

2021 Wayne County Fair/4-H Year Comments & Suggestions

Beef

- Cow / Calf – revisit lead animal requirements
- Feeder Calf – Add Supreme and Reserve Supreme trophies
- Please post signs discouraging the public from entering make-up area during Beef Show.

Cats

- Revisit FeLV requirements

Dogs

- Please don't sit with dogs in the bleachers during the Dog Show.

Goats

- Dairy Goat Scrapies ID for goats with no ears – should Scrapies number tattooed in the tail or continue to accept the tag brought to the fair? (check statement in Fair Book)
- All goats check in Wednesday evening-update schedule in front of Fair Book.
- Open class Goat Show – add to Fair Book - includes Dairy, Exotic, and Meat goats.

Horse

- Possibility of cameras in horse barn...were some instances of people entering the horse stalls.

Foods

- Limit interviews for judging Foods

General

- Get rid of the 4-H Food Stand! Let another group (i.e., church or school) take over. 4-Her's are involved in SO much during the fair and the Stand should not be one of them. It gets harder and harder each year to find managers for the Stand also. Time to let it go! Charge each family a fee instead of having to add one more thing to their plate at the fair!
- Liked the timing of fair this year...felt like the kids go a longer summer.
- Banners were awesome this year...few things on them...should we do a bit bigger banner for the animals/showmanship that win overall awards? And are the banners supposed to be hanging from stalls, or just the green signs?
- Need some electrical done in the sheep/goat barn. We blow breakers when trying to get ready. Closing the barn to the public before the show worked well. Fair board was amazing in getting our wash rack and scale fixed super quick.
- More garbage dumpsters in the camper area north of the horse arena.
- If 4-H is not going to use the portable food stand anymore, can you rent it to a coffee shop?
Note: The portable is not the Extension Office's or the 4-H Council's.
- If a parent is a superintendent for a livestock show (either 4-H or open), they should not have to work the food stand. Being a superintendent takes away a lot of time from our families, and the county fair should allow for time to spend with our families during a non-show day. Since 2022 is the 100th anniversary, could we get a new t-shirt design? Also, could we get a collared shirt option, for the kids that show at progress shows through out the state.

- Post signs near all barns that state to not feed the animals, respect the animals' area, do not enter their stalls, no dogs present during shows, no public in beef staging area (during show day).
- "Superintendent Only" parking near their barn, especially on show day.
- Some transparency with the Food Stand might help with morale. Families are unsure of where the money goes, and if families are being asked to provide the workforce for the Food Stand, they should also get a say in where the money goes. If they do get a choice in where the money goes, again, transparency is key and making sure all families understand the process would be beneficial.
- If clubs and Independents were to be given a fundraising goal, to fund the areas where the Food Stand money goes, they could fundraise during less stressful times (such as wintertime), we could earn money that way (and close the Food Stand or rent it to another business). Prorating the amount each family needs to raise (based on how many kids in each family) and give the option to pay a flat fee instead of fundraising. The Food Stand is becoming overwhelming for families that have multiple animal projects at the fair, and in the future, families might choose not to bring projects.
- Priorities will need to be discussed within the Fair Board and 4-H on a few areas. Air flow needs to be improved in the indoor arena area (for people and animals), and a large ceiling fan would help. I understand that a large ceiling fan could impede RV storage. Priorities would need to be discussed to figure out what is most important and possible alternatives. Tractor pulling on Friday night causes havoc in the horse barn (between the sounds, the smells, and the sights). This year, I watched as a group of young 4-H kids had to pull their horses out of the stalls and try to calm their horses down while surrounded by parked cars, and in the dark. The arena was parked in, spectators were parked all over by the trailers. There was no safe spot for these 4-H kids to do what was best for their animal. Some families pulled their horses from the fairgrounds completely, and risk losing their premiums. There needs to be a protocol in place for unsafe situations like what was seen this year in the horse barn.
- Scale needs to be on same surface for weigh-ins and at check-in at Fair.
- Food Stand – the way it was scheduled, e of the teens who were supposed to be in the Food Stand were also in Round Robin Showmanship. Not fair to the other groups scheduled at that time. Are parents of children who are enrolled in 4-H, but not exhibiting at Fair expected to work the Food Stand? If so, are they paying the gate fee to enter the Fair just to work the Food Stand?
- Is there a way we could see some sort of statement that shows the expenses and profit of the Food Stand?
- Could the Food Stand hours be limited, and parents be given the option of working or paying a flat fee?
- The banners were nice and greatly appreciated, along with the Thank You cards!
- Is there a way to divide the list of donors for pool money and have kids with last names A-F, or whatever, be assigned to a smaller list, it would make it easier to get the cards out.

Updated 9/10/2021