



# **2025-2026 CASCADE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK PROJECT GUIDELINES AND COUNTY SHOW RULE BOOK**

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# CASCADE COUNTY LIVESTOCK PROJECT GUIDELINES & RULE BOOK

## CASCADE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK LEADERS OFFICERS

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Montana 4-H Website: <https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h>

4-H Z-Suites: <https://4h.zsuites.org>

## MONTANA 4-H CODE OF CONDUCT

The 4-H Center and Montana State University Extension wants your participation in 4-H events and activities to be filled with exciting experiences, new friendships and fun. To ensure a positive experience for all participants, it is expected that each participant be considerate of others, participate fully in programming and observe the following expectations.

- ◆ I will conduct myself at all times to be a credit to my club, my community, and my county.
- ◆ I will show respect for the rights of others to be courteous at all times.
- ◆ I will be honest and not take unfair advantage of others.
- ◆ I will respect the property of others.
- ◆ I will demonstrate sportsmanship in the contests and meetings, modesty in winning and generosity in defeat.
- ◆ I will attend contests promptly and respect the opinions of others in discussion.

## CASCADE COUNTY 4-H ANIMAL SHOWS CODE OF ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at 4-H animal shows shall, at all times, conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in the 4-H show ring shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of youth education, positive character development, and integrity.

All people working with 4-H exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Ethics violations/infractions will be processed through the 4-H Livestock Leaders of Cascade County. The committee may consist of specialists, 4-H volunteers, and 4-H livestock committee members. Owners, exhibitors, and other responsible persons who have violated the Code of Ethics will forfeit awards and may be prohibited from future exhibition.

## 4-H MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY OF ANIMAL(S)

The owner/4-H exhibitor of the animal is ultimately responsible for the animal's care and condition whether he/she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in violation of the Code of Ethics.

The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, or other responsible person to accept appropriate disciplinary action taken by 4-H livestock show officials against such individuals.

## EXHIBITOR GUIDELINES

1. 4-H exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows. It is the responsibility of the 4-H exhibitor to fit their animal. 4-H strongly recommends fitting be done by the 4-H member while overseen by an adult.
2. The showing of unethically fitted animals(s) is prohibited. Unethical fitting is deemed to mean any physical or physiological attempt to alter the natural conformation, musculature or weight of any animal by use of

injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health of the animal or marketability of its carcass. The use of diuretics, unapproved growth stimulants or other unapproved medication, or showing animals that have not been properly withdrawn from approved drugs is prohibited. The use of Clenbuterol, "ACE" or any drugs not approved by the FDA for market animal or specific species animal use is prohibited.

3. No change in the major color pattern of any animal by painting or dyeing will be allowed. Neutral coloring only may be used. Addition of any hair or hair-like substance to any part of the animal's body is prohibited. This applies to all animals exhibited in market classes, showmanship classes, and sale.
4. No owner, exhibitor or other responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate the Code of Ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate the Code of Ethics.
5. Any carcass suspected of being tampered with or suspected of containing drugs will be detained until the investigation is complete. If the carcass is condemned at the packing plant for any reason, it shall be grounds for disqualification in the on-foot and carcass division of the show. Additionally, all premiums and sale money will be forfeited, and the loss of the animal be incurred by the exhibitor.

## **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

A General Grievance Procedure is available to all 4-Hers. Grievances must be in writing. A form may be obtained from the Extension Office and will be available at events. The completed form must be submitted within 24 hours with a \$25 processing fee. The grievance committee, consisting of the show committee and Extension Agent will convene within 24 hours and make a decision as expeditiously as possible.

## **LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meetings are on the first Tuesday of January, February, March, April, May, June, August, September, October, and November at 7:00 p.m. at the MSU Extension Cascade County office. Each club in Cascade County must have a leader or parent attend 60% of the Livestock Leaders meetings either virtually or in person. Members of clubs not meeting this requirement will NOT be able to sell at the sale.

There are four committees that oversee the organization and management of the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale. The committee and their duties are listed below:

### **SHOW COMMITTEE**

The Show Committee consists of assigned Cascade County livestock leaders, division show chairs and Extension agent. In the event, there is an emergent need to change the existing or published schedule of the county show, a meeting is to be called of the show committee and Extension agent to clarify or change said schedule to properly follow the livestock rule book.

### **COUNTY SHOW DIVISION CHAIRS**

A division chair is a volunteer from the livestock leader committee. Division chairs are species specific (beef, swine, sheep, dairy, goat, rabbit, poultry, breeding, round robin). Division chair duties are defined as follows:

1. Organize members & animals for weigh-in, getting to show ring, sale order, load out, & barn clean-up.
2. Work with executive show committee to maintain class updates
3. Solve problems within your species, up channel as needed.
4. Handle complaints.
5. Not required to handle animals, they are member responsibility.

### **SALE COMMITTEE**

The Sale Committee consists of assigned Cascade County livestock leaders, parents and other volunteers. Responsibilities include the organization and management of the Sale portion of the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale.

### **BUTCHER/CARCASS COMMITTEE**

The Butcher/Carcass Committee consists of assigned Cascade County livestock leaders, parents and other volunteers. Responsibilities include the organization and management of the Animal Harvest and Carcass Delivery following the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale.

## **MARKETING/SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Marketing/Sponsorship Committee consists of assigned Cascade County livestock leaders, parents and other volunteers. Responsibilities include securing sponsorship and marketing for the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale.

## **ELIGIBLE JUDGES**

No former Cascade County 4-H youth member may be a judge at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show until at least 5 years have transpired following his/her last year of eligibility in 4-H youth projects.

## **AWARDS**

1. Grand and reserve champions will be awarded prizes designated by Jr. Livestock Leaders.
2. Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders will determine budget for all awards, and seek sponsorships for the show operations and awards.
3. Class ribbons will be as follows. First receives the grand champion ribbon, second receives the reserve champion ribbon. All other animals in each grand/final drive will receive a purple ribbon. Non-grand/final drive animals will receive standard blue, red, or white ribbons.

# **CASCADE COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW AND SALE RULE BOOK**

## **SHOWING ETIQUETTE**

1. When showing, dress neatly in clean, practical clothes such as a nice shirt with long or short sleeves, and long pants. Ties and hats are optional. Unacceptable clothing includes shorts, T-shirts, sleeveless tops, sandals or flip-flops. Long hair is encouraged to be pulled back.
2. When your class is called you have three minutes to enter the ring. You will be called three times at one-minute intervals. At the end of three minutes the class will be closed, and you will not be allowed to participate. Every effort will be made to accommodate your needs.
3. No parents are allowed in the Show Ring at any time during competitions unless they are acting in an official capacity (i.e., pig board handlers and ring stewards).
4. Anyone seen mistreating his animal on the grounds, in the Pavilion or in the show ring, will be reprimanded. Show Ring: Excused from class. Livestock Pavilion: Depending on severity, the Division Chairs Rules Committee will determine the consequences.

## **SAFETY RULES**

- ◆ **All dogs must be leashed.**
- ◆ Boots, leather shoes or other closed toe shoes are required for your safety.
- ◆ Posted barn etiquette rules must be observed

## **EXHIBITOR SALE ELIGIBILITY**

All 4-H members enrolled in livestock projects must complete the following tasks to sell their livestock project at the Livestock Sale. Members who do not meet these requirements are welcome to participate in the show but will **NOT** be allowed to sell.

1. Record Book Review
2. Marketing Visit
3. 60% Club Attendance
4. Approved Pre-show Safety Check (large livestock)
5. Participate in entered species showmanship class

## **RECORD BOOK REVIEW**

All 4-H members bringing an animal to the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show & Sale must bring their current and up to date 4-H record book to the record book review event on the date set prior to county show. The 4-H member will be allowed to make necessary corrections at the record book review or prior to weigh-in at the County Show. If the record book is not current and complete by weigh-in, the 4-H member will not be allowed to show or sell their animal. The final ruling will be made by the executive committee. Absentee record book review will be allowed. 4-H member needs to complete the Absentee Record Book Review form and hand in the record book to the Cascade

County Extension office prior to record book review event. A parent shall not judge his/her child's animal record book.

**Each record book must contain:**

1. My 4-H Year
2. Animal Project Journal and Financials with UP TO DATE records
3. MSU Curriculum Project Book with
  - a. 4-H Record book seven activities and three-five learning experiences
4. Documentation of Marketing Visit Requirement in Promotions of My 4-H Year
5. Livestock Independent (Self Determined) Study (if applicable)
6. Absentee Record Book Review Form (if applicable)
7. LQA Certificate – Required once at 13 and under and once at 14 and older. Certificate provided by the 4H office. No make up will be allowed as there are 6 LQA 101 project days offered.

Forms are available at the MSU Cascade County Extension office and/or website, OR can be completed on ZSuites.

**MARKETING VISIT REQUIREMENT**

All 4-H members enrolled in market livestock projects must visit with at least one business to promote the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. 4-H members must document their visit in their record book in My 4-H Year under Promotional Presentations. This needs to be completed and documented prior to the record book review to be allowed to show and sell at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale.

**CLUB MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT**

All 4-H members enrolled in livestock projects must attend 60% (or club bylaw minimum) of their club meetings to be eligible to show and sell at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. Absences may be marked as excused at club Organizational Leader discretion or if members are attending another 4-H event. Unexcused absences may be made up by attending a 4-H livestock education event. Attendance will be tracked using a Google Sheet created by the Extension Office. Club secretaries and/or Organizational Leaders will enter club meeting attendance onto the Google Sheet. The Extension Office or a Livestock Leader will enter educational event attendance into the Google Sheet.

**PRE-SHOW ANIMAL SAFETY REQUIREMENT**

All 4-H members enrolled in large livestock projects must participate in a pre-show animal safety event. This ensures the safety of all animals and participants at the Livestock Show and Sale. Members who do not complete this will not be eligible to show or sell their livestock project. Animals deemed unsafe will be sent home.

Species division chair(s) will track on show project spreadsheet. There are three ways to accomplish this:

1. Participate in jackpot show with entered animal (proof of participation to division chair)
2. Participate in livestock clinic with entered animal

If not able to do above, MUST check in Wednesday night at County Show for validation by division chairs.

**LARGE MARKET ANIMAL LIMITS**

The Cascade County 4-H Livestock show is a terminal sale for large market animals. 4-H members may enter and sell a maximum of two species at the sale. Large animal species options are market beef, market goat, market sheep, market swine. A 4-H member cannot sell two hogs or two steers. 4-H members must declare specie(s), be enrolled in 4-H, and have paid 4-H enrollment dues by October 31.

Animals judged worthy of sale (blue & red ribbons) must be sold in the 4-H market livestock sale and are processed for carcass data unless sent home due to infraction(s).

The processing facilities limit the number of animals they can handle due to space and staff. Livestock leaders will work every year to accommodate all members' projects through the butchering process. If accommodation can't be made by November 30 of the 4-H year, then kids with two animals will be asked to pick their sale project or choose another option.

## SMALL ANIMAL MEAT PENS

Meat pens of three for rabbit and poultry (chicken or duck) and single turkey meat pen will be sold at the livestock sale and do not compete in the carcass contest. Buyers will take home meat pens live. Members may sell one large and one small animal meat pen or two small animal meat pens.

## INTENT TO ENTER FORMS

4-H members are required to have animals in possession by a certain date during the 4-H year. When these animals are in possession, the 4-H member needs to inform the Livestock Leaders committee which animal(s) may be entered in the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale in July. This is done by completing an Intent to Enter Form.

1. 4-H members may intent to enter any number of animals for market class in the County Livestock Show.
2. Intent to Enter Forms and a \$10 per animal or per meat pen and **non-refundable** fee are due:
  - i. Market Beef: First Monday in January
  - ii. Market Swine: Third Monday in April
  - iii. Market Sheep: Second Monday in May
  - iv. Market Goat: Second Monday in May
  - v. Meat Pens: 70 Days before Cascade County Show
3. A picture of the entire animal showing the ear tag provided by the Extension office. Please refer to below EAR TAGS section for species specific tag rules. Rabbit and meat pens do not need a photo of the pens. Forms without pictures of animals are considered incomplete. Intent forms with pictures will be available for verification at the County Show weigh-in table.
4. Late Intent to Enter Forms will be charged \$25 per animal fee or per meat pen and are only accepted for **one week** past the due date.
5. The Livestock Leaders strongly recommend intenting an additional animal as a potential replacement. The benefit is if an animal dies or is determined to not be ready, the 4-H member has another animal to choose from for the county show/sale.
6. 4-H siblings may jointly intent to enter one market beef, goat, sheep, or swine.

## EAR TAGS

1. All 4-H members bringing a livestock project to the county show will be required to have their animals ear tagged with a tag provided from the Cascade County Extension office.
  - a. Beef ear tags are available December 1.
    - i. Ear tags may be placed in either ear.
  - b. Swine, sheep and goat ear tags are available March 1.
    - i. Ear tags for market goats and sheep shall be placed in opposite ear of the scrapies tag.
    - ii. Market swine ear tag may be placed in either ear.
2. The ear tag number must be clearly visible and is required with the Intent to Enter form.
3. Mature breeding project animals to be shown at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale must be owned by the species intent to enter date. The breeding project animal will be identified on the intent to enter form by a unique, permanent identifier. EXCEPT BEEF BREEDING, see dates below.
4. Dates:
  - Market beef must be owned and ear tagged by January 1.
  - Breeding beef must be owned and ear tagged with unique identifier by April 1.
  - Market swine must be owned and ear tagged by April 15.
  - Market goats must be owned and ear tagged by May 1.
  - Market sheep must be owned and ear tagged by May 1.

## COUNTY SHOW ENTRY FORMS

The county show entry form is completed to allow the Livestock Leaders to prepare the barn for the County show in July. This entry form collects stalling information for both large and small animals, show shirt information, and animals coming for showmanship only. Form will list the show and contest fees as determined by the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders committee.

Show Entry forms will be available in May and will be due three weeks before the show.

1. 4-H members will be charged a \$10 late fee if submitted after the due date, and no late entries will be accepted two weeks before the show.

2. Members will need to document the anticipated number of species that will be staying for the show **by ear tag number on the County Show Entry Form.**
  - a. County Show entry forms are required for all animals in the county show. **Intent to Enter forms do not serve as entry forms.**

#### **LARGE ANIMAL WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE**

1. All cattle, sheep, swine, and goats will undergo a VETERINARY HEALTH INSPECTION at weigh-in. This is done to ensure the health and safety of the animal entered and all other animals at the show. Projects that are found to be lame, sick, or unsound by the veterinarian will not be allowed to show and must leave. The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show Veterinarian will make all decisions affecting the health of 4-H market projects. The veterinarian's decision is final.
  - a. A veterinarian fee of \$2 is included on the County Show Entry fees.
2. Animals must be present and checked in before weigh-in schedule deadline for that species. Late arrivals will not be accepted. Division chairs may consider unusual circumstances. Being late is not an excuse.
3. The 4-H member must declare to the weigh-in volunteers which animal is chosen for the market class and will be sold in immediately after weigh-in. Only the animals for market and showmanship can stay in the barn. All extra animal(s) must go home on weigh-in day. There will be no space in the barn for extra animals.
4. Weights
  - a. Steer: Minimum of 1100 pounds and maximum of 1500 pounds
  - b. Swine: Minimum of 230 pounds and maximum of 310 pounds
  - c. Lamb: Minimum of 100 pounds and maximum of 170 pounds
  - d. Goat: Minimum of 70 pounds and maximum of 120 pounds
  - e. **Buyers are not charged for anything over maximum weight**
5. All animals must come to weigh-in clean (mud-free) and with clean ear tags. Any animal with excessive mud will be sent to the end of the line. It is the 4-Her's responsibility to find a way to clean off their animal before it will be weighed.
6. The scale will be calibrated prior to start of weigh-in. Scale will be zeroed out after each weight is taken and mud cleaned after every 5 animals. Feces will be cleaned immediately from the scale.
7. Light animals get one automatic re-weigh immediately after first weigh-in **without leaving weigh-in area.** If the second weight is still under the minimum, the exhibitor choices are:
  - a. The 4-H member may take the animal home that day.
  - b. The 4-H member may use the animal for showmanship only and it will not be sold in the show sale.
  - c. Light-weight animals can be put into a feeder class. They will not be able to sell in the sale, butchered with other Cascade County 4-H animals, or be entered into the carcass contest. The 4-H member may advertise and sell the animal private treaty. The 4-H member is responsible for the sale and processing arrangements. The feeder class will not receive grand or reserve placings.
8. **1% Rule:** If the animal's weight is within one percent (**1%**) of the minimum weight, it will be allowed to participate in the market classes. If member feels the animal isn't a marketable product, they have the option of dropping the market class.
  - a. **Current weight allowances are Steer: 10 pounds, Lamb: 1 pound, Goats: 1 pound and Swine: 2 pounds**
9. Each 4-H member may request a re-weigh immediately after the first weight is given if the member questions the weight. If a second weight is requested, the second weight will count as the official weight.

#### **SMALL ANIMAL CHECK-IN**

1. Rabbits and poultry must be inspected by the Division Chair or other designated party BEFORE occupying a show cage at check-in.
2. All poultry exhibitors must bathe and dust their poultry/waterfowl at least 7 days before the show. Dirty, diseased or infested animals will be refused at check-in.
3. Rabbits and poultry (chickens and ducks) will be sold in meat pens of three. Turkeys will be a single meat pen. Animals should be same species and weight for each animal +/- one pound. Rabbits will follow breed specific rules for ARBA. Poultry will follow APA guidelines, as well.

## SHOWMANSHIP

1. Showmanship is MANDATORY for exhibitors entered to sell unless excused by division chair.
2. Showmanship entries are divided into age categories for the Cascade County Show as determined by the child's age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year:
  - a. Junior: 8-10 years old
  - b. Intermediate: 11-13 years old
  - c. Senior: 14 years and older
3. There is no requirement for advancement, other than age.
4. Rabbit and poultry members may show one of their animals for showmanship.
5. Youth entering will also compete in the Round Robin competition.
6. 4-H members may bring an additional animal to enter in the respected showmanship class. Species may include cattle, goats, sheep, rabbits, or poultry.
  - a. Examples:
    - i. A 4-H member may show a steer in the beef showmanship class and a sheep in showmanship class.
    - ii. A 4-H member may show their breeding project animal in the respected showmanship class. (i.e., A heifer may be shown in the beef showmanship class.)
7. Replacement animal can be used for showmanship if the animal is housed, cared for, and trained by a family member also enrolled in the project.

## ROUND ROBIN COMPETITION RULES AND SETUP

1. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Showmanship species winners from each age division (Sr, Int, & Jr) are invited to participate.
2. If a participant qualifies in more than one species, they must pick their preference and the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> place winner in other species is able to participate.
3. Species will be shown based on entries. Not all species are shown in all age divisions.
4. Showman will show own animal for 2 minutes, switch animals, show second animal for 2 minutes, and then switch species. Repeat above until all showmen are back to their own animal.
5. Judges will rate the showman on a scale of 1 to 10 based on their skills to successfully showcase the animal. 10 being top of the scale and 1 being needs the most improvement.
6. Judges may ask questions.
7. Ring will need to accommodate the number of species being shown.

## SALE

1. *Sale order is determined with a random draw or sort within species after the close of intent to enter for that species. Lot numbers are assigned when the catalog is finalized.*
2. *Species order is determined by the show committee.*
3. *White ribbon market animals will not be sold but may be shown in showmanship classes.*
4. *A 2.5% fee is assessed on the gross sale of all 4-H livestock animals sold at the 4-H Sale to defer costs incurred by the Cascade County Livestock Committee.*
5. *After the sale, remember to complete your 4-H records with the sale information received with your sale and carcass premium checks and turn them in for year-end awards.*
6. *4-H members have up to 90 days to cash checks after the checks are issued. 4-H families will be notified when checks are ready to be picked up from the MSU Cascade County Extension office.*
7. *Purple ribbons will be recognized at the sale.*

## **BREEDING PROJECTS**

4-H members who signed up for a breeding project will have access to the Cascade County 4-H Breeding Project Workbook through the Extension office or ZSuites. Members will follow the project requirements noted in the workbook and submit a completed record book at the end of the 4-H year. The breeding project year is the same as the 4-H year; from October 1 to September 30. Members can enter their breeding project in certain competitions listed in the workbook, but are not required. The following are competitions which occur at the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale.

### **Breeding Project County Show Entries**

Breeding projects can be entered in the county show in three different categories:

1. Breeding Junior and Senior Animal Classes – Each member is allowed a max of 2 entries into the livestock show for breeding, whether is a Jr and Sr animal, 2 Jr animals, max entry for show is 2 per member. If a Sr animal is entered, the offspring are included with that entry. Ex. Cow calf pair.
2. Illustrated Talk
3. Breeding Pen or Video

### **BREEDING CLASSES (Dairy, Swine, Sheep, Goat, and Beef, Rabbit and Poultry)**

Breeding classes are judged based upon the requirements of the species.

1. This contest will take place in the show ring and evaluated by the designated judge.
2. Each species will have a junior and senior animal competition where the class will be judged and placed. Members will be awarded points for their placing in the class, that will go towards their year end high point average. If a member has 2 entries in the show, points are awarded by highest placing animal only, not both entries.
3. The entry can be solely the female, female with offspring, and/or intact males, younger than breeding age.
4. A grand and reserve champion will be awarded for junior and senior animal divisions for each species. If a species has more than one class, the top 2 winners from each class will come together in the ring for a supreme grand and reserve champion, for that particular species.
5. The grand champion in each division, per species, will then compete for the Overall Supreme Breeding class, amongst all species. Members will not receive any point value for the supreme division, for their year-end high point average.
6. Breeding class order is dairy, swine, sheep, goat, and beef. Class order for rabbit and poultry will be determined by the division chairs.
7. Breeding animals must be inspected by a veterinarian on arrival and pay the vet fee.
8. Awards: Breeding projects receive awards based on species: Cattle (beef & dairy), Swine, Sheep, Goat (meat & dairy), Rabbit, and Poultry. In addition, there is an Overall Supreme Breeding Award for large animals and a Best of Show for small animals.

### **ILLUSTRATED TALK (Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goat, Dairy, Rabbit, and Poultry)**

1. The illustrated talk can be a visual depiction, along with the verbal presentation, of the 4-H member's breeding project; representing the project as a whole or a topic of choice to highlight. (i.e., breeding plan for project, controlling herd disease, applicable topic to species, etc.) Talks will be limited to 10-15 minutes.
2. Talk will be presented in designated display area in pavilion. Animal does not need to be present for participation in this contest, but member will need to be present at designated time to present talk.
3. Guidelines for judging will be developed by a Livestock Leader Committee led by the Division Chair and this information will be provided to members when the criteria form is available.
4. Awards: A grand and reserve champion will be selected for each species. Members will receive points for this competition to go toward their year-end high point average.

### **BREEDING PEN (Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goat, Dairy, Rabbit, and Poultry)**

1. A breeding pen consists of live animal(s) involved in breeding project, and MUST be entered into the livestock show. Max of Breeding Pen entry per species per member.
2. 4-H members will have an in-person interview with the designated judge at the pen.
3. Pen can be decorated but not required.

4. Guidelines for judging will be developed by a Livestock Leader Committee led by the Division Chair and this information will be provided to members when the criteria form is available.
5. Awards: A grand and reserve champion will be selected for each species. Members will receive points for this competition to go towards their year end high point average. If a member has 2 entries in the show, points are awarded by highest placing pen only, not both entries.

### **Breeding Project Load-Out**

All breeding projects may load out at any time after contests are completed.

### **LARGE ANIMAL LOAD-OUT PROCEDURES**

1. Load out will be done at times established by the Show Committee. Division chairs will coordinate the load out and approve pen cleaning.
2. Showmanship Animals: All showmanship animals must be removed from the building before market animal load out.

### **CLEAN-UP PROCEDURES**

**Everyone is required to clean up.** Clubs will be assigned a time and area they are responsible for during the show weekend. Pens will not be cleaned until Load Out is complete.

Each 4-H member must:

1. Check out with his/her designated Division Chair. If a 4-H member does not clean up or check out, a \$50 fee will be deducted from sale check, and the money goes to the 4-H Livestock Committee. If a member is unable to attend clean-up, the 4-H member **must make arrangements with another 4-H member to clean up and timely inform the division chair via a documented means by the close of the show.**
2. Clean his/her pen and adjacent area to the dirt. Remove all waste to the outside **Bunker** at the south end of the Livestock Pavilion. Dump all waste (no plastic/paper) as far back in the bunker as possible.
3. Clean rest of barn as per contract with MT Expo Park.
4. Clean out wash racks and drains.
5. Pick up litter from the bleachers and inside the Livestock Pavilion.

### **ANIMAL HARVESTING**

1. Slaughter and processing facilities will be selected by a vote of the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders committee under the advisement of the Butcher and Carcass Standing Sub-Committee. If the animal(s) are to be processed at an alternate buyer selected facility, the buyer is responsible for pickup and delivery of the live animal from the sale premises according to the published livestock show and sale agenda. The buyer will also be responsible for making all arrangements with their selected facilities.
2. The group of USDA inspected, State of Montana inspected, and/or Custom Exempt final processing facilities to be presented to the buyers will also be approved ONLY by a vote of the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Committee.
3. The harvested carcasses will be delivered to the buyer's selected USDA inspected, State of Montana inspected, and/or Custom Exempt final processing facilities, after carcass grading is completed.
4. Buyers will have to sign a disclosure document indicating they understand that the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders committee is facilitating the transport, harvest and processing of their purchased animal(s) ONLY as a courtesy to the buyer. If the buyer chooses an alternate facility, they are responsible for transport, harvest and processing arrangements as well any issues that may arise from the same.

# PROJECT SPECIFIC RULES

## BEEF

1. All market beef must be owned, and ear tagged by January 1.
2. Minimum weight 1100 pounds at weigh-in (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 1500 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 1500.
4. Market beef must be naturally polled or dehorned with a re-growth not exceeding three (3) inches in length.
5. Nose rings are **not** permitted.
6. Neck ties are required when animals are tied in stalls.
7. Market beef may be steers or spayed heifers of any beef breed.
8. Bulls or stags are not allowed.
9. Bill of sale is required at weigh-in prior to the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale.
10. All animals must be halter broke. Animals deemed unmanageable by the Livestock County Show Rules Committee will be sent home.
11. Market beef is divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.

## GOATS

1. All market goats must be owned, and ear tagged by May 1.
2. Minimum weight 70 pounds at weigh-in time (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 120 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 120.
4. **Please Note:** Goat projects are **required** to have a **scrapies ear tag**. Tags are often provided by the breeder; if not, scrapies tags are available from the Extension Office.
5. Market goats are divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.
6. Billy goats are not allowed.
7. All goats must be clipped
8. Goats will not be more than 1-year-old as of the show date.
9. Wether goats must be dehorned or disbudded. Scurs that have developed after disbudding must be rounded and not have a point. Does with horns must be tipped.

## SHEEP

1. All market sheep must be owned, and ear tagged by May 1.
2. Minimum weight 100 pounds at weigh-in time (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 170 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 170.
4. **Please Note:** Sheep projects are **required** to have a **scrapies ear tag**. Tags are often provided by the breeder; if not, scrapies tags are available from the Extension Office.
5. Market lambs are divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.
6. Rams are not allowed.
7. All sheep will be slick shorn.
8. Sheep will not be more than 1-year-old as of the show date.
9. Wether lambs must be dehorned or disbudded. Scurs that have developed after disbudding must be rounded and not have a point. Ewes with horns must be tipped.

## SWINE

1. All market swine must be owned, and ear tagged by April 15.
2. Minimum weight 230 pounds at weigh-in (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 310 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 310.
4. Market swine are divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.
5. Boars are not allowed.
6. All hogs shall be driven at the show while showing, exercising, washing, and moving from place to place. Hog joggers are prohibited.

## RABBIT

1. Members entering animals for rabbit can show a maximum of five (5) animals per species in the conformation classes, excluding meat pens.
2. Exhibitors must be on hand for all judging.
3. All animals will be included in the Best of Show.
4. Must be owned and in possession by May 1

5. All rabbits must be tattooed and tattoo number stated on the intent to enter form.
6. Members may exhibit a show quality and/or pet quality rabbit(s). Show quality rabbits are pure bred; pet quality is cross bred. No more than one pet quality rabbit per 4-H member may be entered.
7. Rabbits under 3 months or pregnant will not be accepted.
8. Check-Out: Exhibitors must clean cages and be released by Division Chair.

## **RABBIT AGILITY**

Members competing in rabbit agility at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show will follow the rules defined in the New Jersey 4-H Rabbit Hopping and Rabbit Agility Guidelines and Competition Rules (Appendix A). Members may enter the rabbit agility competition on the entry form for the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show. Members must be enrolled in the rabbit project, complete rabbit record book, and attend record book review.

## **POULTRY**

1. Members entering animals for poultry can show a maximum of five (5) animals per species in the conformation classes, excluding meat pens.
2. Exhibitors must be on hand for all judging.
3. All animals will be included in the Best of Show.
4. Must be owned and in possession by May 1, except for meat pens intended for the livestock show and sale.
5. All birds must have leg bands and band number stated on the entry blank. Leg bands may be purchased at the Cascade County Extension Office or on your own.
6. Exhibitors must bathe and dust their poultry/waterfowl at least 7 days before the show. Dirty, diseased, or infested animals will be refused at check-in intent to enter form.
7. In the event of a health concern observed at check-in a veterinarian will be consulted, their decision is final.
8. Check-Out: Exhibitors must clean cages and tables before being released by the Division Chair.

## **MEAT PENS**

### **Rabbits**

1. Meat pens of three for rabbit will be sold at the livestock sale and do not compete in the carcass contest.
2. Buyers will take home meat pens live
3. Rabbit tattoos must be marked on the intent to enter form. Rabbits must be tattooed in the left ear.
4. The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders have a tattoo kit that can be leased out.
5. Rabbit meat pens should be composed of commercial breeds or crosses of commercial breeds. The pen should be uniform in the same breed, color, size, etc.

Commercial breed examples: American, American Chinchilla, Beveren, Californian, Champagne D'Argent, Checkered Giant, Cinnamon, Crene D'Argent, Flemish Giant, French Lop, Giant Angora, Giant Chinchilla, Hotot, New Zealand, Palomino, Satin, and Silver Fox.

6. Rabbits intended to be sold at the livestock sale must be in possession/kindled at least 70 days prior to the sale. Rabbits should be 10-14 weeks old, minimum of 70 days at sale date.
7. Each animal must be 3.5 to 6 pounds.

### **Poultry**

2. Poultry leg bands must be marked on the intent to enter forms.
3. Poultry meat pens should be same sex and breed. Pen can be a cross but needs to make weight, look uniform, etc.
4. Ducks: Pen of 3. Jumbo Pekin 7 weeks of age at the Livestock show and sale and other production breeds 12 weeks of age at the livestock show and sale.
5. Turkeys: Single pen. Broad-breasted 16-22 weeks of age at livestock show and sale and Heritage breeds 25-30 weeks of age at livestock show and sale.
6. Broiler chickens: Pen of 3. 7-9 weeks of age at livestock show and sale.

## CARCASS CONTEST

1. Market animals will be graded by a carcass judge designated by the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Committee.
2. Carcass data will be submitted to MSU Extension for evaluation. The Cascade County Contest will follow Steer of Merit Standards for Market Beef, Goat Carcass Standards for Market Goat, Certified Lamb for Market Sheep, and Symbol of Excellence for Market Swine. Steer of Merit, Goat Carcass Standards, Certified Lamb, and Symbol of Excellence are reviewed annually and are based on industry standards.
3. The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders will collect the following monies from 4-H members for the carcass contest:

Market Beef: \$10 per animal

Market Goat: \$10 per animal

Market Sheep: \$10 per animal

Market Swine: \$10 per animal

Carcass monies collected will be dispersed using the table below after the carcass contest has been conducted. Note that the top animals may not have qualified to be Steer of Merit, Goat Carcass Standards, Certified Lamb, or Symbol of Excellence, however, they will be ranked by the state standards.

Payout will be based on number of animals in said species on a scale as follows:

Number of Animals	1 to 3	4 to 8	9 to 15	16 to 29	29 and more
Placed 1 <sup>st</sup>	100%	60%	50%	40%	30%
Placed 2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	40%	30%	30%	25%
Placed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	-	-	20%	20%	20%
Placed 4 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	-	10%	15%
Placed 5 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	-	-	10%

(Or variation of above)

## LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders will support its members who enroll in the Livestock Judging project with education, competitions and travel opportunities. The livestock judging project will include practices in person and online. Any member enrolling in the project will be considered for the Senior and Junior teams representing Cascade County at competition requiring travel. Livestock judging project members who register will compete at events offered to 4-H. The cores from the last three judging events at which a member competes (whether as 4-H, FFA, or Independent) will be used to rank members and determine the team. Four members will comprise a team. Alternates will also be selected.

Team members seeking sponsored travel must compete representing Cascade County 4-H. The team will first request travel funding from the Cascade 4-H Foundation and then the Cascade County Livestock Leaders.

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