

# General 4-H Livestock Rules

1. Placing
  - a. The “Danish System” of placing (A Group, B Group, and C Group) will be used for most livestock shows. First and second place animals will be selected from the A Group to compete for Champion and Reserve Champion.
  - b. All rabbit classes and horse & pony classes will be ranked first through tenth place. Exception: In a class where there are less than ten participants and the judges deems the animal unfit for placing, the 4-H member will receive a participation ribbon.
2. Members must exhibit their own animals in the shows. In the case of illness or more than one animals in a class, animals must be shown by another Starke County 4-H member. Animals may be prepared for the show ring by:
  - a. The 4-H member.
  - b. Immediate family – father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, legal guardian, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, grandfather, step-grandfather, grandmother, step-grandmother, aunt or uncle.
  - c. Any properly enrolled current Starke County 4-H member.
  - d. Any Starke County local 4-H Club Leader.
  - e. Exceptions made in hardship cases with approval of Livestock Committee. This must be complete prior to fair.
3. The use of tranquilizers on 4-H animals is not permitted on the Fairgrounds. Any medication administered to any animals must be done by a veterinarian or upon approval by the Livestock Committee.
4. All Beef, Horse & Pony, Swine, Sheep, Dairy, Starter Calf and Goats must be identified on the 4HOnline website at [in.4honline.com](http://in.4honline.com) by the State enrollment deadline.
5. Any advertising must have the Livestock Committee’s approval.
6. Animal pen reservations must be submitted online through FairEntry by the deadline each year. No pens are guaranteed after the deadline. If you bring fewer animals than listed on your pen reservation forms, the pen space will be reassigned.
7. Separate pens will be provided if space is available for the Champion and Reserve Champion Market animals. Champions should be moved as soon as possible after the judging. Check with the project superintendent for space.
8. Entry order will be set for each class of livestock.
9. Pens must be kept clean and presentable. Beef exhibitors are responsible for cleaning to the middle of the aisle behind their animals. 4-H members will be asked to remove animals from the fairgrounds if pens are judged as un-presentable. **All animals must have clean bedding, be fed, and provided with fresh water.** Pens will be checked by 6:00 p.m. One warning will be attempted verbally and posted in the respective barn. When a second warning is issued a fine of \$25.00 per notice will be assessed by the barn superintendent or their representative. The fine will be taken out of the livestock auction check. If animals are not sold, a check must be given to the Starke County Fair Board in the amount of \$25.00. If not paid, the 4-H member will not be permitted to exhibit the following year.

10. If the breed of an animal is in question, the Livestock Committee members will examine the animal and determine the breed as accurately as possible.
11. All situations not covered by a specific county rule will be governed by the appropriate state rule. Rule interpretation will be the responsibility of the 4-H Youth Development Educator and the Livestock Committee.
12. Animals not selling in the livestock auction are to check out on Thursday from 9:00-11:00 p.m. or Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. noon. Approval and signature must be obtained from the barn superintendent before the animal is released. An alternate time may be determined due to other circumstances such as weather.
13. Health papers are not required for swine, sheep, goats, beef, dairy, and starter calves. The barn superintendents and/or their designated representatives are to inspect the animals at the trailer. Animals that are not healthy will be sent home. If the 4-H member disagrees, they may contact a veterinarian to come and inspect the animal and make a final decision. The 4-H member is responsible for the cost of the veterinarian.
14. Use of graphite, charcoal, or any other substance that alters hair color in any form is prohibited for ANY and ALL livestock species. Animals may be checked with a white towel.
15. Use of drugs or any substance to change the appearance or handling of livestock is prohibited. Icing of the animals will NOT be permitted for ANY livestock species.
16. Animal grooming stalls/stands must be kept in the 4-H member's assigned area. Assigned areas will be provided. 4-H members are responsible for keeping their grooming areas clean.
17. When an animal is removed from the fairgrounds on Saturday, the pen must be cleaned before noon, or a \$25.00 penalty will be charged per pen.
18. Only one reweigh is allowed, and the second weight will be the official weight. Reweighs are not allowed to change classes, only to make weight for exhibition and/or auction is allowed. Check with the project superintendent for reweigh time on Monday of the fair.
19. If an animal is hurt when entered, it will be noted. If injury is severe, the animal may be sent home.
20. If an animal loses their ear tags, the 4-H member should contact the Extension Office immediately. The animal will then be retagged.
21. Registration numbers, tattoos, birth dates, and animal names must be exactly the same on the enrollment forms for registered heifers, Boer goat does, dairy breeding cattle, and dairy goats as they appear on the animal's registration papers.
22. All market animals must have a **notarized** affidavit concerning care, withdrawal time of all drugs administered to the animal, and to certify that the animals are free of illegal drugs. One form per species is required identifying each market animal. The affidavit is due at fair check-in.
23. Animal location forms must be completed by all 4-H members and are due with the online animal identification on 4HOnline.
24. Any person found violating any of the above rules may be disqualified from that class.
25. All livestock 4-H members exhibiting animals in the Beef, Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Starter Calf, or Swine projects will annually complete the Youth for Quality of Care of Animals (YQCA) training.