

Llama

Description:

The 4-H Llama Project (Llama & Alpacas) provides youth a fun and hands-on learning experience that develops life skills, as well as teaches valuable information about properly caring for their animal. An important objective of this project is for the 4-H member to experience the pride of owning/leasing a llama or alpaca, gaining its trust and being responsible for its care. Llama Craft and Llama Poster is also available.

Exhibitor Check list:

- Llamas must be ID in V2.4honline by May 15
- Fair Entry June 8th, 2026

Exhibit Guidelines:

DIVISIONS AND EXPECTATIONS:

4-H Llama Lovers Club has Mini 4-H and Regular 4-H divisions. Classes and expectations are as follows:

MINI 4-H (Grades K-1-2)

1. Certain meetings and outings will include Minis at the leader's discretion.
2. Minis will learn llama basic care and training.
3. Minis will display drawings, colored pictures, poster or a story on something about llamas at the Fair.
4. They will learn basic health and nutritional care, and complete a handbook covering these topics. Leaders will check books for accuracy.
5. Mini's will display a poster board (following the same rules as regular 4-H posters) on an illustrated story at the Fair, such as "Why I like my Llama."

Junior (Grades 3-4-5):

1. Attend all regular meetings as possible.
2. Learn about basic llama health, nutrition, and conformation, and complete 5 activities in your project manual. The Project Manual must be completed and be turned into the County Extension Office or Llama Leaders by June th. Leaders will check for accuracy.
3. Make a 2-5 minute presentation for your 4-H Club on some aspect of llamas.
4. Train your llama in basic training techniques, including obstacle course and showmanship.
5. Participate with a llama in at least one community service project (i.e. visit a nursing home, school, or display at a parade).
6. Attend the County Fair and do the following:
 - a. Show in showmanship and at least one other class.
 - b. Attend to all llamas needs as scheduled.
 - c. Make and exhibit a poster on some aspect of Llamas. Poster must be new and original each year. Research and layout must be done by member. Poster needs to be turned in at Exhibit Building Check in time, for judging and exhibition. (See Allen County General 4-H Rules: Poster/Label Rule)

Intermediate (Grades 6-7-8)

All the requirements and privileges of a Junior plus the following:

1. At the Fair, same duties as a Junior plus:
 - b. Must show in showmanship and two other classes.

Senior (Grades 9-10-11-12)

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All the requirements and privileges of Intermediate plus:

1. May become a mentor to a Mini 4-H'er, sharing your llama and assisting in the training of the Mini 4-H'er.
3. Learn judging techniques, and actually place a practice class in showmanship and obstacle course.

Junior, Intermediate and Senior 4-H members are critiqued and placed by the judge. Awards are given according to placement. 4-H members with special needs may be placed in a division commensurate with their ability rather than their grade.

The following classes are available for grades 3-12 to participate in: Costume, Driving, Judging, Kushing, Leaping Llama, Llama Limbo, Packing Obstacle, Public Relations Obstacle, Showmanship, and Woodland Obstacle.

Exhibit Options: Completed Llama Project manual must be submitted to the Extension Office or Llama Leaders by June 4th.

1. Youth Judging Contest – Open to 4-H'ers working with a llama exhibit (Three Divisions Offered). Participants have the opportunity to measure their judging skills against those of a professional judge. Participant is asked to judge/evaluate the performance of several contestants in showmanship, halter, and obstacle competitions. In addition, they will have a written test on aspects of llama care, anatomy and showing. Intermediate and Senior division participants are expected to give oral reasons on one set of halter class. The results of the judging, test and reasons classes are compiled for each participant to determine class placings.

3. Animal Exhibit – Open to 4-H'ers working with a llama exhibit (Three Divisions Offered at Fair)

GENERAL RULES for Animal Exhibit:

- 1) A llama may be owned or leased by the 4-H'er and kept on the 4-H'ers farm. Leader's animals, if available, may be borrowed but kept on the leader's farm during the 4-H season. You are not required to own a llama to participate in the Llama Lover's Club or to show. Lease agreements in place by May 15, copy on file in County Extension Office; original to State Fair Check in.
- 2) A llama may be shared by two 4-H'ers in different grade levels.
- 3) 4-H member must use the same animal for any and all County Fair exhibition classes they participate in.
- 4) The 4-H'er will respect the dignity and personality of the llama and treat it with gentle kindness.
- 5) A minimum of 12 regular meetings will be offered.
- 6) Additional hikes and outings will be offered as appropriate.
- 7) All 4-H'ers are expected to allocate extra time the week before and during the Fair for preparation and display of the llamas.
- 8) Attendance and help at the clean-up, tear down, and taking home of llamas and tack after the llama show is required of ALL 4-H'ers.
- 9) Dues will cover the cost of materials and the amount will be decided each year based on actual costs, with dues payable the first meeting of each year.
- 10) All meetings will be conducted by 4-H rules with elected officers to include President, Vice-President, Secretary and Sergeant of Arms.
- 11) 4-H llama members are required to wear the "official" Allen County 4-H llama shirt at all times while working, practicing, and showing, in and around the llama exhibit area. This includes the tent, show arena, and area immediately adjacent to these areas. Parents and leaders who are handling the animal must wear a 4-H llama shirt. Closed toes shoes are

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mandatory in the tent when in contact with the animal. Closed toed shoes are mandatory in the show ring.

- 12) During Showmanship class, llama must be shown using a black, nylon halter. No decorated, leather or colored halter will be allowed. If the contestant enters the show ring with a halter/lead combination that does not comply to the rule, they are awarded a participation ribbon for the class. If there is any other discrete marker, it needs to be without the animal's name and less than an inch wide. It is recommended that slacks or jeans with no holes or distressing, closed heel and toe shoes, tucked in shirt. Shorts allowed at leaders' discretion made at fair time based on weather.
- 13) Rule changes have to be done at the meeting in the fall, prior to the board meeting in October. If you have a rule change and cannot be at the meeting you need to submit your proposal prior to the meeting in the fall. This vote will be made by the leaders in attendance at the fall meeting. No other rule changes will be made during the year. Other decisions (i.e. emergency decision) made during the year will be decided by a representative from each farm. Any ties will be broken by the chairperson's vote.
- 14) The project animal selected must be identified in V2.4honline by May 15th of the current year and may not be substituted after that date, without leader approval.
- 15) For owning and/or leasing, the State Fair rule book must be referenced and rules must comply to May 15th deadline. To Show at the Indiana State Fair, all llama and alpacas must be enrolled on the online animal enrollment system by May 15 to be eligible to participate in the Indiana State Fair Llama and Alpaca show. Photo of animal's face and all four feet must be attached. This llama may not be dual enrolled by another 4-H'er.
- 16) All 4-H llama members must be matched up with their animals by May 15.
- 17) Llamas not being shown by a youth that is enrolled in the Allen County 4-H Program will not be allowed at the Allen County Fair. Nursing crias, who are attached to mothers are allowed at the Fair but need to stay out of the show barn and away from the performance arena during a show. Extra animals should not be at the Fair.
- 18) We will charge "full price" to replace any lost project book at the member's expense.
- 19) If a contestant goes "off course", he/she is not eligible to place higher than a contestant who does the completed course. Therefore, when a contestant goes off course, the points for that course are not eligible for the Grand and Reserve Grand Champion award.

SHOWMANSHIP will be conducted in three divisions:

Member will compete in level according to school grade as of January 1 of current exhibition year.

Junior for grades 3-4-5

Intermediate for grades 6-7-8

Senior for grades 9-10-11-12

Overall Showman for all current Junior, Intermediate, Senior, previous Senior ***and previous Master*** Showman winners. **(See Showman of Showmen).**

Once an exhibitor has won a division, they must compete in the next higher division the following year. Senior division winners **MAY NOT** compete for the senior division showman again.

Showmanship participants must show their own animal which they exhibited in an earlier class.

For the divisional runoff in showmanship, the contestants that win first and second place will go back into the ring for the divisional Grand and Reserve Grand championship.

Llama Poster Rules are under Animal Education