

GENERAL RULES

Welcome 4-H members, parents, leaders and friends to participation at the Nemaha County Fair. 4-H will be presented through exhibits and/or participation by members in many programs. To youth, fairs mean exchanging friendships and new adventures, families working together, and recognition and evaluation feedback of individual and team efforts. All 4-H exhibits at the Nemaha County Fair are products of members' participation in 4-H programming. We invite you to visit the 4-H exhibits and participate in programs. For more information about 4-H and Nebraska Extension contact the Nemaha County Extension Office at 402-274-4755 or visit our website nemaha.unl.edu.

OBJECTIVES - 4-H SECTION OF COUNTY FAIR

1. To provide new experiences for youth, leaders and staff who participate.
2. To provide leadership opportunities for 4-H youth and adults.
3. To provide recognition for achievement.
4. To inspire the adoption of approved practices and new ideas.
5. To provide learning awareness opportunities for the public who visit the 4-H exhibits.
6. To add to the public understanding about the scope of 4-H.
7. To help build a better Nemaha County Fair.

GENERAL FAIR RULES

1. The County Fair Board reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine any and all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the successful operation of the fair.
2. The following rules apply to all departments of the 4-H Section of the County Fair. Rules which apply specifically to a particular department will be listed under rules for that department. In case the general rules conflict with the department rules; the department rules govern.
3. There are no entry fees for the County Fair.
4. Judges decision is final.
5. Nemaha County Fair is committed to making its service, activities, and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, or a dietary restriction, please contact the Nemaha County Extension Office at 402-274-4755.
6. All contestants and family members (guardians) are expected to display proper conduct and politeness at all times. **Unsportsmanlike conduct by contestant and / or family member (guardian) will not be tolerated at any time and will result in forfeiture of all placings and qualifications earned by contestant.**
7. If a 4-Her has a conflict with a contest time due to another 4-H sponsored activity, efforts will be made to accommodate the 4-Her as much as possible. If a conflict arises with a non-4-H activity no accommodations will be made unless prior approval was given by the Division Superintendent, Overall Superintendent, and Extension Educator &/or Extension Assistant.
8. **IMMEDIATE FAMILY** - Defined as members of a household, including parents, brothers and sisters and youth in care of the head of the household.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXHIBITORS

1. An exhibitor must be a bonafide 4-H member enrolled in the project they are exhibiting. Youth must be enrolled by June 15 of the current year to be eligible to participate in that year's fair. (**November 15** is the preferred deadline for re-enrollments in the county, but will be accepted until June 15.) There will be no discrimination because of race, color, sex, national or ethnic origin, religion, age, handicapped, marital status or sexual orientation.
2. A 4-H member must be 8 to 18 years of age as of December 31st of the previous year. The last year of eligibility is the calendar year the member becomes 19. (Ages listed in this Fair Book refer to 4-H age.)
3. **STATE FAIR** - For classes where presence of the 4-H member is not required, the exhibitor must be 8 as of December 31 of the previous year. In classes where presence of the 4-H member is required for judging purposes, such as animal exhibits, judging contests, presentations, and fashion show, a 4-H member must be 10 years of age by December 31 of the previous year.

4-H DRESS CODE

4-H ATTIRE IS:

- 4-H T-shirt or white shirt (or blouse) with the official 4-H chevron attached. (4-H Club, State Fair and AKSARBEN shirts are not considered appropriate.)
- Long blue denim jeans (no rips and preferably dark).
- Closed toed shoes (flip flops or sandals are not allowed).

- No hats, caps or other types of headgear.

4-H ATTIRE IS REQUIRED:

- Show Ring
- Premium Sale
- Cat & Small Animal Show
- Life Challenge Contest
- Livestock Judging Contests
- Interview Judging
- TOP Award Pictures
- Horticulture/Wildlife Judging Contests (preferred but not required)

PENALTY FOR NOT WEARING 4-H ATTIRE WHEN REQUIRED:

- 4-H member will be lowered one ribbon placing.

See the Fair Book for specific dress code requirements for:

- Horse Shows (pg. 33)
- ATV/Tractor Driving Contests (pg. 17)
- Shooting Sports Contests (pg. 14)

PROCEDURE FOR MAKING ENTRIES

1. All 4-H entries, pre-entries and identification affidavits must be made on appropriate forms provided by the Extension Office by specific deadlines.
2. All static exhibits will be judged by consultation (interview) judging. The 4-Her (and one adult may accompany the 4-Her for support only, let the 4-Her do the talking) will meet with the judge and have the opportunity to speak with and get immediate feedback from the judge.
 - To reduce wait time, interview judging will be scheduled through the Extension Office. Watch the 4-H Newsletter for details.
 - If you are absolutely unable to attend the designated day for consultation judging, you may have your exhibit dropped off that day and judged but the exhibit will not be eligible for Top Award.

PRE-ENTRY DEADLINE FOR THE COUNTY FAIR – JUNE 15

1. **All entries are due in the Extension Office by close of June 15** on official entry forms. (Fair entry form is green. 4-H Contest Entry Sheet is yellow. 4-H Shooting Sports Contest Entry Sheet is blue.)
2. **All livestock entries are required to exhibit in Showmanship, be sure to have Showmanship on your entry form.**
3. **LIVESTOCK – Large and Small Animals**
 - Animal Entry form (green)
 - Identification / Ownership Affidavit
 - Copy of registration papers –Purebred animals only
 - Quality Assurance Certification for youth enrolled in Beef, Dairy, Goats, Poultry Rabbit, Sheep, & Swine
 - **All items listed above are due June 15.**
4. **STATIC - Home Economics & General Areas**
 - Enrolled in the project by **June 15.**
 - Each youth will need to use the Extension Office pre-printed entry tag available at the 4-H Building on judging day (preferred method) or if necessary, complete a pink entry tag and attach it to the exhibit prior to entry on judging day. Entry tags will not be accepted until completely filled out.
5. **CONTESTS**
 - See specific contest requirements for registration forms (pg. 7).
 - 4-H YELLOW Contest Entry Sheet due June 15.
 - 4-H BLUE Shooting Sports Contest Entry Sheet due June 15.
6. **CLOVER KIDS**
 - All Clover Kid project exhibits for the County Fair need to be pre-entered on the appropriate Gold Pre-Entry Sheet (found in the Clover Kid Booklet) and submitted to the Extension Office by closing on **June 15.**

PROJECT ENROLLMENT & NUMBER OF ENTRIES

Entries are allowed in only one unit/level of competition. Those enrolled in a middle or advanced unit may not exhibit in a less advanced unit. Only 1 entry per class per exhibitor may be made except in livestock, poultry, rabbit, dog, cat and small animal classes or as indicated. Individuals should enter items that correspond with the 4-H projects they are enrolled in during the current year. If exhibitor is not enrolled in the project, there will be no premium awarded for the exhibit.

INELIGIBLE ENTRIES

1. Items entered for competition in previous years are not eligible for competition again. EXCEPTIONS NOTED: example - Historian's Reports and Entomology exhibits which require the addition of second and third year boxes.
2. No firearms, items with a blade (broad heads, knives, saws, etc.) or related items of any other kind may be exhibited. This applies to actual items, replicated items and item parts. Shooting sports accessories are permissible as described in the Conservation, Wildlife and Shooting Sports portion of this Fairbook.

EXHIBITS RELEASED

The release time for County Fair exhibits will be **9:00 p.m.** on the last day of the County Fair listed on the County Fair Schedule. No exhibitor is allowed to remove any exhibit or animal until the scheduled time without the permission of the area superintendent. All exhibits and animals must remain in the assigned location or area during the fair. Early removal can result in loss of premiums for that animal or exhibit withdrawn early.

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 a market animal.

PROTEST COMMITTEE

The respective County Fair superintendent and the 4-H Council President has the authority to make appropriate decisions based on the 4-H Fair Book. When needed, a committee consisting of the area superintendents, 2 Ag Society members, and Extension Educator &/or Extension Assistant shall be appointed to serve as a protest review group. They will meet, daily if needed, to act upon concerns.

1. All protests must be submitted in writing and signed.
2. The written protest must be submitted to the County Extension Staff and the staff person will convene the committee for their deliberation. Written protests 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 Extension Staff person.
3. The committee will review the written protest. They may discuss the situation with affected persons and show officials; if appropriate prior to making the final decision. Recommendations will be developed, followed and communicated both verbally and in writing to the group or individual affected. The committee will recommend appropriate action to the Extension Staff in writing prior to communicating with the affected group or individual.
4. In cases of protest the exhibitor may 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.
5. The show management reserves the right to withhold premium and/or award. The exhibitor may be excluded from the show if action warrants.
6. Protests will not be accepted after the exhibit is released from the County Fair.
7. Protests related to judges' integrity, decisions, placings and/or other evaluations will not be accepted.
8. The appeals process is limited to the 4-H exhibitor, parent and/or volunteer leader.
9. To appeal a protest decision to the Ag Society, a written statement setting forth the reasons for protesting must be filed with the secretary of the Ag Society before the close of the fair, to be acted upon at the first meeting of the Ag Society.

DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY AT COUNTY FAIR

1. EXHIBITS - 4-H exhibits at County Fair are entered and displayed at the risk of the 4-H member. Nebraska Extension 4-H Youth Development, in cooperation with the County Ag Society accepts exhibits and will exercise due care to protect them. However, 4-H and the County Ag Society cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage that may occur to exhibits or exhibitors. 4-H members who have exhibits of great sentimental and/or monetary value should carefully consider whether such exhibits should be exposed to the hazards of the fair.
2. PATRONS/PARTICIPANTS - While the greatest possible care will be exercised by the County Fair Board to protect patrons/participants of the County Fair, each individual will be held personally responsible for any injury, accident, or loss.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Use or possession of tobacco, alcoholic beverages or drugs (except for medical purposes) by any exhibitor who is participating in 4-H at the County Fair will result in immediate disqualification of that exhibitor's entry.

1. No intoxicated or other improper or disorderly person will be permitted on the fairgrounds and it is hereby made the duty of all marshals and special police to arrest all such persons and take them forthwith before proper officers to deal with according to the law.
2. There shall be no gambling of any description nor alcoholic or fermented liquors allowed within the grounds; parties violating the law may expect to be prosecuted.

FIRST AID

First Aid Kit is available in the 4-H Fair Office.

INSURANCE

Accident insurance is carried on 4-H members and leaders enrolled in the 4-H program. A report of all accidents must be made to the 4-H Office on the Fairgrounds or the Extension Office at the Courthouse within 24 hours after the accident. Your claim must be filed with the Extension Office within 10 days after the accident. The annual accident policy for 4-H club members continues at \$1.00 per member/leader for regular club projects and \$2.00 per member/leader for horse, motorcycle, all-terrain vehicle projects and those participating in tournament or athletic league play.

RIBBONS AND PREMIUMS AWARDED

4-H 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 standards in a way that surpasses the norm. Red ribbons indicate average quality and indicate that the exhibit has met the majority of the 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.

1. **Exhibits must be either purple or blue quality to be named champion or reserve champion and/or qualify for related special awards. Special awards include trophies, plaques, medals and medallions. Purple and lavender rosettes are not considered to be special awards and will only be awarded to purple merit exhibits.**
2. Incomplete exhibits will be lowered a ribbon class unless otherwise noted.
3. 4-H member will be lowered one ribbon placing for not wearing 4-H attire when required.
4. **All static exhibits must have received a purple at the county fair to advance to the State Fair.**
5. **PREMIER 4-H SCIENCE AWARD – Offered at State Fair ONLY.**
 - Recognizes 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 award.
 - **Rules** for this award are available at: <https://4hfairbook.unl.edu/fairbookview.php/contests/51>
 - **Recognition:** All applications will receive a participation certificate. No ribbons or premiums will be awarded. Up to 3 top exhibits will be chosen to receive a \$100 cash award sponsored by the Nebraska 4-H Foundation.

FORFEIT OF PREMIUM

Exhibitors will forfeit their premium money under the following situations if not previously approved by the 4-H Council:

- Late animal ID affidavit
- Not enrolled in project
- Late Green Animal Fair Entry Sheet
- Late Yellow Contest Entry Sheet
- Late Blue Shooting Sports Contest Entry Sheet
- Late completion of QA
- Early removal of exhibits without being excused
- Animal excused due to neglect
- Failure to clean-up after fair (stall, exhibit area, grounds, etc.)

ADVERTISING

The promiscuous distribution of advertising matter is strictly prohibited and tacking of advertising matter on buildings will not be permitted. Exhibitors may distribute advertising matter from their place of exhibit only.

SECURITY

The 4-H Exhibit Building will be closed and locked at night. There are hosts and hostesses when the building is open to provide security.

CAMPING

There are a limited number of trailer hookups available on the County Fairgrounds. Contact an Ag Society officer for more information.

VIOLATION OF RULES

Renders the exhibitor subject to loss of premium monies, ribbons, other awards and/or elimination from the show.

1. No person except the judges on duty, ring assistants, officers of the Ag Society and exhibitors will be allowed inside the arena during the judging of entries.
2. No person shall be allowed to interfere with a judge; any exhibitor who, by letter or otherwise, does so, will be excluded from competition.
3. If the Ag Society is provided with satisfactory information that a premium has been obtained by fraud, then such premium shall be withheld for disobedience to the rules of the County Fair Board.

DISQUALIFICATIONS/JUDGING

See the General Rules at the beginning of the Static (Home Economics and General Areas) and the Livestock Areas for specific rules. Area superintendents have the authority to determine eligibility/ineligibility of an exhibit entry in their division. All ineligible items will not be judged and will not be displayed.

CHARACTER COUNTS!

The six pillars of character, Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship, are an important part of the Nemaha County and Nebraska 4-H Programs. We encourage all 4-H youth and their families to make CHARACTER COUNT! by celebrating our differences, successes, and learning experiences in a positive and supportive environment.

PAY CATEGORIES

	PURPLE	BLUE	RED	WHITE	OTHER
A. Advanced Static	\$4.00	\$3.50	\$3.00	\$2.50	
B. Clover Kids					\$1.00
C. Contests	\$4.00	\$3.50	\$3.00	\$2.50	
D. Horse	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.00	
E. Livestock (Beef & Dairy Cattle)	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$5.00	\$2.00	
F. Livestock (Sheep/Goats/Swine/Calves)	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	
G. Other (Booths & Floats)	\$10.00	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$4.00	
H. Plant Science	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	
I. Shooting Sports Contests	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	
J. Showmanship	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	
K. Small Animals	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	
L. Static	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	
M. Participation					\$2.00

Note:

- A. Advanced Static consists of: Cake Decorating III, Entomology, Woodworking III and IV, ESI, Quilt Quest, STEAM 3, Shopping in Style, Welding.

GLOSSARY

- **IDENTIFICATION/OWNERSHIP AFFIDAVITS**- Every animal that is to be exhibited at the County Fair has to be identified by an ear tag number, tattoo number, photo or descriptive drawing on an Identification/Ownership Affidavit due at the Extension Office by closing on June 15. For some species the name of the owner of the animal if other than the 4-H member has to be identified, hence the name Identification/Ownership Affidavit.
- **SF** - Stands for "State Fair" and signifies that there is County and State Fair participation.
- **(SF###)** – Reference to State Fair Scoresheet.
- **C** - Stands for "County Only" and signifies participation is only available at the County level.
- **PASE** - Stands for "Premier Animal Science Events"