



General Rules for Junior Division Exhibitors

Notice to Junior Fair Exhibitors, Leaders/Advisors, Exhibitor Parents/Guardians. Issues in recent years require us to reemphasize that the junior fair entry date of the fourth Monday in June will be strictly enforced. 4-H exhibitor entries are to be submitted to the Extension office by club leaders. FFA and Scout exhibitor entries are to be submitted by the advisor/leader to Fair Clerk, Stacie Pienta. Entries must be received or postmarked by the deadline date. Entries not meeting that deadline will not be accepted. Legitimate extenuating circumstances i.e. family emergency, illness or injury, that result in missing the deadline may be appealed to the Fair Premium committee.

1. Junior Fair exhibitors must be members of 4-H, FFA, FHA-HERO, FBLA, Skills USA, Scouts, junior breed organizations or other recognized youth organizations carrying out adult supervised youth educational programs. The fair board must approve qualifying organizations not listed above.
2. Youth must be enrolled in the 4-H project area in which they are entering or meet the entry qualifications for other organizations they will show under.
3. Junior exhibitor age requirements:
 - a. 4-H Cloverbuds or equivalent – between K5 and grade 2 on Oct 1 the year before the Fair
 - b. Junior Fair Exhibitors – between grades 3 and 12 on Oct 1 the year before the Fair
 - c. Youth who have graduated from high school but are less than 20 years of age as of Jan 1 of the Fair year and meet youth group membership requirement are eligible to show in the Junior Division.
4. The adult leader or advisor of a youth group will be responsible for submitting the entries of all members of his or her group.
5. Completed Junior Fair entry forms of 4-H community club members are to be returned to the Oconto County UW-Extension office by the club leader. Entry forms of members of FFA, Scouts, and other qualifying organizations are to be sent by the advisor/leader to fair clerk, Stacie Pienta, 9377 County Rd CC, Oconto Falls, WI 54154. Entries must be received or postmarked no later than the 4th Monday of June. Late entries will not be accepted.
6. Corrections to Junior Fair entries may be made until July 31 by contacting entry clerk, Stacie Pienta at 920-848-0579.
7. **All requirements must be met by date or deadline. If not met, Exhibitor may show but will not qualify for Sale of Champions.**
8. All Junior Fair exhibits except school exhibits and booths, and animals will be judged face to face at the time they are brought to the grounds between 1 and 8 p.m. on Tuesday of the fair.
9. Exhibits of Junior Fair exhibitors who are not present for face-to-face judging can be judged but will be penalized one placing. The penalty will not be assessed for exhibitors with valid reasons for being absent, approved in advance, by the leader/advisor and the fair secretary.
10. The Danish system of judging will be used for all Junior Fair classes except where indicated.
11. Errors on entry tags made by the fair will be corrected and replaced with no penalty to the exhibitor. Entry errors made by the exhibitor will be judged but will receive an automatic 4th place (pink) award, and will not be eligible for consideration for best of show, championship, or other awards.
12. Only Oconto County Youth Junior Fair exhibitors may lead or show animals in the show ring or on the judging table in both regular and championship classes.
13. To qualify to sell in the Sale of Champions, exhibitors of beef, dairy, goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and swine, are required to participate in the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals training program. Watch the 4-H newsletter or contact the UW-Extension office for dates and times of programs that will be scheduled for locations in Oconto and Marinette Counties for the convenience of exhibitors.

14. If a Youth Exhibitor qualifies for the Sale of Champion but is unable to attend, they will be excused if the following criteria has been met:
 - a. A letter from the exhibitor must be submitted to the Fair Board (ocontocountyyouthfair@gmail.com) prior to the Sale of Champion stating the reason they are requesting to be excused. It must be due to an educational reason.
 - b. Must have another Oconto County Youth Exhibitor show the animal during the sale, preferably one that knows that animal and/or specie.
15. Animal exhibit decorations:
 - a. A 16-inch wide, continuous background plywood strip is provided over all animal exhibit areas. This strip is the only area that is to be used for animal ID and decorations.
 - b. Decorative panels that are close to 16 inches wide may be attached to the background strip. Or decorations may be attached directly to the plywood strip.
 - c. Electric lights are prohibited as part of exhibit decorations.
 - d. Floor displays in the dairy, beef, and swine, sheep, and goat barns are prohibited to insure adequate space for livestock exhibits.
 - e. The wearing of clothing with a farm name or logo by exhibitors is prohibited in Junior Fair livestock judging classes.
 - f. **There will be no FLOOR FANS allowed in the animal barns. If you are found to have a fan on the floor, the exhibitor and exhibit may be asked to leave the fair.**
16. See individual department listings for entry dates and times and additional department requirements.
17. Awards:
 - a. One Best of Show award will be awarded to every non-animal department, except for Department 18, Cultural Arts, which will award three Best of Shows.
 - b. One Merit award may be awarded for each 25 entries in a class, in all non-animal departments, for exceptional entries that were not awarded Best of Show.
18. Hours during which club animal exhibits are liable for herdsmanship judging are: (we will ask the judges to not judge during animal shows, but not guarantees)
 - a. Friday and Saturday – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 - b. Sunday – 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon
19. All barns will be closed and locked from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. or until superintendents arrive at the barn.
20. Absolutely no one—exhibitor, parent, or chaperone—will be allowed to stay in the barns overnight.
21. Non-animal Junior Fair exhibits may be checked out between 4:30 and 6:00 p.m. Sunday evening or by 10:00am on Monday. Exhibits not picked up by Monday at 10:00am will be disposed of. Exhibit receipt stubs given to exhibitors at check in must be shown to take out exhibits. No one other than the fair board is authorized to approve or allow early release of exhibits.

ATTENTION ALL JUNIOR FAIR EXHIBITORS

The Oconto County Fair is successful in large part due to the efforts of many volunteers. Since Junior Fair exhibitors are major beneficiaries the Fair Board does not feel it is unreasonable to ask that they contribute by assisting the volunteer fair board and other adult and youth volunteers with the fair preparations and take-down. For this reason, **ALL** Junior Fair exhibitors (**this includes non-animal**) in all departments are being asked and will be expected to help set up or clean up the grounds after the fair.

The following are the guidelines for the County Fair:

- ❖ All Junior Fair exhibitors will be expected to volunteer a minimum of three hours to help set up and/or clean up the fairgrounds on the Monday after the fair. The work may or may not be in the area the exhibitor showed in and this expectation is in addition to time that may be required of exhibitors by superintendents in any of the barns.
- ❖ The fair board is optimistic that with plenty of help and organization the job can be done by early afternoon.
- ❖ Exhibitors will be checked in, organized into crews, assigned jobs, and checked out by a designated fair board member.
- ❖ If an exhibitor is 13 years old or younger, they must have an adult with them to supervise.
- ❖ Exhibitors whose club is responsible for food stand clean up and who are working in the food stand on Monday will be exempt from this requirement.
- ❖ Parents and other adults are also invited and encouraged to volunteer to help.

The Fair Board has developed an online sign up tool that will be published at a specific date and time (which will be shared via email to all youth exhibitors prior to be fair). There are plenty of opportunities to sign up for their 3 hours requirement.

EDUCATIONAL POINT REQUIREMENTS FOR OCONTO COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR ANIMAL EXHIBITORS

What are educational points? The county fair is the showcase event for animal project exhibitors, but these projects are expected to be learning and development activities for exhibitors--not just showing up for the four days of the fair. Educational points are earned throughout the year by participating in activities that increase members' knowledge of raising and showing project animals.

Who needs educational points? Exhibitors showing animals in the Junior Fair Division at the County Fair are required to document participation in a minimum of three programs/activities in order to be eligible to sell in the Sale of Champions. Eligibility to show at the fair is not affected by educational points. While all animal project exhibitors are strongly encouraged to meet this requirement, not doing so only affects an exhibitor's eligibility to sell a project in the Sale of Champions if they should otherwise qualify.

How many educational points are needed? Exhibitors must earn points for a minimum of **three (3) different educational activities each year** to meet this requirement. No duplicate activities will be counted. (For example, showing at three shows does not count as three points--this would be counted as one point.) At least one point must be species specific. Youth showing rabbits must participate in at least one activity that is rabbit focused, dairy project youth must earn at least one dairy point, etc. The minimum requirement for all exhibitors is three points. Exhibitors showing in more than three animal departments would be eligible to sell in all departments in which they qualify as long as they meet the three-point minimum. Completion of the YQCA program would count as one point for any of the species for which it is required. Educational points for the county fair can be earned any time from the day after the end of the previous fair through the date of check-in for this year's fair. (This would be Saturday or Sunday before the fair for horse and dog obedience exhibitors respectively, and Thursday of the fair for all other animal exhibitors.)

What counts as educational points?

Activities must fall into the following categories to count for points:

- ❖ Attend animal project workshops hosted by 4-H project leaders, agriculture education instructors, the Fair Youth Animal Project Committee, and/or UW-Extension.
- ❖ Teach a session at an animal project workshop or give a demonstration about your animal project at the county, club, or chapter level.
- ❖ Complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training (formerly known as Meat Animal Quality Assurance training). **This point is required for beef, dairy, dairy goat, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine exhibitors** and would count as one point for any one of the above species.
- ❖ Participate in livestock, dairy, equine, or small animal judging team practices and a contest (4-H Area Animal Science Day or FFA CDEs).
- ❖ Successfully complete a semester high school agriculture education course on livestock, dairy, equine, small animal production or veterinary science with a grade of C or better.
- ❖ Exhibit dairy, livestock, or small animals at the Wisconsin State Fair, or horses at the State 4-H Horse Show.
- ❖ Exhibit animals at a district or state junior or open show (examples: Northeast Jr. Livestock Show, WLBA Spring Preview Show, Northeast District 4-H Horse Association Open Show, district or state Holstein or colored breed dairy cattle shows, World Dairy Expo or World Beef Expo junior or open shows).
- ❖ Watch an organized junior or open show (must watch the show- just attending another county fair does not count).
- ❖ Attend an animal-focused camp (examples: Badger Dairy Camp, 4-H Livestock Show Camp).
- ❖ Volunteer with animals (examples: Humane Society, volunteer work at a show).
- ❖ Participate in UW-Extension, technical college, or industry sponsored workshop, seminar or other program on animal nutrition, reproduction, health, facilities, etc.

These are the activities that will be accepted for eligibility for the Sale of Champions. Activities that do not fall into these categories will not count unless pre-approved by the County Youth Animal Project committee. Plan ahead to be sure this requirement is met before fair time.

When participating in events outside the county, get the signature of a person coordinating the event, a project leader who is also attending, or someone who can validate attendance at the activity. A form is available from the UW-Extension Office or online at <http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>.

UW-Extension educators, agriculture education instructors, and the Youth Animal Project Committee are available to help clubs/chapters, individuals or families that wish to sponsor training programs. Contact one of the above for materials or assistance. Questions about the educational point requirement can be directed to Fair Board via email (ocontocountyouthfair@gmail.com)