

PURPLE RIBBON LIVESTOCK PREMIUM AUCTION

Kevin Peterson, Chair

The Purple Ribbon Livestock Premium Auction is a tradition of County Fairs across the Nation. It is an established reward system honoring young people for the efforts they made to grow and show quality livestock. Through their efforts they have learned leadership, agricultural skills, and the value of hard work. Since no animal is actually sold in this auction the term “premium” is used to denote a cash award given by members of our community to these hard working kids. The committee invites the public to participate in the rewarding of Polk County 4-H Members.

Sale order will be Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, and purple ribbon winners of the individual shows of Market Animals in the Beef, Sheep, Swine, and Goat. A four year rotation is in place so that all species have a chance to be first in the auction ring every four years.

Exhibitors will be limited to selling only one (1) animal with the heaviest weight in each species in the Purple Ribbon Livestock Auction. The only time an exhibitor may sell more than one animal in a species is if an exhibitor has won both the Grand and Reserve in one species. Market animal exhibitor who do not receive a purple ribbon or only have animals in the pre-market class because they did not meet weight, will receive a premium from money collected and put in to a pool for those not eligible for the Purple Ribbon Auction.

Purple Ribbon Livestock Auction Committee Responsibilities:

The Chair of the Purple Ribbon Livestock Auction committee will send a notification to a list of potential buyers to participate in the auction using each exhibitor’s heaviest animal. Public announcements of the buyer will be made following the purchase of the exhibitor’s animal.

The committee will collect all premiums including extra pool money and distribute them to all 4-H members showing market animals participants as soon as all monies are collected. Premiums are then sent from the Livestock Sale Committee to participants as soon as possible, usually in late August – September.

Exhibitor Responsibilities:

Purple Ribbon Winners or a substitute showman must be present to lead their animals in the auction ring during the auction. Substitute Showmen are the responsibility of the purple ribbon winner to line up.

Purple Ribbon Winners are encouraged to wear their “official” Polk County 4-H Shirt in the ring during the auction.

A thank you needs to be sent to the buyer after the check is received.

If a collection of buyers is used to purchase an animal, the exhibitor or a family member must pay for the entire premium the day of the auction to avoid the delay in collecting premium money.

If you are the winner of a Grand or Reserve Champion Animal, although not required, the exhibitor or family member may want to contact a potential buyer (someone the family does business with or a relative) prior to the auction to make sure they will be present or have a representative present at the auction that may want to support that exhibitor.