

Animal Identification, Weighing & Exhibition Requirements for County, State and Interstate Shows

I. Overview

1. An Agricultural Education Course of Study is required for FFA membership to be initiated, maintained, and retained. The school providing the Agricultural Education course of study must provide at least 2.0 units of Agricultural Education courses.
2. A school providing agricultural education course of study can occur through a “brick and mortar” system or a virtual/online system.
 - A student that is enrolled in a “brick and mortar” system has an established school of residence. A school of residence is the school system in which a student resides. A sharing agreement with a school that has an agricultural education program must exist for student(s) residing in a school system of residence which does not offer an agricultural education program.
 - A student that is enrolled in a virtual/online system has a school district of residence, but the school district may not have an alignment of location with a county expo/fair/show in question. In this case, a county of residence may need to be considered for eligibility to be an exhibitor by the respective county expo/fair/show.

II. Membership

Chapter Membership may only exist in the school which provides the Agricultural Education Course of Study. FFA chapter advisor(s) and Agricultural Education instructor(s) must be the same person(s). (National FFA Constitution, Article X, Section B)

1. Grades 7-8
 - Enroll in an Agricultural Education program for at least a portion of a school year in grades 7 or 8.
 - Document satisfactory plans for Supervised Agricultural Experience(s).
 - Maintain records of Supervised Agricultural Experience(s) which are available for review by the chapter FFA advisor within 48 hrs. of request.
 - Membership in the Iowa FFA Association, the National FFA Organization, and the local chapter may be initiated no earlier than the first day of 7th grade.
2. Grades 9-12
 - For high school students who were not FFA Members in 7th or 8th grade, membership may be initiated no earlier than the first day student(s) are enrolled in the high school Agricultural Education Course of Study.
 - For high school students who were FFA members in 7th or 8th grade, continuous membership may be maintained.
 - To initiate or maintain FFA membership in high school, students must be enrolled in an Agricultural Education Course of Study (Board Policy #21) which documents the equivalent of at least 0.5 units for each year in high school.
3. After Graduation from High School
 - FFA members are eligible to exhibit under the direction of the FFA chapter that holds their membership until FFA Membership Eligibility ceases.
 - FFA Membership Eligibility ceases November 30th following the fourth National FFA Convention after a student graduates from high school or at 23 years of age, whichever comes first (Iowa FFA Constitution, Article IV, Section B).
 - FFA members may retain eligibility after graduation from high school only if they were an FFA member during their Senior (last) year in high school. (Board Policy #21)
 - FFA members may not transfer membership after graduation from high school, he or she may only retain membership in the school that provided his or her Agricultural Education Course of Study. (Board Policy #19)

III. Liability

1. Liability coverage of students involved in FFA activities (such as exhibiting at an FFA-sponsored youth show) is provided by the members' school of residence, the member's parents/guardians, event-specific coverage and/ or the member.
2. The Iowa FFA Association and the National FFA organization assume no liability for participation of FFA members in youth shows.

3. For liability associated with a graduated member of a school, the members' school of residence should be contacted regarding liability coverage.

IV. **General Animal Requirements**

1. Primary care of all identified animals must be provided by the FFA member or a partnership group of owners of which the member is a financial partner (See example on page two under ownership requirements).
2. A specific animal may only be identified by one FFA member for youth shows.
3. Specific animal(s) identified as part of a 4H project may not be identified as part of a FFA SAE. Students may however identify separate animals for both FFA and 4H for competition.
 - Example - A student may identify market lambs A, B and C in 4H, and identify commercial ewes D, E, and F in FFA (See Iowa State Fair premium book, General Rules-Exhibiting in FFA & 4-H Shows for clarification).
4. Animals offered for sale in an auction (live, online or ribbon) are considered to have changed ownership.
 - Change of ownership applies even if bought back by the original owner or if the original owner refuses the highest bid.
 - All animals must meet health requirements as outlined by the specific youth show.
5. Primary care of all identified animals must be provided by the FFA member or a partnership group of owners.

V. **Ownership Requirements**

1. SAE records must be available for chapter advisor review within 48 hrs. of being requested.
2. FFA member(s) must own animal(s) specifically identified for exhibition at youth show(s), and document ownership in SAE records.
3. Animal(s) must be owned or leased (horses) by the FFA exhibitor by date of nomination. Ownership and lease agreement(s) must be maintained from the date of nomination through the date of exhibition. A copy of the lease agreement must be available upon request of the respective chapter advisor and event supervisor(s).
4. FFA member(s) may own animal(s) in a sole proprietorship and/or partnership.
5. FFA member(s) must maintain SAE records of animal(s) owned in a sole proprietorship and/or partnership.
6. FFA member(s) may own animal(s) in partnership with individual(s) who are FFA members and/or non-members.
7. Partnerships are not restricted by school district borders; therefore, owners may live in different school districts.
8. Partnerships agreements must be documented in the member's SAE records. Partnership agreements must be signed by all members in the partnership.
9. When specific animal identification(s) are recorded for a youth show (tattoo, ear tag, ear notch, etc.), each animal must be identified as belonging to a specific FFA member. This does not exclude animal(s) owned in a partnership (multiple owners), but each animal may only be entered for exhibition by one member of the partnership agreement.
 - Partnership Example - FFA members A, B and C own market hogs 1 thru 40 in partnership. The partnership agreement outlines arrangements for management of income and expenses for the 40 head of market hogs. At the time pigs are entered for exhibition at a youth show, FFA members A, B, and C must each identify different hogs.
 - Member A enters hogs 1, 4, 29, and 40
 - Member B enters hogs 2, 13, 17 and 23
 - Member C enters hogs 6, 16, 24 and 33
 - All of these hogs may continue being raised/fed in the same area.
 - Animals owned and raised in partnership would not need different Premise Identification Numbers (PIN).
10. Animals changing ownership after being nominated for exhibition at a youth show are not eligible to be exhibited at that youth show.
 - If sold at a livestock show, the partnership agreement describes how proceeds will be managed.

VI. Important Deadlines

1. Animal(s) must be owned by the FFA member before being identified for exhibition at a youth show, and ownership may not change before the conclusion of the youth show.
2. Where applicable animals must be owned by the FFA member at least 60 days before the youth show. (Example - 60 days ownership may not be applicable for broilers)
3. The chapter FFA advisor may require review of FFA member's SAE records before animal(s) are identified for exhibition at a youth show.
4. Within 30 days of starting an SAE Agreement must be completed, signed and maintained in the SAE records. The Iowa State Fair FFA Livestock Partnership Form may be utilized as part of the Agreement, or may be utilized to identify specific areas to be defined in an agreement.

VII. Identification for Exhibition

1. Official identification of animal(s) required by the youth show must be conducted under the direction/supervision of individual(s) designated by the county, state, or youth show. (i.e., weighing, tagging, tattooing, DNA collection, retinal scanning, ear notching using only the Standard Ear Notching System or other forms of official identification)
2. Youth show weigh-ins are typically conducted under the direction/supervision of one or more of the following personnel: county extension staff, 4H leaders, chapter FFA advisors and/or show supervisors/assistants.
3. All forms of identification must be accurately and carefully applied to ensure longevity of the animals' ID. All ear notches must be placed accurately according to the Standard Ear Notching System to provide clear identification as the animal grows.
4. It is the FFA member's responsibility to ensure that animal(s) are properly identified on health paper(s) at the time health papers are completed.
5. The member is responsible for double-checking identification records to verify matching identification written on health papers.
6. If the ID recorded on the health paper does not match the ID as read by the youth show supervisor(s)/assistant(s) the animal is ineligible to exhibit.
7. Frequently checking the animal(s) ID to ensure it is identifiable and/or present is the responsibility of the FFA member.
8. If animals are transported across state borders an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI) is required unless the animals are moving to an approved tagging site, directly to slaughter, or an approved livestock facility and then to slaughter.
9. For events that require a CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection), members will follow rules as specified by the respective show.

VIII. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

1. The Iowa FFA Association follows federal and state livestock industry requirements; therefore, YQCA certification is required of all members who exhibit/raise/sell exhibits as designated by the state fair.
2. Other certifications may be designated by county fairs and/or state fair.

IX. Iowa Teaching Standards

- FFA advisors providing instruction for YQCA meet the professional requirements of the following Iowa Teaching Standards. FFA chapter advisors may not be volunteers, a qualified advisor must be endorsed to teach and assess teaching and learning of Agricultural Education.
- 2b. *Use knowledge of student development to make learning experiences in the content area meaningful and accessible for every student.*
 - 3c. *Use student's developmental needs, background, and interests in planning for instruction*
 - 3d. *Selects strategies to engage all students in learning.*
 - 5a. *Aligns classroom assessment with instruction.*
 - 5b. *Communicates assessment criteria and standards to all students and parents.*
 - 6c. *Develops and implements classroom procedures and routines that support high expectations for student learning.*
 - 6e. *Creates a safe and purposeful learning environment.*
 - 8b. *Demonstrates professional and ethical conduct as defined by state law and district policy.*
 - 8d. *Demonstrates an understanding of and respect for all learners and staff.*

X. Specific ID/Show Requirements

1. The Iowa FFA Association does not restrict or designate shows/fairs in which FFA members may or may not participate.
2. FFA members are allowed to participate in any county fairs as determined by the respective show/fair rules.
3. Refer to the nomination requirements of the respective youth show/fair.
4. Iowa State Fair information @ <https://www.iowastatefair.org/participate/competition>.
5. FFA member(s) exhibiting other livestock owned in a partnership must complete and provide the FFA Livestock Partnership form @ <https://www.iowastatefair.org/participate/competition>.
6. FFA member(s) exhibiting horse(s) not owned by the specific member must complete and provide the FFA Partnership form @ <https://www.iowastatefair.org/participate/competition>.
7. For all other questions relative to involvement in the Iowa State Fair, refer to the FFA Premium Book at <https://www.iowastatefair.org/participate/competition>.