

NANCE COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR GENERAL RULES

1. This Junior Fair is open to all Nance County 4-H members, FFA, or FHA chapters.
2. To be eligible for Junior Fair premiums, the 4-H members must have reached his or her 8th birthday but not have passed his or her 19th birthday before January 1 of the current calendar year.
3. To be eligible for the Clover Kids program, the members must turn 5-7 years of age before the current calendar year. Project areas are limited to **Department Clover Kids, Divisions 100-901**. Participation ribbons ONLY will be awarded.
4. All entries—4-H, FFA, FHA, Clover Kids, School Enrichment—will be pre-entered by Wednesday, June 1 **except** beef, swine, sheep, goat, and dairy. Exhibitors must have completed the Nance County Fair Livestock Entry Form that is DUE in the Extension Office no later than Monday, June 27. A late fee of \$5.00 per project per day will be assessed after that deadline but entries will not be accepted after Monday, June 27. If an entry sheet was not received, it will be the exhibitor's responsibility to obtain one from the Extension Office.
5. Only one item is entered per entry number unless stated otherwise in the premium list.
6. All 4-H members (excluding Clover Kids) are eligible for state fair **except** in classes where presence is required for judging purposes such as animal exhibits, judging contests, presentations, music contest, tractor contest, and fashion revue; a 4-H'er must have reached his or her 10th birthday before January 1, or become 11 years of age during the current year. The last year of eligibility is the calendar year that the member becomes 19.
7. **State Fair Premier 4-H Science Award -**

Objective: Recognize 4-H youth static exhibits incorporating or demonstrating concepts from the areas of 4-H Science (science, technology, engineering, or applied math). Exhibits in all curriculum areas will be considered for the award.

Exhibit Entry: Youth will identify **one exhibit** to be considered for the Premier 4-H Science Award. The Premier 4-H Science Award Application must be submitted along with a photograph of the exhibit to the county extension office by the county's entry deadline. Only one exhibit per youth will be eligible for the Premier 4-H Science Award.

Judging: Members of the 4-H Science work-group will serve as judges for the award. A score sheet will be used to judge each exhibit. Exhibits which do not have a completed application or photograph can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge.

Recognition: * All projects successfully incorporating 4-H Science (based on the judging sheet) will be recognized with a certificate attached to the exhibit. * Up to 5 top 4-H Science exhibits will be chosen from all curriculum areas and will receive a \$100 cash award sponsored by the Nebraska 4-H Foundation.
8. Items entered at the fair must be completed during the current project year, and should not have been made at school, with the exception of school enrichment projects. Exhibits made in the home economics or ag classroom are not eligible in 4-H competition unless the project is listed as a specific enrichment project.
9. Ribbon Awards - The exhibits will be judged according to research-based standards that indicate level of performance or quality of work. Purple ribbons designate an exhibit of superior quality that has met and exceeded all of the standards. Blue ribbons denote an above average exhibit that has met almost all of the standard in a way that surpasses the norm. Red ribbons indicate average quality and indicate that the exhibit has met the majority of standards in such a way that the benchmark was reached, but not exceeded. White ribbons indicate that the exhibit has not met the majority of the standards. **Only purple ribbon entries are eligible for trophies.**

10. Superintendents shall have authority to make all decisions within their respective divisions in accordance with the Rules and Regulations. All protests and complaints should be lodged with the appropriate Division Superintendent in writing and signed. This appeal shall be lodged as soon as practical but, in all events, within thirty (30) minutes of completion of judging in the class. All decisions by the Protest Committee are subject to final review by the 4-H Council.
11. The respective superintendent has the authority to make appropriate decisions based on the 4-H Premium List. When needed, a committee of at least (3) but not to exceed five (5) available 4-H Council members shall be formed to serve as a protest review group. They will meet when needed to act on concerns.
 - A. All protests must be submitted in writing and signed.
 - B. The written protest must be submitted to the Division Superintendent and must include:
 - Names of persons involved
 - Nature of concerns
 - Situation and documentation
 - Recommendations for correction
 - Specific action, rule, etc., in question
 - Additional persons committee may contact for further clarification
 - Procedures and/or steps carried out by person involved prior to submission of the protest to the Division Superintendent
 - C. The committee will review the written protest. They may discuss the situation with appropriate people and Division Superintendent. The recommendations will be followed and communicated both verbally and in written form to the individual or individuals affected.
 - D. In case of protest the exhibitor MAY OR MAY NOT be allowed to show, but results of showing will be subject to change based on the outcome of the protest process. This allows for smooth operation of the show and facilitates appropriate processing.
 - E. The 4-H Council reserves the right to withhold premium and/or award. The exhibitor may be excluded from the show if action warrants.
 - F. Protests related to judges integrity, decisions, ribbon placing, or other evaluations will not be accepted.
12. All livestock exhibits and horses must be officially identified by county and state regulations. A breeding animal to be eligible for show in a registered class must be registered by the official breed association. The registration certificate must show (1) the name of the exhibitor (2) the name of the exhibitor and/or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family or (3) the family or ranch name or parent's name. **REGISTRATION MUST BE COMPLETED BY FAIR DATE.** Immediate family is defined as members of a household, including parents, brothers and sisters, and youth in care of the head of house.
13. Health regulations – Any animals showing infectious and contagious disease will not be permitted on the grounds.
14. An animal must be shown by the 4-H/FFA owner who entered it unless the exhibitor has been excused because of health reasons or other conflicts considered acceptable and excused by the superintendent in charge of that division. The substitute showman must be eligible to exhibit.
15. An exhibitor who has more than one animal in a class need not secure approval for another exhibitor to show the additional animal in the same class.

16. Eligibility of Animals - Any 4-H project animal that has been offered for auction, where the intent of the auction is change of ownership, is ineligible for the 4-H livestock classes at the Nebraska State Fair. A project animal that has been through a “premium only” auction is eligible to be exhibited at the Nebraska State Fair, provided it and its exhibitor meet all other ownership and eligibility requirements. A “premium only” auction is defined as an event in which change of ownership is never the intent; but the intent is only to provide a monetary premium to accompany the ribbon earned by the exhibit.
17. Every article or animal upon the grounds shall be under the control of the Fair Board and the 4-H Council during the fair and while every precaution will be taken for the safekeeping of the same, the Fair Board or 4-H Council will in no way be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.
18. Grooming of Livestock - Preparation and grooming of an animal should be the primary responsibility of the exhibitor, however assistance may be provided by other Nance County Fair 4-H or FFA exhibitors and/or immediate family members including: brothers, sisters and/or parents/legal guardian of the exhibitor.
 - A. No change of the major color pattern of the animal by painting or dyeing of the animal will be allowed.
 - B. Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits.
 - C. In the beef show, the use of artificial tail fins or the addition of any hair or hair-like substance to the animal’s body excluding false tails, will not be permitted.
19. Youth livestock producers who are enrolled in production animal projects need to understand that they have an obligation to become responsible food producers. The animals involved in 4-H and FFA production projects are no different than animals produced by the commercial or seedstock livestock operations. Youth livestock producers use the same technology available to adult counterparts in the livestock industry. Market animals eventually appear in the food chain and are made available to the consuming public. Today’s modern consumer is more concerned about the quality and safety of the food supply available for their use. Recent use of illegal compounds plus the use of questionable animal management practices by individuals exhibiting market animals this past show season has caused people from all segments of the livestock industry to question the value and integrity of youth market animals shows and the educational efforts of the extension service and show management. If questionable actions are found or discrepancies against county policy are suspected, the superintendent of that show reserve the right to test the animal at his discretion.
20. Quality Assurance Training - All exhibitors in beef, dairy cattle, goats, sheep, swine, rabbits and poultry must have received Quality Assurance training or testing through a University of Nebraska - Lincoln Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the county extension office is required. Completion of training will be certified by county extension staff.
21. Dress Code—Exhibitors in all contests (shooting sports, beef, dairy, goats, sheep, swine, dog, cat, poultry, rabbit, miscellaneous small animals) are required to wear the county 4-H t-shirt or a white shirt (or blouse) with the official 4-H chevron or FFA emblem attached, dark blue jeans, hard soled shoes or boots. No hats, caps, or other headgear are to be worn in the show ring. Dairy and dairy goat exhibitors may wear dark blue jeans or white pants. Horse exhibitors wear official dress according to their rule handbook.
22. Anyone operating a tractor on the fairgrounds must have a tractor operator’s license or a driver’s license.

23. All 4-H members are required to work in the food stand at the fair at their designated time, or trade times with someone if their appointment is inconvenient. If times are traded, the food stand supervisor must be notified. Service is an important, vital aspect of the 4-H experience! Failure to work will result in a loss of incentive money.
24. All 4-H families will donate a pie or \$15 to the 4-H food stand. Failure to do so will result in a loss of incentive funds.
25. Release of all livestock and small animals will be 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 8. Families will leave their area at the close of fair as clean as it was prior to county fair. Failure to do so will result in a loss of incentive funds.
26. All fair building entries will be released at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 9. Early removal of fair exhibits will result in a loss of premium and incentive monies for that project.
27. Use or possession of alcoholic beverages or drugs (except for medical purposes) by any exhibitor who is participating in the Nance County Fair will result in immediate disqualification of the exhibitor's entries.
28. Animal Abuse:
 - A. Animals that have been abused will be eliminated from the show.
 - B. Use of artificial stimulants or any other excessive direct abuse.
29. Livestock Sale:
 - Animals eligible to sell are market beef, sheep, swine, and meat goats.
 - Animals will be sold on a flat rate bid (not on a price per pound basis).
 - All ribbon placings will be eligible to sell.
 - There will be NO ribbon price limitations, other than the price can't exceed that of the respective species champion. Sell by gender and if no champion, reserve sets the price or highest ribbon.
 - Order of the sale will rotate each year:
 1. Swine
 2. Sheep
 3. Meat Goats
 4. Beef
 - Exhibitors are eligible to sell a limit of two (2) animals (any combination).
 - Twenty percent (20%) of the premium of each animals selling will go back to the 4-H general fund and distributed at the 4-H Council's discretion. Exhibitor will receive eighty percent (80%) of the premium.
 - All animals selling on the livestock sale are ineligible for incentive fund money but they remain eligible for any specified incentive fund premiums.
 - If there is no bid on an animal, they would be eligible for incentive fund.
 - Market animals not going through the livestock sale are eligible for full incentive fund premiums.
 - The Youth Market Livestock Premium Sale will be held at the fair.
 - Exhibitors, parents and other individuals who interfere with any aspect of the livestock sale before, during or after, will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds. This includes harassment of buyers involved with the livestock sale.
 - Exhibitors **are required** to wear their appropriate 4-H and/or FFA attire during the livestock sale.
 - Exhibitors must be present to exhibit their own animal in the sale unless they have been excused by the Nance County 4-H Council.

**AN * BEFORE A CLASS EXPLANATION
DENOTES STATE FAIR ELIGIBILITY**