

## **GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES**

New for 2018, to exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals. This is an annual program that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. More information about YQCA is available at <http://yqca.org>. While this is a new requirement, it should not be viewed as just another rule but rather as an important educational opportunity for 4-H livestock members. Making this an exhibition requirement is how we are ensuring that 4-H members learn about quality assurance, but it really has nothing to do with animal exhibition. The reason for this requirement is so youth learn best management practices with their animals. This course may be completed online, fee of \$12.00, or completed in-person, fee of \$3.00 (maybe completed at any county training). At this time, this is an annual training. PQA (Pork Quality Assurance) is ending on December 31, 2017 but those who have certificates will be grandfathered into this new program. You must have this completed before Livestock Check In at the Fountain County Fair at the fair to ensure you can show and sell animal in auction.

The goals of having 4-H members complete the YQCA program include ensuring that:

- Youth will be more prepared to be ambassadors for animal agriculture in their role as youth livestock exhibitors.
- Animals from youth livestock programs are treated with the utmost care.
- 4-H members are contributing to a safe, wholesome food supply.

The following rules apply to 4-H Club Members enrolled in any of the following projects: Beef, Dairy, Goats, Horse and Pony, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep and Swine. Fountain County livestock rules are closely based on Indiana State Fair rules.

1. SUBMISSION OF ENTRY TO THE FOUNTAIN COUNTY 4-H FAIR EXPRESSLY BINDS THE EXHIBITOR TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN ANY AND ALL PARTS OF THIS HANDBOOK AND ENTRY FORMS.
  1. All livestock excluding swine that are not being sold in the auction or going in the pool must remain on the 4-H Fairgrounds until their dismissal after the completion of the Battle of the Barns contest. This information will be discussed at the July 4-H Council meeting, in which a final decision will be determined. In the event of an unforeseen circumstance we will call an emergency meeting to grant permissions. Swine with the exception of the Livestock Auction and Pool animals will be released after the completion of the 4-H Swine Show in order to comply with 72 hour animal health protocol. Those with conflicts related to family death or illness, approved school activities, or national livestock competitions must present their dilemma to the Extension Educator ASAP or **before July 1<sup>st</sup>**. This information will be discussed with the 4-H Council, in which a final decision will be determined. In the event of an unforeseen circumstance we will call an emergency meeting to grant permissions
  2. Members wishing to remove animals from the fairgrounds prior to the scheduled time or that will have late arrival must follow the procedures below:
    - For reasons such as other junior livestock shows, family vacations, other educational event conflicts etc. – a request must be made to the 4-H council no later than the last meeting prior to the fair. 4-H Council will provide youth arriving late because of approved conflicts with a designated arrival time. If animals are arriving late from the Junior Show they must be checked/weighed (if applicable) in by the superintendent upon arrival to the Fountain County 4-H Fair. Animals will be written in the show program if they are showing in the Crossbred division after they have been checked/weighed in at the fair. In the event of an issue or unforeseen circumstance in transit that would prevent the 4-Her to arrive at the show during the 4-H Council approved time the 4-Her or family member must notify the 4-H Council President for review.
    - For emergencies or circumstance which arise once the fair has begun – a request must be made to the barn superintendent. A committee of livestock superintendents will meet and

rule on the request.

For issues of animal health – before animals are removed from the fairgrounds they must be inspected by a veterinarian to be determined by the 4-H Council, and that veterinarian must agree that the animal's health and well-being, or that of other animals is in jeopardy. Issues related to animal breeding will not be acceptable reasons for removal

3. Each exhibitor will show his/her own animal unless he/she has more than one animal in a class, or it is impossible for him/her to attend the fair (e.g. out of the country, at another 4-H activity where attendance is required, or sick). If this is the case, any current 4-H member from Fountain County may show exhibitor's animal. 4 -H animals (except Horse & Pony in which parents may show the horse) exhibited at any show after the Animal ID Deadline (April 1<sup>st</sup> for steers and May 15<sup>th</sup> for the other animals) by anyone other than the person listed on the Indiana 4-H Animal ID online shall not be eligible to be shown in any 4-H show (Fountain County 4-H Fair and the Indiana State Fair). This term/condition does not apply to siblings, who may show each other's animals at any show during the year without jeopardizing 4-H show eligibility, regardless to whether or not the sibling is a 4-H Member. NOTE: This term/condition also does not apply to the horse and pony program where a parent MAY also show the horse and pony after it has been submitted to the 4-H program. (11/17)
4. An exhibitor may not take exception to the decisions of an official and/or judge in an unprofessional and/or public manner. Nor shall any exhibitor or person representing the exhibitor, interfere with or show disrespect to any judge or show official.
5. Tampering, altering, and/or misrepresentation relative to any exhibit is prohibited. This prohibited activity includes, but is not limited to, the breeding, age, ownership, and/or method of preparation or completion. (For example, with animal exhibits, this includes, but is not limited to, coloring that alters or misrepresents breed characteristics, pumping, \*drenching and filling.) *\*Drenching is defined as: To cause to drink; especially, to dose by force;.*
6. Unethical fitting of animal exhibits is defined as the administration of any substance (to include, but not limited to, drugs covered in #8 below (*blood, oils, steroids, air, chemical substances*), and the *Livestock Drug Residue Testing Rules for Fountain County 4-H Livestock*,) or performance of any surgical or non-surgical procedure altering the animal's configuration or natural conformation of any part of the animal's body, or rendering its tissues unfit for human consumption and is prohibited.
7. Exceptions that are allowed to #4 and #5 above include hoof trimming, dehorning, removal of hair, manipulation of normally attached hair, castration, branding, tattooing, ear notching, docking of tails on sheep and swine, and coloring that does not alter or misrepresent breed characteristics.
8. Each 4-H exhibitor and parent/legal guardian will be required to complete and sign an animal affidavit when exhibiting **market animals** being sold in the Livestock Auction or Livestock Pool. . The form will be available at the Fountain County Extension Office and will be distributed before the fair. The executed affidavit/agreement must be presented at the time of check in of the animal at the Fountain County Fair. Refusing to execute the affidavit/agreement will result in disqualification and the imposition of appropriate penalties.
9. Persons wishing to file grievances must do so in accordance with the grievance policy outlined in the "Grievance/ Appeal Guidelines for County 4-H Program Issues" section. In the instance that a formal grievance is filed in the suspicion of drug use or misidentification of livestock, the party filing the complaint will forward a non-refundable deposit to offset any cost incurred for testing. In all cases, a committee made up of individuals in the "Grievance/ Appeal Guidelines for County 4-H Program Issues" reserves the right to drug test or take a retinal scan of any livestock on the grounds due to a complaint or formal grievance. If said animal is found to show a positive test for drug residue the owner will incur any and all test costs.
10. Any livestock exhibitor using excessive abuse on his/her exhibit animals will be penalized accordingly under the decision of the 4-H Council and Livestock Superintendents. Excessive abuse shall include, but is not limited to, burning, stabbing, gouging, punching, use of electric prod or other treatment, which is considered cruel and inhumane.

11. 4-H market animals shall not contain any identifiable or unidentifiable foreign substance including: drugs, steroids, or chemicals, greater than those standards established by the United States Department of Agriculture or the Food and Drug Administration as permissible for sale for consumption as human food. Each year drug residue tests will be facilitated as described in the *Livestock Drug Residue Testing Rules for Fountain County 4-H Livestock* policy.
12. 4-H animal exhibitors may receive clipping and grooming assistance at the fair from anyone. Animals must be fit in designated areas. (Rev 1/17)
13. If any species of animal (beef, swine, sheep, goats, dairy, horse and pony, poultry, rabbits, cat, dog, or pets) dies after the enrollment deadline of May 15<sup>th</sup> the 4-H'er must contact the Extension Educator and Livestock Super. The 4-H'er can complete a Livestock Poster on the subject and turn in the signed and completed Record Sheet to obtain completion in the project.
14. All livestock present on the fairgrounds during the Fountain County Fair must be enrolled for exhibition in their specific show. Livestock not eligible for exhibition will be sent off the fairgrounds immediately!
15. Each 4-H'er is responsible for cleaning his/her pen(s)/stall(s) daily during the fair, and at the conclusion of the fair. Gross negligence, determined by the Extension Educator and Livestock Superintendents, may result in ineligibility for the sale.
16. A completed record sheet, signed by the 4-H'er's township club leader is required at animal check-in, along with a county animal affidavit for **each market animal** and any required health papers. If livestock record sheets are not presented by 10 pm on the evening of animal check-in, ***the 4-H'er will be ineligible to show that particular species. Rabbit and Poultry exhibitors are required to turn in record sheets prior to the show.*** **Note:** The intent of this policy is to encourage 4-H'ers to keep records, and to provide a system by which those records can more easily be checked. The Livestock Superintendents will check the livestock record sheets and animal affidavits the night of livestock arrival. Record sheets will be reviewed and returned to the 4-H'er.
17. Any Purebred animal regardless of species has the ability to be shown as a Crossbred at the Fountain County 4-H or Indiana State Fair, but that animal must be entered as a Purebred in the 4HOnline system. 4-H'ers must declare what their animals will be shown as upon arrival to the Fountain County Fair and/or the Indiana State Fair.

(Rev. 1/17)

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