

# Cat/Kitten Exhibitor Rules

1. An Exhibitor may show only his/her cat or the family cat. A cat may not be shown by more than one exhibitor. An exhibitor can show up to two cats/kittens, but he/she may not have more than one entry per class.
  2. Harnesses or collars are mandatory. Harnesses are preferred.
  3. Cats must be in the exhibitor's possession and be registered at the Extension Office by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The cat must be fed and cared for by the exhibitor.
  4. Cats/Kittens must be entered in both Cat and Showmanship classes.
  5. The exhibitor must be present while judging takes place.
  6. An exhibitor's attire should be neat and clean. The show dress code includes a light colored long sleeved shirt and dark colored pants or jeans.
  7. Class Definitions:
    - Cat - older than one year on the date of the show.
    - Kitten - 4-12 months old on the date of the show.
    - Purebred - conforms to the standard of the breed. Registration papers are not required.
    - Household - Mixed breed.
  8. Cats/kittens must be checked in at the show area by a superintendent 30 minutes before the show begins.
  9. No obviously pregnant cats or kittens less than 4 months of age are eligible to show.
  10. All cats should have their nails clipped or be declawed for the protection of the judge and exhibitors.
- \*\*\*Note: This is a youth event. Do not have the cat declawed if you plan to enter others shows. This will be a disqualification at some cat shows.
11. All cats shown at the fair must have a certificate from a veterinarian stating that they have had the following inoculations - rabies and distemper, Calais & rhinotrach (Feline 3 in 1). It is highly recommended that cats also have the feline leukemia and pneumatic inoculations.
  12. Cats infected with fleas will automatically be marked down. Cats with lice or ear mites will be sent home.
  13. Cats must be brought to the show in a carrier on the day of the show and kept under control at all times. Cats will not be kept at the fair grounds overnight.

# Cat Science

Exhibit an educational project consisting of a notebook, poster, 3-D display etc. showcasing your feline knowledge. The reference booklet, Feline Features is available at the 4-H office.

## **Purposes of the Cat Project**

The overall purpose of the 4-H Cat Project is to provide experience and activities which help young people to:

- Become better 4-H members, thus better citizens.
- Experience the pleasure and companionship that a healthy, happy cat can provide.
- Acquire a knowledge of the responsibilities of cat ownership.
- Demonstrate sound cat care and management practices.
- Understand the special characteristics of the cat, i.e. body, configuration, personality traits and dietary requirements
- Learn the characteristics and identification of different breeds.
- Learn how to select a cat.
- Learn and follow basic rules for good feline health.
- Train the cat to understand basic rules of good behavior.
- Learn why and how to show cats.
- Develop an understanding of the value of scientific research and its influence upon cats.
- Gain an appreciation of animals and develop a sense of responsibility that comes from an animal's dependence on man.