

## MARINETTE COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK PERFORMANCE CONTEST AND SALE RULES

The following rules will be enforced by the Marinette County Fair Association Board of Directors, its Livestock Committee, and the Livestock Rules Sub Committee. The Rules Sub Committee will consist of three appointed members for two-year terms. Two members will be appointed in even number years and one member in odd number years. The Marinette County Agricultural UW Extension Agent will serve as a non-voting advisory member. **All rules must be followed to be eligible for the Youth Livestock Auction held at Marinette County Fair.**

### GENERAL LIVESTOCK PERFORMANCE CONTEST AND SALE RULES

1. The Livestock Performance Contest and Sale will consist of three parts:
  1. **Rate of Gain**
  2. **Live Judging**
  3. **Carcass Evaluation (Ultrasound)**
2. The lowest sum of rate of gain, live judging, and carcass judging placements will be awarded overall grand champion. Reserve grand champion will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest sum. Highest carcass ranking will determine tie breaker. In the event ultrasound is not available, live judging will determine tie breaker.
3. All exhibitors must belong to a recognized youth organization and conform to 4-H eligibility rules (grades 3 thru high school graduation plus 1 year)
4. All exhibitors must complete standard record keeping sheets for each species they are exhibiting. Record keeping sheets must be turned in completed and approved by the livestock committee prior to receiving their sale proceeds. These forms are available from the UW Extension office.
5. Each exhibitor may exhibit in any or all species, with a maximum of two entries that will be eligible for auction. If more than 45 entries are eligible for auction, each exhibitor will be allowed to sell only one animal.
6. Any market animal that has been sold at auction at any other show is not eligible to be shown. It is not legal to retain show rights.
7. Marinette County Fair Premium books have all state animal regulations and paperwork and other documentation required to show animals at the County Fair. Documentation varies by species.
8. The Marinette County Fair Association Board of Directors will arrange for all special ribbons and awards.

## **EDUCATIONAL EVENTS**

1. All exhibitors must attend YQCA training annually. YQCA completion certificate should be turned in at or before the August Livestock Committee meeting.
2. Exhibitors and family members are encouraged to attend educational events held at Livestock Committee meetings, as well as other events sponsored by other organizations.
3. Each exhibitor must be represented at a minimum of 2 Livestock Committee meetings during the year. The year runs from September thru August. Failure to meet this requirement will result in disqualification from auction.
  - a. Exhibitors in grades 9 and up are required to personally attend the meetings. One of the two meeting requirement can be met by attending a general Fair Board of Directors meeting in place of a Livestock Committee meeting.
  - b. Exhibitors younger than grade 9 are encouraged to attend the livestock committee meetings. This requirement can also be satisfied by a family member, specifically a parent/guardian or sibling representing them, at the committee meetings.

## **WEIGH IN STANDARDS**

When available, all animals will be subject to an initial weigh in. Initial weigh in would not be held if prohibited by State Health or Veterinarian Regulations.

1. Exhibitors or a parent/guardian must own the animal at initial weigh in. If there is more than one exhibitor in an immediate family, animals need not be designated to a specific exhibitor within that family.
2. All animals must be tagged with RFID tags which are provided by and must be purchased from the Marinette County Fair.
  - a. Swine, Sheep, and Goats will be ear tagged at initial weigh ins.
  - b. Steers must be ear tagged prior to initial weigh in. All information from the RFID tag should be written down and provided at the initial weigh in.
3. Each weighed in animal must have 2 ear tags. One will be the fair RFID tag. The other tag can be either another RFID tag or any other standard ear tag. If RFID tag is lost, a new one must be purchased and the tag put in that animal after contacting someone from the livestock rules committee. Animals that come to the fair without RFID tags will be disqualified.
4. Swine, Goats, and Lambs will be weighed 103 days before opening day of the fair. Steers will be weighed 159 days before opening day of the fair.

**Swine-** Maximum 4 animals per exhibitor  
Barrows or Gilts allowed  
60# maximum weight  
Detailing and castrating must be healed (Detailing not required)

**Sheep-** Maximum 4 animals per exhibitor  
Ewes or Wether lambs  
60# maximum weight  
Some evidence of castration must be apparent on males  
Tails must be docked such that lamb can lift its tail

**Goat-** Maximum 4 animals per exhibitor  
40# maximum weight  
Male kids must be castrated

**Steer-** Maximum 4 animals per exhibitor  
900# maximum weight  
May be any combination of beef or dairy breed  
Dehorned, castrated, and healed  
Born no earlier than January 1 of the previous year  
Recommended minimum weights:  
Dairy breed- 600#  
Beef breed- 700#

In the case where no initial weigh in is allowed, photos of each animal with RFID and 2<sup>nd</sup> tag visible and in the ears of the animal will be required and must be received by the Livestock Committee designee by the originally scheduled weigh in date and time.

#### **ADDITIONAL BEEF INFORMATION**

Beef Breed and Dairy Breed steers will be judged separately. Dairy breed steers will consist of purebred or cross-bred steers of Holstein, Guernsey, Jersey, Ayrshire, and Brown Swiss lineage only. Any steers not from these 5 breeds must be shown in the beef breed classes. Unless noted, further references to 'steer' refers to both Beef Breed and Dairy Breed animals. Exhibitors can weigh in both Beef Breed and Dairy Breed steers at initial weigh in and at fair weigh in, however one animal must then be selected for the Livestock Performance Contest and Sale. This must be done prior to ultrasound. The other steer will not be allowed to ultrasound for the contest and must be judged in a market class.

## **BIDDER SHEETS**

Each exhibitor will be required to submit bidder sheets from 2 different potential bidders (completed by the potential bidder) per species intending to compete and be sold in the performance contest and sale.

Immediate family members cannot submit bidder sheets from duplicate bidders.

To be eligible for sale, bidder sheets **MUST** be turned in at or before the August Livestock Committee meeting. Meeting is typically held the first Monday of August at 7:00 pm.

## **FAIR**

Animals will be weighed on fair entry day to determine show eligibility and rate of gain. Each exhibitor will get two chances to make minimum weight per animal. Once an eligible weight has been made, the animal cannot be re-weighed. Weigh in and ultrasound schedule will be set prior to the fair, according to species.

No animals will be wet going into weigh in or ultrasound.

## **SALE STANDARDS**

To be eligible to sell at the youth livestock auction, final sale standards must be met.

**Swine**- Minimum lean muscle percentage of 48%  
Minimum weight- 220#  
Minimum Rate of Gain- 1.7#/day  
\*In case of no initial weigh in, maximum weight is 325#

**Sheep**- Minimum boneless retail cut of 44%  
Minimum weight- 90#; no maximum  
Minimum Rate of Gain- .55#/day

**Steer**- Yield Grade #1, #2, or #3 AND Market Grade Select or better  
Yield Grade #4 AND Market Grade High Choice or better  
Minimum weight- 1000#; no maximum  
Minimum Rate of Gain- 2.2#/day

**Goat**- Market Grade Good or Choice  
Minimum weight- 55#; no maximum

### Minimum Rate of Gain- .25#/day

Rate of gain will be calculated and rounded to the nearest hundredth of a pound on all species as soon as possible after an animal is weighed in.

When available, ultrasound scanning at the fair will be used to determine lean muscle percentage, boneless retail cut, and Yield and Market Grades. If these criteria are not able to be calculated from ultrasound data, the nearest equivalent measures will be calculated and used as carcass rank determinant, as approved by the Livestock Rules Committee consensus.

### LIVE PERFORMANCE JUDGING

1. Each exhibitor must participate in the showmanship class for species selling at the sale.
2. Exhibitors must show their own animal in the live judging performance class. Any exceptions must be approved by the Fair Association Board of Directors or their designees.
3. Steers, wethers, goat kids, or barrows showing masculine coarseness or evidence of late and/or incomplete castration will be discriminated against by the judge.
4. Any animal that becomes wild and uncontrollable any time during the show may be declared ineligible by the judge or by the Department Superintendent.
5. All market animals must be shown alive to be eligible for carcass awards and premiums.
6. The show judge is authorized to eliminate unclean animals or participants from the show. Animals eliminated from the show are ineligible for sale.

### AUCTION SALE

1. The sale will be held the Friday of the fair at 7:00 pm.
2. All eligible animals must be sold.
3. The Livestock Committee will arrange for a local market outlet to purchase sale eligible animals not bought at sale and will be purchased at the current market rates.
4. Exhibitors may buy back their own animals but must pay all sale commissions.
5. Once an animal is sold, it becomes property of the buyer. However, the exhibitor has the responsibility of caring for the animal until it leaves the fairgrounds on the last day of the fair. The Livestock Committee will arrange for transport of animals to a designated slaughter facility or arrange for small animal slaughter. Any buyers wishing to have their animals processed at a different facility are responsible for arranging transportation and its cost.
6. Stamped addressed, hand written thank you card to exhibitor's buyer and copies of project record sheets are to be turned in to the Livestock Committee or their designee at or before the September Livestock Committee meeting. Checks will be distributed when all requirements are met.
7. A sales commission of 7% will be charged by the Marinette County Fair Association to offset costs incidental to conducting the sale and show.
8. One member from the family or friend must be present for set up or take down at the auction.
9. All exhibitors must sign a waiver declaring the Marinette County Fair Association free and clear of financial responsibility for the failure of a successful bidder to pay the Association

for a purchased animal at the sale. In such case, the Association will waive the exhibitor's responsibility for the 7% auction commission.

10. All exhibitors and their parent or guardian must sign a form attesting to proper withdrawal of all additives and injections administered to the animal being shown. All animals going to slaughter may have tissue samples collected and submitted to the state laboratory by the state meat inspectors. The exhibitor will pay the sample analysis fee.

## **SMALL ANIMAL SALE**

Poultry and Rabbit market performance contest and sale will consist of the following components:

- a. Live Judging
- b. Weight criteria

Only Grand and Reserve Grand Champion will be eligible for auction.

Any exhibitor participating in the Small Animal portion of the livestock auction must also show at least one other animal in their species (not in the auction).

Exhibitors must participate in the showmanship class for their species at the fair.

Classes are as follows:

1. Chickens
  - a. Fryer 2.5-4.5 pounds
  - b. Broiler 4.5-7.0 pounds
  - c. Roaster 7.1-12.0 pounds
2. Rabbits
  - a. Fryer 3.0-5.0 pounds
  - b. Roaster 5.1-8.0 pounds
  - c. Stew minimum 8 pounds

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