

MSU Phillips County Extension
COVID-19 Phase 2 Plan of Action for the
4-H/FFA portion of the 2020 Phillips County Fair

The 4-H portion of the Phillips County Fair provides an opportunity for county 4-H members to showcase and demonstrate the hard work they invested throughout the year in their 4-H projects. Typically, over 100 of the 165 county 4-H members participate in the fair through static exhibits and animal shows. **The health and safety of our members, families, volunteers, staff and community supporters is our top priority. It is imperative that all 4-H/FFA volunteers, members, parents, and faculty acknowledge and support this priority. Failure to observe the contents of this document puts our 4-H /FFA families and visitors at risk, breaks our community commitment, and can result in the immediate cessation of the event.**

This plan of action for the 4-H/FFA portion of the 2020 Phillips County Fair has been submitted to the Phillips County Health Department, Phillips County Commissioners, and Phillips County Fair Board Members for alterations and approval. This document as an informational tool for our 4-H/FFA members and families to understand what this year's 4-H portion of the fair will entail since we did not reach phase 3 of reopening by July 1st.

General Guidelines

- The most up to date guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Montana Governor's Office, and Montana State University will be followed.
- 4-H and FFA members, parents, volunteers, and judges will be provided with information regarding COVID-19 protective measures prior to the fair to facilitate their preparation.
- Animal show locations will be large enough to allow social distancing in the show ring and for limited spectators. Signs that encourage wearing face covering and social distancing will be posted in these locations.
- Masks, gloves, and handwashing will be required for judges, volunteers and members during interviews or any situation that does not allow social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided throughout the facilities.
- No food or beverages will be provided for any of the 4-H events. Participants must purchase or bring their own food or beverages and please no sharing.
- Attendance at each show will consist of the 4-H/FFA member and as few immediate family members as possible, no general public.
- We will ask anyone with the CDC identified COVID-19 symptoms of a cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new

loss of taste or smell, or those having been exposed to someone with COVID-19 not to attend the fair events/shows.

- Those from vulnerable populations, as described by the CDC who are at risk for severe complications from COVID-19, should avoid public exposure and not attend fair events.
- Families must be aware of where they have traveled and who they have been in contact with 14 days before their earliest fair participation date.
- If families, choose not to attend the fair, their choice will be respected. **Project and 4-H Year completion is NOT dependent on fair participation.**

❖ **Concession Stand**

- Due to the hardship of following the recommendations for eating establishments put out by the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, the Phillips County 4-H Concession Stand will not open for the 2020 fair.

❖ **Entry**

- Entry's will continue as normal with fair entry forms due by July 15.

❖ **Judging and Awards**

- Standards for Blue, Red and White ribbons will be reviewed with all judges. Since the ribbons are already in stock, we hope it will be affordable for the Phillips County Fair Board to provide the ribbons for our classes.
- Because one judge will see all entries from static classes, outstanding exhibit ribbons and judge's choice trophies will be awarded.
- Due to animal housing and spacing restrictions there will be no Round Robin Showmanship classes thus no Round Robin trophies awarded.
- We recognize that the Fair Budget may not allow the fair/county to pay premium money this year with no, or limited, income from the fair.
- We recognize the Fair Board/Phillips County could be providing facilities for these 4-H Events without normal fair revenue.

❖ **Volunteers and Judges**

- Volunteers and judges must be committed to fulfilling the requirements outlined in this document.
- Each volunteer duty outlined in the following sections will have a specific individual, or a series of scheduled individuals, assigned to the completion of the task.

❖ **Masks and Equipment**

- Face masks are **strongly recommended for all participants.**

- Masking will be implemented at high contact points or when a 6 ft distance cannot be reasonably maintained.
- Masks will be required for judges in any situation that does not allow physical distancing.
- Masks are **REQUIRED** for members, volunteers, and judges for the following shows and classes: **small animal, indoor/static exhibit judging, and all swine classes.**
- If members, volunteers, and judges can supply their own mask, we ask that they do so. If unable to do so, masks will be supplied to members, volunteers, and judges if participating in a show or class that requires a mask.
- Judges will not shake hands with participants.

❖ Fair Clean Up

- Please contact your club leader as cleanup day duties have been altered.

❖ Registration

- After July 15, indoor interview and show schedules will be created and mailed with exhibitor numbers by July 20. Indoor interview and show schedules will also be posted to club Facebook pages.

❖ 4-H and FFA Animal Entries

- All animal classes will be awarded, by a standard, Blue, Red and White Ribbon
- Showmanship classes – species not conducive to physical distancing (swine, cat, dog, rabbit, and poultry) will have limited class sizes to the number of people in the ring according to the Montana Governor’s Office directive. Judges, volunteers, and 4-H/FFA member participants will also be required to wear masks.
- 4-H/FFA families are urged to bring only those immediate family members necessary for safe transport of animals for show.
- Attendance by non-participating children is **strongly discouraged**. Families should arrange for alternative care for non-participating children.
- A weed sprayer with a sanitizing bleach solution will be used to sanitize rails, pens, etc. after set-up and at the conclusion of each species show.
- Announcements will be made to remind people to distance from each other and to ask people to be considerate and step back once their 4-H/FFA member is done showing so others may see.
- Any open class animal exhibitors will need to adhere to the show requirements established by this document. This is for the safety of our judges, volunteers, and 4-H/FFA members.

Show Schedules

Saturday, July 25, 2020

9:00 am. 4-H Horse Show at the Milk River Pavilion

- Exhibitors will wait for their classes outside at their trailers and come into the show ring when their class is called.
- Time will be allowed for each class to exit the Pavilion before the next class enters the arena.
- All fitting must be done at home before coming to the show.
- There will be a designated gate keeper to open and close the arena gate. Members will not let themselves into the arena.
- **When entering the arena, during the class, and when exiting, exhibitors will stay 6 feet apart.**
- Judges will not shake hands with participants or volunteers.
- 4-H families are urged to bring only those immediate family members necessary for safe transport of animals for show.
- Attendance at each show will consist of the 4-H member and as few immediate family members as possible, no general public.
- Attendance by non-participant children is strongly discouraged. Families are strongly encouraged to arrange for alternative care for their younger children.
- Family members must not gather at the arena entrance gate or along the arena fence. Announcements will be made to remind people to distance from each other and to ask people to be considerate and step back once their 4-H member is done showing so others may see.
- Spectators will be limited to immediate family members and seated 6 feet apart.
- Members will be encouraged to leave once they have completed their classes.
- Horses will not be taken or housed at the Dodson fairgrounds for the regular portion of the fair. Because of this, there will not be a parade of champions on August 2nd at the fairgrounds.
 - ❖ If we are in Phase 3 by fair time - the public will be invited to attend shows.

Sunday, July 26, 2020

9:00 am. Small Animal Judging at the Milk River Pavilion

- Classes will be shown in the following order: Cats, Dogs, Rabbits, Poultry.
- Judges and volunteers will be required to wear a mask when judging the small animal (cat, dog, rabbit, and poultry) classes. 4-H participants in the small animal shows will also be required to wear masks for all classes participated in.

- Masks will be provided to judges, volunteers, and 4-H participants if they are unable to bring their own.
- Small animal exhibitors will each be assigned a table 6 foot apart inside the Malta Pavilion to keep their animals on while waiting, except for dogs who will wait 6 feet apart.
- All fitting must be done at home before coming to the show.
- Exhibitors will be kept 6 foot apart when showing.
- All Small Animals will go home after their shows and will not be displayed.
- Attendance at each show will consist of the 4-H member and as few immediate family members as possible, no general public.
- Attendance by non-participant children is strongly discouraged. Families are strongly encouraged to arrange for alternative care for their younger children.
- Family members must not gather at the entrance gate or along the arena fence. Announcements will be made to remind people to distance from each other and to ask people to be considerate and step back once their 4-H member is done showing so others may see.
- Spectators will be limited to family members and seated 6 feet apart.
 - ❖ If we are in Phase 3 by fair time - the public will be invited to attend shows.

Monday, July 27, 2020

9:00 am. 4-H Indoor/Static Exhibit Judging at Malta City Hall

- Interviews will be scheduled by July 20 and held on July 27.
- All members participating in indoor/static interviews will have an assigned interview time. Members must wait in their vehicles until their first assigned interview time of the day.
- No more than 10 judging stations would be spread out in the City Hall, more than 10 foot apart with one judge and one volunteer.
- Judges will award, by a set standard, a Blue, Red or White Ribbon for each entry.
- 4-H Members will bring ALL their indoor entries to their scheduled interview time slot.
- The member will then proceed to their next scheduled interview taking all their entries with them as they go.
- After the member completes all their interviews, a volunteer will take a photo of the member and their entries.
- After the interview, members will take their exhibits home.
- Exhibits will not be displayed, and alternate forms of display will be used.
- Outstanding exhibit ribbons and judge's choice trophies will be distributed to members via mail or at a later date.

- Interviews will be scheduled far enough apart to limit waiting lines and those waiting will be kept 6 foot apart at all times. Parents will be asked to wait in vehicles.
- Judges and volunteers will wear masks and gloves, members will also wear masks. After the completion of each interview, judges will change gloves and the table/chair will be sanitized.

Thursday, July 30, 2020

8:00 am. *Beef, Dairy, and Lamb Shows at the Dodson Fairgrounds*

- All fitting must be done at home before the animals come to the fairgrounds, wash racks will not be available.
- The 4-H Livestock Barns will be closed to the public and stalls will NOT be available for beef or sheep.
- Youth must arrive at fairgrounds ready to show.
- Judging for Showmanship and Market classes will happen simultaneously to minimize movement of animals and people.
- Class order will be by youth age category beginning with Seniors, followed by Advance Juniors.
- Members will be assigned a specific show time after July 15. Members **MUST** arrive at their assigned showtime. **If family members are showing in the same species but different age categories, younger members and their animals must wait in/at their trailer until their assigned weigh in and showtime.**
- Volunteers will be recruited by the Extension Office and appropriate Superintendents to help at weigh in and during shows. The same personnel will perform the same functions, to minimize touch point contaminations.
- 4-H/FFA member and one adult helper will be allowed out of the vehicle to get animal to scale.
- Animals will weigh in and proceed immediately to the show ring.
- After weighing in members and animals will have a still photo taken before they proceed to the show ring.
- When showing exhibitors will stay 6 feet apart.

Potential Beef and Dairy Show Schedule – specific class and showtimes will be scheduled and distributed to members after July 15.

- ◆ Class 1 – Senior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 2 – Senior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 3 – Senior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 4 - Senior (call back for showmanship final)
- ◆ Class 5 – Advance Junior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)

- ◆ Class 6 - Advance Junior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 7 – Advance Junior (call back for showmanship final)
- ◆ Class 8 – Market (call back for market final)
- ◆ Class 9 - Dairy

Sheep Show – after the conclusion of the beef and dairy show.

- ◆ Class 1 – all sheep exhibitors

- If called back for a final showmanship or market class, members must return with their animals to their trailers and wait until their next class is called.
- When 4-H/FFA members are done showing (only those being called back for final consideration, if requested by judge, need stay), they will be dismissed and take their animal directly to their trailer and depart.
- No beef, dairy, or sheep will be housed overnight at the fairgrounds.
- The judge will be asked to identify a Grand and Reserve in Beef, Dairy, and Sheep.
- Attendance at each show will consist of the 4-H/FFA member and as few immediate family members as possible, no general public.
- Attendance by non-participant children is strongly discouraged. Families are strongly encouraged to arrange for alternative care for their younger children.
- Family members must not gather at the entrance gate or along the arena fence. Announcements will be made to remind people to distance from each other and to ask people to be considerate and step back once their 4-H/FFA member is done showing so others may see.
- Spectators will be limited to family members and seated 6 feet apart.
 - If we are in Phase 3 by fair time - the public will be invited to attend shows.

Friday July 31, 2020

8:00 am. Swine Show at the Dodson Fairgrounds

- The 4-H Livestock Barns will be closed to the public.
- Swine will be penned between classes and will stay at the fairgrounds overnight until after the sale on Saturday.
- Swine will be cared for by designated swine care attendants Friday night and Saturday morning. Youth relinquish care of their swine as soon as they are done showing.
- **July 29. Swine members must install a swine water, and drop off 1 bale of unopened shavings, feed bucket/tub, feed for Friday night and Saturday morning, and any care instructions to their assign swine pen at the Dodson fairgrounds. Please make sure to label your water and any supplies to ensure you get all your stuff returned**

after fair. Please see your club leader for your assigned time to set up your water and drop off supplies.

- All fitting must be done at home before the animals come to the fairgrounds, wash racks will not be available.
- Youth must arrive at fairgrounds ready to show. **Masks are required for all swine members.**
- Judging for Showmanship and Market classes will happen simultaneously to minimize movement of animals and people.
- Class order will be by youth age category beginning with Seniors, followed by Advance Juniors.
- Members will be assigned a specific show time after July 15. Members **MUST** arrive at their assigned showtime. **If family members are showing in the same species but different age categories, younger members and their animals must wait in/at their trailer until their assigned weigh in and showtime.**
- Volunteers will be recruited by the Extension Office and appropriate Superintendents to help at weigh in and during show. The same personnel will perform the same functions, to minimize touch point contaminations. **Only assigned volunteers and members that are called back for a following class are allowed in the swine barn.**
- 4-H/FFA member and one adult helper will be allowed out of the vehicle to get animal to scale.
- Animals will weigh in and proceed immediately to the show ring.
- After weighing in members and animals will have a still photo taken before they proceed to the show ring.

Potential Swine Show Schedule – specific class and showtimes will be scheduled and distributed to members after July 15.

- ◆ Class 1 – Senior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 2 – Advance Junior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 3 – Advance Junior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 4 - Advance Junior (call back for showmanship final)
- ◆ Class 5 – Beginning Junior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 6 - Beginning Junior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 7 – Beginning Junior (showmanship and market judged simultaneously)
- ◆ Class 8 – Beginning Junior (call back for showmanship final)
- ◆ Class 9 - Feeder
- ◆ Class 10 - Market (call back for market final)

- The judge will be asked to identify a Grand and Reserve in Swine Market and Breeding Classes.
- As soon as the member and animal are done showing, the member should communicate with designated swine care attendant and members will bid good-bye to their animal at that time. Member and family should leave the barn and showing area.
- Any non-market swine will be taken back home following the end of the show.
- Attendance at each show will consist of the 4-H/FFA member and as few immediate family members as possible, no general public.
- Attendance by non-participant children is strongly discouraged. Families are strongly encouraged to arrange for alternative care for their younger children.
- Family members must not gather at the entrance gate or along the arena fence. Announcements will be made to remind people to distance from each other and to ask people to be considerate and step back once their 4-H/FFA member is done showing so others may see.
- Spectators will be limited to family members and seated 6 feet apart.
 - ❖ If we are in Phase 3 by fair time - the public will be invited to attend shows.

Livestock Sale Preparation

- Like years past, the Extension Office mailed all 2019 buyers a letter and list of participates in the different market classes.
- **Due by July 22. Three pictures (one of the front, side, and rear of animal) of youth showing their animal must be texted to Sarah at 406-366-9160 to be used for the sale day online catalog. *Optional: a 1-minute video of youth showing their animal texted to the same number above. If videoing with a smart phone, take the video with the phone turned horizontal. If videoing with another device, please contact Sarah to coordinate the best way to get the video.**
- After July 1st, members will be given a flyer with information about the online sale, buyer registration, bidding, and animal distribution (processing). Members are encouraged to share this flyer as well as information about themselves and their sale animal with potential buyers. Sale information will also be shared on KMMR Radio, local newspapers, etc.
- After July 1st, a Facebook page will be created by the Extension Office for the purpose of showcasing market animals that will potentially be available for purchase. This Facebook page will also be used to showcase members placing and awards.

Saturday, August 1, 2020

9:00 am. 4-H & FFA Livestock Sale at the Milk River Pavilion

- The sale will be online and have a **buyer only** in person component.

- No food or beverages will be served or provided.
- Youth will not be present for the sale as no animals will be present and to minimize crowd size.
- The sale will be hosted by Frontier Live Sale.
- Youth may watch the sale online at frontierlivesale.com and may wait in vehicles in the parking lot of the Milk River Pavilion with signage thanking buyers for supporting 4-H/FFA.
- The auctioneer will announce the information from the catalog, plus the ribbon placing and weight for each animal and the Grand and Reserve Selected for each animal.
- The sale will be clerked by Bank of Malta.
- Signs will be posted reminding guests to leave six feet spacing between themselves and others.
- After the conclusion of the sale, beef and sheep members will deliver their market animals to the Milk River Pavilion for redistribution to their appropriate processor. Swine will be loaded out from the fairgrounds with a minimal crew of preselected volunteers, for redistribution to their appropriate processor.
- Pictures and buyer thank you cards will mailed to members. Members will then distribute their pictures and thank you letter to their appropriate buyer.