classes for hogs that aren't “show pigs”: maybe carcass class, Feeder Pen of 3 (with records kept), keep the current pen of 3. – Jenny Van Zante

Can we do away with the “mandatory” aspect of the derby swine show? Some families are buying extra derby pigs just to show in the swine show. - Andy Hargis

If we do away with the “mandatory derby swine show” do we have to continue beginning weighing for the others? – Andy Hargis

## **General Livestock**

It would be nice to give each livestock exhibiting family a parking pass – one per family maybe. – Amanda Van Zante **Fairboard will discuss, hard call on where to draw the line, other fairs charge a daily admissions. Money goes towards Ruritan Scholarship**

Most other livestock species (like horse and dog) should require at least one clinic/workshop to be eligible to show at fair. Had comments from two judges say that kids did not know how to properly handle livestock/perform showmanship (Beef show, dairy show, myotonic goat). It's been difficult in the past to get students to attend workshops unless it was required, but probably a superintendent call. We are hoping to host a showmanship/handling clinic next spring for all species – 4-H Staff

There were issues with Stall Assignments (not enough stalls assigned according to the sheets we turned in). I saw a couple superintendents present Friday night, but not all. – Jenny Van Zante

Please consider open shows for pre-age 4-Hers to be one-animal-only per person. This is getting out of hand. It's okay to give the littles reason to anticipate being in 4-H when they are of age. – Laura Wielard

**Fairboard already addressed for 2020 –only bringing one per person**

We would like to have the idea of a “home-raised” class considered for each species. Many of the kids/families spend hours working on their livestock that is from their farm knowing they don't stand a

chance at the fair competing with animals purchased from show stock. A “home-raised” category would at least give them a hope of a chance, or an alternate would be to have purchased show stock in a class? – Amanda Van Zante

Include the Poultry Showmanship winner in the Supreme Showmanship contest – Jenny Van Zante  
**Maybe have small animal supreme showman and large animal supreme showmanship – will send on to supreme showman superintendents**

Herdsmanship scores were low this year. What can we do to promote this and stress the importance of herdsmanship? I know some kids were trying really hard and still got low scores. With stall assignment issues, and some clubs having their pens split up from each other, this could have played a part in the herdsmanship scores/confusion. – Jennifer Van Zante – **Amy is re-vamping, should be better next year as a whole process**

Gamerzz Fair in mall? 4-H & Clover Kids pet show in DAV. – Jerry Rempe - **Maybe move pet show to Monday or earlier in the morning? Gamerzz fair brought in good money for the fair - Erica**

Change horse show to a come and go show – Horse Superintendents **Like the open horse barn, way cooler – Jenn Hoy**

### **Dog Show**

Clover Kids dog show all at the beginning. Finish before 4-H starts. – Jerry Rempe **Makes it a late night for the littles – agility would need to be set up twice. Maybe last July Class be the Clover Kids Show? But we want the kids to experience fair to show at the fair.. – Dog supers will discuss**

Thank you Dog Sup. For moving the dog entrance. Made us Beef Sup. happy. – Clayton Hester

### **Static Exhibits/Exhibit Hall**

Loved the theme and logo this year! Clear and easily adaptable for 4-Hers. Many compliments! – Laura Wielard

With exhibit judging the same time as the weigh-ins/check-ins, it is hectic for many of us. Were exhibit numbers down because of this? – Jenny Van Zante

Worked at the weigh-in scale all day Monday and heard several families concerned if their 4-Her needed to be the one to weigh their animals because they were currently in the exhibit hall for judging. Maybe consider moving the exhibit hall judging to Saturday or Sunday afternoon to limit the chaos of Monday weigh-ins? – Ashtin Harris

Please can we move exhibit hall judging to Saturday again? Way too much going on Monday – Shauna Hol **Maybe move to judging on Friday?**

Seems consideration might be given to more than one entry per student to advance to state fair. Totally understand the non-monopoly concept, but maybe 2 items vs. only one. – Laura Wielard **Amy is considering for next year since numbers are going down and we want to send quality**

Would like exhibit hall judging moved back to Saturday, it's too crazy on Monday with everything else - Deb Overbergen

## Queen Contests

The attire of the queen during the beef show needs to be addressed. It is not about those girls. Today, her flappy pants and b/white stripes were freaking out the livestock. – Laura Wieldard  
Fairboard working with Queen Superintendent

## Additional Comments

LOVE the water monster! Thank you! – Tina Marshall

Some families are padding for tack, is that allowed? – Jenn Hoy - No padding for tack, animals need to have priority on space, especially for a year like this year when animal numbers were so high – 4-H Staff

Have a splash pad (with mist) – Kylie Davis Fire station was going to bring something possibly – fairboard

Splash Pad – Holly Hanselmann

Bring taco's Jalisco taco truck to the fairgrounds – Mark VerSteegh.

Can the south and west gates be opened for exiting the Fairgrounds Friday night and Saturday? This might help with trailer congestion. – Jenny Van Zante

Pre-fair newsletter, livestream, water jug by the sheriff was great – Jenny Van Zante Livestream was maybe too far away to see, no sound – next year fairboard is going to add more cameras and look into audio- Erica

## Post-Fair Meeting Notes

Can we have stall decorating and exhibit hall decorating on the same day? Maybe have the stall assignment meeting sooner so the pens could be built sooner, so stalls could be decorated sooner? – Deb O and Jerry Rempe Depends when stall assignments are ready and the new Fair Entry system

Corn box – can we maybe put a fan in there? – Kathleen Rempe - Kids tend to throw corn into fans in past years - Fairboard

Saturday with storm that went through, sheriffs were not letting people into the grounds, swearing and yelling – Jim Marshall

Fair getting moved back for 2020, why? – Jim Better carnival/entertainment opportunities, historically cooler weather, less overlapping with neighboring fairs – Adam Antolik

Vandalism to campers, campers were egged, chocolate syrup on campers, setting goats loose, older kids intimidating the younger kids in KidZone – Several people with vandalism concerns - 24 hour security being considered by Fairboard for next year, but reminder to take up vandalism concerns with Posse

Petting zoo and magician were a hit. - ??

Horse supers wanted to donate lime, and were told no. Why? – No disrespect was intended, lime was already order and scheduled to arrive. - Fairboard

Trolley to horse show was nice! – Lisa Davis

Thanks for Amy and Ashtin (and Megan) for nice write-ups for paper, accurate as well – Eileen

Mahaska County has a great fair – Greg DeJong

Thank you for fair board for all the help on Monday and throughout the week! - ALL