

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENT A (Animal)

4-H EXTENSION AGENT: Roni Baker **PHONE:** (406) 256-2828

SUPERINTENDENTS: Stephanie Johnson and Kat Pfau

ENTRY FEE: \$20 for All Livestock Exhibitors. **LATE FEE:** \$50.00 (See Rule 4) **NON-YELLOWSTONE COUNTY EXHIBITOR FEE:** \$50

GENERAL RULES: MontanaFair will have a veterinarian on call 24 hours a day at the EXHIBITORS expense, or you may contact a veterinarian of your choice.

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** All exhibitors in the Junior Livestock Show must be residents of Montana and be a currently enrolled member of a Montana 4-H club or FFA Chapter regardless of race, creed, color, handicap, sex, or national origin. Yellowstone County will verify age, livestock ownership and project requirements of all exhibitors who are not enrolled in Yellowstone County 4-H, by contacting the exhibitors home County 4-H Agent or FFA advisor. All animals entered in MontanaFair must be a part of an enrolled project during the current 4-H year (October 1 through September 30).
AGE REQUIREMENTS: A beginner division MontanaFair Junior Livestock exhibitor is 8, 9, or 10 years old on October 1 of the current 4-H year. A junior division MontanaFair Junior Livestock exhibitor is 11, 12, or 13 years old on October 1 of the current 4-H year. A senior division MontanaFair Junior Livestock exhibitor is anyone who has reached 14 years of age and is less than 19 years of age on October 1 of the current 4-H year.
2. **RULES:** Exhibitor's failure to comply with rules will result in forfeit of their premium check, dismissal, and/ or other consequences.
3. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXHIBITS AND MATERIALS:** Neither MontanaFair nor anyone associated with the MontanaFair in the management of this department will be held responsible for the loss of, damage to, or safe return of any article, bird or animal exhibited at MontanaFair either during MontanaFair or while in route to or from MontanaFair. Due care and caution will be exercised to prevent any loss or damage.
4. **ENTRY DEADLINE:** Friday, June 26, 2026, by 11:59 pm. All entries **MUST** be completed and submitted online at www.MontanaFair.com before 11:59 pm. Entries received after 11:59 pm on June 26, 2026, and before 11:59 pm on July 3, 2026, will incur a \$50 per exhibitor late fee. Late fee payment must be made to Yellowstone County 4-H Council and delivered to the Yellowstone County Extension Office by 5:00pm on July 13, 2026 (not postmarked) or Exhibitor will not exhibit at MontanaFair. Entries submitted after 11:59 pm on July 3, 2026, will not be accepted. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
NON-YELLOWSTONE COUNTY EXHIBITORS will pay a \$50 per market animal fee. Horse, small animal and breeding exhibitors will pay (1) \$50 exhibitor fee. Fees must be paid before allowed to exhibit.
5. **ARRIVAL OF EXHIBITS:** All Department A and Department N exhibitor packets should be picked up during Department N Interview Judging Day (Mon. August 3). After this date, remaining packets will be disbursed individually at Gate 1 or at the 4-H Office in the Expo Center.

Thursday, August 6	8:00 am - Noon	Horse
Friday, August 7	11:00 am - 4:00 pm	Poultry and Rabbit
Friday, August 7	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Pocket Pets
Saturday, August 8	7:00 am - 7:45 am	Cavy
Saturday, August 8	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sheep, Goats, Llama/Alpacas
Sunday, August 9	9:00 am - 11:00 am	Beef & Dairy Beef
Wednesday, August 12	5:00 am - 8:00 am	Swine

All animals must be checked in during the respective species check in day and time or they will not be allowed to exhibit. All animals must be penned/stalled in their designated species area of the barn/Expo, with their 4-H club/FFA chapter. Junior animal chairmen and horse exhibitors that also exhibit small animals are only allowed early check in with approval from the respective species chairman. No exceptions.
6. **REMOVAL OF EXHIBITS:** The exhibitor must make arrangements with both the Chairman and Superintendent, if the exhibit animal cannot be removed by the removal time stated below. If animals are removed prior to the removal time without permission from the Division Chairman, the exhibitor will forfeit premium monies earned.

Friday, August 7	Pocket Pets: Check out after the Show.
Saturday, August 8	Cavy: Check out after the show.
Saturday, August 8	Horse: Check out after all classes are complete
Sunday, August 9	Poultry and Rabbit check out at 6:00 pm or after the poultry show, whichever is later. All Small Animal Round Robin exhibitors may also choose to keep their animal at MontanaFair until the Small Animal Round Robin has been completed with the approval of the Small Animal Chairman, Dept. A Superintendent and/or the Extension Agent.
Monday, August 10	Breeding Beef and Breeding Meat Goats: May check out after the show unless entered in the Outstanding Exhibitor Contest.
Tuesday, August 11	Breeding Sheep: May check out after the show.
Wednesday, August 12	Breeding Dairy Goats: May check out after the show unless in Round Robin or Obstacle Course.
Thursday, August 13	Llamas/Alpacas check out after the show. Any Small Animals placing Grand or Reserve Champion Showmanship (Seniors, Juniors, and Beginners) and all Best in Show, poultry and cavy that are still in the barn may check out after the Small Animal Round Robin. All remaining animals MUST be removed by end of day.
Friday, August 14	All General Livestock must be removed by 9:00 am, except Junior Livestock Sale animals and animals participating in Large Animal Round Robin.

All animals not in the sale must be removed from barn Friday, August 14th between 6:00 am and 9:00 am unless in Round Robin. Please note removal times differ for small animals, breeding animals and non-market animals.

7. **ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING REQUIREMENT:** All 4-H and FFA members exhibiting in Department A (Junior Livestock) at MontanaFair, are required to attend an MSU Extension **ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING (AQA)** (per state guidelines) provided by the 4-H AQA Committee prior to the first MontanaFair entry deadline or exhibitors cannot show. Yellowstone County will follow state guidelines whereas there will be two age brackets for AQA training. Exhibitors must attend AQA the first year they will exhibit an animal beginner/junior 4-H member (4-H age 8-13) and again when they reach the Senior age bracket (14-19) when exhibiting an animal. This age is based on the "Exhibitors 4-H Age" - the age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Class content is determined by a committee and updated every two years. A parent or legal guardian must also attend AQA. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
MSU EXTENSION 4-H HORSE HELMET POLICY REQUIREMENT: Participants in any 4-H Horse Project are required to attend an MSU Extension Horse Helmet Workshop once as a beginner/junior 4-H member (4-H age 8-13) and again, as a senior 4-H member (4-H age 14 -19). This age is based on the "Exhibitors 4-H Age" - the age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must attend a Horse Helmet Workshop the first year they reach each age bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in an animal project. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the Horse Helmet Workshop. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
STALL FEE NOT REQUIRED for any 4-H/FFA show.
8. **PEN CLEANING & FEED:** Animals must be fed and watered by **9:30** am each day. Please water your cattle in the Wash Rack area. The exhibitor must clean pens by 9:30 am. Continue checking water containers throughout the day. Do not leave water buckets unattended in the beef area or tied to stall area with the cattle. The Livestock Committee, Division Chairman, Superintendent and/or Extension Agent will determine the consequences (including the possibility of losing MontanaFair premiums or removal of animal) if this rule is not followed. Exhibitors are NOT required to clean pens after the sale.
9. **BEDDING** for the inside of the Expo will be furnished by MontanaFair. However, straw for the outside tie out area will not be provided.
10. **PREMIUM CHECKS** will be mailed to exhibitors after the MontanaFair. Do not plan to receive them for at least 45 days after the MontanaFair. Checks from the sale of market animals will be mailed 45-60 days after the MontanaFair. Refer to the Junior Livestock Sale section for sale check information. **The Yellowstone County Extension Office must be notified that a thank you note has been mailed to your buyer before your sale check can be mailed.**
11. **ALL EXHIBITORS MUST SHOW** their own livestock unless they have more than one animal entered in the class. Another 4-H or FFA exhibitor entered in the current MontanaFair must show the extra animals.
12. **EXHIBITOR NUMBERS** must be visible on the exhibitor's back every time they enter the ring. If an exhibitor has two animals in the same class, the person showing the second animal must wear a coordinating back number with letter (i.e., 111A or 111B).
13. **CLASS JUDGING:** The judge will visually evaluate and place each class. Numerical and group systems of judging are used. Only 5 Blue ribbon animals are eligible for numerical placing. Premium winners will receive a premium ribbon (large flat ribbons showing places 1-5) only. No blue ribbons (small flat ribbons) will be awarded to premium winners.
20. **THERE WILL BE A LIMIT OF FOUR SCRATCHES ON ENTRIES. MORE THAN FOUR SCRATCHES PER EXHIBITOR MAY RESULT IN A FORFEITURE OF PREMIUM MONEY. ENTRIES WITH MORE THAN FOUR SCRATCHES MAY NOT COMPETE FOR AWARDS.**
22. **GRIEVANCE POLICY:** All formal protests must be submitted based on the Yellowstone Co. 4-H Grievance Policy. This is available at the Yellowstone County Extension Office or at the 4-H Office in the Expo Center.
23. **REQUEST FOR RULE CONSIDERATION:** Exhibitors can request a rule consideration by completing the form available in the 4-H/FFA MontanaFair Office. This request will be reviewed by the appropriate MontanaFair officials. **A rule change consideration is NOT for animal changes or adding classes. Individual species deadlines are strictly enforced.** All exhibitors and parents are highly encouraged to review their MontanaFair entry for accuracy before submitting them online.
All livestock issues that arise (after the first MontanaFair entry deadline through MontanaFair) must be voted on in a timely manner by the committee, which will include Junior Chairman, as per 4-H Council policy.
Votes will be by secret ballot. Division Chairmen will meet daily at 12:00pm during the MontanaFair. The County Agent cannot vote but only act as a liaison. Decisions will be made by majority vote of those in attendance. Junior Chairmen will be allowed to vote during these daily Chairman meetings.
Superintendent(s) and Division Chairmen are an important part of the county 4-H programs. Policy permits Superintendent(s) and/or Division Chairmen to request from the county agent a special rule or guideline for their department to make it run smoothly and/or efficiently.
24. All 4-H/FFA Exhibitors showing in 4-H/FFA Livestock events must be the primary caretaker and trainer of the animal brought and must show, care for, fit and clean their own animals and stalls with minimal adult assistance. Minimal adult assistance for a learning purpose or safety issue is acceptable. Excessive involvement by adults could lead to consequences for the exhibitor to be determined by the Livestock Committee, Division Chairman, Livestock Superintendent(s), and/or Extension Agent. Exhibitors may receive help with cleaning/fitting animals from other current members under the age of 19 as of October 1st and they *must be exhibiting at the current* MontanaFair. The member that is showing the animal and is receiving help must be present, helping and learning unless they are in the ring showing another animal. All other help would be considered the same as "adult involvement".
25. First and second place class winners must remain at the show, dressed and ready to go back in the ring until the show is finished. Consequences for leaving may include forfeiting premium money and/or other consequences to be determined by the Livestock Committee, Division Chairman, Superintendent(s) and/or Extension Agent.
26. In order to vote on yearly rule and policy changes, you *must be enrolled in a Yellowstone County 4-H or FFA chapter as a member, leader or FFA alumni member.* Adult livestock leaders and junior exhibitors must have attended the discussion of the proposals at the post MontanaFair and/or the September Livestock Meeting. Exhibitors (ages 8-19 years) must be enrolled in the livestock program. *Horse members, horse leaders and Organizational Leaders enrolled in the prior and current 4-H year can vote at the Horse & Colt Committee meetings. Any rule or policy change must be submitted to the Extension Office on the rule/policy proposal form. Horse related changes will be voted on at the October Horse & Colt Committee meeting.

- *During post fair meetings Leaders and Junior Exhibitors in the Horse Project should vote on their related changes. Leaders and Junior Exhibitors in the Small Animal Livestock Committee should vote on their related changes. Leaders and Junior Exhibitors in the Large Animal Livestock Committee should vote on their related changes.
27. Exhibitors and families must park in designated 4-H parking areas. Any overnight camping requires an advance registration and a signed MetraPark Agreement in place prior to MontanaFair. Contact the Yellowstone County Extension office about camper spaces at 406-256-2828. Only families that have a member exhibiting at MontanaFair may camp.
 28. Only animals entered in MontanaFair are allowed to be on the MontanaFair grounds. If the animal is tagged for MontanaFair, the tag is to remain in the animal, even after the sale. The exhibitor no longer owns the animal and removing the tag may have consequences.
 36. All Division Chairman, Superintendents, and the Extension Agent have the right to remove an animal from a class, or the MontanaFair, if it is a safety issue. This includes the Round Robin Contest.
 37. Judges for MontanaFair will be recommended by a committee of leaders, advisors, and exhibitors at the September meeting. This same committee will rank the names given and then present this list to the Extension Agent. People nominating judges will need to complete a form that will give judge credentials and contact information. The Extension Agent will take the completed forms and contact the judges following the order given.
 38. All animals need to be fitted in their own species area.
 39. **Dress Requirements**
No caps, cowboy hats, or other head covers (unless for religious reasons) will be worn during showmanship, market classes, breeding classes, obstacle courses, round robin competitions, sale pictures, or market sale. This rule applies to all exhibitors (see dairy animal and horse rules for exceptions). Vests and jackets are not allowed unless it is an FFA jacket. Open toe shoes not allowed during any animal show.
Showmanship Attire – all contestants are required to wear a long sleeved, collared, button up shirt and nice black/blue jeans. Must wear exhibitor number. Dairy exhibitors may wear all white while competing in Showmanship.
Sale Picture & Show Attire (other than Showmanship or Round Robin)
(Sheep, Llama, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Cavy, Cat, Dog and Pocket Pet) - all contestants are required to wear a long sleeved, collared, button up shirt and nice black/blue jeans. Must wear exhibitor number.
(Beef and Swine) – all contestants are required to wear a long sleeved, collared, button up shirt or nice, appropriate polo, dress shirt or sweater that is approved by chairman, superintendent or extension agent. T-shirts are NOT acceptable for ANY show. Nice black/blue jeans and exhibitor number are required.
Large and Small Animal Round Robin Attire - all contestants are required to wear a long sleeved, collared, button up shirt and nice black/blue jeans. Must wear exhibitor number.
 40. Exhibitors are encouraged to bring an in-barn/Expo educational display up to and including the day that animals are checked into the Expo. No premiums will be given but points may be awarded in the Herdsmanship and All-Around contests. Each species has its own Herdsmanship Contest.
 41. Animal Ownership Deadlines: Animals to be shown at MontanaFair must be in the possession of the exhibitor by:

Market Beef: January 4, 2026	Llama & Alpaca: May 2, 2026
Breeding Beef and Dairy Cattle: May 2, 2026	Pocket Pets: May 2, 2026
All Sheep: May 2, 2026	Rabbits: May 2, 2026 – (See Market section for dates)
All Goats: May 2, 2026	Poultry: May 2, 2026 – (See Market section for dates)
Swine: May 2, 2026	Cavy: May 2, 2026
 42. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to comply with all health, brand and import rules and regulations as stated upon the Montana Department of Livestock website liv.mt.gov/ upon entry and arrival at the MontanaFair grounds. Regulations and requirements can change daily; please make sure you know the proper requirements. Direct inquiries to Montana Department of Livestock, Animal Health Division, PO Box 202001, Helena, MT 59620. Phone 406-444-7323.
 43. Any animal affected with fungus (ringworm), pink eye, sore mouth, other skin conditions, unsightly blemishes, any communicable disease, or for lesions of epididymitis will be refused entry and removed from the grounds at the discretion of the official MontanaFair vet. The decision of the official show veterinarian is final. Lambs showing signs of continued rectal prolapse will be removed from the Show/MontanaFair immediately.
 44. **PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE, DRUG TESTING, SABOTAGE, TAMPERING, AND INHUMANE TREATMENT:** MontanaFair reserves the right to question the alteration of any animal’s physical or physiological structure. As a condition of participation in the MontanaFair, exhibitor agrees to submit to MontanaFair,(at their discretion) any animal so entered for immediate testing. All Grand and Reserve Champion market beef, sheep, swine, and goats may be tested. Tests may include, but not be limited to blood, tissue and urine. Exhibitor further agrees that the conclusions reached by MontanaFair shall be final, without recourse against the MontanaFair. An exhibitor of any animal(s) producing an analysis with a prohibited substance, sabotage, tampering, unethical fitting or inhumane practices will be barred from future competition at MontanaFair.
 45. All members must acknowledge adherence to the **LIVESTOCK CODE OF ETHICS & DRUG WITHDRAWAL during online registration**. These policies will be enforced. All animals are to be treated in a humane manner. Adequate feed, water and shelter are always to be provided. Physically abusing an animal is unacceptable at any time and will not be tolerated. Exhibitors who abuse their animals, for whatever reason, will be disqualified from the show. Striking an animal to cause swelling is absolutely prohibited.
 45. Violation of any rule or regulation may result in forfeiture of all premiums and awards, disqualification, expulsion, or probation of the exhibitor (or organized groups the exhibitor represents), and the exhibit or livestock involved in the violation. Probation, disqualification, expulsion or other disciplinary action will be final.

LIVESTOCK CODE OF ETHICS

Montana 4-H is based on principles of positive youth development. 4-H & FFA believe that all producers and exhibitors of livestock have an interest in maintaining a reputation of integrity as well as presenting a positive and progressive image at livestock shows. Because 4-H/FFA believe that all livestock producers want to produce a wholesome, safe, and reliable source of food for the public, the following "4-H Livestock Code of Ethics" has been adopted. Including but not limited to Yellowstone County 4-H Policies (see Yellowstone County 4-H Website), Montana State 4-H Policies (See Montana 4-H Website) and International Association of Fairs and Expositions (See MontanaFair Website and/or Code of Ethics seen below). Violations of this code are considered unethical in the raising, showing and exhibiting of livestock for 4-H/FFA shows and MontanaFair.

Sportsmanship

All exhibitors and their families are encouraged to conduct themselves in a positive, honest, sportsmanlike manner during the shows and at MontanaFair. Losing gracefully is just as important as winning humbly. The following practices are prohibited.

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, such as abusive language to show officials, other exhibitors or spectators is prohibited.
- Misrepresenting the age of the animal for class in which it is shown.
- Criticizing or interfering with the judge, other exhibitors or show officials while at the show or at MontanaFair may result in an individual or group being expelled, placed on probation or declared ineligible to exhibit at the show and at MontanaFair.

Procedure for Reporting Unsportsmanlike Conduct or Excessive Adult Involvement at MontanaFair

Please use common sense in all situations. Know the whole story and do not make assumptions about what is going on in the incidents you are observing. The committee reviewing the incidents will consist of the 4-H Extension Agent, Department A Superintendent(s) and the Division Chairmen. Infractions carry over from year to year - they are cumulative.

****Unsportsmanlike conduct only** - The person reporting unsportsmanlike conduct needs to write up information about the incident including the incident as reported, time, date, species, witnesses, etc. and must then sign the form. This document will be filed in the 4-H MontanaFair Office. The incident will be investigated. The people involved member(s), adult(s), leader(s), witnesses, Division Chairmen, Superintendent(s) and Extension Agent) will discuss the incident.

At the time of the unsportsmanlike or excessive adult involvement incident, the 4-H/FFA member or adult needs to:

- A. Contact the Division Chairperson and discuss the incident they observed. The Division Chairperson will then visit with Roni Baker, Extension Agent and/or the Dept. A Superintendent(s), about the incident. OR
- B. Contact Roni Baker, Extension Agent, and discuss the incident they observed. This can be done through the 4-H MontanaFair Office in the Expo Center. Roni Baker will then visit with the Division Chairman in that species and/or Department A Superintendent(s). OR
- C. Contact the Department A Superintendent(s) and discuss the incident they observed. This can be done through the 4-H Office in the Expo Center. The superintendent(s) will then visit with the Division Chairman in that species and/or Roni Baker.

First Infraction

The youth and an adult need to talk to the person(s) involved in the infraction. The division Chairperson needs to write up information about the incident as reported, time, date, species, witnesses, etc. This document will be filed in the 4-H MontanaFair Office. The incident will be investigated. The people involved (member(s), adults, leaders, witnesses, Division Chair(s), Extension agent and Superintendent(s) will discuss the incident.

Second Infraction

A written warning will be given to the person(s) involved - either youth or adult. Depending on the seriousness of the infraction, the MontanaFair Livestock Committee can determine the extent of the consequences for the second infraction. Consequences can include a warning, no participation in the sale, loss of premiums, adults will be expelled from the barn for the remainder of the MontanaFair, etc. The letter from the 2nd infraction must include two signatures. One signature from the Extension Agent and one from a Livestock Committee Chairman or Superintendent.

Third Infraction

If a third infraction occurs, the consequences for the adult(s) and youth may be serious and have a lasting effect. Consequences may include expulsion, loss of sale proceeds, losing the option to sell at the MontanaFair, expulsion from future MontanaFairs or any other consequence determined by the committee.

The MontanaFair Livestock Committee will consist of the 4-H Extension Agent, Department A Superintendent(s), Division Chairperson(s), Junior Chairs and the Sale Committee President.

IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS)

CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS *(Also part of the MontanaFair handbook)*

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 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 "IAFE 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 respective fairs and livestock shows. 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 requests by fair or livestock show officials.
3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative 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 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 procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of 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 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 Expos* and any special notices to members.
11. The act of entering of 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 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.

Administration of Drugs. Livestock requiring any medication should be identified upon arrival to the 4-H MontanaFair Office. Exhibitors should be prepared to present a valid prescription and/or a written explanation, either or both to be signed by the animal's licensed veterinarian. In addition, the following practices are prohibited and unethical:

- The use of any diuretic on any animal.
- Labels should specifically identify the animals cleared for the use of such substances and the proper dosage.
- The use of alcoholic beverages in feed or administered as a drench.
- Surgery of any kind performed to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body, teeth, hide or hair. Not included is the removal of teats or horns, clipping or dressing of hair, trimming of hooves, spaying heifers, castrating male animals, or docking tails.
- Insertion of any foreign material under the skin.
- Any attempt to change natural color of any animal, either purebred or crossbred, by changing the color or adding false hair, fleece, or skin at any point, spot, or area of the animal's body.
- The natural color of an animal cannot be altered using any artificial coloring. However, products that match the animals natural color may be used in the fitting process from the knees and hocks down and on the switch only. For example, black products may be used on a black-legged animal, red on a red-legged animal, and white on a white-legged animal. But under no circumstances can color be used to cover a steer or lamb's natural leg color.

Livestock requiring any medication should be identified upon arrival to the 4-H MontanaFair Office. Exhibitors should be prepared to present a valid prescription and/or a written explanation, either or both to be signed by the animal's licensed veterinarian. Any required medication or treatment after arrival at the show used to protect the health and welfare of the animal must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian and approved by the Chairman of that Species, Superintendent, and Extension Agent. Administration of all medications must, at all times, be done in accordance with the specification and/or instructions given in the prescription or directions and be administered in the presence of the Chairman of that species, Superintendent(s) and/or Extension Agent. Liability for the correct administration of the prescribed drug is the responsibility of the Exhibitor and Exhibitor's parent or legal guardian.

- Therapeutic treatments/practices such as including but not limited to chiropractic, massage therapy, electromagnetic therapy, cold laser therapy, PEMF/Bemer are allowed up to show time.
- Behavior supplements for safety may be used. You MUST notify division chairman at check in and/or BEFORE use should the need arise.
- All therapeutic treatments/practices and use of supplements for behavior **MUST** be done in the barn during normal barn hours, i.e. not at midnight when no one else is in the barn. Barn hours are 9:00 am to 9:00 pm.
- Use of a cold wet towel is allowed.
- Drenches will only be allowed that are formulated by an animal nutrition company/business and labeled for that particular species. It must be administered by a drench gun. No pumping allowed.

Violations. Any violation of the rules and regulations may result in forfeiture of all premiums and awards, disqualification, expulsion or probation of the Exhibitor or organized groups the Exhibitor represents, and the exhibit or livestock involved in the violation. Probation, disqualification, expulsion or other disciplinary action of the livestock show committee will be final. Such action will require application for readmission under such terms as the committee may prescribe before the group or individual is allowed to exhibit at future shows. The MontanaFair Livestock Committee reserves the right to interpret rules and arbitrarily settle all differences and questions not adequately addressed by the above code of ethics. Consequences for misconduct may be serious and have a lasting effect. We have the right to have any animal removed from MontanaFair. The Livestock Show Committee will consist of 4-H Extension Agent (Roni Baker), Department A Superintendent(s), the Livestock Committee and Sale Committee Presidents, and the Division Chairperson(s).

LIVESTOCK SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST RULES

1. To be eligible for this Division all exhibitors must enter the appropriate Division and class number in their entry. Under some circumstances, an exhibitor may add Showmanship at the Jr. Livestock Office in the Expo until 24 hours before the scheduled show time. If you are not entered within that time, you will not be eligible.
2. All Junior Livestock Exhibitors are permitted to enter the Livestock Showmanship Contest. Exhibitors are expected to do their own fitting and grooming.
3. An exhibitor may participate in any Showmanship Division provided exhibitors have animals entered in that species. Eligible animals are those animals entered and shown in their respective divisions and classes. Exhibitors must show their own animals and cannot change the animal between classes, no substitutions. Exhibitors may receive help with cleaning/fitting animals from other current members under the age of 19 as of October 1st and they must be exhibiting at MontanaFair. The member that is showing the animal and is receiving help must be present, helping and learning unless they are in the ring showing another animal. All other help would be considered the same as "adult involvement".
4. If a market animal does not make weight, it will be sent home immediately. No Exceptions
5. Scratching a Showmanship entry must be done 24 hours in advance with the Chairman of that species or exhibitor will lose premium money in that species. Swine exhibitors need to scratch by noon on Wednesday prior to the show. Horse exhibitors need to scratch by Noon on Thursday prior to the show.
6. There will be a Senior, Junior, and Beginner Division. SEE GENERAL RULE #1 for age requirements.
7. Finalists in Beef, Sheep, Meat Goat, Dairy Goat, Swine, Horse, Alpaca/Llama will show each type of animal in the Large Animal Round Robin Competition. All exhibitors will show the same species at the same time. Exhibitors placing first and second in their Showmanship class are eligible. Third place is only eligible if Grand or Reserve declines to participate. If the exhibitor declines in one species, they will decline in all species. All showmanship winners must declare immediately after the show.
8. Finalists in Cat, Dog, Bird (Poultry and Pigeons), Rabbit, Cavy and Pocket Pets will show each type of animal in the Small Animal Round Robin Competition. No exhibitor shall be allowed to bring more than one type of animal into the Round Robin Competition. In the event an exhibitor holds two or more finalist positions, the alternates will enter all but one of those positions.
9. Classes that break down into groups because of size will be given blue, red, and white ribbons. The final placing of each division shall be 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. Rosettes will be awarded in each Division and to the Grand Champion Showman in Senior, Junior, and Beginner Divisions of the Large and Small Animal Round Robin. Additional awards or plaques may be given. Rosettes will be awarded in each division and to the Reserve Champion Showman in Senior, Junior, and Beginner Divisions of the Large and Small Animal Round Robin. Yellowstone County Grand and Reserve Champions for Showmanship will be awarded in all species both Small and Large Animal except for the Horse Divisions.

SMALL ANIMAL BARN

GENERAL RULES

1. There will be a **mandatory Small Animal meeting** on Friday, August 7, 2026, at 4 pm in the Expo for exhibitors showing pocket pet, cavy, rabbit and poultry at MontanaFair. If you are not able to attend due to a 4-H conflict you must contact a division chairman before the meeting.

2. All animals will be shown on the show table except some Game & Ornamental birds which will be at the judge's discretion.
3. First and second place class winners must remain dressed and ready to go back in the ring until the show is finished. Consequences for leaving may include forfeiting premium money and/or other consequences to be determined by the Livestock Committee, Division Chairman, Superintendent and/or Extension Agent.
4. All Small Animal contestants are required to wear a long sleeved, collared, button up shirt with nice black or blue jeans and close toed shoes. This includes all shows, Showmanship and Round Robin.
5. All small animals showing at MontanaFair (does not include dogs and cats shown pre-fair or cavy) will check in Friday, August 7th from 11:00 am to 4:00pm. Any animals not checked in by the deadline will not be allowed to show. No exceptions.
6. Exhibitors are encouraged to bring an in-barn educational display up to and including the day that animals are checked in. No premiums will be given but points may be awarded in the Herdsmanship and All-Around Contests. Each species has its own Herdsmanship Contest
7. **NON-YELLOWSTONE COUNTY EXHIBITORS** will pay a \$50 per market animal fee. Horse, small animal and breeding exhibitors will pay (1) \$50 exhibitor fee. Fees must be paid before allowed to exhibit.
8. If a Yellowstone County exhibitor has multiple market animals and/or species in the top 5 overall, they will be allowed to sell any and/or all of them that are in the top 5. Grand and Reserve Grand must sell. Clarification: If a Yellowstone County exhibitor has 2 animals of ANY species in the top 5, they are allowed to sell both of those animals. However, only the Grand and Reserve Grand are required to sell. The 3rd – 5th animals MAY sell but are not required to. This Does Not include Out of County exhibitors. Out of county exhibitors must place in the top 5 in their respective market class to sell. ALL Grand and Reserve market animals *MUST* sell.

LARGE ANIMAL/MARKET ANIMAL BARN

GENERAL RULES

1. Exhibitors bringing cattle, horses, and sheep across a county line must obtain a brand inspection certificate or travel permit before leaving home or be subject to a heavy fine according to Montana Law.
2. **MARKET ANIMAL ULTRASOUND RULES:** Ultrasound will be used on Market Animals exhibited at MontanaFair, instead of actual carcass measurements. By using the ultrasound method, we can evaluate a live animal in much the same way as we evaluate the animal after processing. We will be using the collected data to decide the top carcass in beef, sheep, and goat. This data will be used for the MSU Steer of Merit program, MSU Montana Certified Lamb program and Montana Market Goat program.
 - The ultrasound will be performed by Certified Ultrasound Technicians who must place ribbons according to standards.
 - Carcass ultrasound must be entered on your MontanaFair entry to compete in the carcass contest. This class is not mandatory. On November 29, 1995, the Yellowstone County Livestock Committee voted to withhold the cost of the ultrasound service from exhibitor sale proceeds.
 - Breeding Beef, Breeding Sheep and Breeding Goats may be ultra-sounded at the exhibitor's expense. Payment is due at the time of the ultrasound.
 - **Ultrasounds will take place at the following times:**
 - Beef:** Monday, August 10, 2026 @ 7:30 am
 - Sheep:** Monday, August 10, 2026 @ 4:00 pm
 - Goats:** to follow sheep ultrasound
3. All Market Beef, Swine, Lambs, and Goats must have ear tags for MontanaFair issued at tagging day, upon arrival at MontanaFair. Out of County 4-H or FFA exhibitors will pay \$50 per market animal tagged on tagging day. All other Dept. A exhibitors (small animals, horse or breeding animals) will pay a \$50 fee per exhibitor. Lease agreements are not allowed for market animals. Upon check in, all market beef, sheep, goats and swine must have ear tags for MontanaFair issued at tagging day.
4. **NON-YELLOWSTONE COUNTY EXHIBITORS** will pay a \$50 per market animal fee. Horse, small animal and breeding exhibitors will pay (1) \$50 exhibitor fee. Fees must be paid before allowed to exhibit.
5. ALL *male market animals* must be fully castrated prior to tagging.
6. Each exhibitor may enter three of each species (market beef, market lambs, market goats and market swine) on their entry form but before weigh in, they must decide which two they are exhibiting.
7. Market animals must weigh in during designated times. Animals will go across the scale only once during weigh in and must be dry. Animals not making weight limits will be sent home immediately. No exceptions and no weight slips accepted.
 - Beef – min. 1,100 lbs. If over 1,450 lbs., will be sold as beef weighing 1,450 lbs.
 - Lambs - min. 110 lbs. If over 150 lbs., will be sold as lamb weighing 150 lbs.
 - Goats - min. 50 lbs. If over 115 lbs., will be sold as goat weighing 115 lbs.
 - Swine - min. 230 lbs and max. 330 lbs. If between 300 and 330 will be sold as pig weighing 300 lbs.
8. Exhibitors helping at Weigh in on Saturday, Sunday or Wednesday morning can bring their animals in before the normal arrival time with prior approval by the Division Chairman.
9. **Exhibitors cannot exhibit market animals tagged for MontanaFair at any other County Fair (including females in breeding classes) with the exception of the Montana State Fair held in Great Falls. They can show them in open Jackpot shows.** If an exhibitor shows a "market" animal tagged for and shown at their county fair and decides not to sell it, they may bring that female to show in a breeding class only at MontanaFair, they may not sell that animal.
10. If the animal is tagged for MontanaFair, the tag is to remain in the animal, even after the sale. The exhibitor no longer owns the animal and removing the tag may have consequences.
11. Family Animal - One allowed per family in each tagged species. Only one 4-H/FFA member per family may choose to "Tag" the "Family Animal. The "Family Animal" is a market animal that has been designated and tagged with an ear tag for MontanaFair. The "Family Animal" must be designated as such at tagging day. Only a 4-H/FFA family member that has tagged animal(s) for MontanaFair is eligible to use the

“Family Animal” if their original animal(s): 1. DOES NOT MAKE WEIGHT, 2. IS INJURED OR DEEMED UNFIT TO BE SHOWN AND/OR ATTEND MONTANAFAIR, BY A VET, 3. DIES. In the event of death, a photo of the carcass will be required to be turned into the Yellowstone County 4-H Agent, superintendent, or division chairman within 24 hours and the original tag must also be turned in before the “Family Animal” can be used. In the case the “Family Animal” is not needed, the original member that tagged the animal may show it as their own animal.

If an animal is injured, deemed unfit to be shown and/or attend MontanaFair or the animal dies, the family must notify the Yellowstone County 4-H Agent, superintendent, or division chairman within 24 hours of the diagnosis or death. If the “Family Animal” is used, that animal may then be shown in all classes it is qualified to show in and the exhibitor signed up for. If the exhibitor signed up for market, the animal is eligible to be sold.

In the case a member needs to use the family animal and has tagged more than one animal, **all of the animals tagged for that member must have experienced one of the three situations in order for them to use the “Family Animal. The “Family Animal” can be shown by only one member of the family.

12. Out of County exhibitors (non-Yellowstone County) can sell in the Jr. Livestock Sale ONLY if they are in the top 5 in their market class.
13. If a Yellowstone County exhibitor has multiple market animals and/or species in the top 5 overall, they will be allowed to sell any and/or all of them that are in the top 5. Grand and Reserve Grand must sell. Clarification: If a Yellowstone County exhibitor has 2 animals of ANY species in the top 5, they are allowed to sell both of those animals. However, only the Grand and Reserve Grand are required to sell. The 3rd – 5th animals MAY sell but are not required to. This Does Not include Out of County exhibitors. Out of county exhibitors must place in the top 5 in their respective market class to sell. ALL Grand and Reserve market animals **MUST** sell.
14. Club Pen of 3 Market Animals
 - One entry per 4-H Club or FFA Chapter - 3 market animals of same species must be from the same club or chapter but owned by 3 different exhibitors.
 - Club Pen of 3 Market animals will be judged on uniformity in size and style.
15. All large animals that are not in the sale must be removed from barn Friday, August 14th between 6:00 am and 9:00 am unless in Round Robin.

DEPARTMENT N (Non-Animal)

4-H EXTENSION AGENT: Roni Baker PHONE: 256-2828

SUPERINTENDENT: PHONE:

ENTRY FEE: \$20 LATE FEE: \$50.00 (See Rule #4)

Exhibiting in Department N at MontanaFair is an educational event for 4-H exhibitors enrolled in Home Economics, Agriculture, Livestock, and general projects that do not require the exhibition of an animal.

Exhibitors are judged in an interview process whereby the exhibit is judged not only on the end product of a project, but on the learning that took place. Judging is done under the Danish system: that is, instead of placing only one exhibit in First, Second, and Third Class, more than one may be placed in each. 4-Her's do not compete with one another for ribbons (except in the awarding of Special Premiums-Division 100). Each 4-Her is judged on their individual merit according to ability, age, and years in the project.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:

1. Learn project skills and knowledge by taking part in an evaluation process with a judge having expertise in that project area.
2. Build self-confidence by participating in a one-on-one interview with a judge, sharing what and how a project is learned.
3. Learn better methods of obtaining desired exhibit quality through a judge's explanation and exchange of ideas.
4. Develop good sportsmanship habits.
5. Develop teamwork by working with and helping others in sharing the responsibilities of coordinating and participating in MontanaFair.
6. Share with the public an idea of what 4-H involves through displaying exhibits, club booths and activities.

GENERAL RULES

1. **ELIGIBILITY TO EXHIBIT AND BE JUDGED:** All Department N exhibitors must be a Montana resident and currently enrolled in a Montana 4-H club or FFA Chapter. Exhibitors must be enrolled in a project and level related to the divisions entered except in the following: Division 2 - 4-H Promotion; Division 8 - Citizenship Etc.; Division 9 - Class Judging; Division 14 - Communication Contests; Division 16 – Crafts/Hobbies/Foods; Division 23 - Foods Festival/Edible Arts; Division 38 - Performing Arts; Division 52 - Table Setting; Division 96 - Department N All Around; Division 97 - Junior Coordinator. Any enrolled 4-H member may enter these divisions. **Entries in these divisions (with the exception of Division 2) are not eligible for Best of Class.**

Independent Study: Anyone enrolled in an Independent Study project should enter those projects in Division 28.

Junior: 8 – 13 years old on October 1, of the current 4-H year.

Senior: Member is 14 but not older than 19 years old on October 1, of the current 4-H year.

Cloverbud: Member is 5-8 years old on October 1, of the current 4-H year.

2. **RULES:** An exhibitors failure to comply with all rules will result in forfeiture of premiums, dismissal, and/ or other consequences. Exhibitors are only allowed one entry in each division class.

3. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR MATERIALS AND EXHIBITS.** Neither MontanaFair Management, nor anyone associated with MontanaFair Management, will be held responsible for loss of, damage to, or safe return of any article exhibited during MontanaFair or while in route to or from MontanaFair. Due care and caution will be exercised to prevent loss or damage.
4. **ENTRY DEADLINE:** Friday, June 26, 2026, by 11:59 pm. All entries **MUST** be completed and submitted online at www.MontanaFair.com before 11:59 pm. Entries received after 11:59 pm on June 26, 2026, and before 11:59 pm on July 3, 2026, will incur a \$50 per exhibitor late fee. Late fee payment must be made to Yellowstone County 4-H Council and delivered to the Yellowstone County Extension Office by 5 pm on July 14, 2026 (not postmarked) or Exhibitor will not exhibit at MontanaFair. Entries submitted after 11:59 pm on July 3, 2026, will not be accepted. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
5. **THERE WILL BE A LIMIT OF FOUR SCRATCHES ON ANY ENTRY. MORE THAN FOUR SCRATCHES COULD RESULT IN A FORFEITURE OF PREMIUM MONEY. ENTRIES WITH MORE THAN FOUR SCRATCHES MAY NOT COMPETE FOR AWARDS.**
6. **INTERVIEW JUDGING DAY VOLUNTEER:** Each club **MUST** assign an adult volunteer to assist with interview judging during their clubs scheduled time and provide the Extension office with the name of the volunteer before the entry deadline. The adult must be available to help Department N clerks as needed. (crowd control, help at judging stations, assist judges, etc.). If a club does not have someone to help on Interview Judging Day, the exhibitors of that club may lose their premium money. Helpers will sign in at the registration table on Interview Judging Day. Parents cannot be inside the judging area while their child is being judged.
7. **ABSENTEE INTERVIEW JUDGING FORM:** Exhibitors who are unable to be present at Interview Judging Day **must** complete an Absentee Interview Judging Form listing each exhibit that will be judged. The exhibitor is responsible for making arrangements for another 4-H exhibitor to take the form, along with each exhibit, to be judged. The form must also be presented to the Department N Superintendent **PRIOR** to the judging of exhibits. The exhibits must be presented to the judge just as the exhibitor would if he/she were presenting.
8. **INTERVIEW JUDGING DAY SCHEDULE:** 4-H Clubs are scheduled for either a morning or evening judging session. **If you arrive at a time other than when your club is scheduled, you will have to wait until the scheduled club is through being judged (unless special arrangements have been made with the Extension Agent and/or Department N Superintendent prior to the week of Interview Judging).** Exhibitors with **between 10 and 24 exhibits must check in before 6:30 pm. NO EXCEPTIONS. If checked in after 6:30 pm exhibitors may be allowed to show (at discretion of Department N Superintendent) but may NOT be eligible for Best of Class nominations. Exhibitors with 25 or more exhibits (excluding non-judged divisions) must come to the morning judging session and remain until judging is completed.**
9. **EXHIBITOR ATTIRE:** The following clothing is **NOT** acceptable at **ANY** time while participating in Department N/4-H workshops, judging, events, etc.: exposed midriffs, spaghetti straps, un-hemmed or holey jeans, cutoffs, any clothing with graphic pictures and/or offensive language. Exhibitors who do not adhere to these standards will be asked to leave and change their clothes before returning.
10. **EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS/POSTERS:** Educational displays should not be limited solely to posters. Posters and educational displays should relate to the level of the project. Size depends on the amount of information on your poster. Posters may be full size (22" x 28") half size (14" x 22") or trifold (e.g., Science boards) and should be readable from 20 feet. The best visual color is yellow with black lettering, but you may choose any color. Poster making guidelines are available from the Extension office. Posters must be labeled on the back with Exhibitor name, address, club, and Class number.
11. **A PROJECT NOTEBOOK** should include the project book and other related items (research, plans, stories, photos, record sheets, etc.) Project books alone are not an exhibit and will be disqualified. If the Project book has activities, follow the activity requirement in the Record Book Completion Guidelines document that is on the Yellowstone County 4-H website.
12. **CLUB BOOTH EXHIBITS: No online entry is necessary for club booth exhibits.** Each club **MUST** set up a club booth displaying all Dept N entries by exhibitors from their club, with the exception of items on display elsewhere in the Department. Exhibits can be set up on Monday, August 3, 8:30 am-7:30 pm or Wednesday, August 5, 4 pm - 8 pm. Booth set up should be done primarily by youth. Exhibit area size is determined by the number of exhibits in the club. All loose hanging decorative CLOTH materials shall be flame retardant treated and marked in an inconspicuous but consistent location. Plastic draped tablecloths do **NOT** meet the flame spread rating and are **NOT** acceptable for backdrops. Exhibitors must leave all Dept N projects in their club booth for exhibition with the exception of guns and other valuable items which must be taken home after they are judged. Early removal of projects could result in forfeiture of premiums. If an exhibitor needs a project notebook for another event it must be checked out through the Extension Agent or Department N Superintendent prior to Club Booth set-up. Judging will take place throughout the week of MontanaFair with "People's Choice" prizes awarded. Solicitation of funds for any purpose is not allowed.
13. **BUY A PIECE OF 4-H!** Best of Class nominees can place their item in the 4-H sale section at MontanaFair if they wish. If an exhibitor would like to sell their item, they must come to Department N on Wednesday, August 5 between 5 pm and 7:30 pm to help set up the sale area. If you are not there during this time you may not participate. Exhibitors must price their item to be sold. MontanaFair clerks will keep track of items as they sell. Each 4-H exhibitor can sell two items. If you sell a food item, you will need to furnish the buyer with a fresh item. Buyers should make arrangements to pick up purchased items at their convenience or on Saturday, August 15 between 6 pm and 9 pm or Sunday, August 16 from 10 am to 2 pm. Buyer may also arrange for delivery by the 4-H exhibitor. Selling exhibitors must send a Thank You card to each buyer within a week following the MontanaFair and must notify the Extension office when the card has been sent. Exhibitors will not receive payment until a Thank You card has been mailed/delivered to their buyer and the Extension office has been notified the card was mailed.
14. **CLUB RAFFLE OR SALE** A 4-H Club will be allowed to sell or raffle one item in Department N at MontanaFair during the hours the department is open. Interested clubs must submit a letter of application by the MontanaFair entry deadline. Clubs will be selected as room permits (maximum of 3). The sale must be organized and managed by the selected club(s). Department N clerks will **NOT** oversee the sale. Proceeds will be given to the 4-H Club. Club selection will be rotated each year.
15. **EXHIBIT REMOVAL: All exhibits must remain on display until Check Out day, Sunday, August 16 from 10 am to 2 pm, except in case of an emergency or where prior arrangements have been made. All returnable exhibits remaining after Check Out day will be left in the department. Exhibitors who do not collect their exhibits may forfeit premium money.**
16. **PREMIUM CHECKS:** Premium checks will be mailed to individual exhibitors. **IF PREMIUM CHECKS ARE NOT CASHED BY NOVEMBER 30 OF THE CURRENT YEAR, THEY WILL BE VOID. Errors on premium checks must be reported to the Extension office by October 15.**

MONTANAFAIR GENERAL INFORMATION/RULES & REGULATIONS

THE PRESS: Please contact our Marketing Department at 406-256-2400 for information and credentials.

MAIL FACILITIES: Exhibitors and others may have their mail addressed in care of MontanaFair, PO Box 2514, Billings, MT 59103 or MontanaFair, 308 6th Avenue N, Billings, MT 59101. Postage due or COD deliveries will not be accepted.

EMERGENCY MESSAGES: Emergency messages for exhibitors should be directed to the MontanaFair Entry Office at (406)256-2400 or the Yellowstone County Sheriff at (406)256-2441.

ADVERTISING: Under no circumstances will any person or firm be allowed to place any advertising matter upon buildings, fences, trees, or any place on the grounds, nor will it be permitted to distribute any advertising or sell articles outside the space assigned. No political advertising, petition solicitors, subscription or sheet writers.

INTERPRETATIONS & LIABILITY: MontanaFair Management reserves the right to interpret all rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions, and differences in regard thereto, arising out of and not covered by them. Any person who violates any of the rules as published on the MontanaFair [website www.MontanaFair.com](http://www.MontanaFair.com) will forfeit all privileges and premiums and may be subject to such penalty as ordered by MontanaFair management. Submission of written or online entry serves as agreement from exhibitor to comply with this statement. In the event of General and Department Special Rules, the Department Special Rules will govern.

MontanaFair, MetraPark and Yellowstone County, MT, their employees, agents, or board members thereof will assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, death, or theft, sustained by person, property or livestock of any exhibitor, exhibitor's family or employees, concessionaire, or spectator. Every animal and article upon the grounds shall be under the control of MontanaFair management.

Management will put forth every effort to ensure the safety of articles after their arrival, but in no case will it be responsible for loss, theft, damages, livestock injury or death which may occur while in transit or during the time of exhibition.

DOGS: No dogs, except certified service dogs and dogs entered in competition will be allowed in any exhibit building, arenas or on the carnival midway. All dogs on the grounds must have proof of current vaccinations and health requirements as per Yellowstone County. All dogs must be on a leash at all times. Dogs, small and large animals shall not be left in vehicles or trailers or be unattended in the any parking lot or other area of the MontanaFair grounds. Unleashed dogs or dogs left unattended will be reported to the Yellowstone County Animal Control Department.

SERVICE VEHICLES: The use of private motorized service vehicles (golf carts, all-terrain vehicles, scooters etc.), **ARE NOT ALLOWED** at MontanaFair.

DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENTS: Each Superintendent will have charge of the department assigned and listed on the departmental information materials. The Superintendent will have charge of the building display spaces, stalls and equipment within the department. Rearrangement of stalls and spaces will be done only with supervision and as agreed by the Superintendent.

ENTRY INFORMATION FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS & EXHIBITORS

1. Online entry at www.MontanaFair.com
2. Entries are not considered complete until all applicable fees have been paid by the deadline.
3. Should an individual enter either an animal or article in the name of another than that of the bona fide owner or attempt to perpetrate a fraud by misrepresentation of any fact, the entry thus made must be removed from exhibition and all fees paid and premiums or awards must be forfeited.
4. Any entry which may have been inadvertently or erroneously entered may, at the discretion of the Department Superintendent or Judge, be transferred to the proper class prior to judging.
5. Exhibitors will cooperate at all times to conduct the best possible MontanaFair.
6. **Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated**, and the offending exhibitor will forfeit all premiums due, and exhibit may be immediately dismissed from the MontanaFair grounds.
7. MontanaFair is not responsible for errors in website information.

CHECKS RETURNED/DENIED CREDIT CARDS: Any exhibitor issuing a check for payment of entries, stalling or gate admissions which does not clear their account for any reason, will have five days to make payment to keep entries eligible to participate in competition. This applies to credit card transactions that are denied. A \$30.00 fee will be assessed to the exhibitor. This fee must be paid in cash, money order or cashier's check prior to competition. If MontanaFair has not been notified of transaction denial or returned check prior to judging, any premiums earned will be withheld.

REFUNDS: MontanaFair has a firm no refund policy. While recognizing that illness or injury of an exhibitor or livestock occurs, and other events or reasons can come up between entry online and exhibits are received, no refunds of any fees are permitted. Submission of online entry acknowledges the NO REFUND POLICY.

CODE OF ETHICS: MontanaFair is a member of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) and will abide by the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics when conducting MontanaFair 2026 as printed at www.MontanaFairsandexpos.com/pdf/ShowRingCodeofEthics.pdf

EXHIBIT RULES & REGULATIONS

JUDGES: Every effort is expended to provide competent judges. No exhibitor or spectator will be allowed to interfere with a judge in the performance of his/her duties. Exhibitors, owners, agents, or representatives should not converse with judge until all judging of applicable exhibits has been completed. Under no circumstances should anyone converse during class judging.

DELAY OF JUDGING: Exhibitors must arrange for the prompt showing of all exhibits at the call of the judge. At the judge's discretion, any exhibit not presented promptly when called may be disqualified. Call for "closing of the gate" is at the Department Superintendent's discretion.

UNWORTHY EXHIBITS: Judges must not award a prize to an unworthy exhibit. No premiums will be awarded to undeserving exhibits where there is competition or not. Judges are allowed to award premiums as they feel worthy. The decision of the judge shall be final, and no appeal will be considered except in cases of formal protest. As ribbons and awards can be given in error at time of exhibit pickup or dismissal from a class after judging, please be aware that premiums are not paid by ribbons received. The judge's placing in the official judge's book designates the premium paid.

PROTESTS:

1. Protests (whether formal or informal) must be submitted in writing, signed, and accompanied by \$50.00 cash or certified check (refundable if the protest is sustained). The protest must plainly state the cause of the complaint or appeal and must be delivered to the Department Superintendent immediately after the occasion for the protest. A protest pertaining to eligibility is most suitable when submitted prior to judging.
2. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation.
3. Depending on the basis of the protest, interested parties may be notified and given the opportunity to submit evidence. A decision may be withheld until a complete investigation can be made.
4. No complaint or appeal that a judge overlooked an entry will be considered.
5. Consult 4-H Livestock (A) & Non-Livestock (N) departments for 4-H grievance policy.

PREMIUMS:

- Exhibitors are limited to two premiums per class.
- Exhibitors receiving premiums in excess of \$600.00 must provide a completed, signed and dated W-9 with the personal social security number or federal taxpayer identification number. Name on W-9 must match the exhibitor as stated on the official entry form or online entry submission.
- Provided there are judged exhibit(s) in a class, all placings and premiums may be awarded except as otherwise provided in rules in any department.
- **Premiums will not be paid according to tags or ribbons, but by the awards as recorded in the judge's book. The judge's record is final.**
- MontanaFair Management does not guarantee the payment of special premiums offered by merchants or private parties. These special premiums are accepted in good faith by MontanaFair.
- Combined or cancelled classes are at the discretion of the Department Superintendent. Combined classes will receive only one premium for placings.
- Ties for placing will result in split premium.
- **Premium checks not cashed within 90 days from date of issue will become stale-dated & void.**

LIVESTOCK & SMALL ANIMALS

1. All livestock and small animals entered and exhibited may be subject to being inspected for health condition before entrance to exhibit building or stalling. All animals found inferior must be removed from the MontanaFair grounds immediately.
2. Any person who violates any of the rules as published on the MontanaFair website www.MontanaFair.com will forfeit all privileges and premiums and may be subject to such penalty as ordered by MontanaFair management. Submission of online entry serves as agreement from exhibitor to comply with this statement.
3. Competition is open to the world unless specified in department, (except in 4-H/FFA Junior Livestock Exhibitors must be residents of Montana).
4. On-line pre-entry is required for all livestock entries. Late entries will not be accepted.
5. In all cases where registration is required, all animals exhibited must be registered on the records of the various breed associations of classes listed herein. Partnership owned animals must be entered in the name of the owner appearing on the herd books of registry. Original registration or copies must accompany livestock and be available for presentation upon request of MontanaFair management.
6. Animals shown in all group classes must be entered and shown in their respective individual classes.
7. Exhibitors will be required to keep their stalls, pens, and alleys in a clean and attractive condition. Bedding and litter shall be disposed of in designated areas. First bedding will be provided by MontanaFair. Additional or replacement bedding must be furnished by exhibitor and be of the type specified by MontanaFair management. MontanaFair does not provide bedding in tie-out areas.
8. Exhibitors are not allowed to block other exhibits or stalling alleys with equipment or blocking chutes.

ANIMAL HEALTH BRAND & IMPORT REGULATIONS

Direct Inquiries to:

Montana Department of Livestock - Animal Health Division

Helena, MT 59601

Phone: 406.444.7323

Fax: 406.444.1929

liv.mt.gov

(Do not call the MontanaFair entry office for health information)

It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to comply with all current health, brand and import rules and regulations as stated upon the Montana Department of Livestock website mt.gov/liv on entry and arrival at the MontanaFair grounds. Regulations and requirements can change daily. Please make sure you have the proper requirements.

Out of County Exhibitors: Exhibitors crossing county lines with cattle, horses and sheep must obtain a brand inspection certificate or travel permit before leaving home and turn them in at check-in of the animal or be subject to a heavy fine according to Montana law.

MONTANAFair SPONSOR OF ALL COMPETITIVE EVENT DEPARTMENTS

