

RUSK COUNTY LIVESTOCK MARKET PROJECT RULES

Any Rusk County youth organization member, grade 3 through 13 (ATCP 160.4(1)), may participate if enrolled in any of the following projects: beef steer, dairy steer, sheep, goat, or swine. All enrollments are due to the UW-Extension Office by January 31.

PURPOSE

1. To create an incentive for Rusk County youth organization members to participate in the livestock projects.
2. To provide an educational experience for all Rusk County youth organization members to enhance personal growth, responsibility, and gain knowledge of the livestock industry.
3. To provide Rusk County youth organization members with an economic return; but this may not be representative of the real livestock industry.
4. To provide an educational activity -- **LEARN BY DOING**—that allows Rusk County youth organization members to raise a livestock project from a young animal to the final market product.
5. To provide the participant with knowledge on how to maintain records and production of the animal(s).
6. To provide the participants with encouragement for good sportsmanship/ethics; to share knowledge and skills; and to develop a good mental attitude towards the livestock project and industry.
7. To provide Rusk County youth organization members with information to help improve in club exhibits and herdsmanship.

GENERAL RULES FOR THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT

1. The Livestock Committee reserves the right to limit the number of animals in the project sale at the time of the sale.
2. The number of animals in the project sale has been limited to: (25) steers, (30) swine, (10) sheep, and (2) goats for a total of 67 possible animals in the sale.
3. Members selling animals at the auction must have **one year** previous livestock project experience.
 - A 1st year member may sell his/her animal only if he/she receives Reserve or Grand Champion in his/her species.
 - A 1st year member is eligible to participate in all aspects of the livestock project, with the exception of the auction, unless Reserve or Grand Champion in his/her species.
 - A 1st year member must complete all requirements of the livestock project, excluding the auction, for successful completion of the 1st year. (Reference rule #32 for requirements)
4. All animals must be in exhibitor's possession by initial weigh-in.
5. All animals must have some form of positive Rusk County livestock project identification assigned to a specific individual. Animals will be required to have (2) Rusk County identification tags. (Plastic scrapie tags for sheep and RFID tags for pigs are an acceptable form of identification.)

6. In the event that one identification tag is lost, the project leader or UW-Extension Office must be notified at once and replacement identification will be made. If both tags are reported lost that animal is disqualified. If it is determined that tags have been tampered with, the project member will be disqualified from the project permanently.
7. Shared Animal – “Floater Animal Rule” – If siblings within one family weigh in one animal per sibling, they may share one additional animal with their other siblings for their second animal. Any sibling that weighs in more than one animal is not eligible. The floater must be designated at the final weigh-in with the name of the final exhibitor.
8. All male animals in the Livestock Project must be castrated prior to the initial weigh-in date. Animals that are determined to have incomplete or late castration will not be weighed in or sold.
9. Project members must designate their livestock project animal immediately following the weigh in of their animals. A member’s second animal will be shown in the non-market livestock class, and it must, if it is a pig, share a pen with the member’s other animal. Members are also responsible for their non-market animal and what happens to them on Sunday.
10. All animals must be weighed in on entry day of the fair by the specific time indicated for each species. Normal consumption of feed and water is allowed; however, NO forced feeding or withdrawal of food is permitted.
11. In the event that an animal does not make weight, this animal will be shown in the non-auction market class and will also be judged at the carcass show in the non-auction carcass class.
12. Project members at initial weigh-in may weigh one or more species but only one species is to be entered in Junior Fair Market Class.
13. Legal withdrawal periods of specific drugs used must be followed. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of sale money, premiums, and awards. Only legal drugs that are approved by the veterinarian will be allowed on the fairgrounds. Release statements are necessary for feed additives and/or implants. These release statements are due at the time of unloading the animal(s) at the fairgrounds.
14. Signed attendance sheets furnished to the participant(s) must be completed and turned in by July 22nd. Any signed sheets or documentation showing your attendance at meetings other than those sponsored by the committee, are your responsibility to get to the UW-Extension Office or a Livestock Committee member on or before July 22nd. We cannot keep track of meetings outside of our county and need you to provide documentation.
15. Minimum requirement of (3) bidder forms from legitimate bidders are due to the UW-Extension Office on July 22nd but picked up for signature no earlier than July 1st.
16. In the event that an animal, which is not eligible for the livestock sale, is named champion or reserve champion, a champion or reserve champion will also be named from those animals eligible for the livestock sale.
17. The exhibitor is personally responsible for feeding, fitting, showing, and caring for his/her animal before, during, and after the show until the animal leaves the fairgrounds. The exhibitor must also be accessible to the barn superintendent for barn duty during the fair.

18. Cleaning of pens or stalls after the fair is the responsibility of the project member. All members must have pen or stall cleanliness approved by the barn superintendent by 5:00 p.m. If the barn superintendent, along with livestock committee representatives find that cleanliness does not meet approval, the project member will forfeit \$100 from their sale check for cleanup of their area. Any money collected as a result, will be used to establish a scholarship fund.
19. Pen Reservation: All livestock project members pens will be grouped together. Pens will be clearly marked. NO switching will be permitted unless approved by the barn superintendent. Pen reservations will be held at the Rusk County Fairgrounds on the Monday of Fair Week. Time will be announced.
20. Buyer thank you letters and livestock project financial records must be completed, in the member's own handwriting, and turned into the Barn Superintendent(s) by **11:00 a.m. on the last day of the fair.**
21. All Rusk County youth organization members may only sell a maximum of **one** animal at the market sale.
22. Sale Commissions will be assessed to cover the costs incurred conducting the sale, such as promotions, sale catalogs, etc.
23. Exhibitors and family members are entitled to one bid only on their animal during the sale.
24. Once an animal is sold, it becomes the property of the buyer. However, the exhibitor has the responsibility of caring for said animal until it leaves the fairgrounds.
25. Private sale signs cannot go up until 7:00 p.m. Saturday night after the auction is complete.
26. Final disposition of the animal will be at the buyer's discretion, except the sale champions. The sale champions must be sent to the carcass show. A designated site will be announced for the carcass show. All project animals will go to the designated carcass show site, unless the buyer indicates otherwise, prior to loading time on Sunday, to the livestock committee.
27. If for any reason your animal carcass or portion of the carcass is condemned, the seller (project member) is responsible to provide the buyer with a carcass or portion of a carcass, of comparable size or value.
28. **NOTE:** Once a Project Animal is weighed in at the final weigh-in at the Fairgrounds, the animal **CANNOT BE REMOVED** from the Fairgrounds. This rule applies to all Livestock Market Sale Animals. If the exhibitor chooses to remove such animal, the exhibitor **WILL NOT** be eligible to exhibit or show in the Rusk County Livestock Project the following year. Such removal will result in forfeiting **ALL** premiums, ribbons, and trophies. If a project animal needs to be removed from the fairgrounds for any reason, the exhibitor needs a veterinarian's approval.
29. Any unruly animal that may cause safety issues can be disqualified from the project at the final weigh-in, show, and/or sale at the discretion of the Livestock Committee.
30. Parents are encouraged to be present when their son/daughter is showing an animal in the livestock project. Parents and other adults are not allowed in the show ring, unless asked to assist by a barn superintendent.

31. Buyers are integral to the market animal sale and are to be treated with utmost respect by participants and their families. There will be zero tolerance of any badgering, harassment, etc. of buyers by either participants or their families (including, but not limited to, parents, siblings, grandparents and step family members).
32. For the year to qualify as a year in the livestock project, all project members must:
- Attend one of the orientations.
 - Turn in a Code of Ethics form.
 - Attend/complete initial weigh-in for their species.
 - Attend at least (2) livestock education meetings or events and document attendance on the Livestock Project Education Sheet with proper signatures. The Livestock Committee must approve any alternatives to the educational meetings offered by the committee by June 15 of the project year. All signed attendance sheets furnished to the participant (s) must be completed and turned in to the UW-Extension Office by July 22nd. If the participant does not attend meeting(s)/workshop(s), it will disqualify his/her animal from the sale.
 - Attend or complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals training as one of their educational meetings.
 - Pick up (no earlier than July 1st) and turn in at least three (3) bidder sheets to the UW-Extension Office by July 22nd.
 - Attend final weigh-in during the Rusk County Junior Fair
 - Participate in the showmanship contest for their respective species at the Rusk County Jr. Fair.
 - Be in attendance with their animal before, during, and after the auction from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
 - Livestock Project Financial Records furnished to the participant must be completed, in the member's own handwriting, and turned in to the barn superintendent by **11:00 a.m. on the last day of the fair.**
 - A Buyer Thank-you note in an addressed, stamped envelope must be turned in to the barn superintendent by **11:00 a.m. on the last day of the fair.**
33. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE RULES WILL SUBJECT THE EXHIBITOR TO REPRIMANDS BY THE LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE AND/OR FAIR BOARD. THESE REPRIMANDS MAY INCLUDE INELIGIBILITY TO SELL IN THE AUCTION, LOSING PRIVILEGES TO SHOW IN THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT THE FOLLOWING YEAR, OR FUTURE ELIGIBILITY TO BE A PART OF THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT.

INCENTIVE PROGRAM

All incentive award programs will be based on the following:

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| 1. | Grand Champion | Live Grade |
| 2. | Reserve Grand Champion | Live Grade |
| 3. | Champion Rate of Gain | |
| 4. | Champion of Carcass | |
| 5. | Project Financial Record Award | |

Awards will be presented to the winner of each category.

SHOWMANSHIP

To be eligible to participate in the sale, the exhibitor must participate in the showmanship contest for their respective species* at the county fair. Proper clothing attire should be followed for each species.

- *Respective species:
1. Animal must be owned by participant
 2. Species that is sold at the sale
(Dairy steer exhibitors may show beef breeding stock or a beef steer)

CARCASS SHOW

1. All animals will be entered in the carcass show unless designated by the buyer.
(See general rule #26)
2. All sale participants and exhibitors are encouraged to attend the carcass show.

APPRECIATION DINNER

The Rusk County Livestock Committee will host the appreciation dinner for all buyers, bidders, and all exhibitors and their families in the livestock project.

EXCEPTION (S) TO THE RULES:

The individual must be present with his/her own animal in the sale ring the day it is sold. Realizing that there may be circumstances out of the control of the seller, the current Livestock Committee will have the authority to give or deny permission in certain cases for a substitute person to perform such duties. (Example: funeral, death in the family, etc)

RULES FOR BEEF AND DAIRY STEERS EXHIBITORS

1. All beef and dairy steers must be born on or after January 1, 2018.
2. All beef and dairy steers must attend the initial weigh-in at the Rusk County Fair Grounds.
 - Weigh-In: January 26, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
 - Snow Date: February 2, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
3. Three steers may be weighed in and registered.
4. All males must be castrated prior to the initial weigh-in.
5. Minimum weights at the final weigh-in are:
 - Beef: **1125 pounds.**
 - Dairy: **1200 pounds**
 - Minimum rate of gain is **1.8 pounds per day.**
6. All steers must be dehorned prior to initial weigh-in.
7. No nose rings or leads.
8. Any beef breed or beef crossbred will be considered a Beef Steer. A Dairy Steer shall be from the Dairy herd.

RULES FOR SHEEP EXHIBITORS

1. All Spring Lambs (male or female) must be born on or after January 1, 2019.
2. All lambs must attend the initial weigh-in at the Rusk County Fair Grounds.
 - Weigh-In: April 27, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.
3. Three lambs may be weighed in and registered.
4. All males must be castrated prior to the initial weigh-in.
5. Weight Requirements:
 - Minimum weight at the final weigh-in will be **110 pounds.**
 - There will be no maximum weight limit.
 - Minimum rate of gain is **0.4 pounds per day.**
6. All lambs must have a scrapies tag prior to arriving at spring weigh-ins.

RULES FOR GOAT EXHIBITORS

1. All Spring Kids (male or female) must be born on or after January 1, 2019.
2. All kids must attend the initial weigh-in at the Rusk County Fair Grounds.
 - Weigh-In: April 27, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.
3. Three kids may be weighed in and registered.
4. All males must be castrated prior to the initial weigh-in.
5. Weight Requirements:
 - Minimum weight at the final weigh-in will be 65 pounds.
 - There will be no maximum weight limit.
 - There is no rate of gain requirement.
6. All kids must have a scrapies tag prior to arriving at spring weigh-ins.

(Note: Only goat animals selected as Grand and Reserve Champion will be sold at the sale.)

RULES FOR SWINE EXHIBITORS

1. All Barrows or Gilts must be born on or after January 25, 2019.
2. We have eliminated the initial weigh-in. Each exhibitor will be required to send photos and completed informational card by May 1, 2019. This information along with the official ear tags will be provided to the exhibitor at YQCA.
3. A total of three barrows and/or gilts can be registered.
7. Weight Requirements:
 - Maximum weight at initial registration is 80 pounds.
 - Minimum weight at the final weigh-in will be 230 pounds.
 - There will be no maximum weight limit.
 - There is no rate of gain requirement.
4. All males must be castrated prior to initial registration.
5. The Rusk County Junior Fair is a terminal fair so all swine brought to the fairgrounds must be sent to slaughter on the last day of the fair.

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