

2014 SANDERS COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK POLICIES

2014 revisions appear italicized

1. Dress code for livestock shows and photographs are as follows: dark blue or black pants, white, long sleeved shirt, recommend leather shoes or boots (required for large animal shows and round robin for safety purposes). Cowboy hat, tie or suitable vest are optional. Sale: colored jeans and shirt permissible Horse show attire according to current horse show standards. Dog show attire according to current dog show standards. Dairy cattle & goat show white pants and shirt. Dress code violations will result in loss of one ribbon color.
2. Animal Possession
 - a. 4-H members may tag two market animals on the respective tagging day (first Saturday in January - Beef and first Saturday in June - Sheep/Swine). To replace an animal, prior to fair due to sickness or death, the member must make written request or appear before the livestock committee for approval. A single B animal may serve as a replacement among siblings.
 - b. Market Livestock birthdates. No earlier than: Beef January 1 (previous year to tagging); Lambs January 1 (current year); Swine: February 1 (current year)
 - c. Horse, Breeding & llama projects must be enrolled and animals in possession by June 1 of the 4-H year. Market steers must be in your possession by November 1st or at time of weaning.
 - d. *All horse projects must submit a housing form describing where their horses are being kept by June 1st. Forms are available from the extension office or online at www.montana.edu/sanders*
3. Animal Care
 - a. All 4-H members exhibiting stock must furnish feed and water containers for all stock. Feed containers are limited to show size (24" diameter) and are to be removed each time after feeding.
 - a. All members are responsible for feeding and caring for their own animals at the fair and keeping the stalls and pens clean and in good condition. After any market animal is sold on Sunday, the member-seller is still responsible for the care and feeding of the animal for the remainder of the fair. Sufficient feed and water must be left for a 12 hour period, beginning Sunday evening - until shipping Monday morning.
4. A 4-H member may enter as many animals as he/she desires, but not more than one entry in any one lot.
5. Once a 4-H member brings an animal exhibit onto the fairgrounds, the care of that animal is the sole responsibility and obligation of the member-owner.
6. Only the member-owner is permitted to fit his or her animal for show ring. No assistance will be given to the member by leader, or parent, except to assist in restraining an animal if necessary. Verbal assistance shall not be allowed while the animal is being shown. Disregard for this rule can result in the disqualification of an animal.

7. Only the member-owner is allowed to show and/or sell an animal, except for special cases where the livestock committee advises.
8. Member Requirements.
 - a. The Livestock Committee requires that all animal exhibitors must take part in showmanship and participate in interviews for their specie(s).
 - b. All market project members must be enrolled in two projects and “meet expectations” according to Sanders County 4-H policy.
 - c. *Any animals entered in showmanship must be entered in another lot of the same species.*
9. Animals may be brought to the Fairgrounds any time after 1:00 p.m. Wednesday and no later than 7:00 p.m. Wednesday night.
10. Dogs and cats shown by the 4-H member will not be housed at the fairgrounds. Pockets pets may be exhibited at the discretion of the rabbit & poultry barn superintendent.
11. All animals and poultry must pass the health inspection by the Fair Veterinarian on entry day. Any animal or poultry not passing health inspection must be removed immediately from the fairgrounds.
12. *Animals that are exempt from individual USDA official scrapie identification requirements are: (a) sheep & goats under 18 months of age in recognized slaughter channels. However it is the responsibility of the owner to properly identify any market ewe lambs purchased following the sale for the purpose of retaining as a breeding animal.*
13. In the interest of safety, if stock cannot be handled by the member alone as determined by the Livestock Committee, it must be taken home.
14. Members shall turn 12 years old (minimum) during the 4-H year to take the Colt to Maturity project and meet level requirements (for horse projects).
15. Market Animal
 - a. Only one market animal may be entered and sold per member. If a sale heifer is taken and sold it counts as a market animal. Animals shown in the market classes must be sold in the market sale. Members exhibiting more than one species of market animal must notify the livestock committee which species they intend to sell within one hour of completion of the (Saturday) beef show.
 - b. Market animal projects cannot be exhibited as a breeding project
 - c. Only one 4-H market animal per member may be sold in western Montana in one year. *Sale order for beef and sheep to be determined by live animal judge. Sale order for swine determined by drawing within blue & red ribbon color.*
 - d. All market livestock will be weighed electronically upon arrival during Wednesday check in. A certified counter balance scale is available for those requesting. This becomes the official weight for the Fair & sale. *Only one market animal will be weighed on fair weigh-in day.*

- e. Market Weights: Minimum weight classes are 210 pounds for hogs and 100 pounds for sheep. Decidedly under finished animals, regardless of weight, can be moved into a feeder class at the judge's discretion. Market swine weighing in excess of 290 lbs, will be sold at a listed live sale weight of 290 pounds. Sale order will be determined by the live animal judge of that species
 - f. White ribbon lambs, steers and hogs or feeder class animals cannot be advertised for sale on the fairgrounds. Slaughter arrangements and transportation are the responsibility of the owner.
 - g. Market Stock Sale Withholding. \$20/lamb, \$30/swine, \$35/steer, \$5/poultry-rabbit, \$10/private treaty (feeder) sales. These fees support costs associated with premium stock sale administration (ear tags, destination sheets, Thank You ads), fairgrounds improvements and death loss (following sale).
 - h. Uncleaned pens, stalls, cages as of 10 am Labor Day Monday, will be assessed a \$30 cleaning fee, unless prior arrangements have been made with the respective barn superintendent.
 - i. Rocky Mountain Bank invoices all buyers not paying at the time of sale. Once all animals have been paid for Rocky Mountain transfers funds to Sanders County 4-H. No funds are held to generate interest. All records, including buy-back support dollars for beef/swine & sheep must balance with sale records prior to release of funds. Due to billing cycles, this process may take 6-8 weeks. Any members who need sale monies to pay bills should contact the Extension Office or Sanders Co. 4-H Treasurer to arrange advance payment.
16. Round Robin Large Animal Showmanship class shall consist of the respective Junior/Senior Showmanship Champion in Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy, & Horse. Round Robin Small Animal Showmanship class shall consist of Rabbit, Poultry, Dog, Goat and Cat.
17. All *blue ribbon* 4-H entries desiring to compete in open class must pre-register according to open class guidelines.
18. Quality Assurance Training: To qualify to receive Symbol of Excellence (Swine), Steer of Merit, and Certified Lamb recognition, market project members must attend a Quality Assurance session once as a junior and once as a senior member.
19. All 4-H members and Leaders are required to wear a helmet while participating at 4-H horse events in Sanders County.
20. All complaints must be given in writing to the Livestock Committee.

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