Indiana 4-H Livestock Volunteer Conference

Welcome!

Aaron Fisher
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4-H Livestock Policies and Procedures

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4-H Livestock Policies

• Most policies are associated with showing
  • Experience in 4-H animal project areas does not always mean showing

• It is an important part of the process for most
  • There are 4-H members enrolled in animal projects that do not show their animal
  • They are also learning about animals
Year-round 4-H Experiences

- Project-based clubs and/or workshops
  - Swine club, Horse workshop, Livestock club, etc.
- 4-H animal experiences
  - Judging teams
  - Animal Science Workshop for Youth
  - Animal Biosecurity Workshop
4-H Livestock Policies

• Designed to frame a 4-H livestock experience
  • It is about the learning process

• County fair and state fair are not the focus
  • Very important part of the learning process
  • Place where 4-H member can show off what they have learned
  • Different from a regular show
    • The showcase of the 4-H experience
4-H Livestock Policies

- Competition is important – *Life = Competition*
  - Gives 4-H member a way to measure their growth
  - But the focus must be on the process, not the prize
- Grand Champion should not be their ultimate goal
  - Should not peak in the 9th grade, need to continue to progress throughout
  - Livestock is one tool that we use to do this
4-H Livestock Policies

- State level policies
  - Ownership deadlines
  - ID requirements
  - Exhibition policy
  - Substitute showman policy
  - State fair grooming rule
- Recognize that counties may do it differently – and that is okay
Ownership Deadlines

- Set parameters for the program year
- Teaches meeting deadlines, attention to detail
- Ensures they have time to learn with the animal
- This is not just a show
  - It is about the experience between the ownership deadline and the show
ID Requirements

• Teaches 4-H members they are apart of a larger livestock industry in which individual animal ID and traceability are important

• Proves that a given animal is a 4-H member’s project animal
Exhibition Policy

• A 4-H member’s animal is their project
• If someone else shows it, it is not their project anymore
  • It is not about the animal – it is about the 4-H member
Substitute Showman Policy

- The goal is for the 4-H member to show off what they have learned
  - Not to just have their animal shown
State Fair Grooming Rule

• It is about the learning of the 4-H member
  • If someone else does the work, what is the 4-H member learning?

• There does need to be people to assist but it is important to not do it for them
  • Family
  • Other 4-H members
  • 4-H leaders
If you have questions…

• Contact me anytime
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