

Jackson Co. 4-H Livestock Association

Rules and Regulations

Jackson County Fair – 4-H, FFA, Youth Age Policy:

Youth shall be at least 8 years as of January 1st of this current calendar year to show in 4-H, FFA, Youth livestock classes at the fair. The age you are on January 1 (this year) is the age you list on your entry form.

4-H Showmanship Ages: (as of January 1st of the current year)

- ❖ Junior 8-9-10-11 years
- ❖ Intermediate 12-13-14-15 years
- ❖ Senior 16-17-18-19 years.

Rule Changes:

Rule changes made at the September, November, January, and March Meetings will go into effect for the upcoming fair to allow enough time to communicate changes to participants.

Grievance Policy:

Purpose: Any exhibitor who feels that a violation of the rules or regulations of the fair book/ bylaws has occurred, must go through a protest/ appeals process.

- ❖ Any grievances will be handled by the Livestock Association Executive Board.
- ❖ Any grievances must be delivered in writing, signed, and dated by the exhibitor(s) with parent/guardian signatures making the protest and discussed with the 4-H Extension Staff.
- ❖ Grievances must be received by the 4-H Extension Staff within 24hrs following the occasion for the grievance.
- ❖ Grievance must state plainly the cause of complaint or appeal.
- ❖ The executive board will act within 24hrs of receiving a written complaint or appeal.
- ❖ Following any decision, the course of action will be entered into writing and delivered to any and all persons involved.
- ❖ Grievance forms must be accompanied by a \$100 grievance fee, which will be retained by the Livestock Association if the grievance is not sustained.
- ❖ All grievances will be kept on file at the Extension Office for 2 years, following the grievance.

All Large Animal Projects

All animal entries shall come in at the time specified for each division. All animal trucks and/or trailers shall enter at the Ganson Street livestock gate and exit at the North Street gate during check-in, unless stated otherwise. Exhibitors arriving late with their exhibit(s) may be disqualified from exhibiting. Late arrivals do not have the option of exhibiting and forfeiting their premium.

Only one entry may be made in each class number by any one exhibitor, except in divisions where the exhibitor is allowed one or more entries per division or section.

Pre Fair check-in paperwork is to be turned in for Beef projects on the 1st weekend of February and Sheep and Swine projects on the 1st weekend of May.

Only immediate family members are allowed to tag beef, sheep, and swine as a group.

- ❖ Immediate family members are defined as an exhibitor's parent, step-parent, parent's cohabitating partner, legal guardian, sibling, or grandparent.

Ownership shall be defined as all animals must be owned by the exhibitor. Ownership Dates for all Market Animals will be the Pre-Fair Paperwork due dates for each prospective species.

Breeding Stock possession for sheep will be due at the time of Pre-Fair Paperwork and Cattle Breeding Stock and Feeder Calf possession will be May 1st.

- ❖ An exhibitor may "tag" the following number of animals per MARKET Species
 - Sheep- up to 6 lambs
 - Swine- up to 6 hogs
 - Beef Cattle-up to 4 calves
- ❖ See respective species for further details in regards to breeding stock.

No animals may enter a livestock barn without being properly checked in by the respective Superintendent(s).

At respective species meetings or the September meeting suggestions for judges will be taken, this list of suggestions will be given to the Extension Office no later than the November Meeting and they will contact judges and handle all contracts.

All pens should be cleaned by 9am per the Jackson County Fairboard. Exhibitors will receive ONE citation for any pen cleaning infraction. From the time of citation you will have TWO hours to clean your pens. If the pen is still not cleaned you will be fined \$50.00 per offense deducted

from your auction check and/or paid by the end of the fair. If not paid you will not be allowed to exhibit large animals the following year. You will only receive ONE citation; anything after that will be a fine. Brightly colored tags will be placed on offensive pens that state to see the Superintendent, both the 4-H/FFA member and parent/FFA Advisor will need to sign that they have corrected the infraction. Pen cleaning will be enforced by Superintendents

To replace a project animal that, according to a Licensed Veterinarian, is deemed unfit to show at the fair, you must contact the species Superintendent for a request for replacement 30 days prior to fair opening. If it is less than 30 days, the decision on the request for replacement will be made by the Executive Committee. Any replacement must be replaced within 10 days of approval to replace the animal. Notification of an animal's death must be given to the superintendent within 48hrs of death.

Homegrown is an animal born and raised on your farm, or immediate family's farm or the JACC FFA Livestock Co-op Farm. Homegrown Livestock Verification Forms for cattle will be due at the same time as the species DNA paperwork.

All Species must be properly tagged as follows:

- ❖ Sheep-Scrapie Tags
- ❖ Swine- 840/RFID Tags
- ❖ Cattle-RFID Tags

***If at any point a tag is lost or damaged the exhibitor is responsible for a replacement.

Market Performance Class and Showmanship is mandatory in order to sell; doctor's excuse will be handled by the respective superintendents. If market class is missed and not excused then they will be sold for support price at auction

Exhibitors must use their own animal for their respective species showmanship class.

Tampering and/or misrepresentation of the breed, age, ownership, and any other irregularity in showing will be considered fraud and deception. Any premiums, awards or sale money won by such an exhibitor will be withheld

Fitting of large animals must be performed by the exhibitor, exhibitor's immediate family member, a Jackson County 4-H Leader, JACC FFA leader, or another Jackson County 4-H member. Violations will result in the removal of the animal from the sale and/or loss of premiums and could result in being banned from exhibiting the following years.

Tear down/Barn Clean-out are mandatory for all exhibiting families and will aid in load-out of animals.

All animals should be washed in the following designated areas:

- ❖ Cattle–Wash rack is located between North St. and the Cattle barn.
- ❖ Sheep– Wash rack is located by the scale barn between the Horse and Swine barns
- ❖ Swine– Wash rack is located between the Swine and Goat barns

Premiums will not be awarded in showmanship classes, the Association will secure sponsors and furnish awards accordingly.

Exhibitors or their representatives will be responsible for the care and feeding of their animals when the animals are released. In the instance that a barn is placed in quarantine, the respective species superintendents will provide guidance.

All Jackson County Fair Large Animal Exhibitors are required to complete a YQCA certificate prior to the start of the fair.

Class lists for both performance and market will be posted in the respective species prior to the start of the respective species show.

All Purebreds will be shown in their respective breed classes provided the minimum number of animals are met as stated:

- ❖ Swine – 5
- ❖ Sheep – 3
- ❖ Beef Cattle –3
- ❖ If minimum number is not met they will show in AORB (any other registered breed)

Beef Projects

Exhibitors in this department may be able to show in Open Class Department 1. Please see rules under RULES GOVERNING ENTRIES, EXHIBITS AND AWARDS

All Market steers must be owned and castrated by February 1st of the year exhibited. If there is doubt a veterinarian will have the final say.

All Cattle are to be tied with rope halters and a neck rope while on exhibit at the fair.

A representative of each 4-H Club must be present at load-out to collect halters and neck ropes.

A member may show and sell only one (1) market beef animal.

The member may exhibit only one (1) animal in Class 42 or 43 and shall sell that animal in the livestock auction

Any market steers, market heifers, or breeding stock with horns/scurs over one inch shall not be allowed to stay and or exhibit at the fair.

A "Rate of Gain" Award shall be presented to the 4-H member that exhibits the Market Beef animal with the highest daily rate of gain (pounds gained per day).

- ❖ In order to be considered for the Market Beef "Rate of Gain" contest animals shall have been weighed-in on the date and at the location approved by the Jackson County 4-H Livestock Association.

In order to show a Market Dairy animal, the animal must be a purebred or purebred dairy cross dairy calf. If the calf is crossbred with a beef purebred/crossbred it shall be shown in the Market Beef Class.

Market Beef will be awarded their own Champions in the following categories

- ❖ Overall Top 5
 - All 1st and 2nd place calves from their respective weight classes/divisions will return for the overall final drive
 - At the discretion of the judge, 3rd-5th place in a respective weight class or division may enter the final drive if the 1st and 2nd place from the respective weight classes and divisions have already been selected.
- ❖ Homegrown Division

- Top 5 Homegrown will be selected
- Grand and Reserve Homegrown will compete in the Overall Market Beef Final Drive
- ❖ Rate of Gain

Market Dairy will be awarded their own Champions in the following categories

- ❖ Overall Top 5
 - All 1st and 2nd place calves from their respective weight classes/divisions will return for the overall final drive
 - At the discretion of the judge, 3rd–5th place in a respective weight class or division may enter the final drive if the 1st and 2nd place from the respective weight classes and divisions have already been selected.
- ❖ Homegrown
 - Top 5 Homegrown will be selected
 - Grand and Reserve Homegrown will compete in the Overall Market Dairy Final Drive
- ❖ Rate of Gain

Feeder Cattle:

- ❖ Beef and Dairy Calves weight requirements 250 lbs to 700 lbs.
- ❖ Heifers may show in the feeder class but will not be eligible for breeding classes.
- ❖ Feeder cattle will be allowed to sell in the auction
 - While exhibitors may show both a beef and dairy feeder calf only one feeder calf will be allowed to be sold in the auction.
 - A feeder calf will count as **one** of the two species an exhibitor is allowed to sell in the auction.
 - An exhibitor may sell a feeder calf and a market beef which will count then as their two species.
- ❖ Exhibitors must declare via the google form sent out from Jackson County 4–H Office by June 15th to the Beef Superintendents if they intend to sell their feeder project.
 - All Feeder calves will be required to fill out the google form if you exhibit a feeder calf at the fair.
- ❖ If exhibitors do not go through the auction they are responsible for the transportation of their feeders at the end of the fair.

Mini Beef Cattle:

- ❖ Minimum Weight 600 lbs
- ❖ Must not have a hip height exceeding 47in
- ❖ Must declare Mini with DNA and paperwork in February
- ❖ If over hip height and under 900 lbs the animal will be sent home

If showing a registered animal in Sections 1 through 7 you must show registration papers in the exhibitor's name to the beef superintendents

Dairy Projects

Neck ropes and halters are required for all dairy animals during fair week.

Automatic waters must be shut off by 10pm

Superintendent must be present during the unloading of all dairy cattle.

Sheep Projects

No coloring agents are allowed, including but not limited to, any product which changes, enhances or alters the natural color of the animal such as paints, dyes, powders, non clear adhesives, foam or shoe polish.

Humane handling practices of sheep at all times. No hitting or slapping of sheep during shows or any other time during fair week. Sheep are to be shown with all four feet on the ground or ring surface.

No Muzzles will be allowed.

No sheep is eligible unless the exhibitor has had the sheep in his/her possession since May 1 of the current year.

All sheep will be checked at weigh-in for any visible signs of prolapse, fungus, sore mouth or contagious infectious disease or other medical conditions deemed unsound as diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian. Superintendents will have final determination of the requirements and may not be allowed and will be removed from the fairgrounds.

Exhibitors entering two lambs in the market class will have the option to show them in the pen class. The only exceptions are if one or both are chosen as Grand or Reserve Grand Champion Individual Market Lamb.

- ❖ Individual market lamb classes will show first.
- ❖ Market Lamb Classes will be divided by weight.
- ❖ Market Pen Classes will be divided by total weight of the pair combined
- ❖ Grand and Reserve Champion Pen will be selected

Breeding Stock Exhibitors may exhibit up to two breeds, but will be limited to three entries per breed. Breeding stock will be shown in class as entered on Jackson County Fair Entry Form.

- ❖ Supreme and Reserve Supreme Champion Ram and Ewe will be chosen from entries exhibited.
- ❖ Pens will be assigned to Market Lambs and then breeding stock.
 - Breeding Stock Pens will be assigned one (1) at a time to exhibitors. After the first round assignments, pen allocation will start over until all pens are filled.

Any changes to classes as entered in fair entry will be made at the discretion of the Superintendents.

Homegrown Individual Market Lambs

- ❖ Grand and Reserve Champion Homegrown Lambs will compete for Overall Market Lamb Champion.

All Market lambs must be slick shorn and clean at check-in. Exhibitors may be asked to reshear and wash their lambs prior to being admitted into the sheep barn. Final fitting of lambs will be allowed after check-in.

Both testicles on market lambs must be cut or banded before May 1st.

Water must be available in pens at all times

No Liquid feeding allowed, including drenching, including but not limited to, oral syringes, tubes, and bottles. For further clarification please see superintendent.

Swine Projects

The Jackson County Fair Swine Show shall be non-terminal. Subject to change based on MDA recommendations.

Exhibitors in swine may bring TWO hogs consisting of one barrow and one gilt or two of the same gender (ie. two barrows or two gilts). All hogs shall be shown as individuals. No pairs shall be shown.

All hogs for show are to be unloaded and placed in pens assigned to their respective 4-H/FFA club/chapter during the designated load-in time.

At check-in exhibitors must indicate if they are entering their swine as Homegrown, Purebred, or Crossbred.

The H1N1 vaccine will be required for all swine entries.

All swine are required to have a minimum hair length of ½ inch. Exhibitors will be assessed fees from processors.

Weights:

- ❖ Market hog weights will be 220 lbs to 290 lbs
- ❖ Hogs over 290 lbs, will be placed in a Super Heavy Division and will not be eligible for the Champion Drive. Exhibitors will only be paid for 290 lbs, if hog is over 290 lbs.
- ❖ Hogs under 220 lbs will be allowed in to remain at fair and compete in a super light weight class and can be used in showmanship, but will not be permitted to sell and the exhibitor is responsible for transporting from fair upon swine load-out.

Crossbred Swine:

- ❖ All hogs will be shown separately as gilts and barrows
- ❖ The crossbred show will be divided into the following five divisions per sex and will be eligible for the Overall Grand Champion Drive along with Homegrown and Purebred Grand and Reserve Champions
 - Lightweight
 - Light Medium Weight
 - Medium Weight
 - Light Heavyweight

- Heavyweight
- ❖ Each Division will select a champion

Purebred Swine:

- ❖ Purebred registration papers must be in the exhibitor's name
- ❖ Purebred papers must be available for verification at check-in

Showmanship Sweepstakes

To Qualify:

- ❖ Grand or Reserve Grand Champion Species Showmanship winners from each age division
 - If a species representative has qualified in more than one species they will represent the species in which they first qualified with.
 - If the grand or reserve champion has already qualified then the next representative will be selected based on the Overall Top 10 Showmanship Placings of the respective age divisions.

Sweepstakes participation is not mandatory, and individuals wishing not to compete must notify their Species Superintendent within 12hrs of the completion of their species show, in order to give the next individual in line to represent their species adequate time to prepare for sweepstakes.

Members must show their own animal in sweepstakes for the species that they are representing.

Sweepstakes Coordinator and Species Superintendents will work together to ensure each species has extra animals to be used for sweepstakes.

Judges for the Large Animal Sweepstakes will be from outside the Jackson County 4-H Affiliation.

Awards will be given in each age division

Auction Rules

Members exhibiting market stock shall be limited to selling a maximum of two (2) species in the 4-H/F.F.A. Livestock Auction; EXAMPLES: beef & hogs, beef & sheep or hogs & sheep.

Support Groups

All support groups will have one person in charge of collecting payment and one check will be written to the association. Receipts will be issued to members of support groups upon request.

Thank You Letters

Thank you letters for animal buyers, add-ons and award sponsors are required to be submitted to the designated location and time. Failure to complete your thank you letters will result in the holding of a members fair check. Checks will be held at the extension office until proof of thank you letters has been given. The Association will provide postage, envelopes, and thank you cards for all exhibitors.

Auction Attendance

If a member does not have prior approval from their species superintendent to be absent from the auction and they are not in line, they will be moved to the end of their species. If the member is unable to take their animal through the auction another 4-H/FFA member may take another member's animals through the auction with superintendent approval. After being moved back in sale order and the member still has not shown up, their animal will not go through the auction and it will be sold for support price.

Grand Champion(s)

Any animal that is not Overall Grand or Reserve Champion may be pulled from the sale by the exhibitor. The exhibitor must notify their respective species superintendent within an hour of the completion of the market show.

❖ Overall Grand and Reserve Champions that are required to go through the auction are as follows:

- Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Market Beef
- Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Market Dairy
- Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Swine
- Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Market Lamb
- Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Market Pen of Lambs

Order of Grand Champion Beef and Dairy Steer will alternate following the guidelines below:

Beef will sell first in odd years
Dairy will sell first in even years

Members exhibiting market stock shall be limited to selling a maximum of two (2) species in the 4-H/F.F.A. Livestock Auction

- ❖ Beef & Hogs, Beef & Sheep or Hogs & Sheep

Sale Order

Sale order will consist of the following per species:

- ❖ Market Beef and Dairy–

- Grand and Reserve Champions, followed by Homegrown Grand and Reserves respectively, followed by remaining Top 5
- All others will be sold according to class placings

- ❖ Sheep

- Grand and Reserve Champions, followed by Homegrown Grand and Reserves respectively, followed by Grand and Reserve Pairs, followed by remaining overall Top 5
- All others will be sold on individual placing, if selling two lambs exhibitors highest placing lamb will determine sale order.
 - Exception–pairs to ALL Overall Top 5 Lambs will be sold individually based on that animal's class placing.

- ❖ Swine

- Grand and Reserve Champions, followed by Homegrown Grand and Reserves respectively, followed by remaining Top 5
- Division Champions and Reserves will also have priority in sale order
- All others will be sold on individual placing, if selling two hogs exhibitors highest placing hog will determine sale order.
 - Exception–pairs to ALL Grands and Reserves will be sold individually based on that animal's class placing.

Superintendent Positions

All large animal superintendents are subject to the responsibilities and duties listed in the [Jackson County 4-H Superintendent Position Description](#) in addition to the following as approved at the November 2024 Large Animal Meeting.

Number of Superintendents

Each large animal species (Swine, Sheep, Beef, Dairy, Sweepstakes) will maintain a minimum of 2 superintendents with a maximum of 3 superintendents per species.

Selection Procedures (Modified from General Superintendent Position Description)

4-H superintendent position vacancies will be announced in the 4-H Online Newsletter and posted on the Jackson County 4-H and Association Facebook pages.

Applications will be accepted at the MSU Extension 4-H Office. They will be reviewed by 4-H staff and others as invited by 4-H staff, typically the Large Animal Executive board along with species specific superintendents.

If there are multiple qualified applicants in a given area, the committee may recommend holding interviews for that area. If interviews are held, 4-H staff will make the final selection based on input from the interview committee. Those invited to attend interviews will be selected by the 4-H staff.

In emergency situations, 4-H Extension staff can assign an interim superintendent to serve until a position announcement can be made and a selection is made.