

Rich County 4-H Junior Livestock Program 2024-2025 General Rules

The Rich County Junior Livestock Board has adopted the general rules of the Utah Junior Livestock Association. These rules and guidelines are used to provide the best experience for young people in Utah who have 4-H livestock projects. The rules listed are standardized throughout the livestock shows in Utah to provide more uniform shows. Some of the rules listed may not specifically apply to the Rich County 4-H Junior Livestock Program. Also included are rules specific for the Rich County 4-H Junior Livestock Program. *These detailed rules are italicized throughout the rule book.*

A. GENERAL RULES

1. Age: -- The Utah 4-H year will begin on September 1, 2024, and end on August 31, 2025. Utah 4-H Age Divisions are based on a child's school grade. Youth are eligible to participate in 4-H between kindergarten and 12 grades (for youth who are homeschooled, follow the Utah State Board of Education criteria for placement based on age, located in [] next to grades below). Cloverbud 4-H Members | Kindergarten through 2nd Grade (K–2) [Ages 5-7 as of September 1] Junior 4-H Members* | 3rd through 5th Grade (3–5) [Ages 8-10 as of September 1] Intermediate 4-H Members | 6th through 8th Grade (6–8) [Ages 11-13 as of September 1] Senior 4-H Members | 9th through 12th Grade (9–12) [Ages 14-18 as of September 1]
*Large animal, shooting sports, and ATV projects and activities require youth to be at least in 3rd grade and at least 8 years of age. Youth in the 3rd grade who are 7 years old and turn 8 during the third-grade school year may enroll in large animal, shooting sports, and ATV projects upon turning 8. Eligibility for 4-H membership terminates upon graduation from 12th grade. Seniors may exhibit through the summer of their graduation year.

2. Group Affiliation -- An exhibitor must be enrolled in Rich County 4-H *through an approved Utah 4-H Charter Club.*

3. Ownership of animals - The exhibitor will own, possess, feed, and care for his/her project animal(s) for not less than 100 consecutive days for market beef and 60 consecutive days for market swine, market sheep and market goats immediately prior to the opening day of the show. No interruption of ownership or possession can occur.

4. Fitting on show grounds -- Parents, guardians, siblings, club leaders, and extension/4-H agents may assist, and are encouraged to assist the younger exhibitors. However, each exhibitor must be working with the project animal and be in attendance with that animal during the entire fitting process.

5. Code of Ethics (rules 5a through 5i) – The following practices or procedures are unacceptable in the care, fitting, preparation and showing of all classes of livestock. Any violation of association rules or specific rules as designated by individual fairs and livestock shows may result in forfeiture of premiums and awards, disqualification, and may result in probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future participation in Association member shows. Possible civil penalties may be imposed by the proper authorities based on evidence provided by the livestock show of exhibitors in violation of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic act/or the animal mistreatment, neglect, and abandonment laws that apply on the local, state, and national levels. Other member shows will be notified of any action taken by show management, which may affect the eligibility of the individual, group, or sponsoring organization for participation at other shows. The decision of the livestock show management will be final.

- a. The use of any drug, tranquilizer, sedative, or depressant, which alters the psychological or physiological state of the animal, is illegal. Exceptions to this rule would be licensed, certified veterinarians, treatment for a recognized disease or injury, or recommendation for tranquilizing breeding animals in heat that might compromise the safety of others. The drugs must be approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in meat producing animals. All exhibitors will advise show management of any drug and/or medication administered to an animal that might be detected at the time of showing or at meat inspection. The name of the drug, its purpose, the person who administered the drug, time, and date of administration will be presented to show management prior to the showing and sale of the animals. Failure to report this information will result in severe penalty and/or disqualification. Any use of drugs or substances not approved by the Food and Drug Administration is strictly prohibited. All animals entered into the livestock competition will be subject to testing for foreign substances that exceed acceptable levels established by the FDA, FSIS, USDA, or EPA. This includes any non-labeled feed additives or substances not approved for that species. During the livestock event, in the case of an animal requiring treatment, all medication shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian and the livestock show officials shall be notified. Use of an illegal drug is considered a premeditated act and any information obtained in the practice of illegal alteration of any animal will be turned over to the proper authorities for possible criminal prosecution.
- b. Surgery, injection, or insertion of foreign material under the skin and/or into the flesh of an animal to change the natural contour, conformation, or appearance of an animal's body is illegal. This includes vegetable oil, silicon, or any other substance used to alter an animal's shape. Acceptable practices of physical preparations, which are allowed, include: clipping of hair, trimming of hooves, dehorning, or removal of ancillary teats.
- c. Treating an animal internally or externally, with any irritant or counterirritant or other substance used to artificially dramatically change the conformation or appearance of an animal for show is considered unethical, inhumane, and is prohibited. Any liquid or substance not considered part of an accepted and normal diet for livestock is deemed illegal and inhumane. For example: the use of alcoholic or carbonated beverages as a drench or filler, etc. Drenching will not be allowed unless the show veterinarian or show official is present and is needed for emergency purposes only.
- d. Each exhibitor has absolute responsibility for the care and condition of the animal(s) they enter and bring to the show.
- e. The use of inhumane fitting, showing, and handling practices or devices shall not be tolerated. For example: breaking of tails, striking of the animal to cause swelling or for bracing purposes, use of an electrical contrivance, muzzles, etc. is not acceptable.
- f. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited.
- g. Market grand and reserve champion animals that pass through a sale, may be drug tested, at the discretion of the show.
- h. At the time an animal is sold at auction at the livestock show, the exhibitors shall be held directly responsible for animals that are rejected at the processing center for any reason. The seller may

be liable to the buyer for an amount equal to three times the purchase price and may also be liable for attorney's fees and civil penalties. Show management may share acceptable intelligence and evidence information with FDA or USDA. If, for any reason, the FDA or USDA inspectors must remove any part of a meat animal carcass, the market price will be discounted.

- i. Show management reserves the right to require animal health certificates. Health inspection and diagnostic tests may be made before or after animals are on the livestock show premises for exhibitor and animal safety, or to inaugurate disease control procedures which may become necessary in emergencies as determined by animal health officials.

6. Dress Code – 4-H Members- A long or short sleeve shirt, which fastens down the front with a collar, is mandatory. Shirts must be solid white in color and need not be Western style. Black or blue pants are to be worn. There is to be a 4-H emblem or patch on all 4-H member shirts. *Cowboy hat or no hat is permissible.*

The following will not be allowed: T-shirts, tank tops, tube tops, sleeveless shirts, baseball caps and vests. Exhibitors who fail to abide by dress standards will forfeit prize money.

7. Sales Fee - A sales fee not to exceed 5% will be withheld from sales checks. Any purchaser(s) of animals from a Junior Livestock Show Auction must pay the Show the full purchase price of sale regardless of buy-back.

8. Show Eligibility - Animals are eligible for any show for which they meet ownership and show requirements.

- a. Participation in the Rich County Fair Showmanship class is mandatory for all exhibitors to show in the Market Show. Participation in the Market Show is mandatory for animals to go through the Junior Livestock Auction.

- b. Steers and open heifers that participate in the Rich County Commercial Cattle Project are eligible to go through the Junior Livestock Auction.

- c. Exhibitors must show the animal that will be used for the Market Show for Showmanship.

9. Change of Ownership - Once an animal has gone through any stockshow sale, regardless of buyback or no-sale, it is no longer eligible to enter a state assisted show.

10. Lamb Docking Rule – Scientific research indicates that the incidence of rectal prolapsed is reduced when the tail is docked in a non-extreme manner. The recommended method is to dock at the distal end on the caudal fold (3rd caudal vertebra). Complete tail removal (extreme docking) is not an accepted sheep production practice and is discouraged for all Utah Junior Livestock sheep projects. Market lambs or breeding sheep showing any signs of contagious disease or current or recent signs of prolapse, or with an open sore on the dock (rosebud), will be sifted from Utah Junior Livestock Shows at the discretion of the state show vet at the time of weigh in and their determination is final.

B. MARKET ANIMAL RULES:

1. Drug Withdrawal -- It is unethical and, in most cases, even unlawful to administer drugs to livestock within 20 to 30 days of slaughter. Animals too unmanageable to show should be withdrawn from their class rather than be tranquilized. The local show committee and the show veterinarian will monitor this

situation. By federal regulations, random testing will occur at slaughter, and animals will be condemned which have been given any injection or oral dosages of tranquilizers, pain killers, antibiotics, diuretics, steroids, or other foreign substances during withdrawal periods before slaughter. All sales money will be withheld in such cases. Bloat medicine and other medications with no withdrawal requirements may be permissible. Exhibitors need to be aware of potential health hazards to consumers who eat animals that have received any above- mentioned substances. Please do not put someone's life in jeopardy.

2. Tagging and Weigh In–

- a. *All market animals must be tagged and weighed on the designated dates. In extreme cases where an exhibitor cannot meet this requirement, other arrangements might be made upon the approval of the Junior Livestock Grievance Committee through the grievance policy.*
- b. *Tagging and weighing will be done by the 4-H Office on the set dates.*
- c. *Animals must be dry, have all blankets removed and have a clean tag before they are allowed across the scale. Lambs do not need to be sheared before crossing the scale at tagging date. At weigh-in of the County Fair, lambs are to have no longer than ½ inch of wool.*
- d. *All male species (except for breeding livestock) MUST be banded and/or castrated prior to the first tagging date. Any males not meeting these criteria will be sifted prior to receiving a tag.*
- e. *Livestock exhibitors are required to be present at tagging and weigh-in; if unable to attend, species supervisor must be contacted prior to event.*

Tagging policy and deadlines for state shows can be found at <https://utahjuniorlivestock.com/junior-livestock-tags>. Should a tag be lost or pulled out of the animal's ear, the exhibitor will advise the committee supervisor immediately so that the tag can be replaced, and the appropriate paperwork be processed.

3. Entry Forms & Deadlines – Exhibitors are responsible for mailing their own entry form. Entries postmarked by that date will be accepted. Exhibitors must declare which animals are to be shown and submit an entry form and entry fees to the appropriate shows, including State Association ear tag numbers. The tag number and alternate tag number must be specified on the exhibitor entry form to be eligible. Entries may not exceed the limits for each show including one alternate animal per species entered. Forms must be signed by proper Extension/4-H agent to verify exhibitor and animals are a legitimate entry for the show they are entering. Extension/4-H should only sign forms for those youth enrolled in their programs. The Extension/4-H agent and parents will verify eligibility for group and family feeding programs. Entry forms for fitting and showmanship classes must also be submitted by the entry deadline of the show and need to indicate class to be entered (species) and age of exhibitor. Entry fees will not be withheld from sales checks. Entry fees are to be sent along with all entry forms.

4. Poultry - Rules & Schedule of Events: 4-H, Junior Open Class & Open Class Will Be Judged Together

- a. Poultry will enter on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, between 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
- b. Poultry will be judged Wednesday, August 16, 2023. Showmanship Judging will start at 2:00 P.M. followed by conformation judging.
- c. Pick up birds on Saturday, August 19, 2023, after 4:00 p.m.

- d. Pen space will be on a first come basis: any birds arriving after pen space is gone will have to furnish their own pens. Exhibitors must provide their own feeding & watering equipment.
- e. All birds entered are the responsibility of the exhibitor.
- f. All birds must be clean and healthy for entrance into the fair.
- g. Premiums will be paid as follows:
- Grand Champion - \$5.00 / Reserve Champion - \$4.00 / Blue - \$3.00 / Red - \$2.00 / White - \$1.00 / 4-H Cloverbuds - \$1.00
- h. Rosette Ribbons will be awarded to Grand & Reserve Champions:
- Best Standard Bird of Show
 - Best Bantam Bird of Show
 - Best Pigeon of Show
 - Best Waterfowl of Show
 - Junior Showmanship Winner (Junior Open Class & 4-H 3rd-5th Grade) – Poultry
 - Intermediate Showmanship Winner (4-H 6th-8th Grade) – Poultry
 - Senior Showmanship Winner (4-H 9th-12th Grade & Open Class) - Poultry
- i. Poultry Classes
- American/Standard Breeds Bantam Pigeons Wild game
 - Ducks & Geese Showmanship - Junior, Intermediate & Senior Divisions
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5. Market Show Animal Weights – Market animal weights are: Beef – 1000-1500 pounds, Goats – 50-110 pounds, Sheep – 90-150 pounds, Swine 210-300 pounds.

- a. Any animal weighing over the weight range (the day of final weigh-in) will have excess weight forfeited at sale.
- b. Any animal not meeting the minimum weight will be eligible to show in the showmanship and feeder classes and receive premium.
- c. Any animal not meeting the minimum weight will be ineligible to show in the market classes or sell in the junior livestock sale ring.

6. Market Show Animal Ages – Market animals may not exceed the following age by the market show final weigh-in: Beef – 20 months of age, Goats, Sheep and Swine – 10 months of age.

7. Multiple Animals - Exhibitors may exhibit and sell a total of two animals, but they must be different species, (i.e. one hog and one lamb).

8. Companion Animals/Alternate Animals at the Fair – No companion animals or alternate animals not re-assigned as a show animal will not be allowed to stay at the fairgrounds.

9. Grand Champion Responsibility – The Grand Champion of each species will have the responsibility to assist with making arrangements for transportation of sale animals the Sunday following the Junior Livestock Sale. Fuel will be covered by the Rich County Junior Livestock Committee. Arrangements should be coordinated with the species supervisor and Extension agent.

10. Exhibitor Mandatory Requirements – All junior livestock exhibitors are required to the following requirements. If the exhibitor cannot complete the mandatory requirements, they may file a grievance with the Junior Livestock Grievance Committee before the required event date per the Grievance Policy in Section E of this rule book.

a. Exhibitors are required to be an active member of an approved chartered Rich County 4- H Club.

**See the 4-H Office for Charter Club requirements.*

b. As per the charter, six club meetings are required per year. A minimum of one of the six club meetings must be an approved service project with a minimum of two hours of time spent in service.

i. Eligible events that can count as club meetings consist of any live event/clinic or virtual clinic announced by the 4-H Office. Virtual meetings will count if attended during the live viewing. Clinic recordings will not be counted towards meetings.

ii. Other club meetings as designated by the charter club leader.

c. Assigned pens must be completely cleaned out and checked off by the 4-H Office by the Saturday following fair. August 23, 2025.

d. All exhibitors are required to submit a 4-H Portfolio by 11:59 P.M. on October 1, 2025. The portfolio should contain: Cover Letter, Resume, Size and Scope for each market animal. Additional information and guidelines are available at the 4-H Office. After 12:00 A.M. on October 2, 2025 portfolios are deemed late. Late portfolios will be charged \$50, taken off of exhibitor's check total. In addition, exhibitors will be charged \$50 every two weeks until their portfolio is turned in.

e. Livestock exhibitors are required to be present at tagging and weigh-in, if unable to attend, species supervisor must be contacted prior to event.

C. BREEDING ANIMALS:

Exhibitors are encouraged to expand their scope of livestock project experience to include breeding livestock projects.

D. RULE ENFORCEMENT:

Rich County Junior Livestock Committee is responsible for enforcing the rules and regulations at their show. Any further action needs to be submitted in writing to the Utah State Junior Livestock Shows Association Board. Shows that do not comply and enforce the rules adopted may lose Association funding. If immediate action is needed, the board of the Utah State Junior Livestock Shows Association is empowered to make the ruling decision. The State Veterinarian has the final ruling on lamb tail docking and any health issues.

E. RICH COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK GRIEVANCE POLICY:

All grievances must follow the following protocol:

1. Grievances may be filed as an exhibitor or a Volunteer 4-H leader.
2. Exhibitor may waive all rights to grievance and not show at the county fair or sale at the Junior Livestock Auction.
3. Grievances must be filed in the 4-H Office 2 weeks prior to an event if the grievance is related to missing a mandatory event, unless in an emergency.
4. All other grievances must be submitted to the 4-H Office in a timely manner so that a decision can be made.

5. *The exhibitor submitting the grievance to miss an event must submit it in writing and include the reason you will be missing, a plan of action to make up the event, the plan must be livestock related and approved by the committee. Any other grievances must also be in writing with clear and concise language.*
6. *The person submitting the grievance must also submit a \$25 cash deposit with the grievance letter.*
7. *If the committee votes in favor of the grievance, the money will be returned to the submitter.*
8. *If the committee votes against the grievance, the money will not be returned.*