

4-H Handbook

Chaffee County Fair 2026

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COLORADO 4-H CODE OF CONDUCT

The Colorado 4-H Code of Conduct is designed to create a safe, welcoming environment that supports meaningful learning and personal growth. Participation in 4-H Youth Development events and activities is a privilege, not a right, and is contingent upon adherence to this Code.

All individuals participating in or volunteering with the Colorado 4-H Youth Development program at any level, including individual, club, county, regional, state, national, or international, are subject to the behavior standards outlined in the Colorado 4-H Code of Conduct. In addition to this Code, specific events or activities may have additional policies, rules, or procedures that participants are also expected to follow.

The Colorado 4-H Code of Conduct applies to both face-to-face and online environments and will be enforced with all 4-H youth members, parents/guardians and volunteers.

When I participate in 4-H programs, I agree to:

- Adhere to all Colorado 4-H Youth Development Program policies and procedures.
- Respect the rights and authority of 4-H volunteers and Extension and 4-H Professionals.
- Conduct myself in a courteous, respectful, and ethical manner; demonstrate good sportsmanship; and serve as a positive role model.
- Abstain from abuse (physical and/or verbal) and harassment. All aggressive, vulgar, or violent language and behavior (ex: bullying, fighting, threats, insults, cursing, discrimination, etc.) is not permitted.
- Abstain from the use of alcohol, marijuana, illegal or illicit drugs, and all tobacco or nicotine products, including e-cigarettes and vaping devices, during 4-H events and activities.
- As outlined in the Colorado 4-H Dress Code, dress appropriately for all 4-H events and activities, following any specific attire requirements. Clothing that is overly revealing or displays profanity, violence, political affiliation, or promotes tobacco, alcohol, or drugs is not permitted.
- Use mobile phones or other electronic devices during scheduled 4-H activities only in a manner that is consistent with the approved activity and does not cause disruption.
- Promote and model the responsible, respectful, and lawful use of social media. The creation or sharing of content that is abusive, threatening, defamatory, obscene, harassing, or that contributes to a hostile environment is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.
- Respect the property of others, including facilities, equipment, and personal belongings. Damage, destruction, theft, or removal of property is strictly prohibited. Participants and/or their parents or guardians will be held financially responsible for any damage caused to program property or the personal items of others.
- Not possess, use, or distribute firearms, archery equipment, fireworks, knives, or any other items that could be used as weapons during 4-H programs or events, except under adult supervision as part of scheduled instructional activities.
- Acknowledge that personal property may be subject to search when there is

reasonable suspicion of a violation of law or 4-H policies. This may include searches of outer clothing, luggage, personal belongings, lodging rooms, and furniture.

- Complete my own work on all 4-H projects, properly cite all source materials, including those generated by artificial intelligence when appropriate, avoid plagiarism, and uphold academic integrity.

Consequences for violating any part of the Colorado 4-H Code of Conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Notification of parents/guardians and appropriate 4-H volunteers and/or staff members
- Restriction from participation in future 4-H events
- Removal from 4-H officer roles held
- Removal from 4-H membership
- Removal from participation in 4-H events/activities; the participant and/or their parent(s)/guardian(s) will be responsible for all associated costs incurred because of their removal

The behavior of 4-H members, parents, family members, and volunteers, both during and outside of 4-H activities, can impact their status within the program. All must share the responsibility to uphold the 4-H Code of Conduct and are encouraged to report any concerns or violations to 4-H leadership promptly and appropriately.

Note: A Signed Code of Conduct for each 4-H'er is located in 4HOnline, under profile information section.

GENERAL 4-H LIVESTOCK RULES

Any market livestock animal needing medical attention while on the fairgrounds must notify the superintendent and the fair board veterinarian.

- A. All animal exhibitors will take a written project test. The points will be used for the Supreme Livestock Contest (Awards given at Achievement Banquet in the fall). The tests are mandatory, and animals will NOT sell unless a member has taken and passed the test (minimum 70 percent). Tests must be completed by June 25, 2026.
- B. **All members showing animals are required to participate in showmanship. Showmanship fulfills your project exhibition requirement for completing your 4-H project.** Failure to participate in showmanship makes the member ineligible to participate in the sale. Large classes may be divided at the discretion of the judge.
- C. All livestock must be weighed on arrival at fairgrounds to determine class. **Ear tags must be clean and readable at time of fair weigh-in.** All animals must be clean at time of weigh-in. Scale has been certified accurate by the Colorado Department of Agriculture and is checked each year before the fair. **County Fair Weigh-in is Wednesday, July 29 from 8:00-11:00 a.m.**
- D. If an animal's weight does not fall within the published weight limits below, whether overweight or under the minimum, they are allowed to be weighed 3 times with the average of the three weights to be used as the final weight. The animal may not leave the

scale area during this re-weigh period.

- E. The scale at the Chaffee County Fairgrounds is available for use by 4-H families throughout the year when accompanied by a member of the Fair Board. Species Superintendents often publish Open Scale days/times each year May-July. Members should treat the equipment with respect, clean up after themselves, secure the scale after use, and report any damage to the fairgrounds staff or Extension Office.
- F. Animal attendance at the spring weigh-in is mandatory to participate in any 4-H livestock show event and/or the Junior Market Livestock Sale. Ownership of market livestock is determined at the time of the spring weigh-in via ear tagging. Horse and dog ownership/lease is determined as of May 1 via 4HOnline. Rabbits must be tattooed and an ownership roster provided to the Extension Office at least 20 days prior to the Fair. Poultry must be banded and an ownership roster provided to the Extension Office by **July 7, 2026**. All other animals must be owned by the exhibitor 60 days prior to the show. Members must be able to show proof of ownership upon request of the Fair Board. Market livestock must be banded or castrated before spring weigh-in for all male animals. Dates for the spring weigh-ins are **January 25, 2026 (1-3 pm) for beef & bovine animals, and April 26, 2026 (1-4 pm) for sheep, goats, and swine.**
- G. Extenuating circumstances that may prevent a 4-H'er from bringing their animal to the spring weigh-in must appeal their situation to the Chaffee County Fair Board at the regular meeting prior to the weigh-in event. This appeal must first be made in writing to the CSU Extension 4-H Agent and accepted by them before proceeding to the Fair Board. In the event of unforeseen animal illness or other emergencies, any request must be submitted to the 4-H Extension Agent and/or Fair Board as soon as possible prior to weigh-in to determine if an exception is warranted. The decisions of the Fair Board will be final.
- H. 4-H members must feed and water animals from the time of entry until the animal leaves the fair.
- I. Animals that do not show cannot sell.
- J. Everyone who is enrolled in market livestock is allowed to sell at least one (1) animal, provided they make market weight and are not a white ribbon. All Grand Champions and Reserve Grand Champions **MUST** be sold, including Grand & Reserve Market beef, swine, sheep, goat, rabbit, turkey, and poultry.
After that, the following rules apply: If you elect to sell your beef project you can sell one (1) blue ribbon beef and one (1) other blue ribbon species, not beef. If you are not selling a beef, you can sell two (2) blue swine, sheep, goat, rabbit or poultry animals, or a combination of one (1) swine, sheep, goat, rabbit, or poultry (2 animals max) if both have been judged as blue ribbons. You can sell one (1) red ribbon beef, swine, sheep, goat, rabbit or poultry animal. White ribbon animals **DO NOT** sell. You can sell just one (1) animal, or maximum (2) animals, not including Grand Champions and Reserve Grand Champions.

Example:

You can sell:

- One Beef - Blue or Red
 - or One Sheep - Blue or Red
 - or One Swine - Blue or Red
 - or One Goat - Blue or Red
 - or One Meat Pen of Rabbit - Blue or Red
 - or One Meat Pen of Poultry - Blue or Red
 - or One Turkey - Blue or Red
 - or One Beef and one other species (Swine, Sheep, Goat, Pen of Meat Rabbits, Pen of Meat Poultry, or Turkey) – Both Blue Ribbon
 - or Two (2) sheep, goat, swine, meat pen of Rabbits, meat pen of Poultry or Turkey both blue ribbons
 - or One (1) sheep, goat, swine, meat pen of Rabbits, meat pen of Poultry or Turkey red ribbon
- K. A member may have help in grooming and showing before the fair. After the weigh-in, at the fair, the member must do the major grooming and showing with minimum assistance from parents, guardians, or leaders.
- L. Only members enrolled in the Chaffee/Lake County 4-H program may show an animal in 4-H shows. The enrollment deadline for returning and new members is January 8, 2026. New members wishing to participate in market beef must enroll prior to the beef weigh-in.
- M. Livestock record books will be reviewed by leaders BEFORE the fair. Record books do not have to come to the fair; however, members should have health forms for all market animals with them. **Completed record books are due in the office on or before August 18, 2026.**
- N. A completed record book is required for the completion of an animal project. Unless members have a valid reason for not completing their livestock project, including the record book, THEY WILL NOT be eligible to enroll in that livestock project next year.
- O. Animals that cannot be safely exhibited, shown, and moved into/out of show pens and sale rings may be excused from the show or sale, as determined by the Fair Board Livestock Committee.
- P. Animals to be sold must be walked through the sale ring.
- Q. The Chaffee County Fair Foundation charges a sale commission of 3% and a \$10 per head fee for all livestock selling through the Junior Livestock Auction. Applicable required fees will also be deducted from the sale proceeds (example: pork board, brand inspection, beef check-off, etc.).
- R. Animals who have received medication and whose withdrawal time has not ended before the fair must notify the superintendent, the fair board veterinarian, and the Extension Director at the time of weigh in. The animal may be sold at the sale, but buyers will be notified before the animal is offered for sale that the animal cannot be taken by the buyer until the withdrawal period is over. It will be the 4-H member's responsibility to take the

animal home and continue to properly feed and care for it until the withdrawal period is over.

- S. Any members wishing to participate in the Colorado State Fair are responsible for understanding the eligibility for nominating their animals and working with the extension office to complete their nomination procedures before the posted deadline. Navigate to <https://coloradostatefair.com/> for information on Livestock, Small Animal and Horse nomination procedures. Other 4-H contest information including dog contest information is available at <https://co4h.colostate.edu/state-fair-information/> .
- T. Compliance with all Colorado laws prohibiting tampering with or drugging of livestock and/or sale of adulterated meat is mandatory for any 4-H member and/or family member enrolled in a 4-H animal project. If legal charges are brought against any 4-H member/family, the member/family will be suspended from participation in all 4-H livestock activities pending resolution of those charges. If found guilty, the 4-H member/family will be banned from all animal projects by Colorado State University Extension 4-H Youth Development for one (1) year.
- U. Every county/area/regional 4-H program where youth have enrolled in market livestock projects will annually provide a meat quality assurance program in which every 4-H member enrolled in market livestock projects is expected to participate, according to guidelines described previously.
- V. Every 4-H member who enrolls in a market livestock project will sign a statement indicating their understanding and compliance with the wholesome meat act in order to protect the integrity of the food chain. The statement must be filed every time the member signs up for a market livestock project. These statements must be kept on file in the county office until the market animal has cleared all slaughter and meat inspections.
- W. All market animals that are 4-H projects must be individually identified: i.e., ear tags or other identification. Substitution of animals or altering identification is not permitted.
- X. 4-H Humane Animal Care Guidelines will be reviewed and practiced by every person enrolled in or participating in 4-H animal projects. Copies of this manual are available at the Extension office.
- Y. Proven violation of these requirements shall result in disqualification of that project for that year.
- Z. Cloverbuds (4-H members ages 5-7) may not enroll in, participate in, exhibit, or sell 4-H livestock projects.
- AA. COVID-19 Safety Guidelines for 4-H Members: Participants are asked to stay home if they are experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 or have had known contact with anyone with COVID-19 in the 5 days prior to the event.
- BB. Other “Niche” animals brought to the fair (e.g. companion animals, alpaca, lizards, parrots, etc.) will compete in the Niche Animal Science project section on Indoor judging day and will not stay on site overnight.

GROOMING AT FAIR

Note: "Junior Exhibitor" means a 4-H member of any age.

Clipping at the Fairgrounds will only be permitted in designated areas.

The Colorado 4-H program is expected to be a learning experience. 4-H members should prepare their project animal when it is being exhibited at the fair, being responsible for the cleaning, grooming, fitting, and showing of their animal. If assistance is provided, the exhibitor should be present and engaged to benefit from such teaching and instruction. It is recommended that another Colorado 4-H member be the first choice for assistance.

Assistance may be provided by the exhibitor's immediate family/legal guardian, or a Colorado 4-H Leader. All necessary safety precautions will be taken to maximize the well-being of all participants, spectators, and animals. Safety issues are at the discretion of the superintendent for said project. Noncompliance will result in the disqualification of that animal.

The Chaffee County Fair has adopted the following guidelines as set by the Colorado State Fair.

Unethically Fitted Livestock: The following are deemed unethical practices and may result in disciplinary action:

1. Doctoring, doping, tubing or injecting show animals for body "fill-ins" or the alteration, changing, defacing or any modification of the markings of show animals and the anatomical structure of an animal, the removal, alteration, changing or purposely damaging ear tags; any type of injection where oils, glycerin or like substances are used for body "fill-in," external applications of such things as liniments and blistering agents that would cause an edematous condition; use of ice packs or other refrigerants to alter the quality of the finish of an animal.
2. Icing of animals will not be allowed unless authorized by a veterinarian.
3. No animal may be decorated with any unnecessary paraphernalia during judging.
4. Injection, drenching, or application of any substance per rectum is prohibited. Further, the application of any substance to or near the tail or anus is prohibited.
5. Glitter is never permitted when fitting an animal for show or sale.
6. Any entry adding an artificial tail head or tail fin, artificial poll, or adding any hair or hair-like substance will be disqualified.
7. The showing of livestock of any ineligible age or showing of unethically fitted livestock is prohibited.

Fitting of Animal: All junior exhibitors named as owner, will accept, and acknowledge responsibility for the custody, care, and feeding of their animal(s). Junior exhibitors are expected to have prepared their own project animal for exhibition. While on the Fairgrounds, it is expected that animals exhibited in any junior show must be handled, fitted, dressed, washed, groomed, and shown for show competition by the junior exhibitor.

Assistance with Fitting: Assistance may only be provided by immediate family members (father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, sister, brother, grandparents, or legal guardian of exhibitor - this does not include hired family employees). Fair Superintendent may observe the assistance provided and the junior exhibitor/owner must be present when family member(s) and Superintendent(s) are aiding with the exhibitor's animal. Family members can also help with tasks such as verbal support, leading animals, feed, and watering. Only the junior exhibitor with the animal is allowed in the show ring and photo area. Junior exhibitors are encouraged to provide support for young exhibitors.



CHAFFEE COUNTY FAIR AND RODEO INCIDENT COMPLAINT FORM

Complaints must be presented to the Superintendent by way of a completed and signed complaint form with a \$75 deposit. Complaints determined to be legitimate will result in the deposit being returned, and appropriate action will be taken.

Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

Department in which incident occurred: _____

Department Superintendent: _____

Please explain in detail why you are filing this complaint:

Is there anyone who can verify your account of this incident?

What action would you like to see as a result of this complaint?

Please hand deliver this form to the Department Superintendent or Fair Board Chair along with your \$75.00 fee. If your complaint is found to be valid, your money will be returned.

WHOLESOME MEAT ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to guarantee to the potential buyers and the Chaffee County community that the animals being presented for purchase and eventual

slaughter are wholesome and edible food as determined by the USDA procedures. All youth enrolled in a market or breeding livestock project are required to attend a Meat Quality Assurance Program (in-person or online) once a year.

Fair Board Responsibilities:

- A. Governing (Rules & Regulations under USDA)
- B. Certification (Guarantee of Wholesome Meat)
- C. Enforcement
- D. Buyer Information

Extension Staff:

- A. Conduct an educational program covering Wholesome Meat Quality Assurance.
- B. Administer MQA tests.

Market Animal Exhibitor Responsibilities:

- A. Annually attend a Wholesome Meat Quality Assurance class.
- B. Annually take and pass with a minimum of 80% the MQA exam.
- C. Have the animal's CERTIFICATION AND STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE & MEDICATION RECORD up to date and present at final weigh in at Fair time. Animal will be weighed in as soon as paperwork is complete.
- D. Keep animal health history in a record book for one (1) year after harvest.
- E. The 4-H exhibitor and the parent/guardian (or responsible adult that helps the exhibitor) affirm medical history by signing the Certification Statement of Disclosure. Copies of labels of any administered substance must be provided.

Policy of Enforcement:

- A. USDA Inspection and Wholesome Certification of all livestock presented for slaughter will apply.
- B. For livestock going to slaughter, payment to exhibitor (seller) will be given after USDA agent certifies carcass meets Wholesome Meat certification guidelines. Checks for approved animals will be available from the Extension office after the fair upon receipt of a Thank You card/letter for buyer and completed record book(s).

Policy For Possible Allowances Under the Guidelines:

- A. Procedure for handling animals that have been administered drugs that have not met mandatory withdrawal periods prescribed by said drug. Notify the County Extension Director, the Fair Board veterinarian, and the overall Livestock Superintendent of the County Fair.
 - 1. Animal may be exhibited.
 - 2. Animal may sell but buyers will be informed of the situation before the animal is offered for sale.
 - 3. Animal cannot be harvested until the end of the withdrawal period has been verified

by a member of the Chaffee County Fair Board or the Extension Director.

4. If animal has withdrawal time remaining, it must be taken home by the member and fed and maintained as it was before the Fair (same feed ration).

B. Responsibilities to the buyer.

1. Buyers shall be informed about the situation before the animal is offered for sale.
2. Immediately following the Livestock auction, the following shall meet to inform and determine action to be taken:
 - a. Buyer
 - b. Sales Committee (Including a veterinarian)
 - c. Seller (Exhibitor, parent/guardian, or responsible adult)
3. The check to seller shall be held until the animal is certified wholesome by USDA inspection.

Policy For Noncompliance of USDA Certification:

This policy pertains to an animal that was not noted in the disclosure statement and that tests positive in both tests administered by the USDA (general screening and tissue sample).

A. USDA Rules will apply. The animal will be condemned.

B. Money will be returned to the buyer.

C. If determined that information in the health record was not disclosed, the 4-H exhibitor will not be allowed to participate in a 4-H market livestock project in Chaffee County for a period of one (1) year. A second offense in the same year or a repeat offense in a following year would result in total elimination from future 4-H market livestock projects in Chaffee County.

MARKET ANIMAL PROCESSING GUIDELINES

The Chaffee County 4-H Market Animal Processing Guidelines provide a general outline for 4-H families to better understand the butchering process, timeframes, and responsibilities of parties involved in market animal projects. The overall intention of 4-H market animal projects is to offer 4-H'ers the opportunity to “learn by doing” through the experience of selecting, caring for, showing, selling, and ultimately providing quality market animals to buyers through the Junior Market Livestock Sale. These guidelines may shift, and questions should be directed to the Chaffee County Extension office and/or the Fair Board.

Timeframes

- Typically, Grand and Reserve Grand Champion animals will go first, followed by beef (heaviest to lightest), then hogs (heaviest to lightest), and all other species (heaviest to lightest).

- Market poultry and rabbits should be processed as soon as possible following the end of Fair. It is in the best interest of the animal to be processed before weights become too large that the animal's body cannot sustain the rate of gain (particularly with market poultry). It is the 4-H family's responsibility to process rabbits/poultry themselves or arrange for private processing appointments.

Responsibility of Fair Board

- The Livestock Committee will assist in communicating processing timelines between processors and 4-H families.

Responsibility of 4-H Family

- To care for and feed (at the same feed ration) the animal from the end of fair until the animal is transported to slaughter.
- To arrange for, or personally handle, the processing of meat poultry and meat rabbits.
- To arrange with their animal's buyer regarding delivery of fully processed market poultry and rabbits following processing.
- Coordinate with their animal's buyer with transporting the animal to their processor of choice.

Responsibility of Extension

- Offer a variety of educational programs, workshops, clinics, and other learning opportunities throughout the 4-H year to educate on meat quality, feeding market animals, humane butchering techniques, etc.
- Coordinate with CSU regarding scheduling ultrasound and/or carcass contest data collection during and after Fair.

All other animal care guidelines set forth in the Chaffee County Fair Rule Book also apply (see section on WHOLESOME MEAT ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM.)

INFORMATION ON DANISH RIBBON SYSTEM

Exhibition of projects is a part of the 4-H educational experience. The Danish ribbon system, awarding ribbons by group, is used to recognize equal or near equal quality 4-H exhibits. Until the selection of the champions, exhibits are evaluated against a standard rather than in comparison. The Danish system allows each 4-H member to attain his/her own personal level of excellence.

- Blue Ribbon: A blue is given to those entries or members who most nearly meet the standards established for the particular class or level of performance. Excellence does not indicate perfection but is a wide grouping indicating a high degree of achievement towards the elements in the standards for the exhibit.
- Red Ribbon: The red grouping indicates those exhibits or individuals who rank good in relation to the particular standards or expected achievement of the class or contest.

Either the general level of accomplishment is less than excellent, or enough specific shortcomings are found to cause the placing to drop from excellent to good.

- White Ribbon: The white grouping contains those exhibits or contestants who upon evaluation are found lacking and may fail to meet minimum standards.
- Grand Champion (purple) and Reserve Champion (lavender/pink) Rosettes: One given per market project area pending entry numbers warrant. Awarded to the one best and second-best overall exhibit.
- Best in show awards may be given to each project area for non-market livestock (e.g. breeding, dairy, fiber, utility, projects, egg laying poultry, show poultry, etc. pending entry numbers warrant and at judges' discretion.

Other awards, buckles, prizes, etc. may be distributed as entry numbers and judges' discretion permits.

4-H LIVESTOCK RULES – LARGE SPECIES

Overall Superintendent Trent Howard

SWINE

Superintendent Kail Glenn

A 1 Showmanship / A 2 Market Swine / A 3 Breeding

RULES:

1. Minimum weight for market hogs at fair weigh-in is 235 lbs. with no variance. Maximum weight for market hogs at fair weigh-in is 300 lbs. with no variance. Hogs weighing more or less than this may be shown but not sold.
2. Barrows and gilts may be shown in the market swine class.
3. Sows and boars must be in breeding class.
4. All market hogs must be castrated before spring weigh-in.
5. Weight classes will be based on the number of entries and will be determined by the superintendent.

BEEF

Superintendent Trent Howard

B 1 Showmanship / B 2 Market / B 3 Breeding / B 4 Alternative Bovine Showmanship
B 5 Alternative Bovine Market

RULES:

1. Minimum weight for market steers at fair weigh-in is 1050 lbs. with no variance. Minimum weight for market heifers at fair weigh-in is 950 lbs. with no variance. No maximum weight. Steers and heifers weighing less than this may be shown but not sold. Minimum weight for market yaks at fair weigh-in is 550 lbs with no variance.

2. All calves must be weaned at or before January weigh-in.
3. Classes will be determined at the discretion of the superintendents.
4. Any animal purchased for this project must have Bill of Sale on the fairgrounds. Yak are an exotic bovine and are not brand inspected in the state of Colorado.
5. Market yak will be a minimum age of 18 months and must meet the minimum weight requirements to be sold in the Jr. Market Livestock Auction.
6. Yak exhibits shall not participate in Round Robin competition.
7. Market steer and heifers are eligible for the Grand and Reserve Grand champion beef. Breeding and alternative bovine are eligible for Best in Show Bovine award.

Other classes may be added to accommodate the needs of alternative bovine entries.

SHEEP

Superintendent Annie Schultz-Cordova

C 1 Showmanship / C 2 Market / C 3 Breeding / C 4 Fiber

RULES:

1. Minimum weight for market lambs at fair weigh-in is 100 lbs. with no variance. No maximum weight. Light lambs may be shown but not sold.
2. Lambs must be weaned from the ewe and bottle at least 30 days before the fair.
3. Lambs not having milk teeth will be considered yearlings.
4. All entries in sheep class will be mouthed to determine age.
5. Sheep must be shorn no longer than 1/4 inch **before** weigh-in at fair.
6. Ewes or wethers are accepted for market classes.
7. Weight classes will be based on number of entries and will be determined by the superintendent.
8. All female and intact male sheep must have a scrapie tag.

GOATS

Superintendent Annie Schultz-Cordova

D 1 Showmanship / D 2 Market / D 3 Breeding / D 4 Fiber / D 5 Utility / D 6 Dairy

RULES:

1. Minimum weight for market goats at fair weigh-in is 50 lbs. with no variance. No maximum weight. Light goats may be shown but not sold.
2. Wethers must have milk teeth at time of check-in.
3. Weight classes will be based on number of entries and will be determined by the superintendent.
4. Exhibitors may use halters or collars for show.
5. All female and intact male Goats must have a scrapie tag.

4-H LIVESTOCK RULES – SMALL SPECIES

Overall Small Animal Superintendent Taylor Woolmington

* Any market livestock animal needing medical attention while on the fairgrounds must notify the superintendent and the fair board veterinarian.

GENERAL 4-H SMALL LIVESTOCK SPECIES RULES

1. All 4-H Poultry and Rabbits must check-in between 4-6 pm on Tuesday, July 28, 2026.
2. Anyone is welcome to watch the judging but only exhibitors may talk to the judge during the show.
3. Exhibitors must provide Superintendent-approved feed and water containers. These must be stable enough to resist tipping over. No plastic, paper, glass or Styrofoam cups or bowls will be allowed. If you don't have an approved waterer or feeder, you will be required to pay a deposit and will be provided with one. The deposit will be returned when the containers are returned clean and in good condition at check-out.
4. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to regularly provide food and fresh, potable water for their animals while at the fairgrounds if needed. It is recommended that at least water be given. Any violation of the container rule or lack of clean water will be called to the attention of the small animal superintendent or a fair board member.
5. All cages must be cleaned.
6. The Chaffee County Fair Board reserves the right to ask an exhibitor to take their animal(s) home if it appears they are not being cared for properly.
7. The poultry show is subject to requirements from state veterinarian's office.
8. Best in show awards may be given to each project area for non-market livestock (e.g. breeding, dairy, fiber, utility, projects, egg laying poultry, show poultry, etc. pending entry numbers warrant and at judges' discretion).

RABBITS

Superintendent Taylor Woolmington

E 1 Rabbit Showmanship / E 2 Breeding Rabbits / E 3 Market Pens

E 4 Companion Rabbits / E 5 Fiber Rabbits

Breeding Rabbits

Must have at least three classes of each breed for champion and reserve champion breed to be given. Breeds may be combined if numbers are small.

Classes are: Any ARBA recognized breed or crossbreed.

Small or fancy breeds: Junior under 6 months, Senior 8 months or over.

Larger breeds: Pre junior under 3 months, Junior under 6 months, Intermediate 6-8 months, Senior 8 months or over.

Classes:

1. Pre junior doe

2. Junior doe
3. Intermediate doe
4. Senior doe
5. Pre junior buck
6. Junior buck
7. Intermediate buck
8. Senior buck

Companion Rabbits:

Any rabbit designated as a companion animal. Classes will be determined by judge.

Breeding and companion rabbits will be eligible for Best in show awards pending entry numbers warrant and at judges' discretion.

Meat Rabbits (Market Pen of 3):

Rabbits

- Must be a meat pen trio.
- Must be a meat breed only.
- Must be 4-6 pounds with each rabbit within 1/2 pound of each other. All three animals must be within a half-pound of the other two in the meat pen.
- Must be between 10-16 weeks of age - proof of age will be required. A written form will be provided.
- Must be ear tattooed. Rabbit tattoo rosters are due in the Extension office on July 7, 2026.
- The exhibitors must comply with the Wholesome MQA regulations, have attended the class, and passed the exam with a minimum of 80% in order to sell.

Meat rabbits are eligible for Grand and Reserve Grand market rabbit. Grand and Reserve Grand must sell. Every exhibitor can sell 1 meat pen of 3 regardless of placings. If the exhibitor has 2 pens with blue ribbons, they may sell both. Grand and Reserve Grand may sell a second pen regardless of placing.

POULTRY

Superintendent Taylor Woolmington

F-1 Showmanship / F-2 Fancy Breeds / F-3 Egg Producing Breeds / F-4 Market Chickens / F-5 Heritage Market / F-6 Ducks / F-7 Geese / F-8 Turkeys / F-9 Game Birds

Fancy Breeds

Divisions based on American Poultry Association classes:

American: Examples - Plymouth Rock, Buckeye, New Hampshire, Wyandotte, Rhode Island Red, Rhode Island White, Chanticleer, Jersey Giant, Lamona, Holland, Delaware.

Asiatic: Examples - Cochins, Langshan and Brahmas.

English: Examples - Dorking, Redcap, Orpinton, Cornish, Sussex, Astralorp.

Mediterranean: Examples - Leghorn, Minorca, Andalusian, Ancona, Catalana.

Continental: Examples - Polish, Crevecouer, LaFleche, Barnvelder.

All Other Standard Breeds (AOSB): Examples - Modern Game, Old English Game, Fizzle, Naked Neck, Araucun, Ameracauna.

Bantam Game: Check with Extension Office if you have bantams.

Bantam Single Comb Clean Leg (SCCL): Check with Extension Office if you have bantams.

Bantam Rose Comb Clean Leg (RCCL): Check with Extension Office if you have bantams.

Bantam All Other Clean Legged: Check with Extension Office if you have bantams.

Bantam Feather Legged: Check with Extension Office if you have bantams.

Classes to be shown within each Division

Cockerel - male hatched this year.

Pullet - female hatched this year.

Cock - male hatched prior to this year.

Hen - female hatched prior to this year.

May be combined at judge's discretion.

Egg Production

Members should have information about eggs produced to share with the judge.

Breeds used for egg production: Examples: Leghorn, Rhode Island Red, Plymouth Rock.

Classes

Cockerel - male hatched this year.

Pullet- female hatched this year.

Cock - male hatched prior to this year.

Hen - female hatched prior to this year.

May be combined at judge's discretion.

Fancy breeds and egg layers will be eligible for Best in Show award pending entry numbers warrant and at judges' discretion.

Market Chickens

- Must be a meat pen trio.
- Must be a meat or dual breed.
- Fryers must be 4 - 6 pounds. Each bird must be within ½ pound of each other.
- Roasters 6 + pounds. Each bird within ½ pound of each other. All three animals must

be within a half-pound of the other two in the meat pen.

- Must be 8 - 12 weeks of age for fryers, and up to 20 weeks for roasters; proof of age
 - will be required.
- Must be banded with rosters filed with the Extension office by July 7, 2026.

Ducks

- Can be individual.
- Must be a meat breed (Peking and Muscovy are two meat breeds).
- Must be 5 - 6 pounds.
- Must be 10 - 12 weeks of age. Proof of age will be required.
- Must be banded with rosters filed with the Extension office by July 7, 2026.

Geese

- Can be individual.
- Must be a meat breed.
- Must be 12 - 16 weeks of age. Proof of age will be required.
- Must be 10 - 12 pounds.
- Must be banded with rosters filed with the Extension office by July 7, 2026.

Turkeys

- Can be individual.
- Minimum weight must be 15 pounds - no maximum weight.
- Must be within a year of age. Proof of age will be required.
- Must be banded with rosters filed with the Extension office by July 7, 2026.

The exhibitors must comply with the Wholesome MQA regulations, have attended the class, and passed the exam with a minimum of 80% in order to sell.

Due to continued cases of HPAI, the poultry show may be subject to additional restrictions based on state veterinarian rules.

Market chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, and market game birds are eligible for Grand and Reserve Grand market poultry. Grand and Reserve Grand must sell. Every exhibitor can sell 1 meat pen of 3 regardless of placings. If the exhibitor has 2 pens with blue ribbons, they may sell both. Grand and Reserve Grand may sell a second pen regardless of placing. Poultry must be a recognized meat type species to sell. Heritage market classes may be split at judge's discretion.

HORSE

Superintendent Annie Schultz-Cordova

Entry forms are available through the Extension office and are due to the 4-H office by 5 p.m. on July 7, 2026.

1. Horse Levels Program

- a. The Colorado 4-H Horse Advancement Levels program is a logical step-by-step guide to teach youth horsemanship. The Levels Program is designed to accommodate Western & English disciplines & allows youth an opportunity to master skills and move through the Program while exploring different skill competencies. Chaffee County 4-H follows the latest edition of the CSU 4-H Horse Advancement Level Program. The full program guidelines can be found by contacting the Extension office.
 - b. A 4-H'er, at minimum, pass the Pre-Level 1 Safety Ground Work Test or Pre-Level 1 Safety Riding Test to be eligible to compete at the County Fair 4-H Horse Show. The gymkhana & over-fences (beginner or higher) competencies must be passed in order to show & compete in those classes.
 - c. All 4-H'ers are expected to compete & ride at a level appropriate for their skill level, with safety of horse and rider being of utmost importance.
2. The Chaffee County 4-H Horse Show will follow the Colorado 4-H Horse Rule Book.
- a. Bit guidelines for all western classes at the Chaffee County 4-H Horse Show will follow the Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book, Ranch Horse Division, Rule 300-D which states "There are no horse's age restrictions for types of bits or bridles used, however all chosen equipment must be used correctly. Snaffles and bosals must be ridden two-handed (with the exception of while using a rope or another task requiring the use of a free hand), curb/leverage bits must be ridden one handed, a two-rein outfit must be ridden one handed."
 - b. English bit guidelines will follow the discipline-specific rules set forth in the Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule book.
 - c. Attire guidelines for the Chaffee County 4-H Horse Show will follow the 4-H Horse Rule Book.
 - d. The State 4-H Office encourages the use of ASTM certified/SEI approved safety helmets in all equine events. Chaffee County 4-H requires riders use certified safety helmets in all riding activities with the exception of showing in western division events, although protective headgear is encouraged in all classes and will not be discriminated against. A certified equestrian helmet with safety harness fastened in place is required for gymkhana practice or events, and over-fence practice or events.
3. Age ranges are based on age on January 1 of current year and are as follows: Junior 8-13, and Senior 14-18. Members who are 13 may be moved into the Senior age range if enrollment numbers warrant the change. In the event enrollment numbers do not warrant age splits, discipline splits may occur.
4. Members do not have to use the same horse for all events, but the horse(s) used must be registered Project Horse(s). Project Horses are identified by having turned in the Horse ID form in 4HOnline by May 1 of the current year.
5. Hardship Clause - In case of death or debilitating injury to a 4-H project horse and if

the member desires to replace the project horse either by purchase or lease after the 4-H horse ID form deadline, they may appeal their situation to the Chaffee County Fair Board at least 7 days before the horse show. This appeal must first be made in writing to the CSU Extension 4-H Agent and Chaffee County 4-H horse project leader and accepted by them before proceeding to the Fair Board. Hardship exemptions may be made in cases of death or debilitating injury to the project horse, or if the horse is deemed unsafe for the 4-H member. A death certificate or veterinarian letter must certify that the horse is unable to be shown, or the 4-H horse leader must certify that a horse is unsafe for that rider. The decision of the Fair Board will be final.

6. Horse project knowledge tests must be taken and passed by June 25, 2026 to participate in the 4-H Horse Show.
7. Western/English Showmanship at halter (show to breed type) is required for all horse project members. Competing in the showmanship class fulfills the exhibition requirement for 4-H project completion.
8. Animals that pose a threat to the safety of the owner, other exhibitors, or the general public, as determined by the horse superintendent to be a hazard, will be dismissed from the fairgrounds.
9. No leader or parent will be permitted to assist the exhibitor in the preparation for showing nor shall any assistance be given while showing any animal unless it becomes unruly. Penalty may include the disqualification of the 4-H member from the 4-H horse show.

Senior Grand Champion and Senior Reserve Grand Champion belt buckles may be awarded to the two senior members with the highest number of points accumulated in the written knowledge test and all applicable horse show classes. "Fun" classes such as egg & spoon, costume classes, etc. will not count towards Grand/Reserve Grand Champion points.

Junior Grand Champion and Junior Reserve Grand Champion belt buckles may be awarded to the two junior members with the highest number of points accumulated in the written knowledge test and all applicable horse show classes. "Fun" classes such as egg & spoon, costume classes, etc. will not count towards Grand/Reserve Grand Champion points.

Discipline-specific (English and western) high point awards may be awarded to the rider (Junior or Senior) that has accumulated the highest number of points in their discipline.

Additional club superlative awards may be given at the year-end Achievement Banquet at the discretion of the club.

First and second place winners from the senior and junior showmanship class will represent the horse program in Round Robin events. These winners must come to the Round Robin on Friday July 31, 2026 and bring their horses.

All patterns will be provided to 4-H horse project members no later than an hour prior to the start of the first class.

Show Classes (subject to change)

- Showmanship
- Hunt Seat Equitation

- English Control
- Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Trail
- Western Horsemanship
- Western Riding
- Intro to Reining
- Timed Gymkhana Classes: Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Keyhole, etc.
- Fun Classes (not for points): Costume Class, Egg & Spoon, Ride-A-Buck, etc.

*there must be more than one exhibitor in order to have the class

ALL SPECIES ROUND ROBIN SHOWMANSHIP

Superintendent Dustin Lewis

RULES:

1. There will be separate showmanship classes for juniors and seniors. Juniors are aged 8-13 and seniors are aged 14-18. The top two juniors in beef, sheep, horse, goat, and swine, poultry/fowl and rabbit will compete in the junior round robin and the top two seniors for each species will compete in the senior round robin.
2. The number of contestants from each species shall be limited to two in junior and two in senior. Using their own animal, showmen will start with the species they qualified in. The score sheet for the first round includes fitting points for their species.
3. Members selected to participate in the Round Robin may decline to participate without penalty and the next place person and their animal can move into that spot. A 4-H member qualifies in the chronological order of the shows during the county fair with the first species they qualify in.
4. Should a certain class not have sufficient number of entrants and/or if those entrants do not show desirable showmanship qualities, selection shall be left to the judge's discretion.
5. Each round robin contestant will show one animal of a species for two minutes and then switch to the other animal of that species for two minutes.
6. In case of a tie in the Round Robin judging, it shall be broken by the contestant having the highest score on his or her own animal.
7. Chaffee County Grooming rules will be followed in the preparation for showing or while showing.
8. At any time, should the judge, superintendent or assistant feel that a situation is becoming unsafe, they may stop the round.

DOG OBEDIENCE / SHOWMANSHIP

Superintendent TBD

Exhibitor Eligibility Rules:

A. Member must be enrolled in the 4-H Dog Project.

B. Dates of approved currently effective vaccination of the dog for rabies, parvo, and canine distemper must be provided on the State 4-H Dog ID. Each entrant is required to complete the State Dog Identification on 4-H Online and have it on file in their Extension Office by May 1 of the current year. This information will be used at the State 4-H Dog Trials so make sure that all 4-H Dog exhibitors have completed this Dog ID. Dogs who do not have a complete Dog ID in 4-H Online by May 1 of the current year will be allowed to compete at the local county fair but will not be allowed to compete at the State 4-H Dog Trials.

1. Proof of Rabies vaccination must come from a licensed veterinarian or the dog is not legally considered vaccinated. If the exhibitor's dog receives Rabies immunizations which are given by anyone who is not a Colorado State licensed veterinarian, these immunizations will not be recognized by law should the dog bite someone.

C. All exhibitors must have complied with each county's eligibility rules for participation. The member must own their project dog individually or in partnership with immediate family members or guardians during the complete duration of the project year. The member must provide the majority of care for the dog(s). Entrants will complete the Animal Care and Housing Form for Colorado 4-H Livestock Projects using 4-H Online by June 1, 2026.

D. Any member exhibiting their dog at the State Fair 4-H Dog Trial must be an official representative of their county. Each county's official(s) are responsible for entering participants in this show.

E. All exhibitors must have at least one qualifying score in each class of exhibition. Qualifying scores are 170 and above in obedience, 90 and above in showmanship. An acceptable record book must be done and meet all guidelines required by their county for State Fair qualification. Record books must be completed and turned into the Extension Office by July 7, 2026.

F. Each exhibitor may exhibit a different dog in obedience, showmanship, and rally.

G. Classes will be determined by the judge at time of the Dog Show.

H. Any negative behavior on the part of the exhibitor, family exhibitors or leaders directed toward any official will result in disqualification and awards forfeited. If there is a question as to the rules or the judging of a class, adult family exhibitors or leaders must approach the 4-H Dog Leader and the 4-H Extension Agent, and not the judge. The leader and/or extension agent will then take the question to the judge if warranted.

EXHIBIT CLASSES:

All 4-H obedience classes will be patterned after the latest AKC obedience guidelines whenever possible, except that dog registry with AKC is not required.

Only one command can be given in obedience classes per exercise unless additional

commands are appropriate to that class. Use of the dog's name with a verbal command ("Spot, sit") can be used. If no verbal commands are used, one appropriate hand signal may be used.

4-H GENERAL EXHIBITS

General and Consumer Science Project Rules

Superintendent Chelsea Johnson

1. All judging in this will be done by interview judging. Exhibits and record books need to be brought in with the member on Saturday, July 25, 2026, for an interview with the judge. (Schedule for the judging will be sent to each 4-H family.)
2. Eligibility: Exhibitors in the divisions of this department must be bona fide members of Colorado 4-H whose project work and records are certified and up to-date and deemed eligible by the appropriate Extension agent. In addition, exhibitors must be at least eight years of age and must not have reached their 19th birthday as of December 31 of the current enrollment year and must satisfy other eligibility requirements (if specified) for a class, to compete in that class.
3. The project work, including writing, must be the member's own work and sources must be cited. If the work was not created by the 4-H member or if it was submitted as a representation of the member's work without proper acknowledgement that it was created by another, then it is considered plagiarism. Sources must be cited. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
4. Images used in a 4-H project should be a true representation accurate to real life. Images that are AI-generated in all display boards, project notebooks, or e-Records, etc. Should be labeled as such. AI-generated images or text must include a caption or label with this format: Image (or Text) generated by *Name of Generative AI Tool*, developer, date created, and link to the tool. Example: "Image generated by *DALL-E*, Bing, March 31, 2026, <https://www.bing.com/images/create>" or "Text generated by *ChatGPT*, OpenAI, March 7 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/chat>" For more information on how to cite AI-generated material go to <https://libguides.colostate.edu/ai/intro>.
5. Members must be enrolled in the project (which may be broken down into units, levels, or categories) in which they exhibit.
6. Member's 4-H records may either be in pencil, ink or computer generated. CONTENTS only are considered in judging.
7. Demonstrations - only one per year is required as per county rules. Members are not required to do a demonstration for every project, but this choice may affect placing as project records now require a demonstration in that project. Clubs may have stricter demonstration requirements.

8. Projects are divided by Junior, Intermediate, and Senior age groups. The age for Juniors is 8–10 years, Intermediates is 11–13 years, and Seniors is 14–18 years.
9. Display boards must meet the specifications. The standardized display board size of 4ft. x 3ft. is to be used for 4-H projects. No sharp items including but not limited to blades, thumb tacks, fishing hooks, knives, etc. are allowed on display boards or as part of any other exhibit.
10. **CHECK OUT TIME FOR ALL EXHIBITS: Sunday August 2, 2026, 10 am – noon.** All exhibits are released at check-out time. Fair management is not responsible for items left after the check-out time. **No early release will be allowed.** Taking projects early may result in further disciplinary action including disqualification in the following year. The project superintendent may waive due to extenuating circumstances.
11. Ribbons will be awarded to all entries based on the Danish merit system blue, red and white. See page 10 for more information on the Danish ribbon system. Grand and reserve grand champions will be given rosettes. Competition for grand champion must involve three or more classes. Grand Champion (purple) & Reserve Grand Champion (lavender/pink) ribbons will be given in each division except where merit does not warrant such designation. No exhibit receiving a red award is eligible for Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion award.
12. It is the judge's responsibility to determine the merits of all classes. **NO PLACINGS ARE PREDETERMINED** simply because of the size of class. Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, and blue awards will not be given if in the opinion of the judge, the exhibit does not merit the award.
13. A completed Record Book / manual is required for completion of every 4-H project. Unless members have a valid reason for not completing their project, they will not be eligible to enroll in that project area the following year.
14. **ALL COMPLAINTS MUST BE IN WRITING** and presented with a \$75 deposit to the Chaffee County Fair Board. If complaint is legitimate, the Board will take action and the deposit will be returned to members in the appropriate project area.
15. First place blue ribbon projects in each class and appropriate age division may advance to the Colorado State Fair, if the project area is a state-level project. Projects are not required to go to the Colorado State Fair if the exhibitor does not wish to compete at the State Fair.

Please note:

- The Fair management and/or Extension office will not be responsible for loss or damage to exhibits, though it will use all care to ensure their safety.
- Exhibits that exceed project skill, number or size requirements will not be considered for champion or reserve champion and will not be eligible to enter in the State Fair.
- Exhibits that do not meet all exhibit requirements will be awarded a white ribbon.
- Project will be evaluated on the quality of information completed in the manual and e-

record (25 percent) and quality of exhibit (75 percent).

- If projects are divided by Junior and Senior age groups, the ages are Junior 8 - 13 and Senior 14-18. If projects are divided by Junior, Intermediate and Senior age groups, the ages are Junior 8 - 10, Intermediate 11 - 13 and Senior 14 - 18.

For all rules and scoring visit: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/programs-projects/>

GENERAL/INDOOR PROJECT SILENT AUCTION RULES

Superintendent Chelsea Johnson

The Chaffee County Fair Board will be conducting a silent auction for those members exhibiting general/indoor projects. The member must have completed their 4-H project and have received at least a red or blue ribbon to be eligible to participate in the silent auction.

1. The Silent Auction will open for bidding when the Exhibit Hall opens to the public. Then, the Silent Auction shall run concurrently with the Junior Market Livestock Auction, Friday July 31, 2026 at 6:00 pm and conclude at the end of the sale.
2. Buyers must pay Fair Board and pick up their items by 11:00 pm on Friday, July 31, 2026.
3. Only members enrolled in the Chaffee County 4-H program may participate.
4. Members must list their item(s) for consignment for the silent auction by July 7, 2026. There shall be no maximum number of items sold, however every item sold must be from a different project area. "Lots" of items (for example, a set of four coasters; a dozen cupcakes; an outfit consisting of a shirt and skirt; a table and chair set, etc.) is permitted and counts as a single item, if sold as a group.
5. Members must be present during the Buyer's Reception and throughout the silent auction to network with potential buyers.
6. Items consigned should be of good quality and relate to the project area the member is enrolled in. Items do not have to be the project built or made for the Indoor judging. They should also be "stand-alone" items; display boards are not acceptable as an auction item. Arrangements for delivery or pick up of auction items that are advancing to the CO State Fair should be arranged with the buyers the night of the auction.
7. A 4-H member may participate in both the Silent Auction and the Junior Livestock Auction provided they are enrolled in those project areas and meet the qualifications for each sale. The member should be present at the silent auction unless their livestock are being actively staged or sold.
8. Projects consigned that qualify for state fair exhibition may be in the Silent Auction but will be the responsibility of the member to deliver the item following the state fair. The bidding sheets for these items will disclose that this item is a state fair qualifier and

delivery will take place in early September. Items lost/stolen or damaged due to showing at state fair and transport to and from may result in the forfeiture of sale proceeds. CSU Extension staff, Chaffee County Fair Board or Fair Foundation members and volunteers are not responsible for any losses that may incur.

9. Members will display their items and answer questions that buyers may have. Bidding sheets will be in a different location, and bidders will clearly indicate their name and bid amount on those sheets. Bidders may bid multiple times. **A minimum bid will be indicated on the bid sheet and will be ½ of the estimated value, as established by the member in conversation with a 4-H lead. If no bid above the minimum bid is entered, the item will go back to the member.**
10. Bidders with successful bids at the conclusion of the silent auction (to be announced during the live Junior Market Livestock Auction) will pay the Fair Board Silent Auction Superintendent(s) not the 4-H members directly.
11. The Chaffee County Fair Board charges a sale commission of 3% for all items sold through the Silent Auction.
12. Members are expected to bring thank-you notes for their buyers to the Extension Office before checks will be released.

4-H CLOVERBUD PROJECT

(5 - 7 YEAR OLDS)

The overall purpose of the 4-H Cloverbuds program is to foster the development of life skills that are essential for the cognitive, social, emotional and physical maturation of kindergarten through 3rd graders by providing a unique educational opportunity. Children in these grades are a distinct audience for 4-H, with unique learning characteristics and developmental needs that are different from older children and youth served through 4-H membership. As a result, the 4-H Cloverbuds program is designed with specific educational objectives and program policies focused on the kindergarten - 3rd grade child.

4-H Cloverbuds programs are activity-focused and not project-focused and built on cooperative learning, rather than competitive activities. 4-H Cloverbud members participate in occasional, non-competitive, sampler-type, age-appropriate, properly supervised events or activities sponsored or conducted by 4-H groups. 4-H Cloverbud members do not participate in the ongoing, planned series of activities, whether it is a 4-H Shooting Sports program (e.g., archery, air gun, hunting, etc.), science project, an animal project (e.g., raising of cows, sheep) or any of the project areas of 4-H.

The primary difference between a 4-H Cloverbuds activity and a 4-H project is that a Cloverbuds member engages in varied activities which focus on developing a specific skill or concept utilized in completing the activity rather than focusing on a long-term planned course of study in a specific project (subject) area.

As a result, 4-H Cloverbuds members should not have ongoing projects of any kind, including animal projects, nor should they participate as competitive exhibitors with animals large or small, because with the 4-H program, exhibits are intended to showcase the culmination of a long-term project.

In order to avoid disappointing Cloverbud members, please follow the requirements for exhibiting at the Chaffee County Fair:

- A. Each exhibitor may enter one item or poster board completed during their Cloverbud learning experience. Any extra items brought by the Cloverbud will be sent home with the member and not exhibited during Fair.
- B. Exhibits must comply with CSU Cloverbud policy and may not include contact with large or small animal activities, rocketry or shooting sports activities. Exhibits illustrating violation of the policy will not be accepted.
- C. Chaffee County allows Cloverbuds to exhibit their pet rabbits, cats, dogs, or chickens on Saturday, July 25, 2026 but they will not be judged by regular standards.
- D. Standard poster size only will be accepted. Anything larger will not be accepted.
- E. Items must be no larger than 12 x 12 x 12 inches. Larger items will not be accepted.
- F. Exhibits need to be brought in with the member on Saturday, July 25, 2026 for an interview with the judge. A label with the name, age and club of the exhibitor should be securely attached in an inconspicuous place on the back of each exhibit.
- G. Exhibitors will receive a Cloverbud participation ribbon.

CHAFFEE COUNTY FAIR SPECIFIC INFORMATION

General and Consumer Science Project Rules, Regulations, & Info

The Chaffee County Fair fully adopts and supports the latest edition of the Colorado State Fair 4-H Exhibit Requirements. In the event a project is not eligible to compete at the State Fair, specific rules/regulations are found in this section.

Animal Science Discovery (aka Niche Animal)

This is a pilot Colorado 4-H project where 4-H members learn about an animal species (for example, lizards, fish, companion pot belly pig, etc.) of their choice, except for Cat and Horseless Horse, which have their own projects. This could include youth that are not showing an animal or who want to extend their learning beyond raising and showing an animal. Curriculum for this project includes all the existing Livestock and Dog manuals from The Ohio State or Pet Pals and Wildlife Science manuals available from Shop 4-H. Contact the Chaffee County Extension office for full details and curriculum recommendations.

ANIMAL SCIENCE

- Class 001 Animal Science Discovery Jr.
- Class 002 Animal Science Discovery Int.
- Class 003 Animal Science Discovery Sr.

Exhibit will consist of the following:

- A. A completed Animal Science Display Board e-Record with the Animal Science Discovery Page presented in a sturdy binder/notebook.
- B. A display board illustrating a topic investigated during the project year. The standardized display board size of 4 ft. x 3 ft. is to be used with 4-H projects. No additional items may be included in front of the display board.

OR

- C. An in-person exhibit consisting of the 4-H'er interviewing with a judge about their animal species of choice.

4-H Self-Determined

Class 4000 Self-Determined Jr.
 Class 4001 Self-Determined Int.
 Class 4002 Self-Determined Sr.

Exhibit will consist of the following:

- A. One sturdy binder/notebook that contains the completed Self-Determined e-Record
- B. Exhibit one of the self-determined topics on a display board. The standard display board size of 4 ft. X 3 ft. Is to be used with 4-H projects. No additional items may be included in front of the display board.

OR

Exhibit a stand-alone item related to one of the self-determined topics.

- C. Project will be evaluated on the quality of the information completed in the 4-H e-Record (25%) and quality of the exhibit (75%). Project evaluation will follow the Self-Determined Project Judging Sheet.

NOTE: Self-Determined projects are a county-level project only and do not advance to the State Fair. Self-Determined projects may compete for indoor belt buckles and will be assigned to broader categories at the discretion of the Extension Agent.

USDA'S STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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