



*Washington County*  
**4-H LIVESTOCK SHOW**



NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

# GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

## 1. RULES FOR ENTERING ANIMALS/EXHIBITORS

- A. The show shall be for market hogs of any breed or mixed breeding, market lambs and goats of any meat breed, and heifers of beef breeding for 4-H members and youth in Washington County.
- B. An application must be completed by the deadlines stated. These deadlines are December 1st for Heifer entries and January 31st for Hog, Goat, and Lamb entries.
- C. All livestock are subject to the approval of the Extension Office and 4-H Livestock Executive Committee.
- D. An exhibitor may enter and show two animals of different species.
- E. The home/sell preference for hog entries may be updated until April 1st. No other changes can be made to entries after the Jan. 31st entry deadline.

## 2. YOUTH AGE RULES

- A. As per National 4-H Policy, youth are considered Cloverbuds (non-competitive) if they have reached five years old by January 1 of the current year and have not yet reached their eighth birthday by January 1 of the current year. Youth that are eight by January 1 and have not yet reached their 19th birthday by January 1 of the current year are eligible to show in competitive classes.
- B. Youth will be split into Junior and Senior age divisions for the purpose of the Showmanship competition. Youth will be considered Junior Showmen if they are between the ages of 8 and 12 by January 1 of the current year. Youth will be considered Senior Showmen if they are between the ages of 13 and 18 by January 1 of the current year.

## 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR CLASSES

- A. All goats, hogs, and lambs will be judged upon confirmation and market conditions in "market classes." All heifers will be judged according to breed standards.
- B. Each youth will be able to participate in a "showmanship class" (classes are divided by age and species). In these classes, the exhibitor who does the best job of fitting and showing his/her animal will receive an award. Second place also receives an award.
- C. Cloverbuds and new exhibitors are required to attend at least one showmanship clinic (or approved alternate activity).
- D. Cloverbud exhibitors (ages 5-7) will participate in non-competitive showmanship classes with other cloverbud-age youth. They will not participate in competitive classes (Regular Market and Showmanship Classes).

#### **4. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. Each exhibitor or buyer assumes all liabilities in case of sickness, death, or injury to their livestock.
- B. A 5% maintenance fee will be charged on the final sum (if applicable, not including market price) of each exhibited animal. These funds will go into the Washington County Livestock Show account to be used to support show improvement, infrastructure, and equipment.

#### **5. DIGITAL RECORD REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Each exhibitor must complete a digital record of their project and turn in thank you letter(s) to all the buyers and trophy/award sponsors of their animal(s) in order to receive payment.
- B. All digital records and thank you letters are due by August 31, following the show. For every month after this date, there is a 10% reduction in the paycheck. After December 1st of the show year, the exhibitor will forfeit all proceeds from the show and sale.

#### **6. RULES ON SHOW DAY**

- A. In order to compete, all animals must be in place at the show and sale no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day of the show.
- B. Each exhibitor is required to bring sufficient feed, a feed bucket, and a water bucket to keep animal(s) refreshed for 24 hours.
- C. Youth must provide bedding for their animal pens. Youth are responsible for removing the soiled bedding at the conclusion of the show.
- D. Parents and participants are responsible for keeping up with the schedule of the show and ensuring that they are with their animals prior to their classes. Animals must be in the show ring promptly after being called. Exhibitors failing to comply with this rule may have their animals excluded from that class at the discretion of Extension Staff and the 4-H Livestock Executive Committee.

#### **7. RULES FOR THE SALE**

- A. Market and showmanship champions will be listed and sold first during the sale. The remaining exhibitors will be listed in order of placing in market classes. Cloverbud exhibitors will be randomly selected and listed among competitive youth.
- B. Parents and participants are responsible for being on time and with their animals during the sale. Exhibitors failing to comply with this rule may have their animals excluded from the sale.
- C. Sponsorship, in addition to what was noted during the sale, can be added after the show.

# ANIMAL SPECIFIC RULES & REGULATIONS

## GOAT DEPARTMENT

1. All youth must be 5-18 by January 1 of the show year to enter the goat show.
2. Goats will be placed according to market standards.
3. All goats must be fed and cared for by the exhibitor at least 60 days prior to the show.
4. Target weights for market goats are 70-100 pounds.
5. All goats must weigh a minimum of 40 pounds on the day of the show. If a goat does not meet this qualification it may be exhibited in the showmanship classes, but not the market classes.
6. All goats will be mouthed following check-in and must have all temporary (baby) teeth in place at the time of the show.
7. Goats must be wethers or does (no bucks).
8. Goats may be shown in a halter or collar.
9. Goats should be a meat-breed (no pygmies).
10. Goats' horns must be rasped to blunt ends or dehorned.



## HEIFER DEPARTMENT

1. Youth must be 9-18 by January 1 of the show year to exhibit a heifer.
2. All heifers will be placed according to breed standards.
3. Heifers must be fed and cared for by the exhibitor at least 120 days prior to the show.
4. All heifers must be calved on or after September 1 of the previous year (year prior to show date) and have been off milk for at least 90 days.
5. All heifers must be halter broke and shown with a halter.
6. All heifers must be without horns.



## HOG DEPARTMENT

1. All youth must be 5-18 by January 1 of the show year to enter the hog show.
2. Hogs will be placed according to market standards.
3. All hogs must be fed and cared for by the exhibitor at least 60 days prior to the show.
4. Target weights for market hogs are 250-290 pounds.
5. All hogs must weigh a minimum of 200 pounds on the day of the show. If a hog does not meet this qualification it may be exhibited in the showmanship classes, but not the market classes.
6. Hogs must have at least 1/2 inch of hair. No clipping is allowed after check-in.
7. All hogs must be free from disease and external parasites.
8. To encourage youth to extend their swine projects, hog exhibitors are no longer required to terminate. This rule is subject to change based on current animal health and NC State Veterinarian regulations.



## LAMB DEPARTMENT

1. All youth must be 5-18 by January 1 of the show year to enter the lamb show.
2. Lambs will be placed according to market standards.
3. All lambs must be fed and cared for by the exhibitor at least 60 days prior to the show.
4. Target weights for market lambs are 110-155 pounds.
5. All lambs must weigh a minimum of 50 pounds on the day of the show. If a lamb does not meet this qualification it may be exhibited in the showmanship classes, but not the market classes.
6. All lambs will be mouthed following check-in and must have all temporary (baby) teeth in place at the time of the show.
7. Lambs must be wethers or ewes (no ram lambs).
8. All lambs must be halter broken.
9. All lambs must be sheared before showing.
10. All lambs must have a docked tail.

