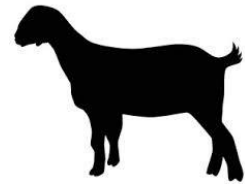




2022 GOAT PROJECT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES



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IMPORTANT DATES		IMPORTANT INFO	
Registration	March 7 th		
Birth Date (Market Projects)	After November 1 st , 2021	Minimum Weight @ Fair (Market Projects)	65 lbs
Age (Show Goats)	Minimum: 4 Months @ Fair		
Possession	May 1 st	Record Book (Both Market and show only)	Required Due: 9/12/22
Tagging	TBD	Thank You Note	Required Due: 10/3/22

Participating 4-H youth must abide by all general rules and regulations listed in the Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council's Policies & Procedures books and the Premium Book of the Northwestern Michigan Fair. This includes, but is not limited to, Code of Conducts, registration deadlines, showmanship and market requirements, record book and thank you letter requirements, etc.

Registration Requirements

- ◆ To participate in a 4-H market goat project, youth must attain the age of eight (8) or older by January 1st of that calendar year and be registered with 4-H Online 2.0
- ◆ All Goat Participants (Market, Show only and Cloverbuds) MUST complete the online registration via the Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council's website NO LATER THAN midnight the first Monday of March.
 - There are a variety of goat projects to register for: market, pack obstacle, draft, and breed
 - The number of goats allowed per participant MAY be limited based on pen availability during fair
 - EVERY goat at the fair MUST be shown in at least one class
 - Optional: Each 4-H market goat participant may register an extra market goat for \$10, to be paid on tagging day. The extra goat may only be used within the family that purchased it and only one (1) market goat may be brought to the fair per 4-H member.
 - If the 2nd goat is a doe, it MAY be shown in breed classes.
- ◆ To participate in the 4-H livestock shows and auction at the fair, youth must follow all registration requirements listed in the Northwestern Michigan Fair's Premium Book.

- ◆ To participate in the 4-H livestock auction at the fair, youth must register and compete in the appropriate showmanship AND market classes.

Animal Requirements

- ◆ Official identification requirements:
 - ALL goats MUST have an official USDA scrapies identification tag or registration papers
 - The scrapies tag or registration papers are provided by the breeder/seller
 - All non-registered 4-H goats must be physically tagged in the ear or tattooed with the scrapies ID #
 - Tattoos:
 - Registered goats must be tattooed with the assigned registration number from the association and documented on official registration papers
 - Corresponding scrapies tag or a copy of the registration papers must accompany the goat when unloading at the fair
 - This will be held in the fair office throughout the week of fair. Members are responsible for picking up their forms at the end of fair week
 - Microchips:
 - Must comply with MDARD requirements for microchipped goat management in Michigan
 - A corresponding chip reader must accompany the goat to the fair
 - Animals with tattoos that cannot be read or animals without valid paperwork will not be allowed on the fairgrounds
 - It is the owner's responsibility to get their goat tagged or tattooed PRIOR to fair
- ◆ Only does and wethers are allowed in the 4-H shows. NO BUCKS will be permitted.
 - No pregnant does are allowed.
 - Wethers need to be properly castrated and the castration procedure must be COMPLETELY HEALED showing no signs of swelling, discharge, or decay upon check in at the fair.
 - Horned Goats:
 - All 4-H market goats must be properly disbudded
 - Dairy goats shown in showmanship or breed classes must be properly disbudded
 - Working dairy goats shown in pack or draft classes may have horns
 - These goats will enter and exit the fairgrounds on show day. Times will be assigned the week prior to fair.
 - They may not remain on the fairgrounds throughout the week
 - Fiber and Meat goats shown in breed and pack obstacle classes are allowed to be horned per breed standards
 - All goats shown in Cloverbud classes must be properly disbudded
- ◆ Goat Health:
 - All goats must be deloused, dewormed, mite free, and current on their CD&T vaccination, including annual booster
 - Hooves should be trimmed as needed and checked regularly for signs of disease and infection
 - All goats will undergo a health inspection prior to gaining access to the fairgrounds

- Inspection includes a CD&T vaccination check, general body condition, lice/parasite check, hoof check, visible infections/cuts/open wounds, sore mouth, and anemia
 - Animals that do not pass inspection will not be allowed at the fair
- Any goat having known exposure to infectious, contagious or toxicological diseases cannot be brought to fair
- Any goat displaying symptoms of illness or injury, displaying open wounds, or unable to participate in registered events will be immediately quarantined and examined by the fair veterinarian. The veterinarian will determine whether or not the goat can stay on the fairgrounds
- ◆ Market Animal Requirements:
 - Must be a meat breed (Boer, Kiko, or Boer/Kiko Cross); wether or doe
 - Market goats must be born on or after November 1st of the previous year.
 - Market goats must be in possession or under the care of the 4-H member by May 1st.
 - Must be disbudded with no scurs or horn regrowth longer than 2 inches
 - Must be a minimum of 65 pounds at weigh in the first Saturday of fair
 - Underweight goats can still be shown in showmanship class, but will not be eligible for market class or the livestock auction
 - Market goats may not be used for breed entries
 - Meat goats are to be shown with a link or leather collar and must be properly fitted for best performance
- ◆ Breed Project Requirements:
 - Does must be at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full breed to qualify
 - Does must be a minimum of 4 months of age
 - Horns:
 - Meat breed does can be shown with horns
 - Dairy breed does must be disbudded
 - Breed goats should be shown using a link chain or leather collar closest to the color of the goat
 - Must be fitted and of sufficient strength to maintain proper control
- ◆ Pack & Draft Project Requirements:
 - Also known as “utility” or “working” animals
 - Judged based upon the experience of the *animal* and the 4-Her
 - Can be any breed; Purebred or crossbred
 - Utility animals may be a wether or doe (either dry or in milk) of at least 4 months of age
 - Goats under 1 year old should carry no more than 10% of their body weight; Goats over the age of two and fully conditioned can carry up to 30% of their body weight
 - Pack goats should be exercised often and handled multiple times a week; Regular hikes are recommended
 - Pack goats must have good temperament and be controlled by the 4-Her
 - 4-Her is responsible for acquiring the correct equipment:
 - A proper pack; Sized based upon the height and weight of the goat
 - Soft-sided dog packs are recommended for beginners

- Cross buck saddles are recommended for experienced pack goats, but soft-sided dog packs may be used
 - Pack goats may be on a lead up to 18" in length for beginners; NO decorative leads or neckties
- 4-Her will need to know how to properly load a pack
 - Weight should be evenly distributed and be appropriate for the size and experience of the animal
- "Draft" refers to driving a goat hitched to a cart. Advanced participants are encouraged to do a multi-hitch with cart
 - **Beginners may opt to harness and walk behind the goat demonstrating commands**
 - Goats should be able to respond to verbal reigning commands: whoa, walk on, gee (right) or haw (left)
 - Goats should have experience being hitched to the equipment
 - 4-Hers will need a draft harness and cart
- Leather collars are recommended, NO vinyl or colorful collars

Fair Week Requirements

- ◆ General Requirements:
 - Weigh-in takes place the first Saturday of fair.
 - **Youth must be present or must have made prior arrangements with the species chair for someone else to weigh their animal.**
 - No feed, feed bags, or supplies are to be left in the barn (everything must be stored at the campsite).
 - Youth are responsible for keeping their pens clean all week.
 - Pens must be clean and aisles swept by 8:30am each morning of fair.
 - Barn Duty:
 - 4-H'er is required to sign up and complete 2 sessions throughout the week of fair
 - Additional sessions may be required based on the number of participants registered in the barn
- ◆ Animal Care Requirements:
 - **Animals shall be treated humanely at all times. Any reports of unethical, inhumane, and/or abusive treatment or actions that cause distress and/or suffering to an animal will be evaluated by the Species Chair, Fair Superintendent, Fair Veterinarian, and/or other appropriate individuals and may lead to disqualification and removal from all 4-H and Open Livestock Shows held at the Fair.**
 - Youth are responsible for providing enough grain and hay to care for their goat throughout the entire week.
 - Youth are responsible for feeding, watering, and caring for their animal the **entire** week.
 - If the youth is unable to feed and water their animal at any point, it is the youth's responsibility to make arrangements for care

- Hay nets are NOT allowed. A nylon slow feed bag or a rigid hay feeder may be used
- Water shall remain full and fresh at all times
- ◆ Show Day Policies:
 - For the safety of the exhibitors and the public, the goat barn will close 2 hours prior to the start of the first show.
 - During barn closure times, only the 4-H'er and ONE (1) support person of their choice may enter the barn and/or staging areas.
 - The 4-H'er and support person may be required to wear an identification badge while in these areas.
 - The 4-H'er and their support person may fit and prepare the goat for show.
- ◆ Fair End Responsibilities:
 - Remove all pen decorations and ribbons
 - Completely clean and scrape down pens
 - Bars on the pen dividers need to be scrubbed and wiped down.
 - Remove and dispose of temporary fencing
 - Youth participant must be checked out of the barn by the species chair or superintendent

After Fair Requirements

- ◆ All market and show only goat participants must turn in a completed record book at the September Livestock council meeting to the specie chair.
- ◆ For market projects, a Thank you and 5 x 7 auction photo must be given to your buyer and a copy of the thank you note is due at the October Livestock council meeting.
- ◆ Failure to submit a completed record book at the September meeting and a Thank you at the October Meeting of the 4-H Livestock Council WILL result in suspension from the 4-H Livestock classes and auction held during the NW MI Fair the following year. Suspended youth who complete their record book and submit it to the 4-H Livestock Council by the November meeting that same year will again be eligible to register for 4-H Livestock classes and auction held during the NW MI Fair the following year.

Important Information & Tips for a Successful Goat Project

- ◆ Choosing a market goat:
 - Cost:
 - Expect to pay \$150-250 for a quality market project
 - Finding a breeder:
 - Contact a breeder early to reserve a kid – Some breeders will sell out quickly
 - Tell the breeder you are looking for a 4-H project – They may help with cost and selection
 - It is HIGHLY recommended that you only buy from a farm that performs regular testing and health checks on their herd
 - If looking for a goat to breed, be sure to ask the breeder if they test for CAE and CL
 - CAE and CL testing is recommended, but is NOT required for terminal animals

- Confirm that the breeder will disbud, castrate, and tag the kid with an official USDA Scrapie tag BEFORE pick up
 - Selecting a kid:
 - To finish in the ideal range of 75 – 90 pounds:
 - Select a goat born in November, December, or early January
 - Select a goat with a birth weight 6 – 7+ pounds
 - Select a kid with a good conformation
 - Refer to the American Boer Goat Association (ABGA) for details
- ◆ Choosing a dairy or meat breed doe (non-market):
 - Cost:
 - Expect to pay \$200 - \$450 for a quality doe
 - Finding a breeder:
 - Contact a breeder early to reserve a kid
 - Most breeders will work with the 4-Her to select an appropriate kid for show purposes
 - If selecting a dairy project:
 - Ask the breeder for genetic lines so you can look for “Milk *” (milk stars)
 - Try to obtain photos of the dams udder and sires’ mother’s udder
 - Purchase only from a tested herd
 - Ask for test results for CAE, CL, & Johne’s
 - Confirm that the breeder will:
 - Disbud
 - Provide scrapies tag or registration papers
 - Provide date of CD&T vaccination
 - Refer to breed standards of conformation according to American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA), Miniature Dairy Goat Association (MDGA), or American Goat Society (AGS)
- ◆ Nutrition:
 - Use a feed containing Ammonium Chloride
 - This will help prevent Urinary Calculi in wethers consuming high protein diets
 - Correct amount of grain and quality hay is essential
 - Amount of feed and free range minerals is dependent upon age of the goat. Consult your feed nutritionist or the species chair for help figuring your feed rations
 - Clean water daily
- ◆ Exercise:
 - Daily exercise is important for proper muscle development
 - Ensures good health and helps prepare for show
 - NOTE: Buyers can tell who has worked with their goat and who has not!
- ◆ Clipping for Show:
 - Clipping should be done at home 7-10 days before the fair
 - Market goats should be clipped with a #10 blade and blade guards
 - Dairy goats should have a full body clip with a fine clipper blade (#10 blade)
 - If the doe is in milk, use an extra fine blade (#30) on the udder
 - Be sure to clip the entire body including the head, belly, legs, and shape tail area into a broom pattern

- Angora goats should not be clipped for show
- Pygmy goats should not be clipped for show; Hair around the hooves and in the ears should be trimmed
- ◆ Fair Week Show Attire:
 - Market Class – Clean white shirt; white, khaki, or black pants; and solid shoes or boots
 - Breed Class – Clean white shirt; white, khaki, or black pants; and solid shoes or boots
 - Pack/Draft Class – Clean plaid shirt with jeans OR white shirt with white, khaki or black pants; and solid shoes or boots

Cloverbuds

- ◆ 4-H members who are 5-7 years of age (as of January 1st of the current year)
- ◆ Cloverbuds have their own showmanship class on Friday during fair week
- ◆ Cloverbuds may participate in 4-H pack/draft on the first Sunday of fair
- ◆ A parent or leader must accompany the Cloverbud in the ring during all shows
- ◆ Cloverbuds may bring their own goat project or use an older 4-Her's or siblings goat
 - Any breed may be used
- ◆ Cloverbuds are NOT allowed to show goats with horns
- ◆ Cloverbuds are not allowed to market their goats
- ◆ Cloverbud show attire follows show attire for older 4-Hers