

Hayes County Ag Society Officers

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Hayes County 4-H Council

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Youth Member	Naomi Broker

4-H/FFA EXHIBITS RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. **General Rule** - All Hayes County Fair General Rules also apply to 4-H & FFA unless otherwise noted. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor and parent/guardian to be familiar with all applicable rules and regulations.
- B. **Interpretation of Rules** - The Hayes County 4-H Council reserves to itself the final and absolute right to interpret, amend or add to these rules and regulations as its judgment may determine, and to settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard hereto or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incident to the fair.
- C. **Violation** - All exhibitors are bound by the most current editions of the Hayes County Fair Rules and Regulations set forth by the Hayes County 4-H Council. Any violation of these Rules and Regulations will be subject to disqualification of project; forfeiture of all awards including ribbons, trophies, premiums, booster, incentives; penalties prescribed by law; and/or the exhibitor banned from future participation until such time a reinstatement is made by the 4-H Council. Penalties apply only to project area(s) involved in the incident.
- D. **Disputes & Ruling of Decisions & Formal Protests** - If any issue arises during the Hayes County Fair the 4-H Council President, Class Superintendent(s) and the Extension Staff will rule a decision. Formal Protests must be submitted in writing to the Extension Staff and follow the Hayes County Grievance Policy.
- E. **Substance Abuse** - Use or possession of tobacco, alcoholic beverages or drugs (except for medical purposes) by any exhibitor who is participating in 4-H or FFA at the Hayes County Fair will result in immediate disqualification of that exhibitor's entry.
- F. **Courtesy & Cooperation** - All exhibitors and families are expected to extend courtesy to other exhibitors and their projects. Any questions that may arise should be referred to the Superintendent of your division.
- G. **What Does Enrollment Mean** - Youth are enrolled when they are on the membership records in the Hayes County Extension office by June 15th of current year. Nebraska Extension will

recognize 4-H members and volunteer leaders of the county in which they are enrolled in 4-H irrespective of their place of residence. A member cannot enroll in the same 4-H project area in more than one county or state in the same year. Example: beef (bucket calf, feeder calf, market beef and breeding beef are among those listed with the beef project area), clothing, horse, foods, etc. Regulations not covered in the County Fair 4-H rules will be governed according to State Fair 4-H Rules.

Both Hayes Center and Wauneta FFA Chapter members (from Hayes County) are eligible to participate in the Hayes County Fair.

- H. County Fair Pre-Entry Deadlines** - All entries must have been made/completed since the last county fair. Exhibits can be exhibited only in Class listed in the 4-H fairbook. Those exhibits incorrectly entered or identified will become ineligible. Entries must be entered according to the printed 4-H fairbook and **pre-entered on-line by July 19, 2021**. To be eligible to compete at the Hayes County Fair, all enrollment and entry deadlines must have been met. No exceptions will be made.

900 Numbered Class Are County Only: They are NOT eligible for State Fair.

Exhibitors may enter two different entries per class. The exhibits **MUST** be different and not from the same pattern, recipe, or cultivar. Each exhibit must be entered into ShoWorks separately. If entering 2 exhibits, there are 2 entries in ShoWorks.

- I. Age Divisions** - Divisions require a minimum of 2 youth in each Division to have three Divisions (Junior, Intermediate & Senior). If the 2-youth minimum is not met there will be 2 divisions (Junior, Senior). There will always be at minimum a Junior and Senior Division.

If requirement of 2 youth in each of 3 Divisions is met the Divisions would be as follows:

Junior 8-11 as of January 1 of current year
Intermediate 12-14 as of January 1 of current year
Senior 15-18 as of January 1 of current year

If there is not enough youth to have 2 youth in each of 3 divisions, there will be 2 divisions as follows:

Junior 8-11 as of January 1 of current year
Senior 12-18 as of January 1 of current year

Age Divisions in Shooting Sports that require Hunter Safety Education will be:

Intermediate: 11-14 as of January 1 of current year
Senior 15-18 as of January 1 of current year

- J. Entering Exhibits** - All 4-H/FFA exhibits for the exhibit hall must be entered before 11:00 a.m. on the Wednesday of County Fair. Judging will begin promptly at 12:00 noon. 4-H & FFA exhibitors may interview judge at this time. Any late entries will be dropped one ribbon placing.
- K. Eligibility of Exhibitors** - Only those youth enrolled in 4-H and FFA in Hayes County are eligible to exhibit in the county fair 4-H & FFA areas. To participate youth, (4-H and FFA) must be enrolled no later than June 15, of the current year and in the project area they are exhibiting in. Enrollment must be done annually.

State Fair - in **Class** where presence of the 4-H'er is required for judging purposes such as animal exhibits, judging contests, presentations, and fashion show; a 4-H member must be 10 by January 1 of the current year or become 11 years of age during the current year. The last year of eligibility is the calendar year the member becomes 19. You must notify the Extension office by the deadline (see 4-H newsletters) if you want your exhibit to go on to State Fair. This applies to all advanced entries which include livestock, dogs, poultry, rabbits, companion animals including cat, Fashion Show, presentation, and contests.

State Fair Class where the presence of the 4-H'er is NOT required; the exhibitor must have become 9 years of age during the current year. Therefore, they must be 8 as of January 1 of the current year. Exhibits that have the entry tag marked for state fair are eligible to go on to State Fair.

- L. 4-H/FFA Exhibits** - Training offered by agricultural education/FFA and UNL Extension/4-H contributes to youth's preparation for a future in agricultural production, agribusiness, and other areas. Simultaneous participation in both programs is acceptable and encouraged, if the youth choose to do so. However, there will not be duplication of project animals or other production units. For purposes of exhibition, this means an animal can only be nominated and shown in one organization or the other, not both. Participants enrolling in the same project or enterprise in both organizations is permissible. Any animal shown as an FFA exhibit is ineligible for the show as a 4-H exhibit by any exhibitor and vice versa. An animal can be nominated for show in either 4-H or FFA, but not both.
- M. Ribbons and Premiums Awarded** - The Danish system of awarding prizes will be used throughout the 4-H and FFA Divisions. Clover Kids will receive a participation ribbon. Awards will be divided into groups of merit. Purple (P) ribbons designate an exhibit of superior quality that has met and exceeded all the standards. Blue (B) ribbons denote an above average exhibit that has met almost all the standards in a way that surpasses the norm. Red (R) 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 (W) ribbons indicate that the exhibit has not met the majority of the standards.
- All exhibits in each Class will be awarded ribbons based on quality of the exhibit regardless of the number of entries. This does not necessarily mean that each exhibit will receive an award. Exhibits MUST be of purple quality to be named Champion and to qualify for related special awards. State Fair selections are not limited to Champions. Static exhibits must have a purple ribbon to be eligible for State Fair selection based on State Fair Class and quotas. Awards are not available in every Department, Division or Class. All premium money listed is the maximum premium that may be paid. SHOULD FUNDS NOT PERMIT, A PERCENTAGE MAY BE PAID. You must complete your 4-H Career Portfolio and turn into the Extension Office by September 15 of current year to receive booster and incentive money and to have completed your 4-H project year.
- Premiums: Purple \$5.00 –Blue \$3.00 – Red - \$2.00 – White \$1.00
All premium checks must be cashed by December 31 of the current year.
- N. Judges/Judging** - If any exhibitor interferes with the judges in the performance of their duties by letter, act or otherwise he/she shall be excused from competition and exhibition for such period of time as the 4-H Council may determine and forfeit any awards received at this fair. Any person, not an exhibitor, who interferes with the judges in any manner during the performance of their duties, shall be asked to leave the fairgrounds.
- O. Dress Code** - 4-H and FFA exhibitors must wear the official 4-H shirt sold at the Extension Office or FFA shirt or a white sleeved shirt (or blouse) with the 4-H chevron or FFA emblem and long dark colored jeans when person or project is being judged. With the exception of Public Speaking, Presentations, and Fashion Show. If a chevron is worn, it is to be placed only on the upper left side of the shirt front. No hats, caps, or other types of headgear are to be worn (with the exception of horse show). Hard soled boots or shoes are suggested for livestock exhibitors for safety purposes. While hard soled shoes are not required for the cat, dog and small pet shows, exhibitors are required to wear closed toed shoes with non-slip soles. Shooting sports exhibitors in any gun disciplines are also required to wear safety glasses or protective eye wear and closed toed shoes with non-slip soles. Failure to follow dress code will result in dropping of one ribbon placing.
- P. Exhibits Released** - All general 4-H exhibits will be released on Friday of County Fair at 5:30 p.m. All Livestock Animals may be released following the livestock sale. Post fair clean up begins Saturday of County Fair at 8:00 a.m. All exhibitors are responsible for cleaning in exhibit hall and cleaning stalls/pens in the livestock barns. Failure to participate in the Hayes County Fair pre or post fair clean up may result in loss of premiums/booster/incentive monies.
- Q. Disclaimer Of Responsibility** - 4-H exhibits at the Hayes County Fair are entered and displayed at the risk of the 4-H member. The Hayes County 4-H Council, in cooperation with the Hayes County Ag Society and the Nebraska Extension in Hayes County accepts exhibits and will

exercise due care to protect them. However, they cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage due to the conditions imposed by large crowds or the arrangement of the buildings in which displays are housed. 4-H'ers 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. While the greatest possible care will be exercised by the management to protect patrons of the County Fair, each individual will be held personally responsible for any injury.

Nebraska State Fair exhibits are entered and displayed at the risk of the 4-H member. University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development, in cooperation with the Nebraska State Fair Board accepts exhibits and will exercise due care to protect them. However, 4-H and the State Fair Board cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage due to the conditions imposed by large crowds or the arrangement of the buildings in which displays are housed. 4-H'ers 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.

Large exhibits requiring two or more people to move will be the responsibility of the exhibitor to transport to and from State Fair. Some items may be deemed too large to exhibit at State Fair per State Fair guidelines.

- R. **Copyrighted Materials/Use Of 4-H Emblem** - Copyrighted materials are prohibited being used on 4-H exhibits. When using the official 4-H Emblem, it must follow approved guidelines, which can be viewed at 4h.unl.edu/name-emblem-guidelines.

Grievance Policy

- A grievance may typically be filed around a competitive event, but other issues may arise in which this policy could be used.
- The Extension Educator together with the local 4-H Council (Protest Committee), has the authority to make appropriate decisions on local 4-H disputes. These decisions will be formulated using state policy and national directives as formulated by this policy or as dictated by law.
- All protests must be submitted in writing and signed by the protester.
- The written protest must include:
 1. Names of persons involved
 2. Cause of complaint or appeal
 3. Situation and documentation
 4. Recommendations for correction
 5. Specific action, rule, etc., in question
 6. Additional persons who may be contacted for further clarification
 7. Procedures and/or steps carried out by the person involved prior to submission of the protest to the Protest committee.
- Membership of the protest committee will be 4-H Council. Nebraska Extension faculty will be a member(s) of this committee.
- Protests will not be accepted after the exhibit or event/activity is completed/released.
- The protest will be acknowledged after receiving the written protest and will be responded to in a timely manner.
- A \$50 deposit will accompany the written protest, which will be forfeited if the protester does not attend the protest resolution meeting. The deposit will be returned upon completion of the process.
- Protests related to judges' integrity, decision, placings or other evaluations will not be accepted.
- The committee will review the written protest. They may call for a face-to-face meeting with affected persons and event leadership to discuss the situation and the official ruling. Recommendations will be developed, followed, and communicated both verbally and in writing to the individual or group affected.

- Failure of the protester to attend the face-to-face meeting with the Protest Committee will result in no action and forfeiture of the deposit.
- In cases of protest, the 4-H member/parent/leader may continue to participate. Results of participation will be subject to change based on the outcome of the protest process.
- The Protest Committee and Event Leadership reserves the right to withhold any award. The 4-H member/parent/leader may be excluded from 4-H if action warrants.

4-H Code of Ethics

The primary goal of the 4-H Program is to help youth develop competency in their projects, confidence in themselves and others, connections to their community and sound character. Actions by persons (Parents, and 4-Her's) involved with the 4-H Program will be consistent with the six core ethical values comprising good character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness and citizenship. As a 4-H Participant/Parent/Guardian I will:

- Treat all people and property with respect, courtesy, consideration and compassion. Avoid and prevent put-downs, insults, name calling, swearing and other language or nonverbal conduct likely to offend, hurt or set a bad example.
- Keep informed about 4-H program policies and projects and read materials pertaining to the county 4-H program.
- Teach and model kindness and compassion for others. Recognize that all people have skills and talents which can be used to help others and improve the community. Teach and foster teamwork and discourage selfishness.
- Practice fair-mindedness by being open to ideas, suggestions and opinions of others. I will make all reasonable efforts to assure equal access to participation for all youth and adults regardless of race, creed, color, sex, national origin or disability. Decisions will be made fairly and treat all individuals and families with impartiality.
- Obey laws and rules as an obligation of being a good citizen. I accept responsibility for the proper treatment and care for other youth and adults, the program facilities and/or equipment.
- Demonstrate the responsible treatment of animals and stewardship of the environment.
- Not use alcohol or illegal substances (or be under the influence) while working with or participating in any part of the 4-H Program.
- Provide a safe environment for all parties involved in 4-H. I will protect those involved from sexual harassment, physical force, verbal or mental abuse, neglect, or other harmful behaviors.

Youth Participant/Parent/Guardians who do not abide by the above code of conduct, will be subject to the following consequences:

1. Be asked to explain actions to the 4-H Educator.
2. Be dismissed from an event at own expense.
3. Further disciplinary action determined in cooperation with the local Extension Educator, the District 4-H Coordinator, the State 4-H Program Administrator and as warranted, the Dean of Nebraska Extension and IANR Administration. Disciplinary action may include:
 - a. becoming ineligible to participate in specific 4-H activities,
 - b. becoming ineligible to participate in the Nebraska 4-H Program.
4. Reimburse the proper entity for any property damage or for liability resulting from inappropriate actions. In the case of vandalism, guilty party may be required to reimburse 4-H and/or the facility.
5. Multiple violations of the code of conduct may result in:
 - a. suspension for a period of time
 - b. becoming ineligible for 4-H participation in their county.
6. Parent/Guardian violation may also result in:
 - a. restriction from contacting 4-H families, volunteers, donors, and/or sponsors pertaining to any 4-H matter.