



TOPSHAM FAIR ANIMAL SHOWS 4-H RULES AND REGULATIONS

4-H'rs ARE EXHIBITORS OF CHARACTER

4-H members develop many Life Skills through their participation in 4-H. These include leadership, community service, collaboration, goal setting, empathy, acceptance of differences, and wise use of resources, to name just a few. Principle among 4-H Life Skills is good character.

The county 4-H program recognizes members of good character through its Exhibitor of Character Awards, given out at Achievement Night. 4-H Exhibitors of Character carry out their projects fully and treat other 4-H members, fair officials, spectators, and animals according to the Six Pillars of Character: Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Respect, Caring, Fairness and Citizenship. They:

- * Feed animals on time and provide clean, fresh water at all times
- * Handle and treat animals properly
- * Use only approved drugs with their animals in accordance with directions for use on the label or as instructed by a veterinary professional
- * On the day of the show, accept help from no one in preparing their animals for the show and follow other recommended procedures for fitting and grooming
- * Do their best in the show ring at all times
- * Are accountable for on-time paperwork
- * Submit accurate and truthful information
- * Treat spectators, other exhibitors and 4-H members with courtesy and respect
- * Are helpful to and thoughtful toward other exhibitors
- * Assist other 4-H members
- * Demonstrate and maintain high standards of personal behavior and conduct

MAINE 4-H LIVESTOCK EXHIBITS

GENERAL RULES

1. No entry fee will be charged in any 4-H class.
2. All animals shown must meet all health requirements as required by law.
3. Grade animals will be shown with the breed they nearest resemble.
4. All 4-H members must show 4-H Approval Forms, registrations and lease papers when entering.

5. 4-H'rs must participate in all classes of each show they enter.
6. Judging will be done using the "Danish System".
7. 4-H Members **in good standing** from anywhere in Maine may exhibit in all Topsham Fair 4-H animal shows, with the exception of the 4-H Horse Show which is open only to 4-H members in good standing from Sagadahoc, Androscoggin and Kennebec Counties.
8. All ages are as of January 1 of this year. **No one** but the 4-H member who is showing the animal may help prepare the animal the day of the show. The show is intended to be a demonstration of the work of the member and the animal.
9. **Required dress** for all 4-H animal shows, (EXCEPT for Horse, Pet and Rabbit shows), is white or tan pants or skirts and a white shirt or blouse. Nothing may be printed on clothing except the member's name and/or club name and town.

REGULATIONS FOR 4-H ANIMAL SHOWS AT AGRICULTURAL FAIRS

1. "4-H Age" is defined as the age of the 4-H member as of December 31 of the current 4-H year. All ages below are "4-H Ages."
2. 4-H exhibitors must be 9 to 18 years of age in order to show in dairy, beef, swine, working steer and horse shows.
3. 4-H members age 8 can participate in goat and sheep shows. The goats or sheep that eight (8) year olds show must be under two (2) years of age. No ram lambs. Collars are required for goats and a lead should be permitted. Halters are required for sheep and a lead should be permitted. An older 4-H member must be present in the ring with exhibitors age 8 as a safety precaution.
4. 4-H members age 5-7 will be limited to participating in small animal domestic pet and rabbit demonstrations. An older 4-H member or adult must be present in the ring with exhibitors ages 5-7 as a safety precaution.
5. Leased animals will be permitted in 4-H open shows.
6. All shows will require that exhibitors present the standard Approval Form for 4-H Animal Shows
7. 4-H members must fit any animals they show.
8. Each animal must be listed on only one member's approval form.

MAINE 4-H GUIDELINES FOR LIVESTOCK SHOWS

1. Maine 4 H members who wish to show animals at Maine Agricultural Shows must abide by the current **Regulations For 4-H Animal Shows At Agricultural Fairs**, above. These regulations include, among other things, allowing leased animals in 4 H Shows and requiring exhibitors to present the standard Approval Form for 4 H Animal Shows.
2. The Approval Form for 4-H Animal Shows certifies that the youth is an enrolled 4-H member in good standing and that the animals listed are the ones being used in the project on the date the form was signed by the appropriate Extension staff member. The 4 H leader must sign the form on the line immediately below the last animal listed. The 4 H educator or professional in the county where the member is enrolled in that particular animal project must sign the form on the signature line at the bottom. An embossed photocopy of the Approval Form for 4-H Animal Shows is then given to the 4 H member and the original is kept on file in the 4 H office in the county where the member is enrolled in that project.
3. Agricultural Fair 4 H Shows support the 4 H programs being conducted in that fair's county.

4. 4-H shows are developed by the county 4 H educator or professional who works with the Fair's board. The county 4-H educator or professional and the members of the board who devise the show are responsible for the creation and enforcement of any rules not covered by the State 4 H Show Guidelines. However, these rules must be published in a timely manner and made available to all interested parties.
5. Individuals who work with 4-H shows (Superintendents, Judges, Gatekeepers, and so on) are encouraged to be positive and well mannered in their interaction with 4 H youth. Critiques and directions should be phrased in a positive manner that helps build the young person's self esteem.
6. Contests and awards are to be developmentally appropriate.
7. 4-H members must fit any animals they show.
8. Safety rules and regulations are strictly enforced.

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