
**McLean Co. Fair & 4-H Show
Rules & Regulations
Entries & Exhibits**

1. **Entries in all departments shown at the fair, except showmanship classes, must be brought to the University of Illinois Extension - McLean County Office, 402 N. Hershey Rd., Bloomington, IL 61704, by July 1, 2009 by 5 p.m. or postmarked by July 1, 2009. Late entries not accepted.**
2. Please see page 23 for age eligibility of 4-H Livestock, page 68 for age eligibility for 4-H Exhibits, and page 125 for age eligibility for Junior Show.
3. Each exhibit must be current year's work, (September 2008 - August 2009) and made or cared for by the exhibitor.
4. Exhibits must be placed and ready for exhibition according to the fairbook. Superintendents will check in the exhibits.
5. The exhibitor will show only one exhibit in each of the projects in which they are enrolled unless otherwise stated in the fairbook.
6. **No exhibits can be removed from the exhibit area before the published release time without the written permission from the 4-H Show Committee chair or his/her designate. Emergency permission during the show can also be granted by a direct order from the county veterinarian or the approval of an academic professional from the University of Illinois Extension-McLean County with the concurrence of the appropriate superintendent or the 4-H show director overseeing the affected project. Early released projects will not be allowed to return. Failure to comply will result in that individual not being permitted to show in that project area the following year.**
7. No name signs are to be moved without permission from the superintendent.
8. All exhibits are entered at owner's risk.
9. Judge's decision is final in all classes.
10. Premium checks will be distributed by 4-H club leaders following the fair. 4-H member or guardian must provide a signature to receive their check.
11. A youth that enrolls in a 4-H club/group, but fails to attend any meetings, tours, workshops, or other activities sponsored by the club/group, cannot be viewed as a 4-H participant/member. Therefore, the youth is not eligible to take part in 4-H exhibitions, receive 4-H premiums, or other 4-H awards and recognitions.
12. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the McLean County Fair and 4-H Show, please contact Don Meyer, County Director, at least two weeks prior to the event at University of Illinois Extension, McLean County, (309) 663-8306.

**4-H Exhibit Release
4:30-6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 2**

Conference Judging

Conference judging brings 4-H members and judges together to evaluate project exhibits. It provides a unique opportunity for 4-H exhibitors to learn from the experiences and knowledge of the judge. Conference judging involves one-on-one communication between judge and exhibitor.

1. During conference judging, the judge will encourage you to talk about your exhibit.
2. You will be asked some questions about your exhibit, so you should be prepared to tell what you were trying to do in your project (goals and objectives) and be able to describe the methods and processes used to produce the exhibit.
3. Read and follow the rules and requirements for your project carefully.
4. Learn good sportsmanship.
5. Listen carefully to the judge so you can accept constructive criticism, and learn from it.
6. Remember, judging comments can be helpful, but they are only one person's evaluation.

Supervision of the Grounds & Show

1. The general supervision of the grounds and entire exhibition is vested in the board of directors of the McLean County Fair.
2. 4-H Wristbands **MUST** be attached on wrist at ALL TIMES by 4-Hers, Leaders, and Superintendents while on the Fairgrounds. Wristbands will be used for entry at the gate each day, no other forms of fair passes will be distributed. Wristbands will be distributed prior to the Fair.
3. Exhibitors remaining on grounds at night must present their credentials to authorities on request and conduct themselves according to the rules outlined by the superintendent present. Any failure to comply with such request of the superintendent will prohibit the exhibitor from showing. This rule will be rigidly enforced. **All exhibitors staying overnight MUST comply with the Camping Rules listed on page 14.**
4. The orders of the fairbook will be executed by the 4-H Show Committee, who will have immediate charge of the exhibitors on their arrival and direct them to their proper places and see that none of the rules are violated with impunity.
5. Diligence will be used by the officers of the board to prevent injury or loss of articles on exhibition, but the board will not be responsible should any occur.
6. No parking will be permitted in the building area after 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 28.
7. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted on the fairgrounds.
8. No unofficial carts, no dogs, no bicycles, and no roller blades are allowed on the fairgrounds. Exhibition dogs and bicycles are allowed on their day of show and confined to the exhibition areas only.
9. The McLean County Fair reserves final and absolute rights to interpret these rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions or differences in regard thereto. It further reserves the right to amend or add to these rules as in its judgment it may determine. 4-H Show Committee may also combine, divide or eliminate as seen fit.
10. **No smoking is permitted in the exhibition buildings or barns.**

Livestock Rules and Regulations

1. Livestock exhibits will be permitted on the grounds at 12 noon, Tuesday, July 28 and must be in place by 5 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, July 29, with check in from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday. Horses will be checked in from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28. Dogs, cats and llamas please see project page for arrival and dismissal times.
2. All required Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (health papers) must be inspected by the Swine Superintendents before swine may be unloaded.
3. Registration papers or transfers must show ownership by the exhibitor only. No partnership registration papers will be accepted.
4. **Physical Abuse Statement**—The Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act prohibits physical mistreatment of animals. The use of electrical shock, manual striking of livestock, or withholding feed and water are considered direct violations of this act. The presence of any type of equipment to induce electrical shock in the exhibition area will be considered as intent to inflict electrical shock on animals under care of the person with the equipment. People found mistreating livestock shall be prohibited from exhibiting and be dismissed from the fairgrounds.
5. Animals that are uncontrollable or exhibiting vicious behavior will be dismissed from the show ring at the discretion of the appropriate superintendent. At the Director's discretion, animals may be dismissed from the fairgrounds for unsafe behavior.
6. Exhibitors must wear appropriate attire when exhibiting animals. A shirt with a collar, tucked in at the waist will constitute appropriate attire. Shorts are not considered appropriate. Failure to conform to this rule will result in dismissal from the show ring, at the discretion of the superintendent.
7. All animals must be shown in the judging ring by the owner unless otherwise authorized by the superintendent. No one will be allowed in the show ring except exhibitors exhibiting, officers, superintendent or persons designated by officers of the 4-H fair.
8. Each exhibitor must be on time in showing his or her animal. Class shows will not be delayed because of the absence of any exhibitor.
9. Each exhibitor will be directly responsible for keeping his or her pens and stables clean and bedded. Feeding, bedding, water pails, feed boxes and other equipment must be furnished by the exhibitor and kept **neatly** stored.
10. Competitors will, at all times, give the necessary personal attention to whatever they have on exhibition, and at the close of the fair take entire charge of same. Owners will be responsible for daily care and feeding of their animals while on the fairgrounds.
11. Livestock must conform to existing regulations listed in this catalog.
12. Breed associations are entitled to two representatives in the show ring during the presentation of trophies.
13. **No livestock will be led or carried from the fairgrounds.**
14. **After unloading livestock, please park trailers north of the chain link fence on the north end of the fairgrounds. Trailers not parked in designated area by 11 p.m. Wednesday, July 29 will be subject to towing.**
15. All exhibitors with livestock projects are required to use one of the following for bedding: shavings, sawdust, straw, or other material as approved by the committee.

Camping Rules and Regulations

1. All 4-H and Junior Show exhibitors (“Campers”) wishing to sleep overnight on the fairgrounds between the hours of midnight and 8 a.m. from Tuesday, July 28, 2009 through Sunday, August 2, 2009 must have their parent complete a camping application.
2. All overnight camping applications must be submitted to, and approved by, the McLean County Fair management. This approval notice must be displayed on the camping unit at all times while on the fairgrounds.
3. All 4-H and Junior Show exhibitors camping overnight must be under the direct supervision of a parent in attendance. It is permissible for one parent to be responsible for a maximum of four (4) exhibitors. At least one of the exhibitors must be a child of the supervising parent. All parents will be required to list, at the time of purchasing camping space, the names of the exhibitors for which they will be responsible.
4. Any changes of the information or names on this form (including parents or 4-H Campers) must be reported and approved in writing by the McLean County Fair office each day before camping will be allowed.
5. A \$15 per night camping fee will be assessed for each camping unit. Registration and payment is required on day of arrival in the McLean County Fair office. The same fee applies to each camping unit, regardless of camping equipment used.
6. All Campers must wear a designated ‘camping’ wristband provided by the McLean County Fair office at all times while on the fairgrounds.
7. All camping units must be placed in an area designated by the McLean County Fair office. No vehicles will be allowed to park in the camping area at any time.
8. All Campers are responsible for keeping their campsite neat and clean. All trash and waste must be disposed of in an approved manner. Dumping black/gray water directly on the ground is prohibited.
9. No alcoholic beverages, narcotics, tobacco, or illegal substances of any kind are permitted on the fairgrounds.
10. No campfires of any sort are allowed.
11. Campers are responsible to provide all electrical cords. Extension cords used to distribute power to electrical machines shall be rated 15 amps minimum and must contain ground wire. Cords not meeting these requirements shall be disconnected immediately from the power supply and required to meet the standards before reconnecting.
12. No modifying of electrical outlets is permitted. No electrical cords shall cross any roadways.
13. A curfew of 1 a.m. will be enforced to create ‘quiet hours’ between 1-6 a.m. A security guard will monitor the area to enforce curfew.
14. No dogs or pets are allowed on the fairgrounds. Exhibition dogs are only allowed on their day of show. No dogs or pets allowed in the camping area one hour preceding ‘quiet hours’ and one hour after ‘quiet hours’.
15. Anyone who violates the above rules or displays undesirable conduct, as determined by the McLean County Fair or security personnel for the McLean County Fair, will be required to leave the Fairgrounds that night. The supervising parent of the released Camper shall meet with the McLean County Fair manager the next business day.
16. Noncompliance with these rules may also result in the disqualification of an exhibitor’s exhibit and forfeiture of all ribbons, premiums, and awards.