

McLean County Fair & 4-H Show Rules & Regulations Entries & Exhibits

1. **Entries in all departments shown at the fair, except showmanship classes, must be registered by July 1, 2017 on <https://fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/919>. Late entries will not be accepted.**
2. Please see page 22 for age eligibility of 4-H Livestock, page 75 for age eligibility for 4-H Exhibits, and page 22 for age eligibility for Junior Show.
3. Each exhibit must be the current year's 4-H work (September 2016 - July 2017) and made or cared for by the exhibitor. All exhibits are individual projects and are prepared by one exhibitor, unless otherwise stated.
4. Exhibits must be placed and ready for exhibition according to the fair book. Superintendents will check in the exhibits. All exhibits are entered at owner's risk.
5. Exhibitor may show only one exhibit per class unless otherwise stated in the fair book. Member must be enrolled in appropriate 4-H curriculum by April 15 to exhibit in correlating class at the fair, unless otherwise noted.
6. **Unless otherwise noted, the maximum poster size for exhibits is 22" x 30" Maximum display size is 24" wide x 15" deep x 36" high. Omit title boards from display boards. Notecards accompanying exhibits cannot exceed 4" x 6" unless otherwise noted.**
7. **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, their designate and County Director. Emergency permission during the show can also be granted by direct order from the county veterinarian or the approval of a staff member 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 4-H member not being permitted to show in that project area the following year and will not be eligible for premiums during the current year.**
8. No name signs are to be moved without permission from the superintendent.
9. The judge's decision is final in all classes.
10. Premium checks will be mailed to the 4-H member following the fair.
Disclaimer: *"The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflected in this Premium Book."*
11. A youth who 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 the McLean County 4-H Show.
12. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the McLean County Fair and 4-H Show, please contact Bobbie Lewis-Sibley, County Director, at least two weeks prior to the event at the McLean County Extension Office, (309) 663-8306.

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 a one-on-one communication between judge and exhibitor. The judge will encourage youth to talk about their exhibit. Please be prepared to discuss the goals and objectives of the project and be able to describe the methods and processes used to produce the exhibit.

Supervision of the Grounds & Show

1. The general supervision of the grounds is vested in the board of directors of the McLean County Fair.
2. **All 4-H wristbands MUST be attached on wrist at ALL TIMES by 4-H members, 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 authority present. Any failure to comply with such request of the authorities 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 rules and guidelines of the fair book will be executed by Extension staff in conjunction with the 4-H Show Committee, who will have immediate charge of the exhibitors on their arrival, 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 McLean County Fair Association board and the University of Illinois Extension to prevent injury or loss of articles on exhibition, but the board and committee will not be responsible should any occur.
6. No parking will be permitted in the building area after 8 p.m. on Tuesday, August 1. Violators are subject to towing.
7. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted on the fairgrounds. Anyone in violation of this rule will be required to leave the fairgrounds. Non-compliance by an exhibitor may result in the disqualification of an exhibitor's exhibit and forfeiture of all ribbons, premiums, and awards.
8. Unofficial golf carts/carts, dogs, bicycles, and roller blades are not 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 and McLean County Extension office 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. The 4-H Show Committee may also combine, divide or eliminate classes as seen fit.
10. **No smoking is permitted within 15 feet of the exhibition buildings or barns.**

Livestock Rules and Regulations

1. Livestock exhibits will be permitted on the grounds at Noon on Tuesday, August 1 and must be in place by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2. Swine will be checked in between 2-5 p.m. on Wednesday August 2. Horses will be checked in from 6-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 1. For dogs, cats and llamas please see project page for arrival and dismissal times.
2. The online 4-H Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification is required for all youth who enroll in the following animal science projects: beef, swine, sheep, dairy, horse, goats, poultry, rabbits, dogs, cats, small pets, and all Animal Science poster projects. Failure to complete QA&E by July 1 will result in the member's animal science project enrollment being cancelled and they will be ineligible to exhibit in the McLean County and Illinois State Fair. This is a one time training. Once a 4-H member has completed it for any species it does not need to be completed again. The training is available online at: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/>.
3. All required Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (health papers) must be inspected by the Swine Superintendents during check-in.
4. Registration papers or transfers must show ownership by the exhibitor. The registration papers may also include the names of immediate family members. No partnership registration papers between families will be accepted. See Horse section on page 53 for horse ownership and leasing rules.
5. **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.
6. Animals that are uncontrollable or exhibiting vicious behavior will be dismissed from the show ring at the discretion of the superintendent. At the Unit Director and Show Director's discretion, animals may be dismissed from the fairgrounds for unsafe behavior.
7. Exhibitors must wear appropriate attire when exhibiting animals. A shirt with a collar, tucked in at the waist and closed-toed shoes 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.
8. 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 Show.
9. 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.
10. Each exhibitor will be directly responsible for keeping his or her pens and stables clean and bedded. Feed, bedding, water pails, feed boxes and other equipment must be furnished by the exhibitor and stored neatly. Each exhibitor will also be responsible for tearing down their pen and cleaning up their area after the fair.
11. 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.
12. Livestock must conform to existing regulations listed in this book.
13. Breed associations are entitled to two representatives in the show ring during the presentation of trophies.
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. on Wednesday, 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, August 1, 2017 through Sunday, August 6, 2017 must have their parent complete a camping application.
2. All overnight camping applications must be submitted 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. One vehicle 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. Anyone in violation of this rule will be required to leave the fairgrounds. Non-compliance by an exhibitor may result in the disqualification of an exhibitor’s exhibit and forfeiture of all ribbons, premiums, and awards.
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 12 a.m. will be enforced to create ‘quiet hours’ between 12-6 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. Non-compliance with these rules may also result in the disqualification of an exhibitor’s exhibit and forfeiture of all ribbons, premiums, and awards.