2023 Elkhart County 4-H Outstanding Livestock Exhibitor Program

The purpose of the Outstanding Livestock Exhibitor Program (OLEP) is to increase the knowledge of 4-H members, encourage good stockmanship, and recognize 4-H members for their knowledge in animal science.

Rules and Qualifications:
1. To be eligible for the OLEP 4-H members must participate in their species Skillathon contest and participate in showmanship for each species they wish to be eligible for. Exhibitors may enter as many species as they wish.
2. To be eligible for the Overall OLEP 4-H members must participate in their species Skillathon, the overall OLEP Skillathon and showmanship in their species.
3. There will be three age divisions for the OLEP program: Beginner (Grades 3-5) intermediate (Grades 6-8) and senior (Grades 9-12).
4. The OLEP will be for the following species:
   a. Beef
   b. Dairy Cattle
   c. Dairy Feeder Cattle
   d. Goat (Dairy, Meat and Varity are all one category this year)
   e. Horses
   f. Lambs
   g. Poultry
   h. Rabbits
   i. Swine
   j. All Around Skillathon (parts of all categories above)
5. Points will be awarded based on Skillathon station points and showmanship placing in their class during their animal show for the OLEP species. Bonus points will be given for participation in Skillathon open house events.
6. The Overall OLEP exhibitor will count the highest Skillathon station points from the species combined with the showmanship score of that specie, and the Overall OLEP Skillathon
7. Skillathon is a hands on, educational event to test the exhibitor's knowledge of their species. Topics of the Skillathon may include, but are not limited to: Breeds, feed/nutrition, equipment, meat cut ID, body parts, and quality assurance. Study Resources include, but not limited to: The Ohio State Learning Lab Kits, Ohio State 4-H Resource Handbooks, Standard of Perfection books, Indiana 4-H/FFA State Livestock Skillathon Resource packet.
8. The Skillathon portion of the OLEP will be held prior to fair with a minimum of 5 stations for each level. A tie breaker quiz will be given after the stations in case of a tie.
9. The top 5 exhibitors in each of age division per a species will be recognized. An overall winner will also be recognized in each species.
10. Ties will be broken in the following order: (1.) Points earned on Skillathon. (2.) Points earned on section one of Skillathon. (3). Points earned on section two of Skillathon. (4.) Points earned on Showmanship placing.
11. Awards will be given according to the sponsorship money available.

12. Youth who participate in a showmanship class that is above their Skillathon grade classification will be awarded base points to compensate their ineligibility to compete in their normal age range due to club rules.
13. If an exhibitor isn't eligible to participate in showmanship because of club rules, IE winning master showman, or winning round robin they will be given showmanship points to make up for that showmanship component.
14. The committee shall make the final ruling if any issues arise that are not addressed by the rules/qualifications.

2023 Elkhart County 4-H Outstanding Livestock Exhibitor Program Skillathon Contest information

The purpose of the Skillathon Contest is for 4-H members to test their knowledge of animal science and stockmanship. This is open to all 4-H members regardless if they have any animals.

Rules and Qualifications:
1. Must be a current 4-H member in Elkhart County. Any 4-H member can participate in any of the Skillathon contests.
2. There will be three age divisions for the Skillathon contest: Beginner (Grades 3-5) intermediate (Grades 6-8) and senior (Grades 9-12).
3. Skillathon contests will be for the following species:
   a. Beef
   b. Dairy Cattle
   c. Dairy Feeder Cattle
   d. Goat (Dairy, Meat and Varity are all one category this year)
   e. Horses
   f. Lambs
   g. Poultry
   h. Rabbits
   i. Swine
   j. All Around Skillathon (parts of all categories above)
4. Skillathon Stations will be determined based upon the three age divisions with a minimum of: Three for beginners, four for intermediate and five for seniors.
5. Topics of the Skillathon may include, but are not limited to: Breeds, feed/nutrition, equipment, meat cut ID, body parts, and quality assurance. Study Resources include, but not limited to: The Ohio State Learning Lab Kits, Ohio State 4-H Resource Handbooks, Standard of Perfection books, Indiana 4-H/FFA State Livestock Skillathon Resource packet. Each Skillathon will be species specific.
6. The all around Skillathon will be a combination of all species and the topics listed in rule 5.
7. Awards will be given for the top five in each age division by species and recognition of an overall winner in each species.
8. The All around Skillathon top five in each age division will also be recognized.