

GENERAL RULES

1. 4-H members shall only exhibit items or livestock personally produced and/or prepared since the prior year's 4-H Fair. See Department Regulations for ownership date requirements of animals and plants.
2. All static and livestock exhibits must be prepared, handled and maintained entirely by the 4-H'er without assistance from family or friends. This includes care of the animals and their cages/stalls/pens during the weekend and preparing for show classes. All exhibits must be set up and removed from the grounds by the exhibitor. Exceptions to this are limited, and must be discussed with the Department Chairmen. However, at all times, safety concerns will be cause for an exception to this rule.
3. All exhibitors in each department must be enrolled and be in good standing in the Middlesex County 4-H Program. 4-H'ers from other counties may exhibit only by invitation from the Fair.
4. The current 4-H year is September 1, 2018 to August 30, 2019. Exhibitors are boys and girls who have passed their 5th birthday but not their 19th birthday as of January 1, 2019; youth with disabilities, ages 9 through 21 as of January 1, 2019. Youth requiring accommodations should contact the Middlesex County 4-H Fair outlining the accommodations being requested by July 31, 2019. NOTE: Horse Exhibitors please refer to the age requirements shown in the Horse Department Rules.
 - Cloverbud: Age 5 through 7 as of January 1, 2019. All static exhibits will be judged in the Cloverbud Department; livestock will be judged in the respective livestock departments. **NO ENTRY FEES ARE CHARGED AND PREMIUMS WILL NOT BE AWARDED TO ANY CLOVERBUD; EXHIBITS WILL RECEIVE ONLY A PARTICIPATION RIBBON.**
 - Novice: Age 8 through 13 as of January 1, 2019, and showing in the department for the first time (excluding cloverbud years).
 - Junior: Age 9 through 13 as of January 1, 2019, and having shown in the department before; also age 14 through 18 as of January 1, 2019, and showing in the department for the first time (excluding cloverbud years).
 - Senior: Age 14 through 18 as of January 1, 2019, and having shown in the department before.
5. Rules specified by the individual departments are binding. Please read them carefully.
6. Exhibitors may enter in any department regardless of the project carried in 4-H work, so long as the exhibit is his or her own work. Those entering the horse competition must have a current 4-H Horse Project Verification form signed by their 4-H Club Leader.
7. Exhibits of undesirable quality and those not properly entered will not be accepted. The decisions of the Department Chairmen and/or 4-H Fair Staff will be final.
8. The placings will be awarded on the basis of the quality of the exhibits; the decision of the judges is final.
9. Questions about articles for exhibit not covered by the class list should be directed to the appropriate Department Chairman.
10. Once Closing Ceremonies is complete on Sunday, entries may be removed from the Static Building and livestock may be loaded for transport. If any animals or other entries are removed prior to the completion of closing ceremonies, the exhibitor will forfeit all premium payments earned. This includes day exhibitors in the Dog and Horse Departments.
11. Only exhibits entered in this Fair may be sold by the exhibitor after judging with the permission of the Department Chairman; however, all exhibits must remain on the grounds until the close of the Fair on Sunday. If animals are sold and removed from the Grounds prior to the completion of the Awards Program on Sunday, then all premiums earned for that animal will be forfeited.
12. All perishable products not called for by closing time on the last day of the Fair will be discarded. All other static exhibits not claimed will be moved to the Administration Building and must be picked up by 8:00 p.m. Monday evening immediately following the Fair. All non-perishable items remaining unclaimed after Monday evening will be discarded!
13. Lots may be combined or subdivided if entries warrant such action. Multi-item lots and "miscellaneous" lots may be subdivided into new lots with a minimum of 3 entries in each subdivision at the Chairman's and judges' discretion.
14. Exhibitors, chaperones and Department Chairmen are responsible for the complete cleanup of their sleeping and exhibit areas prior to leaving the grounds on Sunday night. If necessary, a final cleanup must be scheduled for Monday immediately following the fair. *Please note that extra food from the food venues will be available for sale on Monday.*