



# **RIO BLANCO COUNTY FAIR**

## **4-H & FFA JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW & SALE RULE BOOK**

Amended April 30, 2020



# 4-H/FFA Junior Livestock Show & Sale Rules

The following rules and regulations are general and apply to all 4-H/FFA livestock projects. It is the responsibility of each Rio Blanco County Fair participant to be familiar with all rules about their projects.

## Exhibitor Eligibility Requirements

1. 4-H/FFA members in Rio Blanco County will be allowed to sell livestock in the Junior Livestock Sale provided that they meet age requirements of 4-H enrollment, have attended 50% of primary club meetings, are in good standing with the county or state rules and regulations, have maintained adequate management of their livestock project, and have shown the animal in a market and showmanship class at the Fair.
2. 4-H/FFA members registered in a specific division and have tagged in those animals through the weigh-in process will be required to show through the 4-H/FFA program. If a 4-H/FFA exhibitor chooses to bring a livestock project to enter into an open class, it must not be tagged for the junior market show and must not be kept in any 4-H/FFA record books.
3. All livestock exhibitors competing in 4-H/FFA shows are required to sign and submit a **Liability Waiver** before they can show. If the liability waiver has not been received, the exhibitor will NOT be allowed to participate.
4. 4-H/FFA exhibitors must show and sell their own animals. No substitutions will be allowed.
5. Registration is required for all livestock projects. **Late entries will be charged a \$10 late fee per entry.**
6. All 4-H/FFA age requirements are as of December 31 of the previous year.

**Junior: 8-10 Years, Intermediate: 11-13 Years, Senior: 14-18 Years**

## Official Weigh-In Requirements (4-H/FFA Only)

7. Scales are not available to weigh animals from Monday of Fair week until time of official weigh-in.
8. Animals will be weighed one time. That will be during the official weigh-in. Weight is based on actual scale reading at the time of official weigh-in. If an animal does not meet the minimum weight, the animal will be taken off the scales and immediately re-weighed a second time. Animals not meeting the minimum weight qualifications will be placed into the feeder class and will not be eligible for the Sale.
9. 4-H/FFA animals may not leave the grounds once they have been weighed in.
10. Beef exhibitors will need to have their Bill of Sale with them at the weigh-in. **BEEF CANNOT BE SOLD WITHOUT THE BILL OF SALE** - be sure to give it to the brand inspector when you weigh-in.
11. **Because of a federal mandate, all youth will turn in a health history form on each market animal for the past 60 days.** Health forms are available in the Extension Office and **WILL BE REQUIRED AT THE OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN.**
12. Wash racks will be closed during all weigh-in
13. All Species have **Minimum Weight Requirements.**

**Beef:** Standard size 1050 lbs.

**Swine:** 230 lbs.

**Sheep:** 100 lbs.

**Goat:** 60 lbs.

**Turkey:** 14 lbs.

**Rabbit:** Fryers 3.5-5.5 lbs

Single Roaster 5.6+lbs.

**Chicken:** Fryers 3-5.9 lbs.

Roasters over 6+ lbs.

**Duck:** 4 lbs.

**Geese:** 10 lbs.

**Game Bird Pheasant:** 1 lb.

**Game Bird Chukar/Partridge:** 12 oz.

**Game Bird Quail:** 3.5 oz.

**Note: When showing a pen of 3 rabbits or poultry, all entries must weigh between the minimum and maximum for fryer weights, and all entries must be over the minimum for roaster weight, or the entry pen will not be eligible for the Junior Livestock Sale.**

### **General Livestock Rules**

14. The officials of the Rio Blanco County Fair will abide by the general rules and division rules in all decisions affecting the Beef, Goats, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, and Rabbit Divisions for 4-H & FFA Market and Breeding Livestock Shows.
15. Fair Board has the authority to disqualify any exhibitor, not meeting the requirements set by the rules and regulations.
16. Rio Blanco County, the Fair Board, staff, and volunteers will, in no case, be held responsible for any loss or damage that may occur to any livestock or article exhibited. The Fair Board assumes no responsibility for injuries or accidents to spectators or exhibitors.
17. Judges must not award prizes to unworthy exhibits. Where the classes are not filled, the Judges, at their discretion, may award placings as they see fit.
18. The Rio Blanco Fair Board reserves the right to perform residue testing on any market animal.
19. The barn lights will be turned off at 10:00 p.m. every night.
20. Any questions concerning the rules of the Rio Blanco County Fair should be directed to a Fair Board Member or an Extension Agent.
21. 4-H members who turn in a Record Book that receives a White Ribbon or lower will be required to take a class and/or upgrade their Record Book at home to red ribbon quality or better by January 1 to be eligible to enroll and participate in ANY livestock projects the following year. The Extension Office will send a notification to all exhibitors who receive a White Ribbon or lower for their record book.
22. Exhibitors in 4-H/FFA must own their own livestock. Livestock shown in market divisions shall not be eligible to be shown in breeding classes.
23. Entries not in position when the final call is given, will not be eligible to show.
24. Market animals must be tagged as directed by CSU Extension.
25. Rio Blanco County 4H/FFA youth may retag an animal into their name by June 30; however, another Rio Blanco County 4-H/FFA youth member must have previously tagged in that animal by the official tag in date. The Extension Office must be notified with a bill of sale no later than June 30.
26. 4-H/FFA exhibitors may tag in as many animals as they wish per species by the original weigh-in date. However, exhibitors may only bring Two animals per species to the RBC County Fair for the official weigh-in. Exhibitors may sell two animals but not more than one of any species in the sale.
27. Non-sale animals will be released no earlier than 8:00 p.m. on the day of the RBC Livestock sale.

### **Stall Rules**

28. Exhibitors are required to reserve stalls through the County Extension Office no later than TWO (2) weeks before the scheduled date for a time in which all livestock, poultry, and rabbits must be stalled.
29. All market livestock, poultry, and rabbits must be stalled no later than Noon on the scheduled official weigh-in date for the county fair.

30. Stall Fees will only be accessed through sale animals. Sale Animals will be charged a flat rate fee to be taken out of the sale check. Those fees are non-refundable and used for the purpose of pens and building improvements as seen necessary by the RBC Fair Board. The fee schedule is as follows:
  - Livestock species to include Beef, Sheep, Goat, and Swine \$10.00 per sale animal.
  - All Poultry and Rabbits will be charged \$5.00 per pen or animal sold.
31. Approved indoor stall bedding materials include wood chips, carpet, lining material, and or bare ground.
32. Exhibitors are required to keep all pens clean throughout the RBC County Fair.
33. Free choice water must be available at all times to all livestock, poultry, and rabbits.
  - Nipple drinkers will be required for all swine stalls.
  - The use of buckets and or rubber pans are prohibited for water consumption in all swine stalls.
34. No animal will be allowed to leave without the approval of a species Superintendent.
35. Any animal removed from the Premises during the RBC County fair without prior approval will forfeit the right to participate in any market classes and RBC Livestock Sale.
36. Exhibitors are required to clean all stalls and remove any bedding or additional material used within a stall by Noon the following day after the completion of the RBC Livestock Sale. Once stalls have been cleaned, exhibitors will be required to have their pens checked off for approval by either the Superintendent, Extension Agent, or a current Fair Board member.
37. Exhibitors that do not clean his/her stalls will be charged an additional \$25.00 per stall. That payment amount will be reflected in his or her sale checks.
38. **It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to protect his/her livestock or small animal projects.** Exhibitors are responsible for keeping all bedding and feed free from neighboring animal's reach. Muzzles may be used on livestock as long as not to prevent an animal from free choice water.

### **Livestock Care & Fitting Rules**

39. All animals must be healthy and free from all infectious diseases, fungus, and or ringworm upon arriving at the fairground. If an animal appears to have any health issues, a Veterinary inspection must be presented (dated as of the day of fair arrival) before the animal is unloaded. Any animals that cannot meet this requirement will be asked to leave the premises for biosecurity purposes.
40. Market heifers must not be pregnant on the day of the show. Market heifers are required to provide a Veterinarian inspection upon the official weigh-in proving the animal is not bred.
41. NO ICE should be in the water or used in any way to cool animals.
42. NO Oral medication, body altering products, or liquid feeding/tubing (including liquid protein feed) will be allowed. Products prescribed for health reasons by a veterinarian are accepted. If in doubt, please clear with Fair Board or Superintendent.
43. Following the completion of the official weigh-in drenching for the sole purpose of hydration may be used. Only water and electrolytes will be permitted via a drench gun or pour on. A Fair Board member or Superintendent must be present.
44. You are responsible for your animal's care until it has shipped or has been taken to its final destination.
45. In certain circumstances, the following are acceptable grooming aids and will be allowed: Soaps/Shampoos/Conditioners; Hair Sprays; Wax; Show Sheens; Hoof Paints; Show Foams & Adhesives. In poultry, such items as Vaseline, Blue Ribbon RX, and Baby Wipes are permitted.
46. 4-H/FFA members will not be allowed to use any products that alter the conformation and structure of an

animal either by unethical fitting or prohibited substances. Unethical fitting and prohibited substances would be defined as: ALTERATION OF CONFORMATION AND STRUCTURE BY PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE OR UNETHICAL FITTING. Prohibited substance and/or unethical fitting defined as: the injections, use, or administration of any drug that is prohibited by Federal, State, or Local Law, or any drug that is used in a manner prohibited by Federal, State, or Local Law; the injection or internal or external administration of any product or material, whether gas, solid, or liquid, to an animal for the purpose of deception, including concealing, enhancing, or transforming the true conformation, configuration, color, breed, condition or age or by making the animal appear more sound than otherwise would appear; the administration, use, or application of any drug or feed additive affecting the central nervous system; the administration of diuretics for cosmetic purposes, tissue manipulation, removal, surgical attachment or otherwise to change, conceal, enhance, or transform the true conformation or configuration of the animal; attaching to the hide foreign objects including hair or hair substitutes, cloth or fiber for the purpose of deception; any physical or physiological attempt to alter the natural musculature or weight by use of injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health or marketability of beef, sheep, swine, or goat carcasses or for deception. Members will not be allowed to use any and all artificial enhancements or artificial dies or body altering products. Items such as diesel, ice, tail fins, or any artificially glued on hair products are strictly prohibited.

47. The use of any grooming material which produces artificial color that may be detected by rubbing with a cloth or glove, use of hair or hair-like substance, cloth or fiber anywhere on the animal, ineligible age or illegal substitution of animals, isolates these rules and will result in the immediate disqualification with no recourse. The natural color of any beef animal cannot be altered using any artificial coloring. However, products that match a beef animal's natural color may be used in the fitting process from the knees and hocks down and on the switch only. For example, black products may be used on a black-legged animal, red on a red animal, and white on a white legged animal. But under no circumstances can color be used to cover an animal's natural color.
48. Market Beef, Sheep, and Goat projects must be show ready clipped prior to fair arrival. Final clipping on legs/heads for sheep and goats and any touchups are acceptable to all livestock species. Animals not showing evidence of this will not be allowed on the premises and will be sent home. They may return after having been clipped; however, **you must be stalled by Noon on the official weigh-in date.**
49. There will be **no clipping of swine** projects at the Fair.
50. 4-H/FFA exhibitors are required to fit their own projects for the RBC fair. However, 4-H/FFA members may receive assistance from one of the approved sources listed below:
  - Another RBC 4-H/FFA member in current good standing
  - RBC 4-H/FFA Leader in current good standing
  - RBC immediate family member (i.e., Father/Mother/Legal Guardian or Sibling(s))If an exhibitor is caught receiving help from an outside source not approved in the bulleted list above, that exhibitor will be required to forfeit their right to show and sell that project.
51. After the completion of a species show, all livestock exhibits must be washed, cleaned, and free of all grooming products.

### **Market, Breeding, and Showmanship Rules**

52. Livestock entries must be trained to lead and must be led into the ring for judging.

53. Livestock entrants must pick up their exhibitor number at the Fair office prior to their classes. Exhibitors are required to wear their number while in the show ring.
54. Market classes will be approximately ten head or less per heat. Class breaks will be completed after the official weigh-in process by the Species Superintendent and Fair Board.
55. Market classes are divided by weight. All animals that do not make weight can be shown as a feeder.
56. Exhibitors in the 4-H Livestock division are required to follow the RBC Fair dress code before they will be allowed in the show ring or sale ring. Dress code includes the following:
  - All livestock exhibitors are required to wear appropriate show attire in the Showring and during the Sale. Shorts, tank tops, low-cut shirts, sheer blouses, flip flops, t-shirts, shirts with inappropriate messages or logos, ball caps, hats, or bare midriffs are not acceptable attire and may not be worn in the Showring and during the Sale.
  - Recommended dress is as follows: long or short sleeved, button-down shirt or blouse, clean jeans or slacks with a belt. Hard-soled, closed-toe shoes or boots are recommended to protect the feet.
  - Rabbits, Chickens and Turkeys: jeans or slacks and long-sleeved shirts are preferred for safety.
  - Fair management may refuse anyone improperly dressed entering into the Showring and Sale ring until said exhibitor is appropriately dressed.
57. All exhibitors will uphold the standards set forth by the Colorado State University 4-H guidelines regarding appropriate dress code and code of conduct during the entire Fair. Those found breaking these guidelines will be asked to leave Fair premises until they have adhered to the guidelines.
58. Showmanship classes will be required to be eligible for the Junior Livestock Sale. Showmanship classes will be divided into heats. When entries exceed ten head, the heats will be divided randomly. (Note: Showmanship is required to participate in the Sale.) Showmanship heats will be judged for all age groups (senior, intermediate, and junior), followed by the Championship Showmanship rounds for each age division.
59. In the event a 4-H/FFA member has more than one animal in a market class, another RBC 4-H/FFA member in good standing must show the additional animal. Only RBC 4-H/FFA members may show in 4-H/FFA Classes.
60. 4-H requirements: If a junior member (under 14) needs assistance, for safety or educational reasons, anyone may assist. If assistance is provided, the 4-H member enrolled in the project must be present. Seniors may have assistance from other Rio Blanco County 4-H or FFA youth only.
61. Sheep & Goat front feet may be lifted for front foot placement only. Sheep and Goats may not be lifted off the ground for bracing, judge handling, or leading. The animal must bear its weight 100% throughout the show. Sheep and Goats front feet must bear its complete weight on the ground only.
62. 4-H/FFA members may show any of their own identified animals in Showmanship.
63. Only one 4-H/FFA exhibitor/entry is needed to make a class in Showmanship, Market, and Breeding.

#### **4-H/FFA Junior Livestock Sale Rules**

64. Open class entries will not be allowed to sell in the Junior Livestock Sale.
65. Any animal deemed unsafe will be asked to be removed from the fairground facilities.
66. Members may not place a "for sale" sign on any pen/stall at any time during the Fair.
67. Beef, sheep, swine, goats, and pens of rabbits and poultry will be sold at the Livestock Sale. Sale entries are limited to 4-H/FFA projects. Youth may sell two animals but not more than one of any species at the Sale. Poultry is limited to chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks and game birds. In the case of Poultry and

- Rabbits, a meat pen of 3 is considered one animal. No more than two animals/projects can be sold by a youth. All beef, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, and rabbits will be sold by the head, not by the pound.
68. All Grand Champion market will sell first, followed by the Reserve Champions. Individual order will be determined by placing.
  69. Animals that are being sold must be reported to the show ring desk within 30 Minutes after that species show has ended. Please stop by the show ring desk ASAP to nominate your sale animals. An exhibitor's highest placing animal will be sold if no animal is nominated by the exhibitor.
  70. Non-Market Ready Animals - Animals that appear at the official weigh-in to not meet market ready standards will be subject to review by a panel consisting of the Species Superintendent and the Fair Board. This panel will determine the animal's market readiness and eligibility for the Junior Livestock Sale. These animals, regardless of the weight, will not be able to be sold at the Junior Livestock Sale.
  71. Species will alternate in the sale order. Rotation is determined by the Fair Board, and the actual ratio will depend on the number per species.
  72. A sale fee of up to 2.5% of the sale price will be charged on all sale animals to cover sale expenses such as promotion, buyer photos, buyer appreciation gifts, and advertising.
  73. Any animal inspected at the packing plant and found to be carrying chemical residues will be condemned by the federal meat inspectors. Animals condemned at the processing plants due to residues will have sale monies returned to the purchaser and carcass disposed of.
  74. Poultry and Rabbit exhibitors will be required to take their animals back home after the sale and schedule delivery for processing with one of the designated processors.
  75. The Junior Livestock Sale is a Blow & Go Sale. No fitting products will be allowed on any sale animals at the meatpackers' request.

### **Rule Infractions and Protests**

76. Rule infractions – If at any time a rule infraction is found, a written letter addressing the rule and proof of its violation must be submitted to the Fair Board within 24 hours. The Fair Board will review said infraction(s) and determine the consequences to the subject party listed within the written statement.
77. Any protests to the Fair Board's decision for Rule Infractions and or Non-Rule Infractions must be in writing and accompanied by \$10.00 in cash or certified check. Protests are to be delivered to the Fair Board within one hour after a questionable point. No complaint or appeal that a judge overlooked an animal or item will be considered. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation, and depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a complete investigation is made. The protest fee will be refunded if the protest is sustained. The department superintendent will consult with the Fair Board President before announcing the protest outcome. Decisions of the Fair Board and Judges are final.

## **4-H/FFA Special Contest Guidelines**

### **4-H/FFA Round Robin Showmanship Contest**

4-H and FFA members may qualify for the Round Robin Showmanship Contest if they place first or second in the beef, sheep, swine, goat, or horse showmanship competition at the County Fair. There are Junior, Intermediate, and Senior divisions. In this contest, contestants will be judged on their ability to show each species within a certain time frame. Members are judged while in the ring, and the member with the highest

score will be deemed the winner. The winners will be announced during the Pre-Sale awards program on Saturday in the 4-H Building Arena.

## **4-H/FFA Junior Livestock Sale Thank You Guidelines**

Rio Blanco County 4-H and FFA members are graciously sponsored each year by community members and businesses. It is imperative that youth show proper appreciation.

1. A Thank You Note to each buyer **written by the 4-H/FFA member** is due to the **Extension Office** within **10 business days**. The Extension Office will mail this note plus one picture to the buyer. Notes and pictures must fit into a 5x7" envelope.

### **Guidelines for Acceptable Thank Yous:**

All Thank Yous should have a minimum of the following information in their message to the Buyer, whether it's a homemade card, a personal letter, or use of a greeting card.

- Thank the Buyer by name
- Address the species which was purchased
- Include, but not limited to, what the Buyer's contribution means to you, how it will help you, what you intend to do with this contribution, etc. Conclude with the youth's full name.

### **Types of Thank Yous:**

- **Handmade:** Handmade Thank Yous are a great way to express your gratitude through creativity. Please keep in mind the following when making your Thank You:
  - Cards must be on firm paper—preferably cardstock
  - Please, no "everyday use" paper or construction paper
  - Clean & Neat (no spilled coffee, rips, and tears)
- **Letters:** Stories or personal letters written by the youth are a great way to thank a Buyer. Keep in mind the content and information should be about your project and 4-H/FFA experience as it relates to your Buyer.
- **Greeting Cards:** Greeting cards are an acceptable tool for thanking a Buyer, but keep in mind the minimum message content as mentioned above.

### **Additional Recommendations:**

- **Pictures:** The Fair Board recommends youth furnish a frame for one of your Sale pictures so your Buyer can proudly display your photo in their home or place of business. The Fair Board will deliver the framed photos with your Thank You.