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MORRILL COUNTY 4-H & FFA GUIDELINES
Approved by the 4-H Council
MARCH 16, 1987
REVISED IN 2016

I. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

1. To be a bonafide 4-H/FFA member, a youth must belong to a 4-H club, FFA Chapter, or declared an individual 4-H member in writing on computer enrollment sheets in Morrill County. The youth must turn 9 the year in which they participate in 4-H. 4-H and FFA members must not have passed their 19th birthday by January 1 of that year. There will be no discrimination due to race, color, national origin, handicap, or sex.

2. The enrollment deadline for all county youth wishing to participate in the 4-H/FFA program, both in organized clubs and as individual members, is April 1. Late applications will need to be approved by Council and a community service will be assigned, if approved. Enrollment is established by completing a computer enrollment sheet and returning it to the Extension Office.

3. Members will not be allowed to show the same project area in Morrill County that they are showing in any other county. I.E. market beef in Morrill County and market beef in another county.

4. Pre-entry deadline will be 2 weeks before the start of fair. This applies to 4-H and FFA members. **Any late entries will be assessed a \$10.00 late fee per person.**

5. All 4-H and FFA exhibitors are requested to familiarize themselves with all the rules and regulations which apply to their exhibits. All FFA members will be required to follow all 4-H rules.

6. The county, Cooperative Extension Educators/Assistants, general superintendents or anyone connected with any committee dealing with the fair or any county activity, is not responsible in any way for any loss, damage or injury to any property, animal or person, resulting from any cause.

7. These rules and regulations set forth will supersede all previous rules and regulations as contained in the minutes of the Morrill County 4-H Council. Exception will be rules that have been changed after the fair book is printed. Changes will be documented in the 4-H Council minutes and the newsletter.

8. For situations that arise where a county policy is not in the county rules, the state 4-H rules will be consulted and a decision will be made by the 4-H Council.

9. The respective superintendent has the authority to make appropriate decisions based on 4-H/FFA premium book. When needed, a committee shall be appointed to serve as a grievance review group. They will meet when needed to act upon concerns.

A. All grievances must be submitted in writing and signed.

B. The written grievance must be submitted to 4-H Council president and Extension Educator/Assistant and must include:

- 1) Name of person(s) involved
- 2) Nature of concerns
- 3) Situation and documentation
- 4) Recommendations for correction
- 5) Specific action, rule, etc. in question
- 6) Additional person(s) a committee may contact for further clarification
- 7) Procedures and/or steps carried out by person(s) involved prior to submission of grievance to
4-H Council President and Extension
Educators/Assistant

C. The committee will review the written grievance. They may discuss the situation with affected person(s). The committee's ruling of the grievance will be communicated both verbally and in writing to the group or individual(s) affected. **The decision of the committee is final.**

D. In cases of grievance, 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 smooth operation of the show and facilitates appropriate processing.

E. The committee reserves the right to withhold premium and/or award. The exhibitor may be excluded from the show if actions warrant.

F. Grievances will not be accepted after the event or after the exhibit is released from the 2015 Morrill County Fair. **Grievances related to judges' integrity, decisions, placing, or other evaluations will not be accepted.**

10. Violation of rules renders the exhibitor subject to loss of premium money, ribbons, other awards and/or elimination from the show.

11. **Non-payment of kitchen charges within a one month period after fair will result in the loss of charging privileges at the next year's fair.**

12. State fair eligibility: To be eligible for state fair competition, an exhibitor must be a 4-H member enrolled in the project they are exhibiting in the county which he/she represents. There will be no discrimination because of race, color, sex or national origin. In classes where the presence of the 4-H'er is required for judging purposes such as animal exhibits, judging, music and presentation contests and fashion revue; a 4-H member must have reached his/her 10th birthday by January 1 of the current year. 4-H'ers become ineligible at the state fair following the year of high school graduation (final year of state fair participation is the year of the high school graduation) or, reaching 19 years of age on January 1 of the current year.

II. CLOVER KID 4-H

1. Pre 4-H for 5-8 year olds is experimentally based "Learning By Doing". Children may participate in a variety of approaches. The program will be developmentally appropriate and involve the following components:

- a. Non-Competitive
- b. Focused on Self-esteem
- c. Caring adult or teen volunteer
- d. Provides individual recognition for participants
- e. Encourages involvement of parent or significant adult

2. Clover Kid animal showmanship will be restricted to bucket calves, sheep or swine that do not weigh more than 350#. Also there will be a 2:1 ratio of Clover Kid showman to adults in the ring. **There will be no Clover Kid horse events.**

III. INCENTIVES/SCHOLARSHIPS/SPECIAL EVENTS

1. For the PASE and FCS Life Challenge contest, the Council will pay \$20 per 4-H'er, per year not to exceed \$500 per contest.

For the Speech and Presentation Contests the following incentives will be provided. The speakers from Morrill County selected for the District Contest from the Central Panhandle Speech Contest will have available \$25 for expenses if they participate at the Regional Contest if they have to travel away from Bridgeport. The top 2 speakers from Morrill County will have available \$100 for expenses if they participate at the State Contest in Grand Island.

In the Presentation Contest the top 3 presenters or teams from Morrill County in the Central Panhandle Contest, if they earn a blue or purple, will have available \$100 each for expenses if they go to the State Contest in Grand Island.

2. Partial scholarships for 4-H camps are available to any 4-H'er (providing moneys are available in the 4-H Council treasury). Up to 50% of the camp fee will be paid by the 4-H Council if the 4-H'ers record books were completed the previous year. There will be a maximum of \$200 allocated by the Council per camp. If a 4-H'er receives a scholarship to a camp he/she is expected to give a report of the activity at the County Achievement Night.

3. Three annual county 4-H scholarships are available to high school seniors who have been in 4-H a minimum of 3 years. The participants must have been in the Morrill County 4-H program the previous year and have turned in a completed record book. The three scholarships will apply to any type of

educational program that is taught in a formal setting including colleges, universities, junior colleges, technical school, trade schools and cosmetology. (More information can be obtained from the 4-H Council or the Extension Office.)

4. The 4-H Council will reimburse host 4-H Clubs up to \$25 for building rent on county wide events, such as Achievement Night. The Council will consider contributing moneys toward speakers.

IV. JUDGING PROCEDURES

1. All activities and events will be judged on the Danish system with all 4-H and FFA entries being judged together. All ribbons will be awarded on a group basis according to merit.

2. The decisions of the judges shall prevail in all classes except where mistake, fraud or misrepresentation is found following the initial placing.

V. FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE RULES

1. Members participating in the fashion show who are 12 years of age or older as of January 1 of the current year, will be considered in the senior division. Although a youth aged 10 by the first of the year will be eligible for the State Fashion Show.

2. It is recommended by the 4-H Council that good school clothes (dress or nice pant outfits) be worn at activities where the presence of the 4-H'er is required for judging purposes such as speech contests, judging contests and presentations contest.

VI. LIVESTOCK AND HORSE RULES

ALL 4-H'ERS SHOWING BEEF, SHEEP, SWINE, DAIRY, DAIRY/MEAT GOAT, POULTRY & RABBITS MUST BE QA CERTIFIED BY JUNE 15 OF CURRENT YEAR

ELIGIBILITY

1. Only bonafide 4-H or FFA members are allowed to show any animal(s) of any species.

2. 4-H age divisions are as follows: Junior - age 8 - 10; Intermediate - age 11 - 13; and Senior - age 14 - 18; as of Jan. 1.

3. Market beef must be weighed, tagged, owned, and identified by the set weigh-in date in order to be eligible for county fair. If there is a conflict with that weigh-in date, arrangements can be made prior to weigh-in to have the animals tagged, but they will not be eligible for the rate-of-gain contest. All market lambs and market goats must be weighed, tagged, owned, and identified by the set weigh in date in order to be eligible for county fair. Due to PEDV there will not be a weigh in for market swine but they must be tagged and identified by June 1. If there is a conflict with that weigh-in date, arrangements can be made prior to weigh-in to have the animals tagged, but they will not be eligible for the rate-of-gain contest. Stocker-feeder, bucket calf, breeding beef, breeding sheep, goats, dairy cows, horses and rabbits must be owned and identified by June 1 on standard identification forms. Bucket calves can be tagged with owner's tags and identified with that tag number by June 1.

4. If a 4-H/FFA animal dies between weigh-in date and fair weigh-in, the member may replace the animal by contacting a 4-H Council member or FFA advisor to verify the death of the animal. A Council member or FFA advisor will tag the new animal at their convenience. All other 4-H rules apply to the new animal. The new tagged animal is no longer eligible for the carcass contest, rate-of-gain contest, or State Fair.

5. All 4-H/FFA market livestock must have the 4-H ear tag when making entry or be cleared by the county fair superintendent of the department or the 4-H Council.

6. Minimum weights: market steers - 1000 lbs.; market heifers - 900 lbs.; market lambs - 90 lbs.; market swine - 225 lbs. Animals below these weights will show in a feeder class and may sell following

the regular sale. **Weigh-in re-weighs.** - If an **exhibitor** wishes to re-weigh an animal at weigh in it must be done so immediately. The animal will be taken off the scale and held in the alley while the scale is zeroed in, and then the animal will be put back on the scale and re-weighed. The animal **cannot** leave the alley.

7. Market beef animals may have the two center permanent incisors. The remaining six temporary incisors must be in place with no evidence of eruption of their permanent placements.

8. Market lambs must be born after January of current year and must show eight (8) lamb teeth only.

9. The 4-H Council has the right to add or eliminate classes according to interest.

10. No boars or stallions are allowed to show.

11. Rams, bulls, and bucks must be brought to grounds that day and taken home the same day.

12. Absolutely no blocking chutes will be allowed in the wash racks.

COUNTY FAIR HEALTH REGULATIONS

12. Health Requirements: The following health requirements will be followed with no health certificate (Certificate of Veterinarian Inspection) required, but health issues will be monitored by 2 Council members and the superintendents and dealt with at the time of weigh-ins. Any animal found with health problems **will not be allowed to show**. Any animal originating from a herd under quarantine because of an infectious or contagious disease shall be ineligible for admission. The superintendents will release any animal during the fair found to be non-acceptable.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Hogs: 1. Hogs showing evidence of the following disease conditions will not be allowed on the grounds.

a. Lice

b. Scabies

c. Atrophic Rhinitis

d. Jowl abscesses

e. Respiratory Infections

f. Any other infectious/or contagious disease

Sheep: 1. Any sheep showing evidence of the following disease conditions will not be allowed on the grounds.

a. Sore mouth

b. Epididymitis

c. Scabies

d. Ringworm (unless under treatment by directions of a veterinarian and the veterinarian has determined that the lesion is no longer contagious).

e. Respiratory Infections

f. Any other infectious/or contagious disease

All sheep being exhibited, except wethers, must be identified with the USDA official ID.

Cattle: 1. Cattle showing evidence of the following disease conditions will not be allowed on the grounds.

a. Cattle that have active ringworm, lesions, visible warts, dermatitis or abscesses will not be allowed to show. If a veterinarian has judged the ringworm to be inactive, if the lesion is not encrusted and hair has begun re-growth in the area, then with notification from that veterinarian the cattle can be shown.

b. Respiratory infections

c. Cattle with warts that are visible by a hands-on inspection will not be allowed to remain on the grounds.

Breeding Females: Heifers that are being entered in the Bred Heifer Class G025007 must be certified bred by a veterinarian within 30 days of fair or it will be lowered one ribbon placing.

Horses: 1. Any horse showing evidence of any of the following disease conditions will not be allowed on the grounds.

a. Ringworm (unless under treatment by directions of veterinarian and the veterinarian has determined that the lesion is no longer contagious.)

- b. Infectious respiratory diseases
- c. Strangles
- d. Any other infectious/or contagious disease

Dairy/Meat Goats: Any dairy goat showing evidence of any of the following disease conditions will not be allowed on the grounds.

- a. Caseous Lymphadenitis
- b. Other infections or contagious diseases

All goats being exhibited, except wethers, must be identified with the USDA official ID.

Poultry: All Poultry, excluding waterfowl, must meet one of the following requirements:

- 1) Originate from an NPIP participating flock and have documentation of the flock test or NPIP number; or
- 2) Have been purchased within the calendar year from an NPIP participation flock, hatchery, or dealer and have documentation of the purchase and the NPIP number; or 3) Have been tested negative for Pullorum-Typhoid within the past 90 days. Documentation can include a copy of the test chart (VS Form 9-2) or some type of receipt from the flock, dealer, or hatchery that includes their NPIP number.

Any animal showing evidence of lice or mites will not be allowed on the grounds.

Rabbits: 1. Rabbits will be inspected upon arrival. Any rabbits showing evidence of the following disease conditions will not be allowed on the grounds.

- a. Snuffles (sneezing/runny nose)
- b. Abscesses (feet, legs, abdomen)
- c. Ringworm
- d. Fur or ear mites

13. If any animal is found to be affected with an infectious, contagious or otherwise transmissible disease, or is suspected of being so affected, it may be removed immediately to a place of quarantine as ordered by an official veterinarian. The quarters, including all places and materials which may have been contaminated by such animal(s), shall be promptly cleaned and disinfected by owner.

14. The Morrill County 4-H Council Pseudorabies (PRV) policy was developed for the protection of the exhibitors and their animals. It is highly recommended that if any swine are taken from the fairgrounds and returned to their herds that the animals be quarantined for 30-45 days and are tested for pseudorabies at the end of the 30 day period. **Show will be a non-terminal show. Under no circumstances may swine under quarantine be exhibited.**

STALLS AND WEIGH IN

15. The assignment of stalls and pens will be made by the respective superintendent. Clubs will be grouped as much as possible.

16. The stalls, pens and exhibition places should be cleaned before 9:00 a.m. each day by the exhibitor. All refuse will be disposed of in the designated area.

17. All large 4-H animals need to be checked in by noon on Wednesday and shall not leave until the end of fair. Poultry and Rabbits need to be checked in between 8:00 and noon on Tuesday. Stocker feeders and bucket calves are the exception. They will be brought in and taken home the same day. Market goats are expected to weigh-in and stay during fair. Dairy goats will be required to check in 3 hours before the show time. No animal will be weighed with a sock or covering of any kind. Hide must be visible.

18. Those animals determined to be a hazard or unmanageable at the time of weigh-in will be asked to be removed **immediately** from the fairgrounds and **will not** be allowed to participate in any judged event in the show ring. The decision of determining the manageability of an animal will be made by the superintendent of the animal species.

18A. All market beef are required to have a necktie and halter on when stalled in the barns.

19. All exhibitors will have market animals weighed by the time scheduled.

20. If a 4-H'er brings livestock to the fairgrounds before the official weigh-in, the 4-H Council is not responsible for loss or damage to the animals or barns. The owner will be held responsible for damages done to the barns and grounds. If payment is not rendered, they will not be allowed to bring livestock early the next year.

EXHIBITION AND SHOWMANSHIP RULES FOR ALL MARKET CLASSES

21. Only 4-H and FFA exhibitors, 4-H Leaders, or their immediate family are to care for and groom animals unless excused by the 4-H Council. Violators will not be allowed to show in that project area.

22. No ribbon will be awarded unless the animal is removed from its stall and exhibited before the judge. Decision of the judges shall prevail.

23. Entries will receive the premium they warrant in the opinion of the judge where the classes are not filled.

24. If a member is showing a second animal in the same class, he shall call on the assistance of another Morrill County 4-H member.

25. If there is only one animal in a breeding class, it will be judged with the next age group and the judge will be told the age of each animal.

26. Purple ribbon candidates or judge's selection animals will be entered in the judging of champion and reserve champion animals.

27. No breeder advertising will be allowed in connection with the 4-H and FFA exhibits.

28. No tranquilizers, sedatives or drugs of any kind will be allowed.

29. Market beef and breeding beef must **have a chain chin strap on halter** in order to be allowed to show.

30. All animals must be confined to the area south of the road - in the fenced in area. No fitting or grooming beyond the area north or west of the road.

31. a. A contestant must own and show his own animal to qualify for showmanship.

b. It is required by the 4-H Council that for livestock judging and showmanship for beef, sheep and swine that plain WHITE shirts, with or without the 4-H emblem (no bigger than 4"), HEMMED blue or black jeans, and hard sole shoes or boots be worn. Caps will not be worn. FFA members follow FFA rules. Exhibitors not complying will come under the 20% clause of appearance and attitude.

c. Showmanship classes will be held before market classes.

d. Judging will be on the following:

General appearance of the animals....40%

Presentation of the animals.....40%

Exhibitor appearance and attitude.....20%

e. Ages are as of January 1 of the current year.

Junior (8-10 years old)

Intermediate (11-13 years old)

Senior (14 -18 years old)

32. Round Robin Showmanship - The Overall Champion Showman of each species (horse, beef, goat, sheep, and swine) will represent that species in the Round Robin Showmanship, unless that person has won the Round Robin in the past. In that event, the Second Place Overall Showman of that species will be the representative in Round Robin unless that person has won the Round Robin. The Third Place

Showman will then be eligible to represent that species in the Round Robin. Each exhibitor will show and answer questions for each species. Time will be kept and exhibitors will be asked to rotate to the next animal. Each exhibitor shows each animal for 2-4 minutes (watch the judges - you can tell when they are finished with each exhibitor). Dress Code: Round Robin Showmen will be expected to comply with the most restrictive of the dress codes listed under each species.

AUCTION AND REMOVAL

33. To be eligible to sell an animal at the auction, the exhibitor must participate in a showmanship class.

34. No breeding class livestock will be sold at the auction.

35. The 4-H and FFA Champions will start the sale of each respective species for all 4-H and FFA livestock.

36. All exhibitors are allowed to sell one market animal only in the livestock sale at the Morrill County fair. Champion and Reserve Champion animals count as the one market animal. Additional champion market animals owned by the same exhibitor will not be allowed to sell. Market goats will be allowed to sell as a premium sale with the owner retaining ownership.

37. Livestock exhibitors will have the right to sell livestock and retain ownership if they inform the sale committee immediately after the show. If they do not notify the sale committee of this intent, **THE ANIMAL WILL BE LOADED ON THE TRUCK! NO EXCEPTIONS!**

38. No animal may be removed from the fairgrounds until time specified (unless permission has been granted from the Superintendent). Sale animals will be released as designated by the schedule.

39. No animal will be allowed to run loose on the grounds, but must be securely tied, fed and cared for.

VII. RECORD BOOK REQUIREMENTS

1. Record books are due into the Extension Office by September in order to be eligible for awards. For ease in handling and judging, the 4-H Council has recommended that 4-H'ers use these guidelines and assemble their records in the following order:

- a. Cover - a stiff 8 ½" x 11" 4-H binder available at the Extension office for \$2.50.
- b. The 4-H awards entry sheet.
- c. Career Portfolio
- d. 4-H story.
- e. Project or Activity Photographs (4 page limit)
- f. All project record books/sheets signed for current year (county competition only).

It is not necessary that 4-H records be typed, but neatness is important. Each 4-H'er should strive to complete their records to the best of their ability. As the 4-H'er gets older it is recommended to redo the "Career Portfolio" in ink or by type written. The 4-H project stories should tell the reader what happened in the project. Try to make the information concise and to the point. The general 4-H story, at the end of the 'Career Portfolio', should explain general 4-H experiences.

2. The county record books of 4-H'ers aged 13 and older are judged by a 4-H council in a neighboring county in the early fall for county awards. 4-H'ers aged 8 - 12 are judged in county for council awards. 4-H'ers are notified of their awards at the annual county 4-H Achievement and Leaders Recognition Night. County winners that meet age requirements can advance to district competition.