LIVESTOCK YOUTH CLASS RULES

GENERAL RULES FOR LIVESTOCK:

* All animals (including market animals) **MUST BE** in the exhibitor’s possession and registered with the MSU Montcalm Extension office by the required date for each species.
* Animal Registration Forms are available from the MSU Montcalm Extension office, 211 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 368, Stanton, MI 48888, (989) 831-7500 or online at [https://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/montcalm](https://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/montcalm).
* Showmanship will be required for every animal species in which an exhibitor shows an animal.

Registration Form Deadlines (by 4 p.m. at the MSU Montcalm Extension office on due date):

- January 10 – Market Beef
- April 15 – Market Feeder Beef
- May 2 – Market and Breeding Goats, Market and Breeding Sheep, Market Swine, Breeding Beef and Horse/Pony
- May 16 – Breeding Cavies, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Llama/Alpacas, Market and Breeding Poultry and Market and Breeding Rabbits
- June 1 – Breeding Feeder Beef, Small Animal/Pocket Pets, Club Pen, Cage and Stall Request Forms and Livestock Exhibitor Agreements
- June 10 – Horse/Pony Substitutions

HEALTH REGULATIONS

* Livestock exhibitors **MUST** be in compliance with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Animal Health Requirements as defined. Rules can be located at: [www.michigan.gov/mdafairreqs](http://www.michigan.gov/mdafairreqs).
* All animals **MUST** be clean or bathed before arrival at fair or will not be allowed to unload, as this improves measures in preventing communicable disease.
* All animal clippings/shearing **MUST** be done prior to fair arrival, except for touch-up clipping prior to show.
* Animals with active warts, pink eye or active ringworm will **NOT** be allowed on the fairgrounds.
* All animal must be free from infectious, contagious diseases and/or parasites.
* All animals suspected of being on tranquilizers, other drugs or antibiotics fed beyond the withdrawal period will be subject to testing.
* All steers **MUST** be de-horned, no scurs longer than 1” and healed prior to fair (except: Scottish Highlanders).
* All Beef and Dairy **MUST** comply with MDARD RFID Tag Regulations. See the MDARD Requirements.
* All Swine exhibited at fair **MUST** go to slaughter and will be charged a trucking fee, if not sold at auction and must possess a MDARD swine tag issued from the MSU Montcalm Extension office.
* All Goats and Sheep **MUST** comply with the Scrapies Identification Tag/Tattoo Regulations. See the MDARD Requirements.

EXHIBITORS RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARE and FEEDING

* Red Flag Rule: “All animals must be kept clean, fed, and have access to clean, fresh water throughout the day. The first time your pen(s) is/are not kept cleaned and/or there is/are no food or clean water the youth will receive a warning. They will have until the next check to remedy the situation – the expectation is that youth will be checking their projects every three hours (starting at 9 a.m., 12 Noon, 3 p.m., 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.). The second time the pen will be red tagged and the youth will not be eligible to exhibit that species in the following years at fair. Only the superintendents of each species can red tag pens (i.e. Sheep Superintendent can tag sheep pens). Warnings and red tags will be placed on pen cards.
* Primary responsibility for grooming animals for show is that of the exhibitor. Parent and 4-Her’s may assist.
* Exhibitors are responsible for proper feeding and care of their animals, including keeping stalls, pens, and animals clean and neat at all times, until they are trucked out on Sunday, the last day of fair.
* Final stall and pen clean-up, including washing swine pens, **MUST be completed by 1:00 p.m.** Sunday, the last day of fair.
* Exhibitors will furnish their own feed and bedding.
* All exhibitors **MUST** display pen cards with all information, readable by the public, above each animal exhibited. These pen cards are available at the MSU Montcalm Extension office website.
CLASSES and JUDGING

* All animals will be judged according to guidelines in the 4-H Handbooks. All judging is final.
* Anyone not able to control his/her animal to the satisfaction of the judge will be excused from the show ring for the safety and in respect to other exhibitors.
* Exhibitors **MUST** accompany their project animal in all classes to be judged and provide the judge with information about the project animal if asked. If you have more than one animal in the same class then another 4-H'er may assist you.
* Classes may be combined or divided at the discretion of the Superintendents, with the approval of the Montcalm County Fair Association Board.
* Showmanship classes must have at least three (3) exhibitors to hold a class.
* Awards for all Showmanship Classes will be: Ribbons up to 8th place. 1st place winner of each class – Trophy or Medallion and Rosette.
* **Club/Chapter Herd**, the herd must consist of at least three (3) animals, either market or breeding, and must be owned by three (3) different exhibitors. The class is to be judged at the conclusion of each species judging and **entries must be made in the name of the local club**.
* **Club Herdsmanship** all species will be judged during the entire fair and will be checked for the cleanliness of the animals and stalls, neatness, attractiveness and creativity of the Club’s Display Area. The main cleaning of each species area should be done by 9:00 a.m. and all club signs must be easy to identify, readable, and have eye appeal. **Entries must be made in the name of the local club.** Plaque to first place in each species.
* If number of animals warrants splitting or combining the class, the Superintendents may do so after weigh-in, and provide the information to the Montcalm County Fair Association office.
* Ribbons and/or Rosettes are to be awarded in all classes unless otherwise specified.
* Champion and Reserve Champion awards will be given at the discretion of the judge and only if the number of exhibitors warrant such awards.

RECORD BOOKS

**Record Book Deadlines: Record books are required for all animals**

- June 1st before 4 p.m. – Dogs and Horse/Pony – MSU Montcalm Extension office
- Monday of fair from 4 to 6 p.m. – Beef, Sheep and Swine – Livestock Arena
- Sunday of fair before 6 p.m. – Cavies, Goats, Llamas/Alpacas, Poultry and Rabbits – Superintendents of species at the barn of species.
- Tuesday of fair before 12 noon – Dairy – Dairy Superintendent at Dairy Barn.

* Animal Record Books are required for each species to show at the Montcalm County 4-H Fair.
* Record Books must be checked in accordance with the schedule above. If the Superintendent deems Record Book as incomplete, the Superintendent may refuse to accept the Record Book.
* Record Books are available for each species separated by specific age levels at the MSU Montcalm Extension office and website at [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/montcalm](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/montcalm).
* Make sure there is a **still exhibit card attached** to your record book when you turn it in.

MARKET LIVESTOCK and SALE RULES

* 4-H Livestock Auction will begin at 5 p.m. with a permanent sale order of: Goats, Milk, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, Beef and Swine.
* Exhibitor’s ages are 9 – 19 as of January 1st of the current fair year to sell through the 4-H Livestock Sale.
* The 4-H Livestock Sale is open to 4-H and FFA members to sell, who are properly registered with the MSU Montcalm Extension office.
* Ownership is required for all market animals. Exhibitors of Market Rabbits must have the sire or dam in their possession by April 1st of the current year.
* All exhibitors with market livestock **MUST** participate in showmanship and complete a record book for that species.
* All market livestock **kept for showmanship only** will incur a **trucking fee** if transported.
* Livestock/Small Animal Committees may meet to review any situations or circumstances that may arise and re-evaluate the rules as they apply.
* All livestock consignors will have a 4% commission of their gross sales deducted from their sale check to cover sales expenses and a $1.00 deduction per market animal sale lot to be used for mortality insurance to cover the buyer’s interest after the sale of the animal.
* An individual animal may be registered as a “family floater” by more than one (1) immediate family member, but can be shown by only one (1) family member.
* 4-H/FFA members may show and sell: one (1) market steer or one (1) market feeder, and/or two (2) market hogs, and/or (2) market lambs at the livestock sale.
* Members may only sell two (2) times through the sale ring.
* This rule pertains to the selling, but not the showing of dairy (milk), goats, poultry, and rabbits as part of the limit of two (2) times through the sale ring.
Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion **MUST BE** sold at the Livestock Sale, except if restricted by number of times through sale ring per exhibitor.

**CHECK – IN / WEIGH – IN**

* Dairy Exhibits will be checked-in by superintendent or representative:
  - Dairy Cattle must be in place by Tuesday of fair by 12:00 Noon.
* Horse/Pony Exhibits will be checked-in by superintendent or representative:
  - Horses may arrive: Saturday before fair from 4 to 6 p.m. and Sunday of fair from 12 Noon to 4 p.m.
* All Other Animal weigh-in and check-in will be held on, Sunday of fair at the following times and locations:
  - ALL Cattle, Goat, Sheep, Swine – 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Livestock Barn Scales
  - Market Rabbits – 10 a.m. – Small Animal Barn (Rabbit area)
  - Breed Rabbits and Cavies – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Small Animal Barn (Rabbit area)
  - All Poultry – 8 a.m. to 12 Noon if needing Poultry Pullorum tested (required to show) and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. if 4-H’ers possess valid Poultry Pullorum test paperwork – Small Animal Barn (Poultry area).
* All Market Animals will be weighed upon arrival.
* All exhibitors must be present with their own animals at weigh-in.
* **There will be a health check of ALL animals before unloading. Check with Superintendent before unloading animal(s).**
* Any disputed weight; the animal must be re-weighed immediately. No underweight animal will be re-weighed after returning to the barn. **NOTE:** there will be **NO EXCEPTIONS** to these rules.
* Carcass Hogs and Carcass Lambs
  - Will be trucked out Sunday of fair week following the live evaluation.
  - Turn in buyer cut-up sheets and $5.00 trucking fee per animal in the carcass hog and carcass lamb classes, no later than 2 p.m. on Sunday of fair week to the weigh-in clerk.
  - Exhibitor must be present when animal is loaded.
  - It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to make sure that the correct animal is sent to the processor.
  - Buyer’s cut-up sheet must go with the carcass hogs and lambs when trucked to slaughter.
* Livestock shall remain in their stalls until officially released on Sunday after fair at 6:00 a.m.
* All animals must meet the following weight restrictions to sell and must be judged adequately finished by the Livestock Committee, Superintendent and Judges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal Type</th>
<th>Minimum Weight</th>
<th>Maximum Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef Steers and Heifers</td>
<td></td>
<td>900 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Steers and Heifers</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,150 lbs. (Except: Jersey and Other Small Dairy Breeds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey and Other Small Dairy Breeds</td>
<td></td>
<td>900 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeder Beef</td>
<td></td>
<td>300 – 600 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td></td>
<td>35 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td></td>
<td>90 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swine (Market and Carcass)</td>
<td></td>
<td>220 – 300 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Chicken (Fryer Pen – 3 Chickens)</td>
<td>6 – 8 lbs. each, up to 8 weeks age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Chicken (Roaster Pen – 2 Chickens)</td>
<td>8 – 11 lbs. each, up to 12 weeks age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Ducks (Pen – 3 Ducks)</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 – 15 lbs. each, current year hatch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Geese (Pen – 2 Geese)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over 10 lbs. each, current year hatch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Turkeys (Pen – 2 Turkeys)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over 15 lbs. each, current year hatch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Rabbits (Pen of 3 and Fryer Pen)</td>
<td>3.5 – 5.5 lbs. each, up to 70 days old</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>