4-H MARKET STEER SHOW AND AUCTION

**Weighing of Steers: Thursday August 4 at 7 am**
Judging Contest: Friday August 5 at 9 am
Showmanship & Fitting: Thursday August 4 at 6:00 pm
Judging of Steers: Thursday August 4 at 6pm
Auction: Saturday Aug 5 at 4:00 pm

4-H Representative: Corinna Caron – (207) 249-2191

The Bangor State Fair reserves the right to not pay premiums in any category listed in this document if the breeder/exhibitor is not pre-registered and/or his/her animals are not stabled on the fairgrounds.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Entries are open to 4-Hers who are residents of Penobscot County and to 4-Hers from other counties who are active members of a Penobscot County 4-H Beef Club and have no active Beef Clubs in their own counties.

   All 4-Hers must be participating in an approved 4-H Market Steer Project. Participants showing cattle must have reached their 9th birthdays, but not have passed their 19th birthdays, as of midnight, December 31, 2022.

2. Any beef breed is acceptable as a project steer. The steer must show the characteristics of a beef breed, been sired by a beef bull, born on or after January 1, 2022 and have been owned by the 4-H member no later than December 31, 2022. Steers in question will be examined by a veterinarian at the discretion of the 4-H Representative.

3. No bulls or stags will be allowed to be shown or auctioned. ALL STEER MUST HAVE HEALED CASTRATIONS. ANY QUESTIONABLE CASTRATIONS MAY REQUIRE A LETTER FROM A VETERINARIAN/STATE VETERINARIAN.

4. All 4-H Market Steers will be properly ear tagged. 4-Her must use standard Animal Approval Form for and submit to the Penobscot County Extension Office no later than June 30, 2023.

5. Each 4-H member will show and sell one Market Steer at the Bangor State Fair.

6. Any steer that cannot be managed and led by its owner without any help from others will not be allowed to show and may be removed from the fairgrounds. This rule will be strictly enforced. All steers shown must furnish proof to the 4-H Representative that they have attended a show clinic prior to the fair.

7. All 4-H Market Steers and their owners will be on the Bangor State Fairgrounds by 8 pm Wednesday August 2nd, 2023.

8. Bangor State Fair reserves the right, after inspection, to eliminate any steers from competition and sale that do not meet the standards required for a quality show and sale; e.g., backbone, ribs and hooks to pins must show some amount of condition; backbone and ribs must be covered, unless this is due to sickness of the animal immediately prior to the fair.

9. Leather or steel-toed shoes or boots will be worn when actively working with animal. (Exception is when washing animals where muck boots will be allowed.)

10. Embossed copies of the Animal Approval Form and Project Records will be presented to the 4-H Representative the day the steer arrives at Bangor State Fair. Project Records (including barn records) must be up-to-date and neatly presented. If they are not, the member may be disqualified and his/her animal will be removed from the grounds.

11. Exhibitors shall care for his/her own steers to the best of their abilities. An animal and member can be disqualified if someone other than the member constantly cares for or prepares the animal for showing. Other observers may bring this to the attention of the Representative for action. Exceptions: In the case of mandatory attendance at a special activity or an unavoidable emergency, another eligible 4-H member may show and care for the animal, with the knowledge and permission of the 4-H Representative. Only members may care for animals at the fair.

12. Required attire for all shows and auction will be clean and neat show uniforms. The uniform for Fitting & Showmanship is clean denim pants (no rips) and wear a Western style or solid colored shirt with collar that is button down) and leather or steel-toed boots or shoes. No hats or farm or breed advertising are allowed in the 4-H show ring. Western attire & clean (no rips) blue jeans may be worn during the Livestock Auction.

13. A neck rope tie, in addition to the usual halter, is required for all animals during the fair.
14. The barn area will be kept clean by all 4-H Market Steer project members.
15. Name signs to identify the animals must be in place by **Thursday, August 4, 2023 by 9 am.**
16. Parental consent forms and parental responsibility forms must be signed and adhered to by all parents of members who are minors. Signed forms must be submitted to the 4-H Representative prior to the fair.
17. If there are more than 10 steers to be exhibited in Final Judging, they may be divided evenly into three weight groups, heavy, medium and light, with odd steer going to class closest to his own weight.
18. Grain and water must be away from animals by 10:00 PM on Wednesday, August 3, 2023. (Steer may have access to hay overnight). Steers will be weighed at 7:00 AM on Wednesday, August 4, 2023. Steer must reach a minimum weight of 850 lbs. in order to participate in the Steam Judging and Livestock Auction. Steers may be fed and watered after weighing.
19. All 4-H Market Steers exhibited at the Bangor State Fair will be sold at auction on **Saturday, August 5, 2023.** The 4H Market Steer and Market Lamb auction will start at 4:00 PM. Each member must be present. Any exception to this rule must be approved by the 4-H Representative. **All exhibitors must submit to the Penobscot County Extension Office no later than Tuesday, July 9, 2023,** the name of five bidders that have been contacted to attend the Auction on Friday night. Failure to do this could result in not being allowed to sell Steer at Auction. **4-H Steer must be shown at the fair in order to be sold at Auction. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
20. Auction bids are open to all responsible persons. 4-Hers are allowed to bid on their own animal if bids are not deemed sufficient.
21. A good halter of suitable rope must be left on the steer after it is sold.
   All animals exhibited must meet the health and identification requirements of the State of Maine Department of Agriculture as listed in the rules and regulations of the Livestock Department. [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal_health/staff.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal_health/staff.shtml) All exhibitors of animals must follow the Penobscot County 4-H Policy and Guidelines Manual.
22. Any 4-H Beef Club member staying overnight on the fairgrounds must be supervised by an adult. The 4-H Representative and Beef Club leaders reserve the right not to serve as overnight supervisors.
23. All 4-Hers enrolled in the Market Steer Project must participate in the Market Steer fitting, showmanship and beef judging contest to be eligible to sell their steer at the 4-H auction. Exceptions will be at the discretion of the 4-H Representative and the 4-H Staff.
24. Failure to comply with the above rules will be considered to be just cause for disqualification from the show and/or auction and/or forfeiture of all premiums. Above rules will be punishable at the 4-H Representative’s discretion according to the number and severity of offenses. Ethics and safety will not be compromised. Punishment may include, but not be limited to, member and steer being ejected from the Bangor State Fair.
25. Bangor State Fair reserves the right to amend and add to these rules and regulations. Please also refer to the IAFE National Show Ring Code of Ethics in the Penobscot County 4-H Policy and Guidelines Manual. Any 4-Her not adhering to these rules may be asked to leave the Fairgrounds and premiums may be withheld.

**JUDGING CONTEST**

The judging contest is open to 4-Hers who are enrolled in an approved 4-H Project in Beef and/or Market Steer and who are showing at Bangor State Fair.

**ALL DIVISIONS**

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There will be two divisions: Junior and Senior. Divisions may be added or taken away at the discretion of the 4-H Beef Representative.
Awards will be made on the basis of the combined scores for placing, oral reasons, and written reasons.

Ribbons will be awarded to premium winners.

The Bangor State Fair trophy will be awarded to the winner of the 4-H Market Steer Judging Class in all divisions.

SHOWMANSHIP AND FITTING

There will be two divisions: Junior and Senior. An Intermediate Division will be added at the discretion of the 4-H Beef Representative.

Seniors (and Intermediates if applicable) will start with the Showmanship Class. They will enter the ring with steers that have NOT been fit. Seniors will be judged and placed on showmanship. Once the Judge completes that class the Seniors will have 45 minutes to return to their chutes (in the 4-H designated area) and fit their steer. After 45 minutes they will be called back into the ring for the judging of the Fitting Class. This same process will take place with Intermediates if that division is required.

During the fitting portion of the contest 4-Hers may not be helped by adults, other 4-H members or other individuals.

Showmanship and fitting classes for Juniors have been combined to the respect that as soon as Junior Division is judged on showmanship, they will be judged on fitting. However, trophies and premiums will remain separate.

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Ribbons will be awarded to premium winners.

The Bangor State Fair trophies will be awarded to the winners of the 4-H Fitting and Showmanship classes in all divisions.

SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST

The Showmanship Contest differs from other livestock shows in that it is the exhibitor rather than the animal that is being judged. The show is conducted like all others, but there is often more movement in the ring as the judge puts the exhibitors through their paces. Here are some of the points the judge considers:

- The ability of the exhibitor to control his/her animal.
- How well the exhibitor focuses his/her attention on the judge and how quickly he/she responds to the judges’ commands.
- The ability of the exhibitor to capitalize on the strengths of his/her animal and draw attention away from any weaknesses.
- How well the exhibitor squares his/her animal; that is, are all four legs placed squarely beneath the steer?
• Aggressive showmanship: A successful show person makes sure the judge notices his/her animal in its best light.

• How well an exhibitor shows an unfamiliar animal. A true show person can handle and successfully exhibit even a strange animal.

Becoming a successful show person takes long hours of hard work and practice. For the past few months, these 4-Hers, some of who are showing for the first time, have spent 2-3 hours/day working on their showmanship skills. This has meant walking, grooming and squaring their animals as well as identifying their animals' strong and weak points. These 4-Hers will not become expert show people overnight, but their continued hard work will certainly make them some of the best around.

FITTING CONTEST

The Fitting Contest determines how well the exhibitor has prepared his/her animal for show. The structural quality of the animal is not considered, but rather the animal is judged based on its cleanliness, how well it is groomed and clipped and how well the exhibitor has highlighted the animal’s strengths and masked its weaknesses.

Here are a few of the points upon which the judge bases his/her decision:

General cleanliness and coat quality: The animal should be clean, shiny, and free of dandruff. This indicates a lot of washings!!!

Grooming and Clipping: The animal’s head and underside should be clipped and smooth. Other areas are clipped according to exhibitor preference. There should be no distinct lines between clipped and non-clipped areas. These areas should be gradually blended together.

Feet: The hooves should be trimmed, sanded smooth, and polished.

Ears: The inner ear should be cleaned and free from wax.

Tail: The tail can be prepared in a variety of ways, including being balled or teased.

How well structural flaws are masked: For example, if the animal has a swayed back, the hair along the back can be made to stand up to give the appearance of a straight top line.

A well-fit animal represents a large time commitment on the part of the 4-Her. From the time the animal is purchased, the stall must be cleaned daily and the animal brushed regularly. Starting in the spring, the animal must be washed 2-3 times a week. In the weeks prior to the fair, the 4-Hers generally wash their animals every other day and begin to clip, trim fit, and work on all the extras necessary to win a 4-H Fitting Contest.

JUDGING OF STEERS
PREMIUMS

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The Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, Highly Commendable and Honorable Mention Steers will each receive a rosette and a banner. All other steers will receive ribbons.