

General Rules for Junior Division Exhibitors



EXHIBITOR CRITERIA:

- Junior Fair exhibitors must be members of 4H, FFA, or other recognized youth groups carrying out adult-supervised youth educational programs. The Fair Board must approve qualifying organizations not listed above.
- All youth must meet their organization's requirements for exhibiting.
- Junior exhibitor age requirements:
 - **4-H Cloverbuds or equivalent:** between 5K and 2nd Grade on October 1 the year before the Fair
 - **Junior Fair Exhibitors:**
 - Between 3rd Grade and 12th Grade on October 1 the year before the Fair.
 - Youth who have graduated from high school but are less than 20 years of age as of January 1 of the Fair year and meet youth group membership requirements are eligible to show in the Junior Division.

ENTRY INFORMATION:

- Entries need to be completed in the online Blue Ribbon portal at:
<https://www.BlueRibbonFair.com/BRFairProd/BlueRibbonStart.aspx?ID=1219>
- **Entries must be submitted and/or received by midnight on June 30.**
 - Entries not meeting that deadline will not be accepted. This will be strictly enforced.
 - Legitimate extenuating circumstances i.e. family emergency, illness, or injury, that result in missing the deadline may be appealed to the Fair Board.
- If entries cannot be made online for any reason, you must contact the Fair Data Entry Clerk to make other arrangements.
 - Fair Data Entry Clerk: Stacie Pienta. Email: staciepienta@gmail.com
- Corrections to Junior Fair entries may be made until July 31 by contacting the Fair Data Entry Clerk.
- Any ages or grades referenced for entry information within the premium book shall use January 1 of the current fair year as the date to determine qualifying age or grade, unless otherwise noted.
- The adult leader or advisor of a youth group should assist their members on how to read the premium book and enter correct entries based on the project areas they are able to enter in.
- Errors on entry tags made by the fair will be corrected and replaced with no penalty to the exhibitor. Entry errors made by the exhibitor will be judged but will receive an automatic 4th place (pink) award and will not be eligible for consideration for best of show, championship, or other awards.

CODE OF CONDUCT INFORMATION:

- All exhibitors must have a completed and signed Code of Conduct form submitted to the Fair Office prior to the start of the Fair.
 - Code of Conduct forms are accessible through:
 - Your 4H, FFA, or other organized youth group Leader.

- The Oconto County Youth Fair website.
- In person at the Fair Office during staffed hours.
- Code of Conduct forms can be submitted:
 - In person at the Fair Office during staffed hours.
 - By email: ocontocountyyouthfair@gmail.com

JUDGING INFORMATION:

- The Danish system of judging will be used for all Junior Fair classes except where indicated.
- Exhibits of Junior Fair exhibitors who are not present for face-to-face judging can be judged but may be penalized one place.
 - Exception: The penalty will not be assessed for exhibitors with valid reasons for being absent that are approved in advance by the leader/advisor and the fair secretary.
- Awards:
 - One (1) Best of Show award will be awarded to every non-animal department, except for Department 18, Cultural Arts, which will award three (3) Best of Shows.
 - One (1) Merit award may be awarded for each 25 entries in a class, in all non-animal departments, for exceptional entries that were not awarded Best of Show.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT INFORMATION:

- The Oconto County Fair's success depends heavily on its volunteers. As major beneficiaries, Junior Fair exhibitors are expected to contribute by assisting the Fair Board and other volunteers with Fair preparations, site maintenance, parking, and clean-up.
- **Junior Fair Exhibitor Volunteer Requirements:**
 - Mandatory Sign-Up: All Junior Fair exhibitors must sign up to volunteer for a minimum of three (3) hours using the Fair Board Sign Up tool.
 - The Sign Up tool will be made available on August 1st.
 - The Sign Up tool will be accessible on the Oconto County Youth Fair website and Facebook page.
 - Fair Week Availability: The Fair Board has various volunteer needs throughout the week, so exhibitors will be assigned shifts during the fair.
 - There will be no exceptions to this requirement.
- Volunteering is important because it teaches valuable life skills, builds community, and ensures the Fair's success. We appreciate your cooperation.

JUNIOR FAIR NON-ANIMAL EXHIBIT INFORMATION

This information and all requirements listed herein apply to all Junior Exhibitor Non-Animal Department Entries. For department specific information, please view the requirements listed in each department listing.

Dates and Times:

- The entry *and* judging date and time will be between 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday of the Fair
- The Fair Board is not responsible for missing or damaged exhibits.
- Non-animal Junior Fair exhibits must be picked up between 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Sunday of the Fair.

Exhibit Requirements:

- All entry tags must be securely attached to each exhibit.
- All entry tags must contain correct exhibitor and exhibit information.

Poster Requirements:

- All posters are to be 14" x 22" tag board unless otherwise specified.

- All entry tags should be fastened securely to the poster in the lower right hand corner.
- All posters must be dated on the back with the current fair year.
- All posters should be titled, labeled, and contain descriptive information as necessary to convey the desired message.

Scrapbook Requirements:

- All scrapbooks are to be 8½” x 11” or 12” x 12” in size unless otherwise specified.
- All scrapbooks must be 12 pages minimum, unless otherwise stated. This is 12 one-sided pages or 6 two-sided pages
- The scrapbook should describe the work done in the project.
- Pictures and sketches are encouraged.

Display Requirements:

- An display may be a slideshow, journal, collection, chart, display, video, or any other idea that shows your work in the best possible way.

Electronic Media and/or Equipment Requirements:

- The exhibitor must bring all required equipment to showcase their exhibit during Judging.
- It is encouraged that the exhibitor tests the functionality of the electronic media and/or equipment prior to Judging. If the electronic media and/or equipment is non-functional at the time of Judging, the exhibit cannot be judged, and the award will be forfeited.
- It is encouraged that the exhibitor brings the electronic media and/or equipment home after judging. The Fair Board is not responsible for missing or damaged exhibits and/or parts.
- The exhibitor must have something on paper to be left as a display.
 - This item will not be used for judging purposes.
 - This item must have the exhibitor’s entry tag affixed to it.

JUNIOR FAIR ANIMAL EXHIBIT INFORMATION

This information and all requirements listed herein apply to all Junior Exhibitor Animal Department Entries. For department specific information, please view the requirements listed in each department listing.

Dates and Times:

- See individual department listings for entry and show dates/times.
- Hours during which club animal exhibits are liable for herdsmanship judging are:
 - Friday and Saturday – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 - Sunday – 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Required Records or Documents:

- See individual department listings for a listing of all required records or documents needed at check-in. .
- Exhibitors must turn in record keeping documents from their project to the department Superintendent at check-in.
 - 4-H Project Record Book pages or FFA SAE Award Application qualifies.
 - Other record forms need to be submitted to the Fair Board in advance of the Fair for approval.
 - ‘Youth Livestock Project Record’ form (choose the correct grade) for Market Animals only.
 - ‘Livestock Managerial Project Agreement’ form if the animal is not owned by the exhibitor.
- All records must be fully completed, signed and provided to the department Superintendent at check-in or your animal will not be allowed entry to the fair.
- There are absolutely NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule.

Animal Health:

- All health requirements set by the State of Wisconsin DATCP must be met before the animals are allowed entry at the Fair.
 - The health requirements are outlined in the document titled 'Animal Health Regulations Fairs and Shows in Wisconsin'.
 - A copy of this document can be found on the Oconto County Youth Fair website or at <https://datcp.wi.gov/>
 - In the event that the information on the DATCP website is different than the information on the Oconto County Youth Fair website, the information on the DATCP website will always supersede.
- Exhibit animals showing signs of infectious diseases may not be entered.
- Exhibitors are to call their own veterinarian for emergency or non-emergency animal health issues with their exhibits while at the fair.
- Clubs or individuals not providing adequate care for their exhibit animals will be verbally warned by the department Superintendent. If the situation is not resolved after one warning, the Superintendent will refer the offender(s) to the Fair Board Livestock committee and the Fair Board which may order the animals removed from the fair if improved care is not provided.
- All exhibitors are responsible for feeding and watering their own animals and must maintain a level of cleanliness in their exhibit area.
 - Areas must be presentable between the hours of 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday of the Fair.
- See individual department listings for any department specific animal health requirements.

Animal Identification:

- See individual department listings for animal identification requirements.

Animal Show Rules:

- Only Oconto County Youth Fair Junior Fair exhibitors may lead or show animals in the show ring or on the judging table in both regular and championship classes.
- The wearing of clothing with a farm name or logo by exhibitors is prohibited in Junior Fair livestock judging classes.
- Tardy exhibitors in any class will be called to the ring or show table two times, after which judging the class will begin without the tardy exhibitors.
- Animals that cannot be controlled by the exhibitor will, at the direction of the superintendent and/or judge, be tied at the side of the ring to be judged or asked to be removed from the show ring or table.
- See individual department listings for any department specific animal show rules.

Animal Clipping and Grooming:

- Major body clipping and grooming needs to be done at home before the fair.
- Only final grooming and touch-up clipping is allowed on the fairgrounds.
- The exhibitor must be the primary groomer with assistance from other current Oconto County Youth Fair Junior exhibitors.
- Family members may help with an exhibitor's final grooming, especially at younger ages, but the exhibitor is expected to be the primary groomer and actively involved.
 - Family members include: parents/stepparents, legal guardians, siblings/step siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.
- Electrical equipment and power washers are not permitted in the wash rack areas.
- The Fair board may decide to limit the number of clipping chutes per club due to space.

Barn rules, decorations and displays:

- The Fair expects exhibitors to maintain neat displays, focus exhibits on displaying animals, and maintaining adequate alley space for safely moving animals, exhibitors and Fair visitors. To meet these goals:
 - Feed stored in the display area is limited to what space allows. Additional feed may be stored in trailers in designated parking areas.
 - Club show boxes may be placed at the outside of gates on ends of the barn.
 - All exhibitors are expected to keep their exhibit areas clean, alleys clear, and the barn in a generally organized and cleanly state.
- Animal exhibit decorations:
 - A 16-inch wide, continuous background plywood strip is provided over all animal exhibit areas. This strip is the only area that is to be used for animal ID and decorations.
 - Decorative panels that are close to 16 inches wide may be attached to the background strip.
 - Decorations may also be attached directly to the plywood strip.
 - Electric lights are prohibited as part of exhibit decorations.
 - Floor displays in the dairy, beef, swine, sheep, and goat barns are prohibited to ensure adequate space for livestock exhibits.
- There will be no FLOOR FANS allowed in the animal barns. If you are found to have a fan on the floor, the exhibitor and exhibit may be asked to leave the fair.
- All barns will be closed and locked from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. or until superintendents arrive at the barn.
- Absolutely no one - exhibitor, parent, or chaperone - will be allowed to stay in the barns overnight.
- Power washers are not allowed and cannot be used at the fair.
- See individual department listings for any department specific barn or display rules.

SALE OF CHAMPIONS ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

All entry requirements must be met by date or deadline. If not met, Exhibitors may show but will not qualify for Sale of Champions.

Please see individual department listings for any department specific Sale of Champion rules.

Exhibitors must have completed and turned all required paperwork to the department Superintendent on check-in day. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.**

Exhibitors must have entered and participated in the appropriate showmanship class for his/her grade in the department of the qualifying animal.

To qualify to sell in the Sale of Champions, exhibitors of Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, and Swine are required to participate in the *Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)* training program and fulfill all *Educational Point* requirements prior to the start of the Fair. Please see those requirements in next section.

Exhibitors must meet all exhibit weigh-in requirements (if applicable) and performance standards.

Exhibitors may sell only one (1) item in the Sale of Champions.

- An exhibitor with a qualifying champion or reserve champion must sell the champion.
- An exhibitor with a qualifying champion and a reserve champion must sell the champion.
- An exhibitor with two qualifying champions or two reserve champions will decide which exhibit to sell.
- Exhibitors qualifying with more than one non-champion/reserve entry will decide which exhibit to sell.

- When an exhibitor qualifies more than one entry for the Sale, the next ranked qualifying entry in the class not sold from the same show will be eligible to sell.
- Exhibitors who must decide what entry to sell must report their decision to the department superintendent or Fair Board no later than one hour following the end of the last animal show of the fair.
- If the exhibitor does not comply, the Fair Board will make the decision.

Exhibitor can sell either a cake at the Youth Cake Auction OR in the Sale of Champions, but will only receive sale funds for one. The exhibitor must let the Fair Board know which project is chosen for sale by noon on the Saturday of the Fair (2 hours prior to the start of the Youth Cake Auction).

Market Animal Requirements:

Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring the safety and wholesomeness of the meat animals they are producing and exhibiting.

- The exhibitor will be responsible for financial losses incurred due to the condemnation of carcasses for illegal residues and may be liable for additional sanctions under state and federal regulations.
- The Fair Board Livestock committee and the Fair Board may, at their discretion, order testing of tissue samples from animals sold at the Sale of Champions for illegal residues at the expense of the exhibitor.

Exhibitors selling in the Sale of Champions will receive the bid amount for their exhibit minus a commission percentage pre-determined by the Fair Board. The Fair Board will provide the commission percentage no earlier than 30 days prior to the first day of the Fair, by request only. The commission percentage covers awards, advertising, and other expenses of the performance project and sale. Exhibitors will be paid as soon as all auction payments are received, expenses are calculated, and the percentage is deducted.

EDUCATIONAL POINT REQUIREMENT INFORMATION

What are educational points? The county fair is a showcase event for animal project exhibitors, but these projects are expected to be learning and development activities for exhibitors; not just showing up for the four days of the fair. Educational points are earned throughout the year by participating in activities that increase members' knowledge of raising and showing project animals.

Who needs educational points? Exhibitors showing animals in the Junior Fair Division at the County Fair are required to document participation in a minimum of three (3) programs/activities in order to be eligible to sell in the Sale of Champions. Eligibility to show at the Fair is not affected by educational points. While all animal project exhibitors are strongly encouraged to meet this requirement, not doing so only affects an exhibitor's eligibility to sell a project in the Sale of Champions if they should otherwise qualify.

How many educational points are needed? Exhibitors must earn points for a minimum of three (3) different educational activities each year to meet this requirement. No duplicate activities will be counted. (For example, showing at three shows does not count as three points--this would be counted as one point.) At least one point must be species specific. (For example, youth showing rabbits must participate in at least one activity that is rabbit focused, dairy project youth must earn at least one dairy point, etc.). The minimum requirement for all exhibitors is three points. Exhibitors showing in more than three animal departments would be eligible to sell in all departments in which they qualify as long as they meet the three-point minimum. Completion of the YQCA program would count as one point for any of the species for which it is required. Educational points for the county fair can be earned any time from the day after the end of the previous fair through the date of check-in for this year's fair. (This would be Saturday or Sunday before the fair for horse and dog obedience exhibitors respectively, and Thursday of the fair for all other animal exhibitors.)

What counts as educational points? Activities must fall into the following categories to count for points. These are the only activities that will be accepted for eligibility for the Sale of Champions. Activities that do not fall into these categories will not count unless pre-approved by the Oconto County Youth Fair Board. Plan ahead to be sure this requirement is met before fair time.

1. Attend animal project workshops hosted by 4-H project leaders, agriculture education instructors, the Fair Youth Animal Project Committee, and/or UW-Extension.
2. Teach a session at an animal project workshop or give a demonstration about your animal project at the county, club, or chapter level.
3. Complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA). **This point is required for beef, dairy, dairy goat, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine exhibitors** and would count as one point for any one of the above species.
4. Participate in an animal-related 4-H and FFA livestock, dairy, equine, poultry, veterinary science, or small animal judging team by attending practices and a contest (4-H Area Animal Science Day or FFA CDEs).
5. Successfully complete a semester high school agriculture education course on livestock, dairy, equine, small animal production or veterinary science with a grade of C or better.
6. Exhibit dairy, livestock, or small animals at the Wisconsin State Fair, or horses at the State 4-H Horse Show. Exhibit animals at a district or state junior or open show (examples: Northeast Jr. Livestock Show, WLBA Spring Preview Show, Northeast District 4-H Horse Association Open Show, district or state Holstein or colored breed dairy cattle shows, World Dairy Expo or World Beef Expo junior or open shows). Multiple shows in a species can only count as one point.
7. Watch an organized junior or open show (must watch the show - just attending another county fair does not count).
8. Attend an animal-focused camp (examples: Badger Dairy Camp, 4-H Livestock Show Camp).
9. Volunteer with animals (examples: Humane Society, volunteer work at a show).
10. Participate in UW-Extension, technical college, or industry-sponsored workshop, seminar or other program on animal nutrition, reproduction, health, facilities, etc.

All out-of-county activities require paperwork signed for proof of attendance/participation. When participating in events outside the county, get the signature of a person coordinating the event, a project leader who is also attending, or someone who can validate attendance at the activity. The participation form is available from the UW-Extension Office or online at <http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>

Interested in sponsoring a training program? UW-Extension educators, agriculture education instructors, and the Youth Animal Project Committee are available to help clubs/chapters, individuals or families that wish to sponsor training programs. Contact one of the above for materials or assistance.

Questions? Questions about the educational point requirement can be directed to the Fair Board President.