

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the 4-H and FFA Show and Sale is to assist youth with premier leadership, personal growth, and career successes through encouraging improvement in the production, processing, and marketing of agriculture products while developing personal commitment and responsibility.

**These rules cover an in-person Show and Sale. If the Show and Sale has to move to a virtual format due to COVID-19 Restrictions, some rules may be relaxed or changed. Updates will be sent to exhibitors through email and will also be posted on our website:**  
[https://shenandoah.ext.vt.edu/content/shenandoah\\_ext\\_vt\\_edu/en/programs/livestock-horse.html](https://shenandoah.ext.vt.edu/content/shenandoah_ext_vt_edu/en/programs/livestock-horse.html)

## 2024 4-H/FFA LIVESTOCK SHOW & SALE RULES

**General Rules**

1. Each exhibitor must be a 4-H or FFA member enrolled in a Shenandoah County 4-H club or FFA chapter by February 1, 2024. Exhibitors must be at least 9 years old as of September 30, 2024, but must not have reached their 19th birthday as of January 1, 2024.
2. All livestock shown must be an official 4-H/FFA project. Completed livestock record books for each animal shown (market) must be turned in to the appropriate 4-H or FFA advisor, and thank you notes to the Extension Office, by November 1, 2024. The book of any exhibitor received after November 1 will have to meet with the Executive Committee. The consequences of a late book could result in the exhibitor not being able to show in the following year.
3. Exhibitor must be a resident and reside in Shenandoah County in order to show. Any exhibitor moving out of the county during the year, prior to the fair, will become ineligible. **Any exhibitor with dual residency may request a review on a case by case basis. Requests are due in writing by February 29, 2024. Once a member with a dual residency has been approved, the member doesn't need to reapply. They just need to provide proof annually that the dual residency hasn't changed since it was approved.**
4. All 4-H and FFA livestock entries must be filed through the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office by the established deadlines. Entries filed incorrectly will be denied stall space and competition by the Executive Committee.
5. Exhibitors must indicate on the entry form where their animals are housed. All 4-H/FFA livestock entries are subject to on-the-farm inspections to verify information. All exhibitors must agree to accommodate such inspections.
6. All 4-H and FFA livestock projects must arrive by noon on Saturday, and check in with a member of the screening committee, and remain on the grounds until 9:00 p.m. the following Saturday, or until the conclusion of the sale. All market animals must check out with a member of the Sale committee before leaving the grounds after the sale. Anyone leaving before the appointed time will forfeit premium monies.
7. The Screening Committee will view all animals as they are being weighed at the County Fair. The committee will have the final decision on the class in which the animal will be shown. Any animal which proves to be misrepresented or falsely classed will be rejected and the right of the exhibitor to further participate in the 4-H/FFA livestock show and sale will be denied.
8. All market animals can weigh only one time during the winter and early summer official weigh-ins at the fairgrounds. At the County Fair weigh-in, over and underweight animals may be allowed to reweigh one time. See the species specific rules.
9. Any discrepancies regarding an animal's eligibility will be decided by the Livestock Show and Sale Executive Committee (five-member majority).

10. Any animal which, in the opinion of the Show and Sale Executive Committee (five-member majority) constitutes a safety hazard to other animals, exhibitors, or spectators, must be removed from the grounds immediately. All steers and heifers must have both a halter and choke rope while housed at the fairgrounds. If there is a health issue, verified by a vet, it would constitute disqualification.
11. Market animals must be handled by the grader and representatives of the executive committee for grading.
12. The 4-H/FFA exhibitor must handle his/her own livestock in this show except in the case of showing two animals in the same class or in case of exhibitor illness. In such cases, another bonafide Shenandoah County 4-H or FFA livestock exhibitor may be secured to show one or both of the animals. All exhibitors must walk their project through the sale ring, unless excused by the Executive Board due to illness, emergency, or other approved reason. Any unexcused exhibitor not walking their project through the sale ring will sell to the floor.
13. All exhibitors, volunteers, parents and guardians must abide by the Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct.
14. Dress Code for Livestock Show and Sale: All exhibitors will be required to abide by the dress code for all the livestock shows and sale. Exhibitors must wear a shirt, long or short sleeved, tucked into good, clean jeans or khaki pants, and sturdy shoes (boots are highly recommended). No tee shirts will be allowed except for 4-H, FFA, or an exhibitor's own farm name on the tee shirt. No pants or shirts with holes. Absolutely no sandals, flip flops or other shoes with feet exposed, bare feet, bellies, or legs. Any exhibitor not abiding by the dress code will not be allowed to enter the show or sale ring. No hats will be worn.

Exhibitors are always expected to dress in a manner that positively reflects 4-H/FFA, their family, community, and self. Exhibitors will not be permitted to wear clothing with negative, indecent, or inappropriate language or pictures. Clothing should not depict, suggest, or endorse immoral or illegal actions including, but not limited to, drugs, alcohol, violence, pornography and gang activity. Clothing should not be excessively tight, short, or expose undergarments or excessive midriff. Tank tops should have straps that are 2 inches in width (no spaghetti straps) and shorts should reach below fingertips. Exhibitors in violation will be directed to secure appropriate clothing immediately, if they do not comply, participation in the Livestock Show and Sale will be denied. The Executive Committee's decision will be final.
15. Animals taken into the beef, sheep, swine, goat and dairy showmanship classes must be officially entered by the same exhibitor in the respective 4-H/FFA market or breeding animal show. Underweight and overweight animals are eligible for showmanship. In the showmanship classes, competition will be based solely on showmanship. All species are to be washed and brushed, carded or combed, but not fitted. Carded and trimmed breeding sheep are acceptable. Exhibitors who were previous grand champion showmen in any showmanship contest will be eligible to compete with their age division during their respective showmanship class.
16. All exhibitors must show in showmanship and show in their respective species. Classes will be broken down into Junior (ages 9-12), Intermediate (ages 13-15), and Senior (ages 16-19). Novice exhibitors will be defined as anyone who is showing that species for the first time. Novice exhibitors will be broken into Junior Novice (ages 9-13), and Senior Novice (ages 14 -19) divisions. Winners in Novice divisions will compete in the final round for overall grand champion showman. Exceptions will be made in the breeding animal category - exhibitors who are away at school may secure another current Shenandoah County 4-H/FFA exhibitor to show their breeding animal. Excused absences must be in writing, signed by the show manager, and approved by the Executive Committee.
17. In the show manager's absence, the highest ranking associate show manager (as listed in the catalog) will assume his/her responsibilities.
18. In matters involving legal responsibility, final responsibility for interpretation and the enforcement of these rules will rest with Virginia Cooperative Extension.
19. Animals cannot be cross entered between 4-H/FFA market and 4-H/FFA breeding shows.
20. If an exhibitor enters animals, and does not bring them to the fair, the Executive committee reserves the right to reassign that stall space as needed. Stall and tack space in the beef barns cannot be moved once the assignment date is set by the Executive Committee.
21. All youth exhibiting beef, sheep, swine, goats and dairy **must be** YQCA (Youth Quality Care of Animals – new program in 2018) certified before August 21, 2024. Contact the Extension Office for a list of workshops in the area.

22. 4-H/FFA exhibitors are expected to be the primary care provider for their animals, to include feeding, watering, maintaining the stall, grooming of their animal and other care for their project animal throughout the duration of the fair. Assistance may only be provided by the parents, family members, a Shenandoah County 4-H club leader enrolled in Virginia 4-H, a Virginia Extension Agent or FFA instructor or another 4-H/FFA youth member for the Shenandoah County 4-H/FFA Livestock Show & Sale. One warning will be given in this case. Penalty for a second infraction may include, but is not limited to the following:

1. removal of animal from premises immediately
2. be excluded from all show and sale activities upon determination of an infraction
3. return of premiums and proceeds from show and sale.

23. In case of extenuating circumstances, such as a pandemic, the Livestock Show and Sale Executive Committee (five-member majority) may change some rules in order to comply with current restrictions that affect the program.

*Revised 1-17-23*

### **Market Beef (Steers & Heifers)**

B 1. All rules under General Rules will apply to beef exhibitors. PLEASE READ!

B 2. Entry forms are available from the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office. Deadline for filing the 2024 entry forms is February 29, 2024, Late entries will be accepted until the end of the market beef weigh-in. Entry fee for late entries is \$25 per head.

B 3. All market steers and market heifers must be tagged and weighed during the mandatory, March 2, 2024, 8:00-10:00 a.m. weigh-in (snow date March 9, 2024). Only the County Fair tag, and a permanent ID tag, are allowed in the ears. Any additional tags will be removed. Any market beef found to have a missing tag during the County Fair weigh-in will be disqualified and must be removed from the grounds.

B 4. Market steers and market heifers must have been born after January 1, 2023.

B 5. Each exhibitor may show no more than two 4-H/FFA market beef during the County Fair. He or she can weigh in one extra market beef, or one extra to be shared by immediate family, for each one entered, during the March county weigh-in. ***The market beef that you plan to show are the only one(s) you are allowed to bring to the August County Fair weigh-in.*** An exhibitor may sell two (2) market beef, providing the exhibitor has no other saleable projects. Exceptions are noted in rule # LS2.

B 6. From March 2, 2024, the exhibitor must have personally owned, managed, cared for, and fed the market beef he or she enters, except in the case of illness or other circumstances beyond the exhibitor's control and not covering a period of over 30 days. (This exception will allow owners to be away from home to attend camps, vacations, etc., as long as combined absences, including periods of sickness, do not exceed 30 days. Any absences over 30 days must present a management plan, and be approved by the executive committee.)

B 7. Market steers and market heifers will be shown by weight. Weight classes will be as follows, Light weight (1,000-1,165 lbs.), Medium weight (1,166-1,333 lbs.), and Heavy weight (1,334-**1,600 lbs.**). The market steers and market heifers will be weighed the same day as other livestock species.

B 8. All market beef must be dehorned. Soft scurs 1" or shorter can be tolerated but hard horns 1" or longer must be removed. Discretion is solely up to the screening committee and will not be decided by parents or exhibitor as to eligibility. Horned market steer and market heifers, and those with stag appearing characteristics, will be disqualified.

B 9. Market steers and market heifers must weigh at least 1,000 lbs. and must grade at least "Select" or better to show and sell. Market steers and market heifers that do not weigh at least 1,000 lbs. and grade select or better may show only in showmanship. They will be sold privately and not through the sale.

B10. Market steers and market heifers may be fitted for the market beef show. The State Fair of Virginia rules have been adopted for our show.

The State Fair of Virginia rules allow us the right to disqualify any animal that has been fitted in an unethical manner. The following fitting practices/products are prohibited regardless of breed or division:

- a. Use of paints, paint products and colored adhesives or other color altering products
- b. The addition of any hair or hair like substances, including false tail heads and false polls
- c. The cutting, tearing or gluing of the hide or underneath the hide or removal of tissue in an attempt to alter the shape of the animal
- d. The injection of any gas, solid or liquid under the hide to alter the normal conformation.

Any product/solutions/liquids administered internally or externally to alter the conformation of the animal is prohibited. This includes the use of steroids, illegal or unapproved growth promotants, and the act of artificially filling animals internally, which would include stomach pumping, drench tubes, or any other method

EXCEPTIONS: In the case of severely sick or severely dehydrated animals, the exhibitor may have fluids or electrolytes administered by the licensed official show veterinarian with the approval of the show superintendent. This exception is not applicable on show day or weigh-in/check-in day.

Aerosol cans used for grooming are not permitted in show ring or make-up areas.

Showmanship classes will be judged on showmanship only. Animals must be clean, dry, and unfitted. No artificial substances may be applied to the hair.

B11. Market steers and market heifers will be led into the show ring according to weight (from lightest to heaviest). Large classes will be divided at the discretion of the Show Committee. Beef classes will consist of no more than eight entries. Winners in each division will compete for the division championship. Champion of each division will compete for Grand Champion.

*Revised 2-20-23*

### **Beef Heifers / Bred & Owned Heifers and Bulls**

BH1. All rules under General Rules apply to beef heifer and bull exhibitors. PLEASE READ!

BH2. All heifers must have been calved on or after September 1, 2022.

BH3. Purebred, bred and owned and commercial bulls, born between January 1, 2023-March 31, 2024, may be shown in the 4-H/FFA Beef Show. All bulls over nine months of age must be shown with a nose lead.

BH4. Purebred and commercial heifers, bred and owned heifers, bred and owned purebred bulls, and cow from cow-calf pair must be property of, in the care of, owned, and registered to the exhibitor by the following dates:

Born	Owned & In Care of Exhibitor by:	Purebreds Registered in Exhibitor's Name by:
Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2022	May 1, 2024	May 1, 2024
Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2023	May 1, 2024	May 1, 2024
May 1-Aug. 31, 2023	May 1, 2024	May 1, 2024
Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2023	July 5, 2024	July 5, 2024
after Jan. 1, 2024	July 5, 2024	July 5, 2024
Cow from Cow-Calf Pair	July 5, 2024	July 5, 2024
 Bred & Owned Bulls born on or after Jan. 1, 2023	 Birth	 July 5, 2024
 Bred & Owned Heifers on or after Sept. 1, 2022	 Birth	 July 5, 2024

The exhibitor must have personally owned, managed, cared for, and fed the heifer(s) he or she enters, except in the case of illness or other circumstances beyond the exhibitor's control, and not covering a period of over 30 days. (This exception will allow owners to be away from home to attend camps, vacations, etc., as long as combined absences, including periods of sickness, do not exceed 30 days. Any absences over 30 days must present a management plan, and be approved by the Executive committee.) NO EXCEPTIONS will be tolerated.

- BH5. An entry form for purebred and commercial heifers and bred and owned heifers and bulls must be submitted to the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office by the following dates in order for the heifer to be eligible for the County Fair 4-H/FFA heifer show. Late entries will be accepted until July 12, 2024, for all breeding beef, with a \$25 per head late fee.

<u>Heifer born</u>	<u>Entry form due</u>
Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2022	May 1, 2024
Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2023	May 1, 2024
May 1-Aug. 31, 2023	May 1, 2024
Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2023	July 5, 2024
after Jan. 1, 2024	July 5, 2024
Cow/Calf Pair	July 5, 2024
Bred & Owned Bulls	July 5, 2024

- BH6. Purebred heifer and bred and owned heifer and bull exhibitors will be required to present registration papers during the 4-H/FFA Weigh-In at the County Fair. The purebred heifers/bulls must be registered in the exhibitor's name, or in accordance with breed association policy, according to the established dates, in order to compete.

- BH7. Cow-calf pair class entries are due in the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office by July 5, 2024. The calf must not be over 205 days of age as of show date and must be on a lactating cow. Late entries are accepted until July 12, 2024. Entry fee for late entries is \$25/head.

- BH8. Beef breeding heifers and bulls may be fitted for the breeding show. The State Fair of Virginia rules have been adopted for our show.

The State Fair of Virginia rules allow us the right to disqualify any animal that has been fitted in an unethical manner. The following fitting practices/products are prohibited regardless of breed or division:

- Use of paints, paint products and colored adhesives or other color altering products
- The addition of any hair or hair like substances, including false tail heads and false polls
- The cutting, tearing or gluing of the hide or underneath the hide or removal of tissue in an attempt to alter the shape of the animal
- The injection of any gas, solid or liquid under the hide to alter the normal conformation.

Any product/solutions/liquids administered internally or externally to alter the conformation of the animal is prohibited. This includes the use of steroids, illegal or unapproved growth promotants, and the act of artificially filling animals internally, which would include stomach pumping, drench tubes, or any other method.

EXCEPTIONS: In the case of severely sick or severely dehydrated animals, the exhibitor may have fluids or electrolytes administered by the licensed official show veterinarian with the approval of the show superintendent. This exception is not applicable on show day or weigh-in/check-in day.

Aerosol cans used for grooming are not permitted in show ring or make-up areas.

Showmanship classes will be judged on showmanship only. Animals must be clean, dry, and unfitted. No artificial substances may be applied to the hair.

*Revised 1-17-23*

## **Sheep Rules**

- S1. All rules under General Rules will apply to sheep exhibitors. **PLEASE READ!**
- S2. Entries are available from the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office. Deadline for filing the 2024 entries is May 1, 2024 for market lambs and June 14, 2024 for breeding sheep. **Late entries will be accepted, for market lambs only, until the end of the sheep weigh-in. Late entries for breeding sheep only will be accepted until July 12, 2024. Entry fee for late entries is \$25 per head.**
- S3. From June 1, 2024 for market lambs, and July 12, 2024 for breeding sheep, the exhibitor must have personally owned, managed, cared for, and fed the sheep he or she enters, except in the case of illness or other circumstances beyond the exhibitor's control, and not covering a period of over 15 days. (This exception will allow owners to be away from home to attend camps, vacations, etc., as long as combined absences, including periods of sickness, do not exceed 15 days. Any absences over 15 days must present a management plan, and be approved by the Executive Committee.)
- S4. All market lambs must be brought to the fairgrounds to be weighed and tagged by the Weighing and Tagging Committee on:  
May 31, 2024 from 6-8 p.m.  
OR  
June 1, 2024 from 7-9 a.m.
- Only the County Fair permanent ID tag, and a scrapie tag are allowed in the ears. Any additional tags will be removed, unless it's a breed registration tag requirement. Any lamb found to have a missing tag during the County Fair weigh-in will be disqualified and must be removed from the grounds.
- S5. All market animals must be dehorned. Lambs must be castrated and docked. All lambs must be washed and shown in a clean and dry condition. In order to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, **lamb's body must be slick shorn within ¼ inch before the County Fair weigh-in.** The Executive Committee will be the final authority in determining exhibitor's compliance with these requirements. Entries not meeting these requirements will be disqualified.
- S6. Each exhibitor may show two single market lambs or one single and a pen of two market lambs, for a maximum of three lambs, at the County Fair. Each exhibitor will be allowed to weigh in one extra lamb, **or one extra to be shared by immediate family,** for each lamb entered at the June weigh-in. All lambs will be tagged as singles, and the exhibitor will designate which lambs will be shown as a pen of two and/or singles upon weigh-in at the County Fair in August. The number of sheep that you plan to show must be the first ones you weigh during the August Co. Fair weigh-in. If one of those lambs doesn't make weight (over or under), you may weigh only one of your extras and make a substitution. The one that didn't make weight must be taken home.
- S7. Market lambs must have been born on or after **January 1, 2024 for the 2024 County Fair.** The weight range for market lambs to show and sell is 90 lbs. to 155 lbs. All lambs must grade at least select or better to show and sell. No grace weight is allowed. Weight classes will be divided into four divisions consisting of (90-105 lbs.), (106-121 lbs.), (122-138 lbs.) and (139-155 lbs.). Lambs that do not make weight or grade will be allowed to show in showmanship.
- S8. No re-weighs. Exception: If a lamb is underweight (less than 90 lbs.) or overweight (over 155 lbs.), the exhibitor will have the option to **immediately** re-weigh one time, with that re-weigh being the final weight of the lamb.
- S9. Purebred ewes and rams will be allowed to cross enter into the open show but animals must be property of the exhibitor and proof of registration is required. Open class entries must be done through the fair office. No more than two breeding sheep entries per exhibitor per class may be entered in the 4-H/FFA Sheep Show.
- S10. ALL sheep will comply with the National Scrapie Eradication program.
- S11. Bred and owned market lambs, and breeding ewes, must be out of a dam solely owned by the exhibitor at the time of breeding; this designation must be indicated on the entry form in order for the animal to be entered in the bred and owned class. Only one bred and owned market lamb and one bred and owned breeding ewe can be shown per exhibitor.

S12. Sheep may be fitted for the market and breeding shows. The State Fair sheep fitting rules were adopted.

- Use of irritants including alcohols, sprays, and other irritants is prohibited.
- The use of muzzles is prohibited.
- The use of coloring agents is prohibited.
- The use of adhesives and glues for purpose of fitting hair and/or wool is prohibited. Addition of twine, wool, hair, or any substance (such as to "build" legs) is prohibited.
- Sheep must have been recently shorn prior to arrival to accommodate veterinary inspections. Fleece length shall not exceed 1/4 inch at arrival (exemption provided for breeding sheep shown in fleece or with fitted fleece).
- Breeding sheep are to be exhibited in fleece appropriate for the respective breed. Sheep may be slick sheared, and if fitted it is recommended they not have more than one inch of wool on any part of their body. Wool breeds should be shown with fleece presentation and length appropriate for their respective breed.

Revised 2-20-23

## **Swine Rules**

SW1. All rules under General Rules will apply to swine exhibitors. **PLEASE READ!**

SW2. Entries are available from the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office. Deadline for filing the 2024 entries is May 1, 2024. **Late entries will be accepted for market hogs until the end of the swine weigh-in. Late entry forms for breeding gilts only will be accepted until July 12, 2024. Entry fee for late entries is \$25 per head.**

SW3. From June 1, 2024 for market hogs, and July 12, 2024 for breeding gilts, the exhibitor must have personally owned, managed, cared for, and fed the swine he or she enters, except in the case of illness or other circumstances beyond the exhibitor's control, and not covering a period of over 15 days. (This exception will allow owners to be away from home to attend camps, vacations, etc., as long as combined absences, including periods of sickness, do not exceed 15 days. Any absences over 15 days must present a management plan, and be approved by the Executive Committee.)

SW4. All market swine must be brought to the fairgrounds to be tagged and weighed by the Weighing and Tagging Committee on:

May 31, 2024 from 6-8 p.m.

OR

June 1, 2024 from 7-9 a.m.

Only the County Fair tag, and a permanent ID tag, are allowed in the ears. Any additional tags will be removed. The County Fair tag must be intact, as determined by the Screening Committee, during the County Fair weigh-in. Any swine found to have an altered or missing tag during the County Fair weigh-in will be disqualified and must be removed from the fairgrounds.

SW5. Market swine classes shall be limited to two singles or one pen of two and one single, for a maximum of three per exhibitor. He or she may weigh in one extra hog, **or one extra to be shared by immediate family**, at the June weigh-in for each market swine entered.

All market swine will be tagged as singles and the exhibitor will notify the show management upon weigh-in at the County Fair as to which swine are to be shown as a pen of two. The pigs that you plan to show must be the first ones you weigh during the August Co. Fair weigh-in. If one of those pigs doesn't make weight (over or under), you may weigh only one of your extras and make a substitution. The one that didn't make weight must be taken home.

Breeding gilt entries are limited to two per exhibitor. All breeding gilts, however, must have been farrowed between January 1, 2024, and March 31, 2024.

SW6. The weight range for market swine to show and sell is 220-290 lbs. and they must grade #1 or #2 in order to show and sell. The lightweight division will be 220-243 lbs., the middleweight division will be 244-267 lbs. and the heavyweight division will be 268-290 lbs. No grace weight is allowed. Only over or underweight swine will be allowed to reweigh one time, immediately, after the scales are zeroed. Swine that do not make weight or grade will be allowed to show in showmanship.

SW7. The State Fair swine fitting rules have been adopted for our show.

-Showmanship animals are to be shown clean and unfitted (no glues or adhesives).

-Hair Clipping: For show eligibility, hair length on the pig body (hams, top, sides and shoulders) must be at least one-half inch. Pigs with body hair length less than one-half inch are not eligible for the show.

SW8. Bred and owned market hogs, and breeding gilts, must be out of a sow solely owned by the exhibitor at the time of breeding; this designation must be indicated on the entry form in order for the animal to be entered in the bred and owned class. Only one bred and owned market hog and one bred and owned breeding gilt can be shown per exhibitor.

*Revised 1-17-23*

## **Goat Rules**

G1. All rules under General Rules will apply to goat exhibitors. **PLEASE READ!**

G2. Entries are available from the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office. Deadline for filing the 2024 entries is May 1, 2024. **Late entries, for market goats only, will be accepted until the end of the goat weigh-in. Late entries, for breeding does only, will be accepted until July 12, 2024. Entry fee for late entries is \$25 per head.**

G3. From June 1, 2024 for market goats, and July 12, 2024 for breeding does, the exhibitor must have personally owned, managed, cared for, and fed the goat he or she enters, except in the case of illness or other circumstances beyond the exhibitor's control, and not covering a period of over 15 days. (This exception will allow owners to be away from home to attend camps, vacations, etc., as long as combined absences, including periods of sickness, do not exceed 15 days. Any absences over 15 days must present a management plan, and be approved by the Executive Committee.)

G4. All market goats must be brought to the fairgrounds to be weighed and tagged by the Weighing and Tagging Committee on:

May 31, 2024 from 6-8 p.m.

OR

June 1, 2024 from 7-9 a.m.

Only the County Fair permanent ID tag, and a scrapie tag are allowed in the ears. Any additional tags will be removed. Any goat found to have a missing tag during the County Fair weigh-in will be disqualified and must be removed from the grounds.

G5. Market goats must be castrated and have their horns tipped so they are blunt. All goats must be washed and shown in a clean and dry condition. Shearing is optional. It is recommended that goats be shown with a collar. The Executive Committee will be the final authority in determining exhibitor's compliance with these requirements. Entries not meeting these requirements will be disqualified.

G6. Each exhibitor may show two market goats at the County Fair. Each exhibitor will be allowed to weigh in one extra goat, **or one extra to be shared by immediate family**, for each goat entered during the June weigh-ins. The goats that you plan to show must be the first ones you weigh during the August Co. Fair weigh-in. If one of those goats doesn't make weight (under), you may weigh only one of your extras and make a substitution. The one that didn't make weight must be taken home.

G7. Market goats must have been born on or after December 1, 2023. The weight range for market goats to show and sell is 60 lbs. and over and they must grade select or better to show and sell. No grace weight is allowed. Weight classes will be divided into three divisions consisting of light (60-75 lbs.), medium (76-90 lbs.), and heavy weights (91 lbs. and over). No goats are allowed to show in the market class or sold if under 60 lbs. Goats that do not make weight or grade will be allowed to show in showmanship.

G8. No re-weighs. Exception: If a goat is underweight (less than 60 lbs.), the exhibitor will have the option to immediately re-weigh one time, with that re-weigh being the final weight of the goat.

G9. ALL goats will comply with the National Scrapie Eradication program.

G10. A commercial doe goat class will be offered. Exhibitors may show up to four does in this class, as long as the total number of market and doe goats exhibited does not exceed four head.

G11. Bred and owned market and breeding goat classes must be out of a doe solely owned by the exhibitor at the time of breeding; this designation must be indicated on the entry form in order for the animal to be entered in the bred and owned class. Only one bred and owned market goat can be shown per exhibitor.



G12. Goats may be fitted for the market and breeding shows. The State Fair of Virginia rules have been adopted for our show.

- Use of irritants including alcohols, sprays, and other irritants is prohibited. The use of external or internal tail stimulants is prohibited.
- The use of muzzles is prohibited.
- The use of coloring agents is prohibited.
- The use of adhesives and glues for purpose of fitting hair is allowed, however the addition of twine, hair, or any substance (such as to "build" legs) is prohibited.

*Revised 1-17-23*

## **Dairy Show Rules**

- D1. All cattle must be on the grounds by NOON on Sunday, August 25, 2024 (lactating cows by 12:00 noon, August 27 and remain on exhibit until 9:00 p.m., Saturday, August 31 (until after the Dairy Show on Thursday night for lactating cows, except for the supreme champion, which must stay through the sale of the gallon of milk on Saturday night.) It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to make prior arrangements with the Superintendent if this presents a problem. Failure to have cattle on the grounds at the designated time may result in forfeiture of premiums, disqualification, or other action as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee and the Fair Association.
- D2. All 4-H and FFA exhibitors will adhere to all 4-H/FFA Livestock Show and Sale General Rules for exhibitors (see attached), with an exception in the dress code (General Rule 14) for the dairy show. Dairy exhibitors are encouraged to wear black or white pants with a white shirt, or a 4-H or FFA club shirt.
- D3. Entries are available from the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office. Deadline for filing the 2024 entries is **May 1, 2024. Late entries will be accepted until July 12, 2024. Entry fee for late entries is \$25 per head.** Project animals for dairy must be owned or leased by May 1, 2024. There will be no substitution of animals.
- D4. Project animals may only be shown by 4-H or FFA members.
- D5. Project animals may be leased with a written agreement between the owner of the animal and the exhibitor. A written lease agreement should follow the attached guidelines.
- D6. Judging will begin at 5:00 p.m. on August 29, 2024. The show order will be as follows: Senior, Junior, Novice Showmanship; Overall Champion Showman; Beginner's Showmanship; Junior classes alphabetically by breed in order of age; and Senior cow classes alphabetically by breed in order of age.
- D7. Cattle may only be shown with approved health certificate signed within thirty (30) days of the Fair by an accredited veterinarian, showing that they are free from contagious or infectious disease. Virginia is considered to be a free area of tuberculosis and brucellosis. Therefore, cattle that originate from Virginia farms may be exhibited without additional testing. Health papers will be checked on arrival.
- D8. Any animal not meeting the above requirements is ineligible to compete and will be barred from showing.

*Revised 1-17-23*

## **Livestock Sale**

- LS1. All rules under General Rules and under Market Beef (steers & heifers), Beef Heifer, Sheep, Goat, and Swine will apply to exhibitors participating in the livestock sale. **PLEASE READ!**
- LS2. All exhibitors must show in showmanship and show in their respective species in order to sell their project in the sale. The only exception to this is an excused absence, in writing, approved by the Executive Committee.
- LS3. Ultrasound will be mandatory for all market animal projects exhibited, except market goats. All animals will

be clipped by a representative of the weighing and tagging committee, on the left side between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> rib, or as necessary to perform the ultrasound.

LS4. Exhibitors are limited to two saleable projects, with the following exceptions:

- a. If a market beef, lamb, goat, or hog should be Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion, then the animal must be sold;
- b. If both the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion market beef, lamb, goat, or hog belong to the same exhibitor, then both animals must be sold;
- c. All market division champions and reserve champions in market beef, sheep, goat, and swine must be sold.
- d. Beef heifers may be sold.

LS5. All exhibitors must notify the Show Manager or the Extension Agent, 4-H, no later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday of fair week which animals they wish to sell during the sale. If not notified by 3:00 p.m., highest placing animal will be selected to sell. No changes will be allowed.

LS6. This is a terminal show and sale. If your project is sold through the sale, it becomes the property of the buyer. If you do not want your animal slaughtered, or you want to take it home, you should scratch it from the sale. Exceptions are noted in LS4. After the sale, the only contact the exhibitor or a representative of the exhibitor should have with the buyer is thanking them. No changes will be made after each animal is sold. Any complaints received will be handled on a case by case basis.

LS7. Any animal donated back to be resold will be sold at the end of the sale.

LS8. All species will rotate in the sale order each year. The species that sells first this year will sell last next year and the species that sells second this year moves up to sell first next year. The gallon of milk will be sold before the market beef, except when market beef are first, then the milk sells after the market beef.

LS9. The following amounts will be withheld from the exhibitor's check for each lot sold during the livestock sale:

- a. 5% sale commission (3.5% which is used for expenses such as postage, catalogs, ear tags, signs and invoices, check-off programs, etc. and 1% that goes into a 4-H/FFA Show and Sale Capital Improvement Fund; .5% into a savings account. PLUS an additional amount may be needed, to be determined, to cover the cost of an outside group to handle the financial part of our sale (may be a per head, or a percentage fee). No commission will be taken from the Gallon of Milk.
- b. \$10 to help pay for the bidder appreciation dinner during the sale and other expenses.

LS10. All livestock sold during auction, and not removed from the grounds on Saturday night, must be cared for by the exhibitor until 12:05 a.m., the Tuesday morning following the sale, or until the animal is released from the fairgrounds.

LS11. Exhibitors must furnish each buyer a rope halter for each market beef and heifer sold during the 4-H/FFA livestock sale.

LS12. Exhibitor must submit an addressed, stamped, thank you note for each buyer and for any additional donors to the exhibitor, and a completed IRS W-9 form by November 1<sup>st</sup>, in exchange for his/her sale check. The Extension Office will have a master list of buyers and donors and will let each exhibitor know to whom they need to write thank you notes. Thank you notes MUST be turned in to the Extension Office. Checks will be distributed no sooner than 2 weeks after the sale, providing that the buyer has paid, a thank you note and a completed IRS W-9 form has been turned in.

Revised 1-17-23

CODE OF ETHICS / CODE OF CONDUCT  
SHENANDOAH COUNTY 4-H/FFA LIVESTOCK SHOW & SALE  
**This applies to all exhibitors, parents/guardians, leaders and volunteers.**

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times represent themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show.

All leaders, parents/guardians and volunteers working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example.

Exhibitors, leaders, parents/guardians and volunteers who violate the Code of Ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds. They may be placed on probationary status or deemed ineligible for future competition and/or participation at this Fair.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors, parents/guardians, leaders, volunteers and all livestock in competitive events.

The following practices or procedures are unacceptable and are defined as being fraudulent and/or unethical in the fitting, preparation, care, and showing of all animals. Penalties for an infraction by exhibitors of the following code of ethics/code of conduct may include, but is not limited to the following:

1. removal of animal from premises immediately
2. be excluded from all show and sale activities upon determination of an infraction
3. return of premiums and proceeds from show and sale.

The enforcement of the code of ethics/code of conduct may require all animals entering the fair to be subject to blood and/or urine sampling and testing at any time during the fair. The exhibitor's timeline to bring complaints forward are as follows:

1. for the live show and sale - by the completion of the livestock sale
2. for the ultrasound evaluation - by 3 weeks from the livestock sale.

All decisions will be made by the Executive Committee (5-member majority). All decisions are final.

1. Misrepresenting the age or genetics of an animal for a class in which it is entered.
2. Treating an animal, internally or externally, with an irritant or counterirritant, or other substance to artificially change its conformation or appearance for a show or sale. This includes, but not limited to, the use of graphites, powders, hemp, artificial coloring, or similar substances. The use of dyes, spray paint, or other artificial colorings which result in the misrepresentation of the animal (i.e., that change the natural color of the hair/wool, etc.) This shall also include the offering for consumption by the animal of any substance not considered a normal component of a diet for livestock.
3. The use of tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants, or similar substances which alter the physical or physiological state of the animal.
4. Surgery, injection, or insertion of foreign material under the skin and/or into the flesh of an animal to change the natural contour, conformation, or appearance of the animal's body.
5. The inhumane fitting, showing, and/or handling practices that are deemed inhumane by a group of persons knowledgeable of livestock, i.e., the executive committee. Examples include, but are not limited to, icing lambs and goats, excessive beating/caning/striking of any livestock, preventing animals from keeping 4 hooves on the ground when set up, and muzzling animals.

6. Exhibiting animals found to carry false hair/wool or natural hair/wool that has been relocated to enhance the contour, conformation, or appearance of the animal.
7. Criticizing or interfering with the judge, show management, or other exhibitors before, during, or after a competitive event, or unsportsmanlike conduct to the breed or the show, on the part of the exhibitor is prohibited.
8. All 4-H and FFA members are representatives of the 4-H/FFA program. They are expected to conduct themselves as good citizens. The following are prohibited:
  - a. Fighting or deliberate destruction of facilities and equipment;
  - b. Possession or use of fireworks and firearms;
  - c. Possession or use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or tobacco products.
9. 4-H/FFA exhibitors are expected to be the primary care provider for their animals, to include feeding, watering, maintaining the stall, grooming of their animal and other care for their project animal throughout the duration of the fair. Assistance may only be provided by the parents, and family members, a Shenandoah County 4-H club leader enrolled in Virginia 4-H, a Virginia Extension Agent or FFA instructor or another 4-H/FFA youth member for the Shenandoah County 4-H/FFA Livestock Show & Sale. One warning will be given in this case. Penalty for a second infraction may include, but is not limited to the following:
  1. removal of animal from premises immediately
  2. be excluded from all show and sale activities upon determination of an infraction
  3. return of premiums and proceeds from show and sale.

**On January 24, 2022, the 4-H/FFA Livestock Show and Sale also accepted the IAFE (International Association of Fairs and Expositions) Code of Show Ring Ethics, which governs all State Fair of Virginia livestock shows:**

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior (youth) as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the National Code of Show Ring Ethics, fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the State Fair of Virginia. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
3. Youth exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows. For the State Fair of Virginia, assistance may only be provided by the parents and family members, a bona fide 4-H volunteer leader enrolled in Virginia, Virginia Extension Agent, Virginia FFA Instructor, or another exhibitor with animals entered in the show.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner,

exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.

If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedure of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.

At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, conformation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.
6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.
7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.
8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.
9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.
10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including Fairs and Expositions and any special notices to members.
11. The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

**State Fair of Virginia:**

***Any violation of this Code or Policies will result in forfeiture of premiums and awards, disqualification, possible loss of sale proceeds, and probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future competition at the State Fair of Virginia.***

***An overview committee consisting of at least three people (Show Superintendent, Director of Livestock & Equine Events & The State Fair Programs Committee Chairman) generally recognized as knowledgeable of livestock management and exhibition are responsible for the administration of this Code. Their decisions are final and are not subject to appeal.***

-----Clip and return with entries-----

**To be signed by exhibitor and parents/guardians****By submitting this form, I agree that:**

- **I have read the Shenandoah County 4-H/FFA Livestock Show and Sale Rules and agree to follow them.**
- **I have read the Shenandoah County 4-H/FFA Livestock Show and Sale Code of Ethics and agree to conduct myself in an honest, ethical, and upstanding manner and I understand that disciplinary actions will result if these rules are violated. I understand that I am expected to represent the program in a positive manner.**

**Exhibitor's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Carol B. Nansel, Extension Agent, 4-H, at the Shenandoah County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension at (540) 459-6140/TDD\* during business hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event.

\*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

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