

Rules for Departments 8, 12, 14, 22 and 26

Small Animals

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The 4-H Virtual Showcase will take place completely online. All exhibits will be submitted through Washtenaw County 4-H's Fair Entry website. Submission of project takes place during the online registration process. 4-H members/families will use their 4-H online account information to log in to the Fair Entry website.

GENERAL RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

All rules and regulations are established by specific 4-H project committees with approval of the MSU Extension office. If there is an area which is not covered by any of the standing groups, rule establishment and interpretation will be handled by the MSU Extension office.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Youth desiring to participate in the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show must have reached their 5th birthday by January 1st of the current year and not have exceeded the age of 19 by January 1st of the current year. Handicap exceptions based on Public Law 94-142.
 - a. Many classes have minimum age requirements and regulations. See specific classes and/or sections.
 - b. All non-4-H members who are Washtenaw County residents are welcome to exhibit, but they must meet the requirements of each class and follow all rules.
2. All 4-H exhibits must be bona fide 4-H work completed since the last 4-H Youth Show and may have been judged for a ribbon award but not given a premium award at other 4-H events. 4-H Youth Show exhibits cannot be public school, private school, or home school projects, however, skills learned in these situations may be used to create a new project for the 4-H Youth Show. No 4-H exhibits are allowed to be shown for premiums in the 4-H division at another county fair. Exhibitors may not exhibit the same still project for more than one year, unless required on the project class.
3. Each exhibit can be entered in only one premium class, unless otherwise specified.
4. Youth 5 – 7 years of age may show only in classes designated as Cloverbud or age 5 – 7.
5. The 4-H Youth Show Exhibitor Code of Conduct will be followed.
6. Accommodations for youth with special needs; Parents of youth with special needs (medical, physical and/or mental health issues) should notify specific superintendent(s) prior to the Virtual Showcase if their child may require any accommodations or considerations in order to participate in the 4-H Youth Show.

JUDGING

1. The exhibitor's age as of January 1 of this year will be used to determine entries in all classes which are based upon exhibitor's age.
2. MSU Extension reserves the right to pro-rate premiums if expenditures based on premiums stated in this book exceed budget availability. MSU Extension also reserves the right to combine classes wherever entries are limited.
3. Exhibitors may have only one (1) entry per class, unless otherwise specified.
4. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to be in the correct classes.
5. There will be individual judging for each exhibit. Judges decisions are final.
6. The Danish system of awarding premiums will be used, with "A", "B", & "C" ratings.
7. An exhibitor's placing may be marked down at the judge's discretion cases where a parent/guarding/leader interferes with the judging process. If a parent etc. has a concern regarding a judge's decision, he/she should consult with the superintendent or event manager.

PREMIUM CHECKS

1. Checks will be mailed to 4-H Participants, after the 4-H Virtual Showcase.
2. Premium checks must be cashed within sixty (60) days of issue.
3. Concerns or questions on premium checks and statements should be directed to the Washtenaw Farm Council Treasurer.
Do not cash checks that you have questions on or you feel are incorrect.

Showmanship will be optional this year and will be judged based on a 90 second video (no more than 5 minute video for animal showmanship requiring evaluation) of you displaying showmanship skills related to your project area. See the document "Tips for Taking Photos and Video."

CODE OF CONDUCT

Michigan 4-H and Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show Exhibitor Code of Conduct

Participation in Michigan 4-H programs is subject to the observance of the program rules. Any participant who knowingly violates this Code of Conduct is subject to discipline, up to and including removal from the activity he or she is participating in (at his or her own expense) or the entire county 4-H program. Determination of disciplinary action shall be done with input from the volunteers and staff overseeing the program or activity. Final decisions about discipline will be made by the MSU Extension staff.

Michigan 4-H members will:

- Show respect for, and cooperate with, fellow members, volunteers and staff.
- Follow 4-H policies and procedures when participating in any 4-H sponsored event.
- Under no circumstances, commit or threaten violence toward any individual, group or the program.
- Under no circumstances, possess, sell or consume alcohol or possess, sell or use controlled substances at an MSU Extension 4-H youth activity or event.
- Under no circumstances, attend or participate in an MSU Extension 4-H youth activity or event under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances including tobacco, electronic cigarettes, etc.
- Under no circumstances, bring dangerous or unauthorized materials (such as explosives, weapons or similar items) to an MSU Extension 4-H youth activity or event.
- Abstain from harassment or bullying of another participant, volunteer or staff member (either in face to face interactions, through social media or other communication venues), particularly when the behavior is disrespectful as regards a person's gender, race, age, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability or appearance.
- Not cheat or falsely represent efforts related to 4-H project activities.

The Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show expects courteous and orderly conduct by exhibitors and attendants. Harassment, profanity or unsportsmanlike conduct toward officials, judges, staff, superintendents, other exhibitors or grounds property will not be tolerated. When satisfactory evidence has been obtained that a Washtenaw 4-H Youth Show rule(s) has been violated and/or fraud and/or deception has occurred in association with exhibiting in the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show, any or all of the following actions may be taken:

1. The exhibit(s) in question shall be disqualified.
2. Any and/or all exhibits at the Youth Show of the exhibitor may be disqualified.
3. All premiums, trophies, awards and/or money won by said exhibitor in any Washtenaw 4-H Youth Show department may be withdrawn.
4. The exhibitor may be asked to perform community service activities or other appropriate actions.
5. The exhibitor and/or the exhibitor's family may be barred from participation and/or competition at the Washtenaw 4-H Youth Show for a maximum of three (3) years. In addition, anyone participating in a 4-H sponsored activity who is caught in the act of theft or vandalism, or caught with illegal drugs, controlled substances or alcohol, or who is involved in other such offenses, shall immediately be sent home at his/her own expense. If it is determined by 4-H staff, leaders or persons in charge of the activity that the offense warrants it, the offender may be turned over to the proper authorities.

CODE OF CONDUCT – Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show Livestock Code of Ethics Care and Grooming

1. Unethical and inappropriate or otherwise inhumane treatment of animals for show preparation is not acceptable. The exhibit will be disqualified if a violation is determined.
2. Any individual that is not directly involved in the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show is prohibited from helping to groom or otherwise prepare the exhibitors livestock project during Youth Show. Leaders, other exhibitors, and/or immediate family are permitted to assist the youth as necessary. Any violation or infraction will cause disqualification of the exhibit.
3. Any exhibitor who has been implicated or found to have violated show ethics at any other local, county, state or national show may not be allowed to participate in the Washtenaw County Youth Show.

GOATS - DEPARTMENT 8

Goat Rules:

Appropriate clothing; White shirts are customary for all goat breeds. Collared shirts with sleeves are encouraged and should be tucked in. White pants are standard for dairy goats. Angora, Meat and Pygmy breeds may wear black or white pants. Clothing should be neat and clean, and as plain cut as possible. Black or dark colored, close-toed shoes or boots must be worn. Wearing sneakers, sandals or open-toed shoes invite injuries to feet and are frowned upon by most judges. Hats are not recommended.

1. IMPORTANT...see General Regulations and Health Requirements for Livestock and Dairy.
2. All goats for exhibition must be under the care and ownership (or lease) of the exhibitor by May 1st of the current year.
3. All goats on must be shown in market, breed or pet wether class except those nursing. Goats under four weeks of age should not be shown in the Virtual Learning Showcase.
4. Cloverbuds age 5 to 7 must be assisted in the ring by an adult or youth aged 13 years or older.
5. 8-9-year-old exhibitors may enter no more than 5 classes. 10-year-old exhibitors may enter no more than 6 classes. 11-year-old exhibitors and over may enter no more than 8 classes. Limitations apply to all classes, except classes 410-414 and 470-473.
6. Goats in the "All Others" section are those not included in other classes, such as cross category mixed breeds (pygmy/dairy cross for example), fainting goats and livestock conservation or rare breeds. Purebred aged does can also be shown in this category. All goats in this category will be judged on the merits of their breed and suitability of their function.
7. All goats (including kids) must have permanent, official USDA approved identification in order to exhibit. Using one of the following identification methods will meet the requirements.
 - a. A permanently attached USDA Scrapie tag in ear or tail web.
 - b. The full USDA Scrapie tag number (premise ID# and animal ID#) tattooed into the ears, tail web or flank, with the scrapie tags made unusable and accompanying the goat.
 - c. A permanently attached tag or tattoo in the ear or tail web, ear notching or implanted microchip that must be accompanied by breed registry papers that match the ID number. Bring photocopies (not originals) of registration papers to be left with the superintendents. All tattoos must be legible. Contact superintendents before the 4-H Youth Show with questions.
8. Exhibitors may show only one entry per class (except for class 401, where they may exhibit two.)
9. Animals shown in showmanship must also be shown in a class in the market, breed or pet wether sections.

MARKET GOATS (WETHERS AND DOES)

Please read General Regulations for Livestock: Market Livestock Auction Regulations.

1. Individual market goats will be placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. If the number of entries dictates, the superintendents may divide this class into more than one section to accommodate the number of goats in the ring at one time.
2. Exhibitors may show two (2) market goats. Members must show the animal(s) tagged in their name and must own the market animal.
3. Market goats can be does or wethers born on or after January 1st of the current year.
4. No bucklings allowed, all market wethers must be castrated by mandatory spring market tag/weigh-in.
5. The same wether may not be shown in both market and pet class. The same doe may not be shown in both market and breed class.
6. **Market goats will be judged based on a 90 second video.** Have your videographer act as the judge as you walk the goat in a circle and then set the goat up. The judge would also like you to point to your goat's loin in your video.

POULTRY – DEPARTMENT 12

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Suggested dress for showmanship: dark pants, white long-sleeved collared shirt, dark shoes. A white lab coat is also permissible. Also, please refer to dress guidelines in General Regulations.
2. Exhibitors can participate in showmanship by either submitting a pre-recorded video, or scheduling a zoom meeting with the judge.
3. Health requirements, provided in Michigan Department of Agriculture Regulations at beginning of Livestock Section, must be met. All poultry must have identification tags or leg bands.
4. First year exhibitors (Ages 8-19) may exhibit one entry in Production, one entry in market chicken or turkey, three entries in breed with no duplicated varieties, as well as Showmanship. Cloverbuds (Ages 5-7) may exhibit two entries in breed classes with no duplicated varieties, and Showmanship (no Turkeys, Geese or other large birds may be used). Cloverbuds are not eligible to show in classes 600, 602, 604, 634, 636, or 638.
5. Second year exhibitors and advanced may exhibit one entry in Production, one entry in Market Chicken, one entry in Market Turkey, four entries in breed classes with no duplicated varieties, as well as Showmanship.
6. Production Pens will consist of three (3) females of the same breed. All birds must be of good feather according to breed standard and currently producing eggs.
7. All breed animals must be under the care and ownership of the exhibitor by May 1. It is strongly recommended that birds (other than meat pens) be hatched before March 1st to be competitive.
8. A pair must consist of 1 male and 1 female of the same breed. Poultry shown in an individual class cannot also be judged as part of a pair or part of a production pen.
9. See Exhibitor Code of Conduct under General Youth Show Rules.
10. All breeds will follow classifications as specified in the American Poultry Association Standard of Perfection.
11. Poultry used for showmanship must also be shown as an individual, part of a pair or part of a production pen.
12. **Market Chickens** will consist of three (3) birds of the same sex and breed. **Market Turkey** to be exhibited is recommended to be in member's possession by March 1st (approx. 140 growing days).
13. For Turkeys-Broad breasted turkey breeds are excluded from class numbers 636 and 638.
14. Mentorship program is designed to help educate new youth just starting out with poultry. Any age exhibitor can participate. The mentorship program will teach showmanship, health, embryology, and record keeping. To participate in this program, you must be a first-year poultry exhibitor, meet with your mentor twice before the youth show, and complete a mentorship record book.

RABBITS – DEPARTMENT 14

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Dress Code: dark (prefer black) pants, white long-sleeved collared shirt, blouse or lab coat, hair net, dark shoes. No jewelry, no nail polish, no sandals, no shorts.
2. Each rabbit exhibitor:
 - a. Cloverbud ages 5-7 may bring one rabbit and may show in showmanship only.
 - b. First year 8 years or older (cloverbud years are not applied to years shown) may exhibit 2 rabbits in breed classes. Only on rabbit per class.
 - c. Advanced (3 years and above) may exhibit in five of the breed classes – only 5 rabbits.
3. In addition to above, each rabbit exhibitor will be allowed two **market classes**. Market class consist of: Meat Pen (three (3) meat rabbits NOT over 70 days of age and weighing 3.5 to 5.5 pounds), and/or one single fryer (3.5-5.5#, ARBA Standard 70 days), and/or one Roaster under 6 months of age and weighing more than 5 pounds and under 8 pounds. Meat pen and single fryer projects must be in the possession of the exhibitor by 110 days prior to show date. Dam of litter) and Roasters must be in exhibitor's possession by June 1. All market rabbit pens will be permanently tattooed in the right ear.
4. Only one rabbit may be exhibited per class.
5. Each exhibitor must own and have been primarily responsible for the care and management of their rabbit at least 110 days prior to show, with the exception of market roaster class pens (by June 1st). Any other exceptions need to be approved by the superintendent.
6. No doe and litter exhibits.
7. Market class entries are to be shown only in one market class and cannot be shown in other breed classes meat pen/fryer/or roaster may be used for showmanship).
8. Only animals earning "A" ratings are eligible or can be awarded rosettes.
9. All Rabbits must be permanently marked with identifying tattoos before entering the fairgrounds. Contact superintendent if assistance is needed.
10. See Exhibitor Code of Conduct under General Youth Show Rules.

CAVIES - DEPARTMENT 14

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Each Cavy Exhibitor (Ages 8-19)
 - a. First year may exhibit two animals in breed classes.
 - b. Second year may exhibit in three breed classes – only 3 cavies.
 - c. Advanced (3 years and above) may exhibit in five breed classes.
2. There is only one cavy per class, per exhibitor.
3. No nursing or heavily pregnant sows are allowed.
4. Each exhibitor must own and have been primarily responsible for the care and management of their pig for at least 110 days prior to the show.
5. Only animals earning an A rating are eligible for and can be awarded rosettes.
6. All cavies participating in the Virtual Learning Showcase must be tagged in the left ear.
7. Any animals not conforming to the breed standard (i.e. un-showable colors) should be entered in altered/mixed breed category and are not eligible for best in show, (cloverbuds do not enter breed classes).

POCKET PETS – DEPARTMENT 14

Learning Objective: To encourage youth to develop and enhance responsibility and knowledge of animals through the experience of caring for a small animal.

Eligible animals: Small domestic mammals other than, rabbits, cavies, dogs and cats (Dept. 14 above & Dept. 22) including, but not limited to, mice, rats, gerbils, hamsters, and degus. Small domestic cage birds not fitting into poultry classes, (see Dept. 12 Section1) including but not limited to finches, canaries, and parakeets. Small domestic non-venomous reptiles and amphibians including but not limited to frogs, salamanders, turtles, geckos, snails, etc., Aquarium fish. Invertebrates such as hermit crabs, snails, ant farms, etc. Exhibitors may enter only 1 species.

Ineligible animals: Wild-caught, non-domestic animals-rehabilitation projects under guidance of certified rehabilitation experts can submit an educational exhibits or record books, but such animals are not pets and not suitable for show. No pregnant or nursing animals may be exhibited. No animals in poor health or with injuries may be exhibited. No venomous or vicious animals may be exhibited.

1. Each exhibitor must own and have been primarily responsible for the care of their animal(s) for at least 90 days.
2. Exhibitors should be neat in appearance which does not distract from the animal shown and which is suitable for handling the species shown (e.g., with most small animal species a lab coat or long-sleeved white top is advised, no loose long hair or jewelry).

DOGS – DEPARTMENT 22

1. An exhibitor can exhibit a maximum of two dogs, but the dogs must be shown in different classes.
2. For more information and class guidelines, look for dog guide book at 4-H website, contact the office or superintendents.
3. We will be using AKC guidelines, including recommended practices and equipment. Obedience handlers must use a choke chain and 6' leather lead to show in, also Showmanship handlers must have correct showmanship leads. Visit www.akc.org
4. Contact Superintendents with questions about scoring, classes and placement.
5. No dog shall be shown in a buckle collar.

CATS – DEPARTMENT 22

Cat Class Rules:

1. Each exhibitor may show only his/her cat or the family cat. Only one entry is allowed in showmanship classes.
2. Showmanship videos should be no more than 3 minutes long
3. To be eligible, the cat must be in exhibitor's possession and born by March 1st of the year it is shown. The project must be fed and cared for by the exhibitor.
4. Dress code: Slacks or dress/skirt, casual to dressy top. (No blue jeans, shorts, t-shirts or sweatshirts.) If preferred, a white lab coat may be worn. Hair and jewelry (if any) should be neat and not interfere with presentation of animal.
5. All 4-H cats must have their nails clipped (or declawed). This is a safety factor for both exhibitor and judge.
6. No females in heat or obviously pregnant or kittens less than 4 months of age are eligible to show.
7. Exhibitors in classes will be judged on
 - a. Condition of animal.
 - b. Exhibitor's knowledge of their animal and its care.
 - c. Exhibitor's ability to handle the animals.

CAMELIDS – DEPARTMENT 26

(LLAMA, ALPACA, VICUNA & GUANACO)

1. Youth under age 13 cannot show intact males over 24 months.
2. Attire should be conservative, neat and appropriate including closed toe dark shoes, plain off-white or white shirts or blouses, and dark color pants or skirts.
3. Llama Protégé Program: open to registered Washtenaw County 4-H members as follows: Protégé (student): age 5-7 as of January 1 of exhibit year; Mentor (teacher): age 13-19, with at least two (2) years of experience as a 4-H Llama member, preferably in Washtenaw County. If not in Washtenaw County, then proof of membership and experience in another county llama program must be supplied. For complete rules and regulations on the Llama Protégé program, contact the MSU Extension office or Llama Superintendent.
4. See Exhibitors Code of Conduct under General 4-H Youth Show Rules.