

Kittitas County 4-H/FFA Livestock Committee

Policies and Member Requirements

The raising of livestock can be an educationally rewarding experience for youth. It is the intent of the Livestock Committee to develop a 4-H livestock program that will provide county youth a continuing opportunity to:

1. Learn project skills such as the caring, feeding, training, and fitting and showing of livestock;
2. Learn how to judge and select livestock;
3. Learn how to keep livestock records to make informative decisions;
4. Develop leadership skills, cooperation, self-reliance and sportsmanship through club activities;
5. Gain an appreciation of livestock and the livestock industry;
6. Receive support of the above through the Quality Assurance and Animal Care program.

Only through decisions or policies like those described below, developed and approved by the Kittitas County 4-H Livestock Committee, can the committee achieve these objectives.

Definitions

1. The term Livestock, as used herein includes dairy and beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats.
2. The Kittitas County Beef Pre-show/Clinic is held annually in March. The purpose of it is to weigh, tag and exhibit feeder steers to be shown and sold as market steers at the Kittitas County Fair.
3. The Sheep Pre-show/Clinic is held annually in June. The purpose of it is to weigh, tag and exhibit feeder lambs to be shown and sold as market lambs at the Kittitas County Fair.
4. The Goat Pre-show/Clinic is held annually in June. The purpose of it is to weigh, tag, and exhibit feeder goats to be shown and sold as market goats at the Kittitas County Fair.
5. The Swine Weigh-in is the annual swine weighing held in June. The purpose of it is to weigh and tag feeder hogs to be shown and sold as market hogs at the Kittitas County Fair.
6. The Swine Clinic is offered in the spring as an educational opportunity for youth to learn about swine. The program includes a Swine Judging Contest, instruction in Fitting and Showmanship, and educational swine information. Swine project members are now **required** to attend this clinic or submit **prior to the event** a written request to: **Kittitas County Livestock Committee, 507 Nanum, Rm. 2, Ellensburg, WA 98926** to request being excused.
7. Member shall mean an enrolled 4-H club member residing in Kittitas County.
8. Large Animal Project shall mean beef and dairy cattle, horses, sheep, swine and goats.
9. Qualified Youth are 4-H members who are in the third grade and have reached their 8th birthday **before January 1** of the current year.
10. The Kittitas County Junior Livestock Sale is a not-for-profit corporation that sponsors the annual Kittitas County Junior Livestock Sale.
11. The Livestock Committee is comprised of 4-H club or 4-H livestock project leaders and interested 4-H parents that meet periodically to coordinate activities and policies involving livestock projects in the county. The committee is a standing committee of the Kittitas County 4-H Leaders Council.

General Livestock Policies and Member Requirements

1. The use of illegal drugs and/or the improper use of animal health products of foreign substances will not be tolerated in the Washington State and Kittitas County 4-H Youth Development Program. Extension personnel, 4-H volunteers, families, youth, and fair/show officials have a legal and moral obligation not to misuse these products. We have the responsibility to tell others not to use these substances and report those who do use any illegal substance.
2. The administration of any drug or medication which could affect an animal's disposition or performance, resulting in an unfair advantage, is unacceptable. Additionally, there are federal penalties for using illegal substances in animals that are going into the nation's food supply.
3. Breeding beef animals must have the horn tips covered as a safety precaution; dehorning is encouraged as a management practice.
4. No dairy animals with horns are permitted except in the Junior Heifer Calf class. The definition of horns includes "scurs", "nubbing", or "stubs" that extend more than one inch beyond the skin.
5. Goats entered in 4-H & FFA goat project animal classes must be polled or dehorned.
6. No unaltered male livestock (beef, sheep, goat, swine, dairy, equine) may be exhibited except beef bulls born in the current 4-H club year, and rams under 24 months of age.
7. Market steers must be polled or dehorned; healed or re-growth must not extend more than two inches from the hairline.
8. Lambs exhibiting the callipyge (heavy muscle) gene are not eligible to participate in the Kittitas County Junior Livestock Sale. The final determination on Fair entries will be made by the Kittitas County Fair Sheep Superintendent.
9. 4-H club and FFA chapter members may weigh and tag a maximum of two animals at each of the following events: Kittitas County Beef Pre-show/Clinic, Sheep Pre-show/Clinic, Goat Pre-show/Clinic, and Swine Weigh-in.
10. In order for a 4-H or FFA member to be eligible to sell a steer, lamb, or goat at the Kittitas County Fair, all tagged animals shall be exhibited in the assigned feeder class (es) at the Kittitas County Beef Pre-show/Clinic, Sheep Pre-show/Clinic, or Goat Pre-show/Clinic respectively; unless otherwise excused, in advance by the Superintendent in charge. In order to sell a hog at the county fair, members shall attend the Swine Clinic. According to State 4-H policy Showmanship is a required educational activity for all 4-H youth who show animals in 4-H classes at community fairs, county fairs, State 4-H Fair qualifying events, youth shows, and State 4-H Fair. **If a member is unable to personally exhibit an animal at a required pre-show or attend the Swine Clinic, the member must submit a written letter to the Livestock Committee Chairman, 507 Nanum, Rm. 2, Ellensburg, WA 98926 prior to the show, include the reason they are requesting to be excused, and arrange for a club/chapter member to exhibit the animal in their absence.** Swine members may have a family member or club/chapter member bring the hog to the official weigh-in for weighing and tagging if they are unable to attend.
11. Kittitas County 4-H members enrolled in beef, sheep, goat, and/or swine projects are encouraged to participate in all of the county livestock judging sessions held prior to Fair. **4-H members are required to participate in the Livestock Judging Contest at the Kittitas County Fair.**
12. The top 2 blue placing exhibitors at the Beef Clinic and Swine Clinic Judging Contests and the top four blue placing exhibitors at the Sheep & Goat Judging Contest in the intermediate and senior 4-H divisions will automatically qualify to participate on the State Livestock Judging team. If there is not a complete team from the top qualifiers then the next top placing blue ribbon judging scores from the clinic's and pre-show will be invited to participate on the State Livestock Judging Team. This team will be eligible to judge at the State 4-H Fair in Puyallup. Breaking ties for qualifying for the judging team will be determined by the highest oral reasons score, followed by highest parts score.
13. All **first year** beef, sheep and goat project members are **required** to complete **Level 1, Units #1, 2, 4, and 5** of the Quality Assurance and Animal Care program and exhibit the completed form in their record book with the permanent

record. Those clubs/members completing **Level 1, Units #3 and 6** in addition to the above requirements are eligible to exhibit a special quality assurance sticker on their cost sheet at the Kittitas County Fair.

14. All swine project members are required to complete the Kittitas County Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) program. Youth are to be certified by April 30 and exhibit the Kittitas County Youth Pork Quality Assurance certificate in their record book with the permanent record.
15. **ALL** 4-H/FFA members are **required to submit a copy of a Producer Affidavit & Market Health/Purchase Record for each** market animal exhibited at the Kittitas County Fair at Vet Check. All 4-H livestock project members must have a Producer Affidavit & Market Health/Purchase Record in their record book to record any pharmaceutical use on their animals.
16. To reaffirm Washington State 4-H policy and to maintain 4-H liability insurance for county 4-H members and leaders, no club or activity in Kittitas County shall be allowed to use the 4-H name or emblem if they include any activity in which unqualified youth are allowed to participate with Large Animals. Failure to follow this policy may result in the leader, member, or club being dismissed from the county 4-H program.
17. Interpretation of livestock policies, procedures and any infractions thereof shall be referred to the Livestock Committee for resolution, unless otherwise noted. Committee decisions may be appealed to the Kittitas County 4-H Leaders Council if such appeal is submitted in writing to the Council President.
18. The Livestock Committee, in conjunction with Extension, shall review and approve committee policies and requirements annually.
19. Livestock Committee policies supplement Kittitas County 4-H Policy. Differentiation between Committee and Council policy (ies) shall be resolved by 4-H Leaders Council.
20. All animals are to be cared for and groomed by the exhibitor; this includes clipping and washing the animal(s). In cases where the exhibitors are too young and/or physically incapable of doing the work, assistance by other club or chapter members may be provided. These exceptions should be cleared with the club leader or chapter advisor and the Division Superintendent.
21. **ALL** exhibitors must be appropriately dressed when showing their animals. The following 4-H dress code **WILL** be strictly enforced: Jeans or slacks with a LONG sleeve collared shirt or blouse that is tucked in. Shirts and blouses are to be buttoned to within 1 or 2 buttons from the top. Boots are **HIGHLY** recommended, but clean, heavy athletic shoes that are laced to the top and tied or a similar leather shoe can be substituted. **NO** baseball hats are to be worn in the show ring. FFA members must show in official dress consisting of Black Pants, white collared shirt, FFA tie or scarf and FFA jacket. All clothing should be clean and in good repair. Jewelry is discouraged; it can be dangerous. Superintendent will monitor and those not appropriately dressed shall not be allowed in the show ring until appropriately dressed. Classes will not be held up.
22. **Exhibitors must compete in Fitting and Showing and All Around Showmanship, if eligible at the Kittitas County Fair in order to receive Fair premiums. If a member is unable to participate in Fitting and Showing, they must submit a written letter to the Livestock Committee Chairman, 507 Nanum, Rm. 2, Ellensburg, WA 98926 prior to the contest with the reason(s) they are requesting to be excused.**
23. Novice classes at Pre-shows/Clinic and Fair are open to Juniors and Intermediates who have **never** shown an animal of any species. All seniors will show in their division.
24. Each exhibitor must show one of their own animals (breeding or market) in a Fitting and Showing class. With the exception of goats and market steers, animals used in the 4-H/FFA Fitting and Showing classes must be under one year of age. Members with a breeding animal project may show it in Fitting and Showing as long as they meet the above qualifications. Exhibitors that show more than 1 livestock species (beef, sheep, swine & goat) **MUST** participate in one of the four Fitting and Showing divisions.

25. Parents are to watch from stands during Fitting and Showing and Market classes. **No advice to children in the arena!** It is important that exhibitors direct all their attention to the judge. Comments from parents are distracting and diminish the opportunity for the exhibitor to learn.
26. Exhibitors are responsible for fire and liability insurance to cover their exhibits.
27. All (non-market) livestock to be exhibited at fair in a 4-H/FFA project must be leased or owned and cared for by the exhibitor as follows:
 - A. Breeding Beef 90 days prior to Fair.
 - B. Dairy, Breeding and Other (i.e. pet, utility) Goat Project(s) 60 days prior to Fair.
 - C. Breeding and Market Swine 60 days prior to Fair.
 - D. Breeding and Market Sheep 60 days prior to Fair.
28. All Market Lambs shall exhibit appropriate tail docking. Appropriate tail docking practice is to remove the tail at the distal termination of the caudal fold. Tail length shall be 1.4 inches at weaning and a minimum of 0.7 inches at fair, the tail long enough to be lifted. Lambs not exhibiting appropriate tail docking shall be disqualified. Docking should be performed within two weeks of birth for optimum animal health and the tail must be healed at the time of the Sheep Pre-Show.
29. Slick Shearing is optional for Fitting and Showing and Market Classes for lambs. The overall objective in preparing a sheep for show is to make it look attractive, enhance its positive attributes, and make defects less noticeable. Regardless of method, the purpose of livestock fitting and showing is to teach young people courtesy, good grooming, poise, and confidence, and how to fit, train and handle animals.
30. **Violation of these rules creates a loss of learning experience to the exhibitor and unfair competition to other members, especially in the fitting and showing contest. Violations are cause for disqualification.**

Kittitas County Junior Livestock Sale Policies & Requirements

1. Livestock Committee policies and requirements for sale of animals at the County Fair shall be submitted to the Kittitas County Junior Livestock Sale Board for review and comment before adoption.
2. The Kittitas County Junior Livestock Sale is a **terminal sale**; therefore, all market animals shall be slaughter-ready by the close of fair. Verification of medication withdrawal period shall be verified on the Producer Affidavit & Market Health/Purchase Record the exhibitor submitted at check-in and on an updated version if medications are administered during fair prior to the Sale.
3. Exhibitors must participate in one market class per species to sell in the Sale; exhibitors shall be allowed to sell only one animal through the Kittitas County Junior Livestock Sale at the Fair. Additional animals owned by an exhibitor may be turned to the packer at the announced support price, if they were tagged at the Kittitas County Beef Pre-show/Clinic, Sheep Pre-show/Clinic, Goat Pre-show/Clinic or Swine Weigh-in and exhibited in a market class at the Fair.
4. To be eligible for the Junior Livestock Sale, 4-H and FFA members must meet the following requirements:

Steers:

- A. Shall be a maximum of two steers weighed and tagged at the Kittitas County Beef Pre-show/Clinic;
- B. Weigh 1150 pounds or more;
- C. Make a gain of 2 pounds per day average from the Kittitas County Beef Pre-show/Clinic weight to Fair weigh-in;
- D. Market steers must be polled or dehorned; healed or re-growth must extend less than two inches from the hairline.

Lambs:

- A. Shall be a maximum of two lambs weighed and tagged at the Sheep Pre-show/Clinic;
- B. Shall be docked wethers and ewes. Short scrotum, bucks, or induced cryptorchid lambs are not eligible;

- C. Weigh a minimum of 110 pounds. Carcasses over 75 pounds may be discounted in price;
- D. Minimum and maximum weight requirements for market animals are subject to change at the discretion of the packer.

Hogs:

- A. Shall be a maximum of two barrows or gilts weighed and tagged at the Swine Weigh-in;
- B. Weigh between 230 and 300 pounds;
- C. Minimum and maximum weight requirements for market animals are subject to change at the discretion of the packer.

Goats:

- A. Shall be a maximum of two goats weighed and tagged at the Goat Pre-show/Clinic;
- B. Shall be wethers and does (born after September 1 of the previous year).
- C. Weigh a minimum of 70 pounds.
- D. Make a gain of .25 pounds per day average from the Kittitas County Goat Pre-show/Clinic weight to Fair weigh-in;
- E. Minimum and maximum weight requirements for market animals are subject to change at the discretion of the packer.

- 5. Official animal weights for Market Sale shall be the weight of the animal as determined by the weigh master at the time of entry onto the fair grounds. **There shall be no re-weighs unless the weigh master feels the first weight was in error. In such cases the animal will be re-weighed immediately following the original weighing or when discrepancy error is found.**
- 6. A carcass contest will be conducted for beef, sheep, goats, and swine if data is available. Each animal entered in a market class will be entered. **Animals that have not submitted to ultrasound or beef that are taken home after the Fair are not eligible for the carcass contest.**
- 7. Market Sale Requests are **required** to be in the 4-H Office at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds **ONE HOUR after STEER, HOG, LAMB, OR GOAT MARKET CLASS ends.** A Sale Request Form will be provided to 4-H Club Leaders or FFA Chapter Advisor prior to beginning of Market Classes at Fair. Each 4-H Club or FFA Chapter **shall provide Livestock Division Superintendents** a list designating the ear tag numbers of the animals to be sold by each exhibitor in the market sale. Animal sale requests received after the deadline or last minute changes, if approved by species superintendant, will be sold at the end of the sale for that specific species. **Those second animals to be turned to the packer, and those to be custom processed or kept and removed at 6:00 p.m. on Monday of the Fair, must be designated to the Chairman of the Sale Committee by NOON on Sunday. There will be NO CHANGES after that time without the approval of the Sale Committee. Beef may be required to turn in 2nd animal destination sooner.** Animals that are to be kept and removed must first be released by the Division Superintendent.
- 8. Exhibitors are responsible for the care and maintenance of sale animals until 6:00 p.m. Monday, at which time they are required to remove feed, but provide a water supply. No animals will be released for take-out until approval is granted by the Division Superintendent. Animals held for a packer or to be taken home remain the responsibility of the owner. Exhibitors failing to comply to the satisfaction of the Division Superintendent may lose their Fair premiums. Decision by the Division Superintendent shall be final.
- 9. Each steer is to be left with a halter and neck rope. Identification tags will be available to identify halters and neck ropes. Each club or chapter should make arrangements to pick up such equipment the day following Fair closure or when the animals are being loaded for transporting to the packer.
- 10. The sale order will be made up with Grand and Reserve Grand Champion selling first and second, followed by the next top ranking animals. The following order will be made up based upon placing within each lot and ribbon grouping on a pro-rated basis.
- 11. Pictures of all market animals will be taken and the cost of the picture to be included in the basic deduction of the Sale Committee as described below. Each exhibitor is to deliver one of the two pictures taken to the purchaser of his/her animal **by October 31** following the Fair to be eligible to participate in the Market Sale the following year.

12. A deduction not to exceed 3-5 percent of each individual's sale receipt will be made to cover Sale Committee expenses. This amount will be determined by the Sale Treasurer based upon the gross sales and expenses of the Sale Committee. Expenses covered may include the cost of insurance, pictures, special ear tags, carcass data collection, USDA carcass data service, and ultrasound services. Payment for any market animal losses will be at the discretion of the Sale Committee, who will determine whether loss was through no fault of the exhibitor.
13. Exhibitors are responsible to get their own animal through the Sale in the published sale order. Exhibitors that are not ready with their animal when called will be either dropped from the Sale or sold at the end of their species, at the discretion of the Division Superintendent. The decision of the Superintendent is final.
14. **All** exhibitors must be appropriately dressed when selling their animals. The following 4-H dress code **WILL** be strictly enforced: Jeans or slacks with a LONG sleeve collared shirt or blouse that is tucked in. Shirts and blouses are to be buttoned to within 1 or 2 buttons from the top. Boots are HIGHLY recommended, but clean, heavy athletic shoes that are laced to the top and tied or a similar leather shoe can be substituted. NO baseball hats are to be worn in the sale ring. FFA members must show in official dress consisting of Black Pants, white collared shirt, FFA tie or scarf and FFA jacket. All clothing should be clean and in good repair. Jewelry is discouraged; it can be dangerous. Superintendent will monitor and those not appropriately dressed shall sell last within their species when they are appropriately dressed.
15. All steer exhibitors shall have a brand slip made out for hauling their animal from home to the fairgrounds. This brand slip shall be turned in to the Beef Superintendent prior to being weighed.
16. All animals shall remain the responsibility of the exhibitor from check-in on Wednesday until close of fair. Provided, however, should there be medications administered after the Sale for which the withdrawal period is not completed by close of fair, a meat inspection problem with a market animal that is clearly a result of earlier management such as drug residues, illegal substances, disease, inedible lesions in the meat, or any other condition that may lead to condemnation of the carcass, the exhibitor shall be responsible. The Sale Committee will negotiate resolution of value with the exhibitor and the buyer. All decisions by the Sale Committee are final.
17. All market livestock to be exhibited at fair and sold at the Junior Livestock auction in a 4-H/FFA project must be owned and cared for by the exhibitor as follows:
 - A. Market Steers by the annual Kittitas County Beef Pre-show/Clinic date.
 - B. Market Swine by the annual Swine Weigh-in date.
 - C. Market Lambs by the annual Sheep Pre-show/Clinic.
 - D. Market Goats by the annual Goat Pre-show/Clinic.
18. In the event of a disagreement concerning an animal's sale eligibility, the decision will be made in the superintendents' office by the Sale Committee chairman, the Master Veterinarian, the species superintendent, the Fair Board Director responsible for that species, and the Extension agent. All decisions must be made by 9am the day of the Sale.

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