

# GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. ELIGIBILITY OF EXHIBITORS** - See General Rules.
- B. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENTRY** - The responsibility for making proper entry rests with the 4-H member. The division superintendents will check all entries to insure all animals are properly identified on the appropriate ownership affidavit.  
**Animals not being cared for by exhibitor and / or exhibitor family may be sent home at the discretion of the Overall Livestock Superintendent, Area Superintendent, & Extension Office Professional Staff. Exhibitors will be given a warning and if the lack of care is not corrected immediately, then the animal may be sent home, the exhibitor will lose any ribbon premium earned with that animal, and the animal will not be eligible for Premium Sale if it is a market animal.**
- C. ETHICS AFFIDAVIT** –All Horse, Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy (cattle or goat), Meat Goat, Rabbit, and Poultry exhibitors must complete a “Nemaha County 4-H Livestock Show Ethics Affidavit and Statement of Disclosure.”
- D. ELIGIBILITY OF ANIMALS** - Animals shown in 4-H shows may be shown in Open Class but cannot be shown by the same exhibitor as shown by in the 4-H Show.  
All breeding and market animals to be eligible for show in a registered (purebred) class must be owned by the exhibitor by June 15 of the current year and be registered by the official breed association. The registration certificate must indicate the current owner of the animal to be one of the following: (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 JUNE 15. **Copies of the registration certificate must be submitted with county and state fair pre-fair/advanced entries.**
- E. CONTROL AND REMOVAL OF ANIMALS** - Livestock superintendents may require that all animals, weighing 500 lbs. or more (excluding horses) be unloaded into a holding pen before proceeding to a stall. An animal that becomes wild, uncontrollable or sick during the show may be declared ineligible and may be dismissed by the division superintendent. If an exhibitor cannot control the animal, an adult cannot go into the ring to show with the 4-H exhibitor (this is for all 4-H livestock entries). **All animals must be brought before the judge in the designated show area to be judged and will not be judged in the stall.** No animals will be permitted to run at large on the fairgrounds during the fair. Animals will not be removed from the fair without permission of the show superintendent. **Any animal removed before the official release time will result in forfeiture of all premium money earned by the exhibitor.** All articles and animals must remain in the assigned location or area during the fair. There is no appeal process for the dismissal of animals.
- F. ELIGIBILITY FOR RATE OF GAIN** - 4-H market livestock will have to be shown at the fair by the exhibitor to be eligible for the Rate of Gain Contest.
- G. ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS** – To be eligible for any scholarships awarded through livestock, exhibitors must be enrolled in the project the scholarship is awarded in. Quality Assurance training must be completed prior to **June 15<sup>th</sup>**. If QA is not completed by June 15<sup>th</sup>, the 4-Her will not be eligible for scholarships. All animals must be pre-entered on GREEN Entry Sheets available at the Extension Office due by closing June 15<sup>th</sup> at the Extension Office. All animals must have their identification/Ownership Affidavit turned by the set due date for that specie. Animals requiring ear tags or tattoos must have their tag or tattoo in by the set date for that specific breed. Any animal being showed as a registered/commercial breed must be documented on an Identification/Ownership Affidavit submitted to the Extension office by set due date. **Any animal with a late Animal Identification Record or entry sheet is not eligible.**
- H. Certification of Drug Use & Withdrawal** – Each exhibitor of Market animals will be asked to submit a signed affidavit to the department superintendent at weigh-in certifying correct withdrawal from legal drugs, vaccines or other substances. They will also certify that their entries have not received any non-approved drugs. Affidavits for beef and sheep will also state that animals have not been fed any “prohibited” mammalian derived protein (i.e. ruminant meat and bone meal) while under the care of the exhibitor.
- I. ANIMAL TESTING AND EXAMINATION** - Any animal entered in 4-H classes is subject to any type of testing at the discretion of either the superintendent, county 4-H Educator / Assistant or official show veterinarian. If the results of testing indicate the possible use of compounds or drugs not approved for use in that species by FDA or compounds or drugs used outside the specified withdrawal requirements of FDA, these animals will be declared ineligible for competition and awards. In the case of market animals, show management will determine the appropriate disposal of the animals. An animal that is tampered with to change appearance or weight may be declared ineligible by the division superintendent. **Market Heifers can be subject to pregnancy check at an announced time to be eligible for premium sale. If a market heifer is found to be bred, she is not eligible**

for the premium sale.

- J. QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING** - All exhibitors in beef, dairy cattle, goats (dairy, meat, pygmy), sheep, swine, rabbit, and poultry are **required** to receive Quality Assurance training or testing through an UNL Extension program prior to exhibiting at the County Fair. Training must be completed prior to **June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Completion of training will be recorded once the 4-H member brings their certificate to the Extension Office or tests out at the Extension Office. 4-Hers can show with no premiums if completed after the deadline.
- K. ARRIVAL DEADLINE** - Arrival and entry deadlines for all animals are listed in the schedule of events. Area superintendents may make exceptions for certain situations provided arrangements are made in advance and approved by the Overall Livestock Superintendent.
- L. DESIGNATE SHOWMAN** - All animals must be shown before the judge by the 4-H member. Family partnership projects will normally be shown by the designated member except when an exhibitor has more than one animal in a class. At weigh-in on entry day, each 4-H member of a family holding their animals in joint ownership must designate who is going to show each animal.
- M. SUBSTITUTE SHOWMAN** - An animal must be shown by the 4-H member who entered it unless the exhibitor is excused by the Division Superintendent because of serious illness, disability due to an injury (e.g. broken arm or leg), or conflict with other livestock classes in a 4-H show. Conflict with a non-4-H sponsored event will need prior approval by the Division Superintendent, Overall Superintendent, and Extension Educator &/or Assistant. Only animals exhibited by their owners will receive ribbons or prizes unless the owners are excused by the Superintendent. An exhibitor who has more than one animal in a class need not secure approval for another 4-H member, eligible to exhibit livestock, to show the additional animal in the class. Substitute showman must be a 4-H member exhibiting at current fair. The substitute does not have to be enrolled in that specific project but should be knowledgeable of it. The substitute is required to check in with the show superintendent and adhere to all dress code and other showmanship rules.
- N. ANIMAL SUBSTITUTIONS** - Within the same class or division, substituting a different animal for a pre-entered animal, provided the substitute meets all ownership, pre-entry, identification and eligibility rules, is acceptable and does not require prior approval. Substitutions between divisions, except within Breeding Beef, Dairy, and Goat are not allowed (i.e. a market lamb cannot be substituted for a breeding sheep entry.) For Breeding Beef, Dairy and Dairy Goat, where each breed is listed as a separate division, substitutions between divisions is allowed (i.e. an Angus heifer can substitute for a Charolais heifer).
- O. DRESS CODE** – See pages 2-3 (General Rules).
- P. HAY, GRAIN OR BEDDING** - Will not be permitted on the grounds for sale to exhibitors. Exhibitors will furnish their own feed. All stalls must use approved bedding furnished by the Ag Society. The Ag Society reserves the right to exclude any animal(s) from competition if this rule is not observed by the exhibitor.
- Q. GROOMING OF LIVESTOCK**
1. **Caring for and grooming the animals are the responsibility of the 4-H member;** however, immediate family members, 4-H club leaders, and other current 4-H members can help. **Professional help will not be allowed.** The 4-H member must be present for all grooming unless he or she is in the show ring.
  2. Swine must be shown without oil, powder or any other coat dressing compounds considered objectionable by the packer. Pigs found in violation will be disqualified from the live show.
  3. Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits. **Exhibitors may not use products containing color additives or color transfer.**
  4. **4-H Livestock Show - Blow & Go:** all beef, swine, sheep and goats may be clipped, blown and brushed or combed to enhance their appearance.
  5. Upon violation of above rules, the exhibitor's animal involved will forfeit their premium money or be disqualified from the show.
- R. EQUIPMENT** - Livestock Superintendents have the authority to dictate where blocking chutes are to be located and when kick boards (6-8 inches) must be used. There can be one blocking chute per exhibitor or if two exhibitors (family), one chute under the roof and one under a tree. **No blowers are to run within the livestock arena facility during a show.** Families are to provide their own equipment to care for and prepare animals for show (ex: shovels, scoop, rakes, buckets, brushes, etc.).
- S. STATE FIRE MARSHALL** - The use of flammable and combustible grooming sprays inside the barns is strictly forbidden. These types of materials must be used outside the buildings only. **NO SMOKING IN THE LIVESTOCK BARN.**
- T. FAIR CLEAN UP - DAILY AND AT CLOSE OF FAIR-** Exhibitors failing to clean their stalls, alleys and assigned area each day of the fair and at the close of the fair will forfeit their premium money.
- U. AUTHORITY** - Each division superintendent with the approval of the overall livestock superintendent, 4-H Council President, and County 4-H Educator / Assistant shall have the authority to make all decisions within their respective area of responsibility in accordance with rules and regulations set forth in this Fair Book. **Superintendents for each division will oversee entries to be allowed as room allows.** See "Protest Committee" under General Rules for guidance if protesting a decision.