

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

Below are the official rules and regulations for the Holt County Fair.

Be sure to review State Fair rules and regulations if you are attending state activities/events as sometimes they are different than the county rules and regulations. If any exhibitor is planning to go to another livestock show or to the State Fair Livestock Show, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to see that they meet all of that shows requirements. Please check with the Extension Office for additional information on the various shows.

### 4-H SECTION FAIR OBJECTIVES

1. To provide recognition for achievements.
2. To provide new experiences for youth, leaders and staff who participate.
3. To provide leadership opportunities for 4-H youth and adults.
4. To provide learning awareness opportunities for 4-H youth and adults.
5. To provide learning awareness opportunities for the public who visit the 4-H exhibits.
6. To add to the public understanding about the full scope of the 4-H program.
7. To inspire the adoption of approved practices and new ideas.
8. To help build a better County Fair.

### 4-H/FFA/CLOVER KID MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

4-H /FFA Age: The age of the youth before January 1 of the current year.

- If your birthday is on January 1, your 4-H age is the age you were on December 31st.
  - If you turn eight (8) on January 1, your 4-H age is seven (7).
  - If you turn nine (9) on January 1, your 4-H age is eight (8).
- 4-H/FFA eligibility is determined based on the 4-H/FFA age. (The age of the member on December 31st of the previous year)
  - The first year of eligibility for participation in the 4-H Clover Kids program is the 4-H age of five (5).
  - The last year of eligibility for participation in the 4-H Clover Kids program is the 4-H age of seven (7).
  - The first year of eligibility for the regular 4-H program is the 4-H age of eight (8).
  - The last year of eligibility is 4-H/FFA age is eighteen (18).

**Clover Kid:** Children 5-7 year olds are Clover Kid Members. Clover Kids can only show under Clover Kid exhibits (not under 4-H exhibits) and 4-H members can only show under 4-H exhibits (not under Clover Kid exhibits). However both Clover Kid and 4-H members can show under the Open Class Division. See the Open Class Division Regulations for information on their rules, regulations and classes.

**There will be no discrimination** on the basis of sex, age, handicap, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation.

**4-H and FFA Exhibiting Together** - In classes where 4-H and FFA exhibit together -The exhibitor can show in both 4-H and FFA but the total number of entries per class does not double. One example would be in the Livestock area. 4-H and FFA will show in the same ring at the same time and compete against each other. There will NOT be a 4-H Champion and a FFA Champion, rather a Holt County Fair Champion. The only difference will be the emblem on the T-shirt or other approved shirt the exhibitor is wearing. Premiums will be the same, no matter what organization the exhibitor is exhibiting for. All exhibits could be 4-H exhibits; OR all could be FFA exhibits; OR any combination in both 4-H and FFA. Not allowed would be showing the total number of exhibits in 4-H and the total number of exhibits in FFA by the same exhibitor. Static exhibits are also welcome to be entered under FFA.

### DEADLINE DATES

- **April 1** - Holt County Membership on 4-H Online and Project Enrollment Due!
- **April 1** - All 4-H Market Beef and 2<sup>nd</sup> year bucket calves must be weighed and animal affidavits turned into the extension office.
- **June 15** - All 4-H breeding beef, stocker feeders, bucket calves, dairy, market swine, breeding sheep, market lambs, bottle lambs, dairy goats, meat goats, bottle goats, horses, rabbits, poultry, cats, dogs, and small animals must have been properly identified at the office.

- **July 21-** Fair Pre-Entry Information due to the office for all 4-H livestock, dogs, cats, rabbits, poultry, horses and static exhibits.

\*All Livestock/Animals MUST comply with the current Holt County 4-H/FFA Livestock Identification Policy and be properly identified by the above deadlines or that animal will not be allowed to be shown.

### COUNTY DRESS CODE

**Holt County Dress Code** – Exhibitors will wear blue jeans, FFA Chapter T-Shirt, 4-H white shirt, or blouse that is long enough to be tucked in with a 4-H emblem. A 4-H t-shirt with sleeves, a 4-H emblem on the pocket or blouse front or a 4-H arm band will be acceptable. Hard soled shoes or boots must be worn for all the livestock shows. No hats or other headgear except for western hats during the horse show - see Horse section for attire. This attire will be the policy for interview judging, livestock shows, livestock bonus auction, parade of champions and fair award ceremony. Shooting Sports will wear their attire for their events and awards.

The following competitions do not require Dress Code: Modeling, Clothing Interview Judging, Fashion Show, Presentations, FCS Judging, Horticulture Judging, Table Setting, and Talent Contest.

Failure to comply with this policy will result in loss of premium money and awards. Superintendents and Fair Board members will enforce this policy.

### EXHIBIT INFORMATION

Exhibitors must exhibit in the project area he or she is enrolled in. Exhibits must represent the exhibitors OWN WORK accomplished SINCE THE LAST COUNTY FAIR (unless otherwise noted) and specifically done as a 4-H/FFA project. A 4-H OR FFA member who exhibits at other county fairs cannot exhibit the same article or animal at both county fairs.

**4-H is “Learning by Doing”** - With this in mind, the Holt/Boyd UNL Extension Office urges ALL 4-H members to learn by doing their own work throughout the year. They also recognize that 4-H is a family affair and that at times 4-H’ers need mom’s and dad’s ASSISTANCE. They hope that each family will recognize the times that assistance is needed and the times that the member needs to learn on his or her own.

#### **Livestock/Animal Exhibits -**

Refer to Schedule in front of the Book:

- **Times** livestock/animals need to be in **Place**.
- **Times** livestock will be **Weighed**.
- **Times** livestock/animals will be **Released**.
- Must CHECK OUT with Superintendent!

On show day, all 4-H animals must be checked in with appropriate Superintendent while the class ahead is showing. All animals must be ready to enter the show arena when the previous class leaves. Late animals may be excluded from the show.

#### **Static Exhibits –**

*Pre-Fair Day-* is held in July before the fair.

All clothing exhibits (including Quilt Quest, Knitting, and Crocheting) will be judged at Pre-Fair Day. All exhibits (including Shopping In Style clothing exhibits) will be brought back for display at the County Fair. Exhibits that are not brought back to the fair for display will not be awarded premiums.

All Static (non-animal) exhibits are entered during interview judging at the fairgrounds on entry day of the fair. Each 4-H’er is responsible for entering and removing exhibits. Refer to schedule for interview times.

It is the responsibility of the 4-H’er to enter his/her exhibits in the correct class. This is especially important now that the tags are computerized. The exhibit will be judged and then dropped one ribbon placing if entered in the wrong class. This is most obvious in the vegetables and flowers area.

There is no limit to the number of exhibits per class in the hall exhibits unless otherwise stated in this fair book. If entering more than one exhibit in a class the entries can't be identical. A pair or set of an exhibit will be considered one entry.

Certain exhibits will be selected for State Fair competition. The number of exhibits allowed by exhibitor and by class are set by State Fair regulations and may change from year to year. Score Sheets are available on the state 4-H website at <https://4h.unl.edu/fairbook/scoresheets-forms>.

All static exhibits must have received a purple ribbon at the county fair to advance to the State Fair.

In case of only one entry, the prize shall be awarded on quality.

All exhibits MUST remain for the entire fair and can be picked up at the exhibit release time, refer to schedule for release time for static exhibits.

The 4-H Building will be closed to the public and locked up at night.

#### **Static Exhibit Displays -**

Large static exhibits made for outdoors (ie. lawn & garden furniture & trailers, animal feeding structures, picnic tables, barn quilts) may be displayed outdoors at the discretion of 4-H staff and/or area superintendents if additional display space is needed inside the exhibit hall.

#### **County Only Exhibits –**

**IMPORTANT** - There is **NOT** a **County Only Section** in the Fair book. There will either be a **CF** or **SF** in front of every **Class Number**.

- **CF**: means that exhibit is **ONLY** eligible to be exhibited at the **County Fair**.
- **SF**: means that exhibit if **CHOSEN** at County Fair is eligible to advance to **State Fair**.

All exhibits eligible for entry at county and state fair are identified by numerical class numbers. Those which are eligible only for the county fair are identified by **900 numbers**. Exhibit must be one that fits into the project area. Use manual for ideas. Call the Extension Office if you have questions.

### **SAFETY INFORMATION**

Please help us keep all fair-goers and participants safe. Please look out for children, vehicles and animals when arriving and leaving the fairgrounds.

If 4-H/FFA members stay overnight at the fairgrounds, they must be supervised by a parent or responsible 4-H Club Leader/FFA Advisor. Improper conduct on the part of exhibitors will not be tolerated. Valid reports of misconduct will eliminate the exhibitor from competition and all premium money will be withheld.

**PET POLICY** - No dogs are allowed on the fairgrounds except in the camping area on any fair dates other than during the dog show. Pets including but not limited to dogs, cats, and birds are not allowed at or around the food stand, eating areas or picnic tables. Dogs are not allowed in any exhibit building including open barns except Wednesday (they will be allowed in show barn) during the dog show if they are with their exhibitor. Owners are legally responsible for their pets and injury or loss caused by their pets. All guest with pets (dogs) must use areas that are not used for the public to walk to or from fair exhibits, buildings or events for their pet's waste functions. Pet waste must be picked up by the pet owners immediately and deposited in trash receptacles. Grassy areas, paths, or any common area are not to be used as pet waste areas. Dogs will be on a leash except the time period they are required to be off leash when participating in the dog show. Pets must be leashed or penned and with the pet owner at all times. Retractable leashes are OK but leashes may have no more than a six (6) foot lead. Dogs must be accompanied by owners and under voice command/control at all times. Noisy and/or vicious pets are prohibited in the fair grounds. Uncontrolled barking, at any time, inside or outside the RV, is prohibited. The Holt County Ag Society is not responsible for injuries to dogs, their owners, or others using the fair grounds. Respect other visitors, both human and canine, by keeping your dog from jumping on or interfering with other people or their pets. Puppies who have not had all their puppy shots, are not allowed in the fair grounds. Do not allow your dog to dig holes in the fair grounds. Service animals are exempt.

Animals should be prepared for the interactions of crowds. Consider the safety of the public, other animals and the handler before deciding if your animal is ready to show at the fair. Anticipate that your animal will be approached by adults and children visiting the fair to see the exhibits. Animals should be considered safe for this environment. The individual exhibitor will be

responsible for any and all damages including injuries occurring from the loss of control of their animal while it is at the fairgrounds. All animal waste will be picked up and disposed of immediately in all viewing and walking areas. Consider a designated herdsman for your club to make sure visitors are not exposed to animal waste.

**DRONE POLICY** - Out of safety concerns for guests, employees, and fair property, as well as concerns for individual privacy, Holt County Agricultural Society ("Fair") prohibits the operation or use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS), or drones, by anyone - including recreational users and hobbyists - without prior written authorization from the Fair. This prohibition includes drones used for any purpose whatsoever, whether filming or videotaping, for commercial or personal purposes, or by media or journalists. This prohibition extends to any drones launched or operated from Fair property, as well as drones launched from private property outside of the fairgrounds but flying within Fair boundaries and/or above Fair facilities, both anywhere on the fairgrounds and in the fairground area. If drone use is authorized by Holt County Agricultural Society for an event, such use must be in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules and regulations, local law enforcement, and any other agency rules that apply, as well as those policies separately established by the Fair. The FAA Summary of Small Unmanned Aircraft Rule (Part 107) is available at [https://www.faa.gov/uas/media/Part\\_107\\_Summary.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/uas/media/Part_107_Summary.pdf). The required authorizations, regulations and rules generally require an application to the FAA, FAA certification, substantial training, and many restrictions covering safety and national security, and other requirements. Fair requirements include filing an application at least 30 days prior to the event, signing an Event License, and providing proof of UAS insurance coverage, among others. Any authorized operation of drones on or above Holt County Agricultural Society property will be governed by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules and regulations, local law enforcement and/or U.S. Forest Service rules, as well as those policies separately established by the Holt County Agricultural Society, which may include certification requirements, evidence of training completion, insurance coverage documentation, indemnification requirements and waivers or releases of liability. Any violation of this policy may result in any/all of the following: suspension of access privileges to the fairgrounds; confiscation of any prohibited equipment. Violators may also be subject to primary liability for damages; including, but not limited to, damages for trespass, violations of privacy and physical injuries to people and/or property, penalties or other actions that may be taken by any of the other regulatory agencies noted above, as well as legal defense costs.

#### **PREMIUM AMOUNTS**

All premiums will be paid by check from the fair board. All 4-H clubs premiums will be paid in full unless unavoidable cause, in which case they will be distributed and paid accordingly. Exhibits will be judged according to research-based standards that indicate level of performance or quality of work. (If the total premiums exceed the budgeted amount, the Board of Directors, may at their discretion, prorate any, or all of the premiums.) Only exhibits in the premium list will be eligible to receive premiums. In case where on person is competing, the judges will award premiums, as they deem best.

4-H uses the Danish System for Ribbon Awards:

**Purple ribbons** designate an exhibit of superior quality that has met and exceeded all of the standards - Outstanding.

**Blue ribbons** denote an above average exhibit that has met almost all of the standards in a way that surpasses the norm.

**Red ribbons** indicate average quality and indicate that the exhibit has met the majority of standards in such a way that the benchmark was reached, but not exceeded.

**White ribbons** indicate that the exhibit has not met the majority of the standards - below the average of the group.

An exhibitor attempting to interfere with the judges will be promptly excluded from the competition.

Any article or animal fraudulently entered or shown, that wins a premium, if satisfactory proof is shown to the Fair Board; the premium shall not be paid.

The superintendent of the area and the show management has the right to excuse any exhibit from the County Fair if the exhibit is not a quality exhibit.

Holt County Premiums	Participation	Purple	Blue	Red	White
Clover Kid	\$ .50				
All Static Hall Exhibits, Team Presentations and Judging Contests		\$2.00	\$1.75	\$1.50	\$1.25
Shooting Sports		\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00
Beef & Dairy Exhibits		\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00
Horse Exhibits		\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00
Sheep, Goats, Swine, & Model Horse Exhibits		\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.00
Poultry & Dog Exhibits		\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	\$ .75
Rabbit & Cat Exhibits		\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	\$ .50
Other Small Animals		\$1.25	\$1.00	\$ .75	\$ .50
All Showman		\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00	\$ .50

### NATIONAL CODE OF SHOWRING ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to 4-H'ers as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.

All youth leaders working with 4-H exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards, and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from further exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competition events:

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
3. Exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of volatile drug residues.

The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animals, performance or appearance at the event.

If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. Substance tested by the laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.

At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, conformation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except

for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.

6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.

7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible persons shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.

9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.

10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including Fairs and Expositions and any special notices to members.

11. The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of the penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

#### **DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXHIBITS AT THE HOLT COUNTY FAIR**

4-H/FFA animals and exhibits at the County Fair entered and displayed at the risk of the 4-H/FFA member. University of Nebraska Holt/Boyd County Extension in cooperation with the Holt County Ag Society, accepts animals and exhibits and will exercise due care to protect them. However, the Holt County Ag Society and Extension Office cannot accept responsibility for injury to animals, or for loss or damage of exhibits due to the conditions imposed by large crowds, the arrangement of the buildings in which displays are housed and the great number of exhibits. Exhibitors who have exhibits of great sentimental and/or monetary value should carefully consider whether such exhibits should be exposed to the hazards of the fair. While the greatest possible care will be exercised by the management to protect patrons of the Holt County Ag Society and Extension Office, each individual will be held personally responsible for any injury.

The Holt County Ag Society and Extension Office will use diligence to avoid any accidents and afford protection. The above associations reserve the right to call off any or all programs on account of bad weather, or any other unavoidable cause. Each individual will be held personally responsible for any injury, loss or damage.

#### **PROTEST COMMITTEE**

The respective superintendent has the authority to make appropriate decisions based on the 4-H Rules and Regulations Book. When needed, a committee shall be appointed to serve as a protest review committee. They will meet when needed to act upon concerns.

A. All protests must be submitted to the Secretary of Fair Board during the Fair in writing and signed. Protest will be acted upon at the first meeting of the Board of Directors at the annual Positive Change/Fair Wrap-Up meeting following the fair (date and location to be announced). The Holt County annual meeting will be the first Saturday of November.

B. The written protest must be submitted to the Protest Committee and must include: Names of persons involved; Nature of concerns; Situation and documentation; Recommendations for correction; Specific action, rule, etc., in question; Additional persons committee may contact for further clarification; and Procedures and/or steps carried out by person involved prior to submission of the protest to the Protest Committee.

C. The committee will review the written protest. They may discuss the situation with affected persons and show officials. Recommendations will be developed, followed, and communicated both verbally and in writing to the group or individual affected.

- D. In cases of protest the exhibitor may be allowed to show, but results of showing will be subject to change based on the outcome of the protest process. This allows for smooth operation of the show and facilitates appropriate processing.
- E. The management reserves the right to withhold premium and/or award. The exhibitor may be excluded from the show if action warrants.
- F. Protest will not be accepted after the exhibit is released from the 4-H Division of the County Fair. Protests related to judges' integrity, decision, placing, or other evaluations will not be accepted.

#### **STATE FAIR PREMIER 4-H SCIENCE AWARD**

**Objective:** Recognized 4-H youth static exhibits incorporating or demonstrating concepts from the areas of 4-H Science (science, technology, engineering, or applied math) at the County Fair and at the Nebraska State Fair.

**Curriculum Areas Targeted:** Animal Science, Communications/Expressive Arts, Consumer & Family Sciences, Environmental Education and Earth Science, Healthy Lifestyles, Leadership & Citizenship, Plant Sciences, Science Engineering & Technology (SET).

**Exhibit Entry:** Youth will identify exhibit to be considered for the Premier 4-H Science Award. The Premier 4-H Science Award Application must be submitted along with a photo of the exhibit on entry day of the County Fair. The photo will not be used for judging, only to locate the exhibit at the fairgrounds should we need additional information. The exhibitor will enter exhibit into its original class AND the Premier 4-H Science Award class (H101001).

**Check In:** During static exhibit check-in, Premier 4-H Science Award application along with the photo of the exhibit will be dropped off at the Science, Engineering, and Technology Department area. The exhibit will be dropped off at the original department area.

**Judging:** A score sheet will be used to judge each exhibit. Exhibits which do not have a completed application with photo can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge.

**Recognition:** All projects entered in this class will be recognized with a certificate attached to the original exhibit. Exhibits will be displayed with their original class.

\*At the Nebraska State Fair up to 5 top 4-H Science Exhibits will be chosen from all curriculum areas and will receive a \$100 cash award sponsored by the Nebraska 4-H Foundation. Only one exhibit per youth will be eligible for the Nebraska State Fair Premier 4-H Science Award.

**Resources:**

Scientific Method - <https://scijinks.gov/scientific-method/>

Engineering Design Process - [www.linkengineering.org/Explore/EngineeringDesign/5824.aspx](http://www.linkengineering.org/Explore/EngineeringDesign/5824.aspx)