



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 will be strictly enforced. 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 Board.

1. Junior Fair exhibitors must be members of 4H, FFA, or other recognized youth groups carrying out adult-supervised youth educational programs. The Fair Board must approve qualifying organizations not listed above.
2. All youth must meet their organization's requirements for exhibiting.
3. Junior exhibitor age requirements:
 - a. 4-H Cloverbuds or equivalent – between 5K and 2nd Grade on Oct 1 the year before the Fair
 - b. Junior Fair Exhibitors – between 3rd Grade and 12th Grade 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 requirements are eligible to show in the Junior Division.
4. The adult leader or advisor of a youth group should assist their members on how to read the premium book and enter correct entries based on the project areas they are able to enter in.
5. Entries need to be completed in the online Blue Ribbon portal at <https://www.BlueRibbonFair.com/BRFairProd/BlueRibbonStart.aspx?ID=1219> by midnight on June 30. If entries cannot be made online for any reason, you must contact the Fair data entry clerk, Stacie Pienta, to make other arrangements.
6. Corrections to Junior Fair entries may be made until July 31 by contacting entry clerk Stacie Pienta at staciepienta@gmail.com.
7. All requirements must be met by date or deadline. If not met, Exhibitors may show but will not qualify for Sale of Champions.
8. Exhibits of Junior Fair exhibitors who are not present for face-to-face judging can be judged but may be penalized one place. 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 Fair 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.
14. 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 ensure 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.
15. See individual department listings for entry dates and times and additional department requirements.
16. 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.
17. Hours during which club animal exhibits are liable for herdsman'ship judging are:
 - a. Friday and Saturday – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
18. All barns will be closed and locked from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. or until superintendents arrive at the barn.
19. Absolutely no one—exhibitor, parent, or chaperone—will be allowed to stay in the barns overnight.
20. Non-animal Junior Fair exhibits MUST BE PICKED UP DURING 3:00-6:00 pm.-on the Sunday of the Fair. The Fair Board is not responsible for missing or displaced 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 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, Junior Fair exhibitors in all departments are being asked and will be expected to help clean up the grounds after the fair.

ATTENTION ALL JUNIOR FAIR EXHIBITORS

The Oconto County Fair's success depends heavily on its volunteers. As major beneficiaries, Junior Fair exhibitors are expected to contribute by assisting the Fair Board and other volunteers with preparations and clean-up.

New Volunteer Requirements

- **Mandatory Sign-Up:** All Junior Fair exhibitors must sign up to volunteer for a minimum of 3 hours using the Fair Board Sign Up tool.
- **Fair Week Availability:** The Fair Board has various volunteer needs throughout the week, so exhibitors will be assigned shifts during the fair.
- **No Exemptions:** There will be no exceptions to this requirement.

Why Volunteering is Important

Volunteering teaches valuable life skills, builds community, and ensures the Fair's success. We appreciate your cooperation.

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: (All of out-county activities require paperwork signed for proof of attendance/participation.)

- ❖ 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 **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 animal-related 4-H and FFA team practices and a contest (4-H Area Animal Science Day or FFA CDEs).
- ❖ Successfully completed 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). Multiple shows in a species can only count as one point.
- ❖ 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 Oconto County Youth Fair Board 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 the Fair Board President.