

# PP-2 Saskatchewan 4-H Projects

## 2.3 Rules regarding Animal Projects and Shows

Origin / Last Revised:	Next Revision:
May 2019   July 2021	July 2023
References:	

### 2.3.1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to standardize the selection, judging and showing of 4-H project animals. The Saskatchewan 4-H Council has adopted these rules and guidelines to govern 4-H members and 4-H clubs as well as sanctioned 4-H events hosted by third-party organizations. They should be observed at the club, district, regional and provincial levels.

### 2.3.2. Choice and Eligibility of Project Animals

1. Project animals must be identified by an ear tag, tattoo, or photograph, plus name of breed and description of animal to the project and general leader at the time of selection.
  - a. For livestock projects, a premise identification number, as federally regulated, is recommended.
2. 4-H members are to be responsible for the care and training of their project animal.
  - a. If an animal lives at a different facility than the member, the member is expected to care for the animal to the best of their ability. The member's involvement is to be evaluated at the discretion of their project leader. The 4-H Office can provide an 'activity log' template to help members demonstrate that they cared for their animal.
3. Members must have current year's record book available for inspection at any 4-H event/show where the animal is present, if required by the show committee.
4. A member may enroll only one project animal per project in the province.
  - a. Light Horse, Young Horse, and Rodeo are separate projects, so a member can enroll one horse in each.
  - b. For beef projects, members can take two cow-calf projects in one year - one 2-year old cow-calf pair and one 3-year-old cow-calf pair, in addition to one heifer, and one market steer.
  - c. A cloverbud member shall take only one of the following beef projects (annually)
    - (1) current year calf, or
    - (2) heifer, or
    - (3) market steer, or
    - (4) cow-calf pair
  - d. Between 3 – 5 beef animals are allowed for the Feedlot project.
5. The animal's sire determines the eligibility of an animal in breed classes. If the animal is cross-bred or has unknown breeding, the member must choose which breed class they will

- enter when the project animal is selected.
6. All market animals entered in any 4-H project, show or sale must be castrated by the selection deadline (where appropriate and industry standard for species, excluding poultry and rabbits).
  7. Project Animal Substitution
    - a. Project animals may be substituted prior to the selection deadline with project leader approval.
    - b. After the selection deadline, substitution of project animals is only allowed due to death, serious illness or injury, or behavioural issues that cause safety concerns.
      - i. For death and behavioural issues, decision to allow substitution shall be made by majority decision by the club members AFTER being vetted for validity by a panel of three screened 4-H leaders or volunteers (unbiased, unrelated to the member).
      - ii. Serious illness and injury must be verified by a veterinarian. If verified, a decision to allow substitution shall be made by the club members after being vetted for validity by a panel of three screened 4-H leaders or volunteers (unbiased, unrelated to the member).
    - c. Should a member's receive approval to substitute their animal, it must be substituted with an approved substitution animal that was registered with the club at the same time as the original animal.
      - i. All animal substitutions must be recorded in the member's 4-H record book.
      - ii. Family members can designate the same substitute animal.
  8. Only 4-H project animals (or club-approved substitution animals) are eligible for 4-H shows and competitions.
  9. All project animals must be shown by the member at a local Achievement Day in order to proceed to a Regional Show.
  10. If a 4-H member is unable to show their project animal, (due to medical, family emergency, or other reason that the club/show committee deems acceptable) another registered 4-H member (from the same club, if possible) will be allowed to show the project animal. The project animal WILL be eligible for all conformation and rate of gain classes. The project animal and its showman will NOT be eligible for showmanship, grooming and other skill classes. The animal WILL be eligible to be sold at the sale.

### 2.3.2. 4-H Shows and Competitions (Achievement Day or Inter-Club)

1. The purpose of the show/4-H competition is to provide a learning and development opportunity for members, as well as the opportunity to meet others and build camaraderie between clubs and to allow them to showcase their achievements from the year.
2. Safety of members must be a primary concern.
3. Competition must be in 4-H Saskatchewan's age categories of Cloverbud, Junior, Intermediate and Senior.
  - a. This excludes conformation, and classes grouped by animal age, weight or breed.
  - b. If there are too few members to warrant a class, members may compete in the age category directly above their own age category, but not any below.

4. Members are to prepare and show their animal. Adults or non-4-H members will NOT be allowed to physically prepare or groom project animals for the show ring. If this is observed, the member may be disqualified from the show/4-H competition.
5. Cloverbud and junior members will not be penalized for assistance in the show ring. Assistance should be provided by an older registered 4-H member whenever possible.
6. Ringside coaching is considered helping and is not acceptable.
7. In showmanship and individual grooming classes, a member must use their own project animal.
8. In any competition, the judge's ruling is final. Any person attempting to interfere with or influence the judge will be excused from the event.
9. Where an aggregate award is to be awarded, the 4-H questionnaire, unit exam and record book should be taken into account. Other options to include are attendance at club events, public speaking, community involvement, good sportsmanship, and/or project demonstration, and project-specific classes at Achievement Day or the show/4-H competition. Emphasis should be placed on the member and their work done rather than the quality of the project animal.
10. In addition to the 4-H Saskatchewan minimum requirements, there may be additional regulations from the local club, interclub or sanctioned 4-H events. No additional regulations can contradict 4-H Saskatchewan rules. Show and sale committees will be responsible for providing any additional local requirements and clarifying their policies. It is the member and/or leader's responsibility to know these rules and regulations.
11. All 4-H competitions (including Achievement Day, inter-club, and sanctioned 4-H events) should form a show/4-H competition committee.
12. Complaints / Grievances at a 4-H show/4-H competition should be addressed as follows:
  - a. Any grievance must be presented to the show/4-H competition committee chairperson in writing with signature, no later than midnight of the day of the violation/competition.
  - b. The committee will review the written grievance and provide a written response or decision within one day.
  - c. The committee has complete authority to render a decision.
13. Complaints/grievances regarding rule violations against a show/4-H competition should be brought to the provincial 4-H office within two weeks of the event. Shows or clubs are expected to make corrective actions or risk losing the opportunity to be a sanctioned event and/or club in good standing.

### 2.3.3. Animal and/or Competitor Conduct

1. Members should wear proper attire including footwear and proper equipment in good condition should be used.
2. Competitors, animals and their equipment/tack shall be neat in appearance and well-groomed. No credit or discredit shall be given for decorated equipment or show clothing.
3. Stalling areas should be clean and tidy. The maintenance of the stall area should be the responsibility of members of the club.
4. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated from members, leaders, or spectators. Club leaders and show committees may ask unsportsmanlike individuals to be excused.
5. Use of tranquilizers on animals is prohibited.

6. Any animal that is not properly halter broke or is unmanageable may be excused from the show and/or sale at the show committee's discretion.
7. Any animal displaying symptoms of neglect, illness, contagious disease or that may be a safety concern will not be allowed at any 4-H function. Any concerns regarding a suspected animal need to be addressed to a club leader or the show committee before the event.

#### 2.3.4. Sale of Market Animals

1. A member can show and sell only one market animal per project, with the exception of the feedlot unit of the beef project.
  - a. Feedlot unit animals cannot be sold at Achievement Days or regional shows. Where possible, feedlot members should have an opportunity to showcase their project work or animals at Achievement Day or the Regional Show.
  - b. Feedlot animals can be sold by:
    - i. private sale
    - ii. open auction
    - iii. processed and sold as meat packages, but these should not be branded as "4-H"
2. All animals in the market classes must be sold by public auction and becomes ineligible for any further 4-H shows.
3. The following are valid means of selling a 4-H market animal project:
  - a. A live or online unreserved public auction
    - i. 4-H auctions may only be hosted by 4-H clubs, district councils, or sanctioned third-party organizers.
    - ii. Auctions must be held by a licensed and/or bonded auctioneer (individual or company).
  - b. Private sale of animal
  - c. Private sale of packaged meat products
  - d. Open Market
  - e. 4-H members may also choose to:
    - i. donate their animal, proceeds from the sale of their animal or packaged meat products
    - ii. keep their animal, or process it and keep packaged meat products for personal use
4. Only 4-H members are eligible to market completed 4-H project animals as "4-H".
  - a. Once sold, the animal is no longer eligible for 4-H opportunities.
  - b. Once sold, any meat/products are not eligible to be marketed by a third-party as "4-H".
5. Regional Show (or other 4-H competition) coordinators may limit the opportunity to register and show in their market classes to the animals that will be sold as a part of their public market animal auction.
6. Animals must be entered as a part of a competition to be eligible to be sold as a part of that event's corresponding public auction / sale.

### 2.3.5 Guidelines for Judging of Livestock Projects and Shows

1. Judges should be provided these “Rules Regarding Livestock” as well as any competition specific rules prior to the competition beginning.
2. At Achievement Day, judges should talk with leaders regarding club goals, any club specific rules, and what the project learning objectives were before judging starts.
3. Local clubs, for their Achievement Days, can choose judges at their own discretion.
4. Consideration should be given to using judges who are familiar with the 4-H program for Achievement Day.
5. Record books should be available for a livestock judge to view at Achievement Day.
6. Achievement Day judges should be encouraged to give individual comments and instructions:
  - a. Judges should be diplomatic and tell members what is expected before class begins.
  - b. Judges should be encouraged to group judge and/or provide individual evaluations.
  - c. Judges should take into consideration that they are dealing with youth.
  - d. Emphasis should be placed on achievement and sportsmanship, not winning.
  - e. Judges should give reasons to the crowd as well as to members.
  - f. The judge should ask members about grooming and handling techniques whenever possible.

### 2.3.6. Rules Specific for Beef Projects

1. As required by CCIA, beef animals must be identified by an RFID Tag. The RFID number should be given to General Leader upon selection of project animal.
  - a. In the case of lost RFID tags, notification should be sent to the General Leader immediately and the replacement tag number should be forwarded after receiving it.
2. Beef must select project animal(s) at least four months prior to Achievement Day with the exception of Cloverbuds showing calendar year calves.
3. Steers and heifers that are to be shown must be born no earlier than January 1 of the previous year, e.g. 2018 show animal must be born in 2017.
4. Cow-calf is a continuation of the heifer project.
  - a. A member showing a two-year old cow must have completed a project year with the same animal as a heifer.
  - b. A member showing a three-year old cow must have completed a project year with the same animal as a heifer.
    - i. It is not required that the three-year old cow was shown as a two-year-old cow. If the three-year old cow was not shown as a two-year old the reasons why must be noted in the member’s two-year old record book and signed by a club leader.
  - c. The cow must be shown with her natural calf of the current year at side.
    - i. If the natural calf has died, the club or show committee can determine whether an adopted/foster calf or being allowed to show without calf at foot (*cow has not calved*) is acceptable at their competition.
    - ii. At the club level, the decision shall be made by majority decision by the club

members AFTER being vetted for validity by a panel of three screened 4-H leaders or volunteers (unbiased, unrelated to the member).

5. All beef market animals must be castrated and dehorned by January 1 of the current show year.
  - a. Calendar year calves and female horned breeds may be shown with horns at the discretion of the club or show/competition committee.
6. "Drenching" is not permitted.

### 2.3.7. Rules Specific for Equine Projects

#### 2.3.7.A Rules for ALL Equine Projects

1. All registered 4-H members and other participants in the light horse, young horse and rodeo project that are 18 years of age and younger must wear a certified riding helmet with a strap at all 4-H mounted events. This helmet policy is also a recommended practice for any individual over the age of 18.

#### 2.3.7.B Rules for Light Horse Projects

1. Where ruling does not exist, The Saskatchewan Horse Federation/Equestrian Canada rules shall be used.
2. Light horse members must be responsible for the care and training of their project animal at least four months prior to show day Achievement Day
3. No stallions will be allowed to show in the light horse project or at any level of show, excluding the young horse project up to two years old.
4. Any horse displaying symptoms of lameness may not be allowed to be shown.
  - a. At the discretion of the judge, these cases may be dismissed from the class or disqualified for the remainder of the competition day.
5. Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Stake Race, Quad Race, Ride and Run, and Keyhole Race are considered gymkhana events and are not subject to the Rodeo Rules to allow members to learn and practice in an educational and safe environment. Therefore, in all gymkhana events, competitors are required to walk into and out of the arena and retain control of their horse.
6. Please refer to Equestrian Canada Rules for rulings on classes, clothing and equipment

#### 2.3.7.C Rules for Young Horse Projects

1. The Young Horse Project is designed for members responsible for starting and training a horse under the aged three or younger (at the beginning of the project year).
2. Any member wanting to take the Young Horse Project must:
  - a. meet an age requirement of 13 years of age as of December 31st of the program

- year.
  - b. have three years light horse experience or horseback riding with approval from experienced project leader
  - c. Members must have their parent/guardian complete and submit a consent/waiver form to the provincial 4-H office (forms are available from the provincial 4-H office).
  - d. A parent/guardian MUST commit to full supervision of and assistance to a member under 18 years of age while the member is working with the young horse; it is recommended that 4-H'ers of any age have supervision while working with a young horse.
  - e. Each year, attend at least one clinic or other young horse/colt starting clinic, with the project leader's guidance. Saskatchewan 4-H offers a clinic each spring. However, members may also attend any clinic offered in their area. A certificate has been provided in the record book, which members will need to have signed by the clinician and the general or project leader, stating that they have completed this requirement and the certificate will be a part of their record book.
3. The member is responsible to have stud colts castrated during their yearling year, with the exception being a male with un-descended testicles. Two-year-old stallions must be castrated without exception.
  4. The member is responsible for the care and training of their project animal. The member is not allowed to place the young horse with a trainer at any time but is allowed to receive instruction/lessons with the young horse, as this is intended to be a learning experience. We encourage the member to work with a trainer or other knowledgeable person.

#### 2.3.7.D Rules for Rodeo Projects

1. The Rodeo Project is for members who are 9 to 21 years of age (by December 31 of the membership year) and have the approval of their project leader ·
2. The Rodeo Project cannot be taken as a 4-U Project
3. A member taking the Rodeo Project must have a leader for the project.
4. All members must have read the current 4-H Rodeo Rules.
5. 4-H Saskatchewan sanctions the following events as approved 4-H rodeo events:
 

· Bareback Bronc Riding	· Saddle Bronc Riding
· Barrel Racing	· Steer Daubing
· Break Away Roping	· Steer Riding
· Bulldogging or Steer Wrestling	· Steer Undecorating
· Chute Dogging	· Team Roping
· Cow Riding	· Tie Down Roping
· Goat Tying	· Wild Cow Milking
· Keyhole Race	· Wild Cow Race
· Pole Bending	· Wild Horse Race
· Ribbon Roping	· Wild Pony Race
6. To add an event to the list of approved 4-H rodeo events, a proposal must be submitted to the Saskatchewan 4-H Council with the appropriate assessment tools, rules, guidelines and safety precautions for review. The review process may take up to one (1) year.
  - a. If the proposal is approved, the event will be added to the list of Approved 4-H Rodeo Events. The added event will be included in the rodeo manual or will be

- available as an addendum to the rodeo manual and will be listed on the 4-H website as approved until the manual is reprinted.
- b. The Saskatchewan 4-H Council reserves the right to reject the proposal or to recommend changes to the proposal for re-submission.
  - c. The Saskatchewan 4-H Council will notify the proposal's contact person in writing with the decision and follow-up action.
7. All members must wear proper western attire including – helmet or cowboy hat (only if over 18 years old – if a competitor over 18 chooses to wear a riding helmet, they will not be penalized) heeled cowboy boots (pull on recommended) and long sleeved shirt when they enter the arena, including one (1) hour before and one (1) hour after the rodeo.
  8. Helmets, flak jackets and protective mouth gear are mandatory in rough stock. A facemask is also strongly recommended.
  9. Any rodeo events conducted by a host committee as part of their competition, which are not contained on the above list, are not approved and sanctioned by the Saskatchewan 4-H Council. The Saskatchewan 4-H Council will assume no responsibility for injuries or insurance claims relating to non-sanctioned events
  10. An Inspection Committee must be formed
    - a. The Inspection Committee is to be made up of a minimum of two (2) people. It must contain at least one (1) person from each club hosting a 4-H rodeo in that region that year. They are to report to the rodeo office early the day of the rodeo.
    - b. The committee is responsible for the humane treatment of animals. Animals used for rodeo must be inspected before the rodeo. No sick, lame, sore or injured animals shall be permitted in the draw at any time. No animal shall be beaten or cruelly prodded behind or in front of the chutes. The inspection committee has the right to disqualify any contestant for using a horse that is obviously lame, sore or injured in any way.
  11. The following Rodeo Event Rules are the minimum provincial requirements for hosting a 4-H rodeo.
    - a. It is the responsibility of the contestant to check with the rodeo office in case there is a change in the program.
    - b. Contestants are responsible for confirming entries before the beginning of the rodeo.
    - c. Designated emergency medical personnel and/or ambulance must be readily available at all rodeos.
    - d. Each club must have their own chaperone and first aid personnel.
    - e. Host club and community are not responsible for injuries.
    - f. Contestants must be ready to go in the arena for their event, also ready to return to the arena for ribbon presentation.
    - g. All points that day will be taken away from 4-H contestants for excessive use of profanity before or during the rodeo.
    - h. Any person (member, leader, or parent) seen being abusive to their horse, (member or parent) before, during or after the rodeo will result in disqualification of contestant by the inspection committee.
    - i. Two (2) timers to be used for each run.
    - j. At least one (1) arena judge for each run in speed and roping events.
    - k. Suggested Point System



- i. Ribbons, 1-6 place will be awarded in each event. In case of a tie, ties will be awarded ribbons.
- ii. Points are awarded for each rodeo event as follows:
  - o 1st - 6 points
  - o 2nd - 5 points
  - o 3rd - 4 points
  - o 4th - 3 points
  - o 5th - 2 points
  - o 6th - 1 point
- iii. Unless there are less than 6 entrants, then points will be awarded based on entries for example: 3 entries: points would be 3 for 1st, 2 for 2nd, 1 for 3rd.
- iv. If there is a tie for points at a rodeo, the points will be split, for example: 3 contestants tie for 1st. Add points from 1st to 3rd = 15 points divide by 3 = 5 points will be awarded to each of the contestants who tied for first. Points for 4th to 6th will be awarded to the next three contestants. If it is a 4-way tie divide by 4, etc.
- v. In the event of a tie in points after the series of rodeos, the person with the most qualified runs/rides will be declared the winner. If there is still a tie, then an average time/score will be used to determine the winner.

### 2.3.8. Rules Specific for Dairy Projects

- 1. Where ruling does not exist, the Canadian 4-H Dairy Classic (Royal Agricultural Winter Fair) rules shall be used
- 2. Dairy members must select project animal(s) at least four months prior to Achievement Day.

### 2.3.9. Rules Specific for Sheep Projects

- 1. Sheep members must have fed, cared for and fitted their animal for at least three months prior to Achievement Day.
- 2. As required by CSIP, sheep must be identified by RFID Tags

### 2.3.10. Rules Specific for Swine Projects

- 1. Where ruling does not exist, The Lloydminster 4-H Expo Swine Class rules shall be used.
- 2. Swine members must have fed, cared for and fitted their animal for at least three months prior to Achievement Day.