

Youth Livestock Departments:

Department 1 Dairy Breed Stock Superintendent: John Ball

1. Project members are to keep records for an entire year. Documents are turned in to their Project Leader.
2. Record books are due by June 29rd.
3. Youth must participate in showmanship and turn in a record book to receive any money from the milk sponsorship.
4. No horns are allowed on breed stock cattle.
5. Exhibitor dress code: white shirt and white or black pants with boots.
6. All animals will be shown with a Dairy show halter and lead (no rope halters).
7. Provide proof of age of cattle shown: vaccination records, paper, or another legitimate document.
8. Brucellosis vaccination for cows after one year is recommended.

TB Requirements for all cattle projects:

Animal Identification

All cattle must be identified with official identification (RFID tags) before leaving premises within the Modified Accredited Advanced Zone.

- a. All cattle must be appropriately identified with an electronic RFID tag.

Section A- Dairy Breed Stock Showmanship

Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)

Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)

Intermediate Showmanship (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section B- Dairy Breed Stock Conformation (All Breeds)

- Junior Heifer Calf, born after March 1, current year, and over four months of age at showtime
- Intermediate Heifer Calf, born after December 1, prior year, and Before February 28, current year
- Senior Heifer Calf, born after September 1, prior year, and before November 30, prior year
- Summer Yearling Heifer Calf, born after June 1, prior year, and Before August 31, prior year
- Junior Yearling Heifer, born after March 1, prior year, and before May 31, prior year
- Senior Yearling Heifer, born after September 1, 2 years prior, and before February 28, prior year
- Two-Year-Old Milking Cow, born before September 1, 2 years prior
- Three Year Old Milking Cow, born before September 1, 3 years prior
- Aged Cow over three years old
- Dry Cow (Must have completed one lactation)

Section C- Dairy Record Books

Dairy Breadstick Record Book

DEPARTMENT 2 Beef Superintendent - John Ball

Section A- Dairy Market Beef Showmanship

1. All steers MUST BE weighed in at the December weigh-in before the fair.
2. Minimum finished weight – 950 pounds.
3. Youth members ages **8 -19** will exhibit animals for conformation judging and participate in showmanship classes.
4. Animals raised and shown as a dairy market cattle project must be of dairy cattle breeding.
5. Dairy steers will be shown in the same manner as beef steers – with a show stick.
6. No horns.
7. To sell at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction, all dairy market steer projects must be shown in dairy market showmanship and the appropriate conformation class.
8. Dairy steers must be castrated by 1st weigh in. The castration area must be entirely healed by ending the weigh-in date. All animals must be free of all testicular tissue and properly healed before the exhibition.
9. All cattle must have electronic RFID tag identification secured correctly in their ear.
10. All animals must be dehorned before the entry date at the fair. Recommend at least six weeks before the fair for the animal to adequately heal.
11. Youth members are limited to one finished steer project to be sold at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction.
12. All animals are required to have neckties and rope halters on.
13. Youth members in this project are required to complete a project record book.
- 14.

Section A Classes

Junior Showmanship (ages 8-12)

Intermediate Showmanship (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section B- Market Beef Showmanship

1. All steers must be weighed in and tagged at the December weigh-in before the Fair.
2. Youth members ages **8 -19** will exhibit animals for conformation judging and participate in showmanship classes.
3. Steers in this project area must be of a beef breed.
4. All animals must be dehorned before the entry date at the fair. At least six weeks before the fair, the area must be completely healed.

5. Youth members are limited to one finished steer project to be sold at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction.
6. The minimum finished weight is: 950 pounds.
7. Youth members in this project are required to complete a project record book.
8. To sell their beef project at the Livestock Sale, all market steer exhibitors must show in beef showmanship classes and the appropriate confirmation class.
9. All animals must be appropriately identified with an RFID electronic ear tag.
10. Beef steers must be castrated by 1st weigh in. The castration area must be entirely healed by ending the weigh-in date. All animals must be free of all testicular tissue and properly healed before the exhibition.
11. Heifers are designated and weighed in at the December weigh-in as market projects can be shown with the steers in market class.
12. Any steer or heifer shown in market class may not be shown in breed stock classes.
13. All beef steers must always have two ties when tied up.
14. Youth with market and non-market animal must show their market animal in showmanship.

Section B Classes

Junior Showmanship (ages 8-12)

Intermediate (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section C - Market Feeder Showmanship

1. The youth dairy feeder project is open to all members ages **6 to 19**.
2. Members are required to complete a project record book.
3. Dairy feeders must be castrated by 1st weigh in. The castration area must be entirely healed by ending the weigh-in date. All animals must be free of all testicular tissue and properly healed before the exhibition.
4. Dairy feeders must have been selected, officially registered, and identified with an ear tag by the registration deadline.
5. Market feeder calves must be weighed in at the April weigh-in and weigh less than 350 pounds. The final weight must be between 350 and 949 pounds.
6. Non-market feeders may be brought and exhibited in the non-market feeder confirmation class. Youths must register for this class.
7. All animals must be dehorned before the entry date at the fair. Recommend at least six weeks before the fair to heal the animal adequately. If the animal is not properly healed, it will be sent home.
8. Members may register two animals; however, only one animal may be shown in market class and sold at the Market Sale.
9. Youth members ages **6 - 19** will exhibit animals for conformation judging and participate in showmanship classes.
10. Dairy feeders will be shown in the same manner as beef steers – with a show stick.
11. All animals must be appropriately identified with RFID electronic tags.
12. Animals raised and shown as a dairy feeder market project must be of dairy breeding, not dairy beef crossing.

13. All animals are required to have a halter and necktie on at all times
14. Youth with market and non-market animals must show their market animal in showmanship.

Section C Classes

- Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)
- Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)
- Intermediate (ages 13-15)
- Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section D - Conformation

- Market Dairy Beef Conformation
- Market Beef Conformation
- Market Feeder Conformation
- Non-Market Feeder Conformation

Section E - Beef Cattle Breed Stock

- Beef Heifer
- Beef Cow/Calf Pair

Section F - Record Book

- Market Beef Record Book
- Market Dairy Beef Record Book
- Market Feeder Record Book

DEPARTMENT 3- Swine Superintendents: Lauren Christensen & Stacey Hough

1. All hogs exhibited at the Mecosta County Area Fair will be sent to slaughter following the Mecosta County Livestock Auction. The Mecosta County Livestock Auction is a terminal sale for ALL swine. Pigs are sold for butchering purposes only. No hog can be taken home to a private/commercial farm for breeding or other purposes. All hogs will go to slaughter on authorized trucks.
2. Ractopamine supplements are not to be part of any feed programs to participate. Could be subject to testing.
3. Minimum finished target weight for market hogs: 220 pounds.
4. Underweight market hogs below 220 pounds show and sell in roaster class. Swine below 190 will not be allowed to stay.
5. Maximum finished weight for market hogs: 320 pounds overweight hogs only get paid for 320 pounds.
6. Underweight and overweight market hogs can not compete for grand and reserve.

7. All market swine exhibitors must complete a project record book.
8. Market swine exhibitors must show in a swine showmanship class and the appropriate conformation class for their hog to sell at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction.
9. All hogs will be checked for hair length when they leave the scales. Once hogs have been weighed in, no further clipping is allowed during fair week. Clipping of market hogs after weigh-in is not permitted. Violation of this rule will result in the disqualification of the hog in both showmanship and market classes. Any hog that is found to have hair clipped shorter than 1/2 inch will be immediately disqualified from the fair and sent on a pre-designated truck to a livestock sale facility following weigh-in.
10. Market hogs must be registered and tagged with the Mecosta County Livestock tag, and State Mandated tag by the spring registration deadline set by the Fair Board Livestock Committee. A minimum of one (1) photo with both tags visible is required at registration time.
11. Stall signs must be kept in place in the swine barn until the animal has been placed on a truck to go to slaughter.

Section A - Swine Showmanship

Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)

Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)

Intermediate (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section B - Conformation

Market Swine Conformation

Section C - Record Book

Market Swine Record Book

DEPARTMENT 4- Sheep Superintendents: Darla Zimmerman & Maria Hand

1. Sheep must be kept on some form of bedding. No carpets allowed.
2. Lambs are shown with all four feet on the ground or ring surface.
3. Water must be available in pens and present at all times.
4. Humane handling practices of sheep at all times.
5. No electric clipping or shearing on fairgrounds for breed stock or market will be allowed except for minor leg and head trimming. All trimming must be done in an area designated by the sheep superintendent.

Section A - Sheep Showmanship

Section A Classes

Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)

Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)

Intermediate (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section B - Market Sheep Confirmation

1. Minimum finished weight – 100 pounds.
2. Market lambs must be officially registered, tagged, and weighed in by the April date, as set by the Fair Board Livestock Committee. Males must be castrated by 1st weigh in and free of all testicle tissue and healed by final weigh in.
3. All lambs must be clean, dry, and slick-sheared for the final weigh-in. Animals not meeting these requirements will not be weighed in or shown.
4. Market lambs will be ewes or wethers only.
5. Ewes shown in a market class may not be shown in a breed stock class.
6. All exhibitors must complete a project record book.
7. Lambs will be slick sheared to show. Wet Lambs will be disqualified. Any other tampering will also be disqualified. Exhibitors are expected to treat their lambs consistently with good animal husbandry and always display proper sportsmanship.
8. Four on the floor are expected after set up in the show ring.
9. Any liquid substance that alters the confirmation or enhances the natural appearance of the animal is not permitted. All lambs must be subject to random drug testing and veterinarian examination.
10. The direct application of ice, ice water, alcohol, Freon, or any other refrigerant to the hide of a lamb is strictly prohibited. The deceptive, fraudulent practice will cause the exhibitor and their animals to be disqualified immediately.
11. Exhibitors must participate in showmanship, and market lambs must be shown in the appropriate market conformation class to sell at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction.
12. All Lambs and goats shown must meet scrapie requirements. ALL TAGS AND TATTOOS MUST BE VISIBLE AT ALL TIMES.
 - a) All sheep moved within Michigan shall be identified with official USDA scrapie program identification tags before movement off the farm.
 - b) Do not remove tags before weigh-in or showing. It is illegal to remove official USDA individual animal identification.
13. Youth with a market and non-market animals must show their market animal in showmanship.

Section B Classes

Market Sheep Conformation

Section C- Breed Stock

1. Sheep are expected to be groomed according to their breed association standards and guidelines.
2. Exhibitors are expected to maintain and complete project record books.
3. Breed stock must do a project record book.

Section C Classes

Ewe Lamb - under one year

Ewe Yearling - over one year, under two years

Ewe - 2 years and over

Ram Lamb - 8 months or under

Section D - Record Book

Market Sheep Record Book

DEPARTMENT 5- Goat Superintendent: Darla Zimmerman & Maria Hand

Scrapie

All goats shown on the Mecosta County Fairgrounds must meet scrapie requirements. All tags and tattoos must always be visible. Paperwork for verifying tattoos must be present and available.

- a) All goats moved within Michigan shall be identified with official USDA scrapie program identification tags/tattoos before movement off the farm.
- b) Do not remove tags or tattoos before weigh-in or showing. It is illegal to remove official USDA individual animal identification.

Section A - Market Showmanship

1. All market goats must be in the exhibitor's possession by the spring weigh-in of the current program year.
2. Youth members must own all goats shown in the market goat classes.
3. Market goats must be selected, tagged, weighed in, and registered before the official deadline set by the YEA Committee.
4. A weight of 30 lbs or greater is recommended at the Spring weigh-in in April to ensure meeting minimum weight requirements at the fair weigh-in. Animals do not qualify if they have cut their yearling teeth by the spring registration date.
5. The minimum weight to sell a market goat project at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction is 50 lbs. A finished market goat project's suggested weight is 80 to 90 lbs.
6. Any wether or doe shown in the market conformation class may not be shown in non-market classes.
7. Goats are shown with all four feet on the ground or ring surface.
8. Wethers or does shown as a market goat must be a standard/recognized meat goat breed or at 50% of a standard/ recognized meat goat breed.
9. Wethers/does will not be de-wormed any later than 30 days before the fair, and exhibitors are not allowed to feed weight-producing chemicals to their projects.
10. All exhibitors in the market goat class must complete a market goat project record book.
11. Exhibitors must participate in appropriate market goat showmanship classes and conformation classes, and complete and turn in a proper record book to be eligible to sell their market goat project at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction.

12. Disbudding of a Market Goat is not required. Males must be castrated by 1st weigh in and free of all testicle tissue and healed by final weigh in. If disbudding did take place, it must be healed at the time of check-in.
13. Market Goat exhibitors are expected to wear a clean western or collared shirt tucked in with a belt, clean jeans, and appropriate footwear.
14. Market goats must be body shaved/clipped before fair check-in. Three to seven days prior is preferred.
15. All goats shown on the Mecosta County fairgrounds must meet scrapie requirements.
16. Animals must be checked-in by the species superintendent before being placed in a stall. All goats must have visible scrapie identification, be free from lumps, disease, and parasites, castrated (healed), and have no wounds or sores.

Section A Classes

- Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)
- Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)
- Intermediate (ages 13-15)
- Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section B - Non-Market Showmanship

1. Non-market goat exhibitors are expected to wear western wear and appropriate footwear.
2. Any whether or doe shown in the market confirmation classes may not be shown in non-market classes.
3. Exhibitors are expected to groom animals according to their breed standards.
4. Animals must be checked-in by the species superintendent before being placed in a stall. All goats must have visible scrapie identification, free from lumps, disease, parasites, castrated (healed), and no wounds or sores.
5. All goats shown on the Mecosta County Fairgrounds must meet scrapie requirements.

Section B Classes

- Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)
- Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)
- Intermediate (ages 13-15)
- Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section C - Market Conformation

Market Goat Conformation

Section D - at Breed Stock Classes

Best of Show (All Breeds)

Section E - Record Books

Market Goat Record Book

DEPARTMENT 6- Poultry. Superintendent: Mary Jo VanOstenburg
Chicken, Duck, Turkey & Other Breed Stock, Chicken & Turkey Market Birds

1. All poultry (except waterfowl) exhibited must have documentation of pullorum typhoid testing.
2. Poultry will be judged using the American Standards of Perfection.
3. Poultry vaccinated for Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT) is not allowed at the fair.
4. Youth members must participate in appropriate poultry showmanship and fitting class to sell at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction. This means an exhibitor must participate in showmanship (in their division) of the same species as the market project. Market chicken project exhibitors must provide or arrange a standard or Bantam chicken for showmanship with approval from the superintendent: market chickens may not be used for showmanship.
5. Exhibitors entering any goose for breed stock must compete in duck showmanship.
6. Breed and egg class exhibitors must participate in showmanship.
7. Youth members intending to sell a market poultry project at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction must complete the market pages for each project.
8. Market Poultry must receive an "A" or "B" premium during project judging to sell at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction.
9. Market Chicken Pen = 3 birds
10. Turkey pen = 1 bird
11. Duck pen = 1 bird
12. Youth members are responsible for selecting and obtaining their market birds. Members will not be required to order through the Extension Office.
13. Market Poultry must meet finished weight requirements at weigh-in. Under weight poultry will be sent home. Weight ranges as follows:
 - a) Chickens: minimum weight of 5 pounds, maximum weight of 10 pounds each.
 - b) Turkey: minimum weight of 20 pounds, maximum weight of 40 pounds.
 - c) Duck: minimum weight of 7 pounds, maximum weight of 12 pounds.

Section A- Chicken Showmanship

Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)

Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)

Intermediate (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section B- Turkey Showmanship

Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)

Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)

Intermediate (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section C- Duck Showmanship

- Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)
- Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)
- Intermediate (ages 13-15)
- Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section D- Market Project

- Market Chicken Project
- Market Turkey Project
- Market Duck Project

Section E- Poultry Breed Classes

- Standard - Laying Breeds
- Standard - Dual Purpose/Meat Breeds
- Standard - Ornamental/Rare & Fancy
- Bantam - Clean Legged Section
- Bantam - Feathered Legged
- Cock, one year and older
- Hen, one year and older
- Cockerel, Under one year
- Pullet, Under one year
- Breeding Pair - 1 male, one female, same breed
- Trio - 1 male, two females, same breed
- Mother Hen and Chicks (pen) Section J - Waterfowl
- Duck - Female
- Drake - Male
- Breeding Pair of Ducks - 1 male, one female, same breed
- Mother Duck and Babies
- Gander - Male
- Goose - Female
- Breeding Pair of Geese - 1 male, one female, same breed
- Mother Goose and Babies
- Tom - Male Turkey
- Hen - Female Turkey

Section F - Record Book

- Market Chicken Record Book
- Market Turkey Record Book
- Market Duck Record Book

Section G - Eggs

- One Dozen Eggs
- One Decorated Egg (Egg must be blown out)

DEPARTMENT 7- Rabbits Superintendent- Tiffany Spedowski

1. Rabbits and record books must be checked in by the approved deadline at the last Jr. Fairboard meeting prior to fair week.
2. A left ear tattoo is required for all rabbits. A left ear ID tag is necessary for all cavy: no tattoo/ID tag, no exhibit.
3. A rabbit pedigree is to be presented for examination if requested.
4. Each exhibitor is responsible for feeding, watering & cleaning used pens daily.
5. Exhibitors will be limited to a total of 8 rabbits.
6. Exhibits may be shown in any class desired but can only be shown once.
7. There will be no breeding on fairgrounds.

9. Exhibitors must participate in Rabbit/Cavy Showmanship to show a rabbit/cavy in a breed or market class.
10. The superintendent must be informed of the number of cages needed by July 1st.
11. All participants are expected to assist with the setup and cleaning of the Rabbit/Poultry Barn and the cleanup following the fair – dates are announced annually by the Superintendents.
12. Superintendents are to check in all rabbits/cavy. All animals are to be healthy and disease-free. Any animal showing signs of illness will be sent home, and no replacement will be allowed.

Section A - Rabbit Showmanship

Beginner Showmanship (ages 6-8)

Junior Showmanship (ages 9-12)

Intermediate (ages 13-15)

Senior Showmanship (ages 16 - 19)

Section B - Market Project

The youth member's responsibility is to get with the buyer to determine when rabbits are to be butchered. All butchering and processing are the responsibility of the members – NOT THE BUYER and should be done in a timely fashion.

Thank you, letters should be sent within two weeks of the fair.

"B" ratings will be given if:

- a) pictures are not in by the deadline
- b) rabbits are over 5 1/2 lbs. (ARBA minimum will not be followed)
- c) so deemed by the judging on the show day

To sell at the Mecosta County Livestock Auction, the exhibitor must:

- a) Receive an "A" or "B" rating
- b) Be present to sell."
- c) Meet Fair Board Livestock Committee Educational and Volunteer Requirements.

Market Meat Projects: Fryer - (One Rabbit), Meat Pen - (3 Rabbits)

1. Meat rabbits must be registered in the Extension Office by the deadline set by Rabbit Superintendent with a picture at 2 weeks old. Images at six weeks old will be submitted to the Extension office two weeks before the fair deadline. Both 2- and 6-week views are to include the exhibitor and litter.
2. A meat pen consists of 3 rabbits of the same breed and variety. Rabbits must weigh a minimum, of 3 lbs. may not weigh over 5 1/2 lbs. and cannot be over 70 days (10 weeks) old. Mixed breeds are allowed but may be penalized at the judge's discretion. Record books must be kept on all litters and are due by 8:00 p.m. on the beginning Sunday of fair week.
3. You may show and sell both one Fryer project and one Meat Pen project.
4. The market pen will be sold by the combined weight of all three (3) rabbits, not the average weight.

Section B Classes

Market Pen of Rabbits

Market Fryer Rabbit

Section C- Non-Market Conformation

Dutch

Polish

Lion Head

Holland Lop

Mini Lop

Mini Rex

Netherland Dwarf

Himalayan

Champagne

Silver Fox

Flemish Giant

New Zealand

Californian

Mixed Breed

All Other Pure Breeds

Section D- Record Book

Market Rabbit Record Book

Section E- Peewee & Cloverbud

Peewee/Cloverbud Showmanship (ages 4-5)

Section F- Open Adult Rabbits

1. All rabbits must be checked in by superintendent before being caged.
2. Exhibitors are required to feed and water their animals daily and clean pens daily.
3. Exhibitor must provide feed bowls and water bottles or bowls.
4. Animals must stay on exhibit for required period specified.
5. Exhibitor must be in attendance during judging to present their own animals.
6. All rabbits are to be in place by 8pm Sunday.
7. Pine shavings are required for litter pans. NO sawdust allowed.
8. Animals used in open may not be used in 4-H classes.
9. Only 1 entry per class.
- 10.

Section F Classes

Dutch	Champagne
Polish	Silver Fox
Lion Head	Flemish Giant
Holland Lop	New Zealand
Mini Lop	Californian
Mini Rex	Mixed Breed
Netherland Dwarf	All Other Pure Breeds
Himalayan	

DEPARTMENT 9- Horses Superintendent: Tiffany Spedowski

Reference Complete Updated Show Bill

1. Youth members may show no more than two horses.
2. Horse changes will be considered for the following circumstances ONLY. The Horse Leaders Committee will review and make decisions regarding exceptions.
 - a. Death of a project animal
 - b. Lameness of project animal.
 - c. Project animal is considered unsafe

3. A negative Coggins test is required by May 1 for all registered horses and must be valid through August 31 of the current calendar year. A photocopy must be attached to the Horse Registration papers.
4. Members must be at least five years of age on January 1 to bring a project horse to the fair.
5. To participate and stall at the fair, members must show at one qualifying show, and record books must be completed by June 1 to show at the fair.
6. During lead-line classes, the rider must be led by an adult (18 years or older) and have a lead line attached to a halter, which has been placed under the bridle. This class is appropriate for all Cloverbuds 5-7 years old. No spurs will be allowed in this class.
7. Walk-Trot 7-year-old riders must have an adult (18 years or older) in the ring to act as a spotter. This person does not have to hang on to the halter but must be nearby in an emergency. Halters must be worn under the bridle, and bump spurs only will be allowed if necessary.
8. Youth members aged (5-7) must wear SEI-ASTM-approved helmets for all horse experiences. Bike helmets do not qualify. All youth must have their feet in stirrups while on their horse.
9. Rules, announcements, vet lists with phone numbers, and safety information will be posted at each barn and must be followed.
10. The arenas may be used for practice only under the supervision of an adult or leader.
11. Only youth Horse & Pony project members, leaders, and immediate family may ride a youth member's registered horse on the fairgrounds during Mecosta County Fair activities.
12. Appropriate boots and long pants must be worn in the arena (absolutely no tennis shoes or sandals). It is also advised that club leaders and parents be responsible for seeing that appropriate shirts are worn for practice. Short-sleeved Western shirts will be acceptable in Gymkhana classes (no t-shirts, tank tops, or sleeveless shirts). No sunglasses will be allowed in the show arena. Prescription transition lenses are accepted.
13. On show days, horses and ponies may be mounted and walked safely between the barn and arena. At all other times, horses and ponies shall be led to and from the arena and mounted inside the arena.
14. Wash racks may be used with consideration being given to other species being prepared for classes. Horses should not be left unattended at the wash racks.
15. Bareback riding is acceptable inside the arena only, wearing an SEI-ASTM-approved helmet is required.
16. Horses and ponies must be bridled when ridden, and halters must be accessible when stalled.

17. No stopping on the rail in the arena; mounting and dismounting in the center of the arena only.
18. Halter or lunging practice in the arena is ,only allowed in the center of the arena.
19. All horses in the arena should be worked in the same direction at all times-pleasure gates only.
20. One rider on the horse at all times.
21. No riding in the barns.
22. There is no riding near the midway rides, camping area, livestock area, or stands. Riding will only be done in designated areas.
23. Pleasure gates only during all exercise practice times. Practice times for jumps and speed practice will be at pleasure gaits.
24. Project animals considered a risk to the public or other exhibitors would not be allowed to exhibit. The Fair Board Livestock Committee and Horse Superintendents will make determination.
25. No youth will be allowed with bare feet or open toes shoes while handling a horse at any Mecosta County Fair function.
26. Any misconduct with or improper care of a horse/pony or youth may result in being asked to leave the fairgrounds with loss of premium.
27. Unthrifty animals with low body scores, determined to have lice, health issues, or unsoundness, may not be allowed to exhibit and may be asked to leave the show grounds.
28. Only one stall per member will be allowed at the fair. Any exceptions to this must be cleared through the Horse Superintendents and Horse Leaders Committee. Barns close at 11:00 pm during fair week.
29. Stalls must be cleaned before leaving the grounds. A \$20 stall deposit may be charged at the two qualifying shows and refunded when stalls are cleaned and inspected by a Leader.
30. Camping sites are available at point shows for an additional fee.
31. All participants in all Hunter, Dressage, Bareback, Saddle seat, all novice classes, and gymkhana (speed) classes must wear properly secured protective riding helmets that bear the ASTM-SEI Certification label while mounted. Bike helmets do not qualify.
32. Exhibitors may show in the novice division for no more than two years unless approved by Horse Leaders Committee. Novice Walk/Trot is available for all novice riders who are uncomfortable with the canter. Novice riders may only ride in Novice division classes. Novice Fitting & showing does not count as years of riding. The novice division is intended for beginning riders, not green horses. The Horse Leaders committee will address unique concerns and considerations.
33. Exhibitors must show in the same division all year unless approved by the leader's committee. Novice Walk/Trot may be moved up in the Novice division with the

approval of the leader's committee but will not then be eligible to go back to Novice Walk/Trot. Novice exhibitors may participate in Gymkhana events in the appropriate division at the discretion of their leader. Novice Walk/Trot riders must trot if riding in Gymkhana classes. Ponies may be ridden in the pony division or age division but not in both. Ponies cannot be taller than 56 inches, with 1/2" allowed for shoes. The Horse Show Committee must measure all ponies before the first show, the date, and the location set by the committee. Ponies that have been previously measured and are under 50 inches or over 12 years of age do not have to be measured again. Horse Leaders will address unique concerns and considerations.

34. Divisions: 16-19 13-15 8-12 Pony 8-19 Novice 8-19 Cloverbud 5-7 Pee-Wee <5 ROC Novice ROC Intermediate ROC Advanced
35. In gymkhana, the rider has to ride into the arena. The rider must dismount in the ring. THE HORSE MUST BE UNDER CONTROL.
36. Patterns cannot be changed once a class has started. A re-ride will be granted at the judges' discretion.
37. Grand and Reserve Champions for Gymkhana at the fair will be determined in each event. They will be determined by taking the top two speeds from each division, and then the top two from those eight will be the Grand and Reserve.
38. Any disputes must go through club leaders.
39. Anyone showing unsportsmanlike conduct can be asked to leave the show grounds and will lose all show points accumulated during the show.
40. Horses cannot be brought to the arena for intentional rolling.
41. No rider can ride in the same class twice.

Section A- Fitting and Showmanship

Novice	13 to 15
Pony	16 and over
8 to 12	

Section B- Hunt Seat Equitation

Novice	13 to 15
Pony	16 and over
8 to 12	

Section C- Saddle Seat Equitation

All Ages

Section D- Western Horsemanship

Novice	13 to 15
Pony	16 and over
8 to 12	

Section E- Record Book

Horse and Pony Record Book

Section F- Horse Demonstrations

Horse Demonstrations- Individual

Horse Demonstration- Team

Section G- Roping and Obstacle Course

Ground Stationary Roping

Obstacle Course

Goat Tying

Section H- Peewee & Cloverbud

Peewee <5

Cloverbud 5-7

DEPARTMENT 10 Club Entries

Youth will demonstrate their ability to keep barn areas clean for the health and welfare of the animal exhibits. Rules and Information:

1. One entry per club, per species area. The club leader should make entries.
2. To stimulate interest in good herdsmanship and livestock care, special awards will go to the clubs keeping their animal exhibits in the cleanest, healthiest, and most attractive condition throughout the fair duration. All animals will be examined daily, and each club's animal exhibits will be judged daily.
3. Clubs are encouraged to have youth members "on duty" in the barns during regular barn hours to keep club areas clean and to be on hand to answer questions.
4. Awards will go to the top 3 clubs in each species area only.
5. The following will be considered and examined during the daily inspection:
 - d. Comfort and condition of the animals - including cleanness.
 - e. Proper feed and water equipment.
 - f. The exhibit area is well-defined and maintained in a tidy state.

Section A - Herdsmanship

Cattle Herdsmanship

Swine Herdsmanship

Sheep Herdsmanship

Goat Herdsmanship

Horse Herdsmanship

Rabbit Herdsmanship

Cavy Herdsmanship

Poultry Herdsmanship

SHOWMANSHIP SWEEPSTAKES

1. The top two (2) showmanship winners from each species are eligible to compete.

2. Participants show an animal project from each showmanship species: Ducks, Dairy Breed stock, Dairy Market, Dairy Feeders, Beef, Sheep, Swine, Chicken, Horses, Rabbits, Turkeys, and Goats.
3. Where a champion has won with multiple species, the honorable mention will be invited to participate from each species that the champion won with. If the honorable mention declines, that spot will not be filled.
4. Superintendents will take a headcount of livestock on Sunday after check-ins. If there will not be at least six available livestock per species, then the committee will attempt to have more livestock brought in for the show.
5. All qualifying exhibitors must show each species. No “bye” allowed.
6. Animals and exhibitors will be numbered before the start of the competition. Exhibitors will show the animal with the same number unless it is their animal or an animal that belongs to their family member.
7. Score sheets will be collected between each group change. Groups will have 7 minutes with a short walk time in between species.
8. Participants' parents cannot communicate with judges before or during the competition. If a parent is a superintendent, the conversation must be limited to that necessary for the event.
9. A person is no longer eligible for Showmanship Sweepstakes after winning Grand Champion Sweepstakes Showman.
10. The Grand Champion Sweepstakes Showman will receive a Carhartt jacket/or jacket of their choice. Winner must purchase a coat of their choice and turn in the receipt to Mecosta County Fair Board for reimbursement. They must also turn in their jacket to the Fair Board Livestock Committee so they can send it out for the embroidery work to be completed. The maximum amount allowed for coat and embroidery is \$200.
11. The Reserve Champion Showmanship Sweepstakes winner will receive an embroidered sweatshirt.
12. The trophies received for winning sweepstakes are rotating trophies and must be returned to the MSU Extension Office by First Friday in June of the following year.