

## 2016-2017 Loudoun County 4-H Goat Club Rules

1. All members must attend at least 50% of club meetings from October to July. In order for the meeting to count, the member must sign-in and be present within 10 minutes of the start of the meeting. Arrival after 10 minutes from the start of the meeting will not count and the member will not be allowed to sign in.
2. All members are required to participate in at least one goat club fundraiser and one community service activity during the club year. These events will be announced at the December meeting. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of all goat fair premiums and prize awards.
3. All goats must be owned, tagged, separated, and cared for by the member on or before June 1 of the current year and continuously thereafter.
4. Exhibitors/members are expected to care for their animals in acceptable manner and adhere to quality assurance guidelines throughout the entire length of the project, including fair.
5. All registered goats that are shown must be registered in the member's name. No goats shall be entered under signed transfers, dual ownership, family ownership, or syndicates.
6. All entries for the Loudoun County Fair must be postmarked or delivered to the club leader(s) by June 15<sup>th</sup> of the current fair year. Copies of registration papers must be submitted with entry form. For an entry to be valid all required information must be included on the entry forms. **Incomplete entries and late entries will not be accepted.** Purebred goats with registration papers need to be in the exhibitor's name. Purebred goats that do not have copy of registration papers with entry form will be entered into the commercial class and will be required to meet all commercial goat entry standards. If the club leaders need clarification regarding an entry, the exhibitor will be given 3 days to respond. If the exhibitor does NOT respond within those 3 days, the entry will be disqualified.
  - i. If a purebred goat intended for a purebred class does not have registration papers at time of entry and is placed in the commercial class by the club leader(s), the exhibitor will have 2 business days to have the goat meet all commercial goat entry standards. Within these two business days, the exhibitor is responsible for updating their entry form with the goat's scrapie tag information via the club leader(s).
7. Each exhibitor may enter a maximum of 2 goats in a class. No more than 1 entry in the dam and daughter classes per exhibitor.
8. Participation in showmanship classes is mandatory. All goats brought to the fair must be entered in a conformation class, designated on the entry form.
9. Any animal shown in the purebred class must have registration papers. The commercial pet wether class is for animals not intended for market.
10. For bred and owned classes, animals must be out of a dam owned by the exhibitor at time of breeding and the dam must be in possession of the exhibitor prior to breeding and at time of kidding.
11. Record books must be up to date (75% complete) and checked before you bring an animal to the fair. Record books will be checked and signed on the goals page at the regularly scheduled July club meeting. It will be the exhibitor's responsibility to make

sure it is 75% complete by the time of signing. The front page of the record book will not be signed until after fair.

12. All goats (breeding, market, and pet wether) must be clipped prior to the arrival at the LC Fair to accommodate veterinary inspections. Goat hair shall not exceed 3/8 inch at arrival (exemption provided for fiber breeding and fiber pet wether classes only). Any animal arriving to the LC Fair, not meeting this rule, will be sent home immediately and disqualified.
13. All goats must remain in the designated penning area and immediate area upon arrival until released from the fair. Goats are not allowed to be taken to trailers, cattle barns, cattle tie-out area, or any other areas away from the goat barn at any time other than the livestock auction.
14. Exhibitors must show their own entries unless the exhibitor has more than one animal in the class or the Fair Superintendent gives permission. Substitute show persons must be eligible 4-H or FFA members with goat entries. Exhibitors must show their own animal in showmanship with the exception in the event of an exhibitor's animal becomes ill and is unable to be brought to fair. The animal must be entered and eligible to show in the goat show.
15. All goats must be clean and not fitted. Goats should be shown with collar, short lead, pinch collar or halter. The use of muzzles is prohibited.
16. All animal project exhibitors must keep their exhibits area, pen, aisles in barns and areas around the barns clean and neat at all times. Exhibitors will be responsible for cleaning their pen and exhibit area by 8:30am each morning. Evening feeding and watering will be set by the barn superintendent or club leaders. Feed pans must be removed within 1/2 hour from feed time and water must be checked during the day to ensure it is clean. Exhibitors will be given 1 warning and after that, they will forfeit any prizes and premiums.
17. Exhibitors must be at the fair at least once in the morning and once in the evening to care for their animals. Exhibitors will be responsible to sign-in with the club leader(s) at these respective times. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of any prizes or premiums awarded by the club or show eligibility for the next fair year. Consequences will be handled by the Ag Superintendent and the club leader(s). Exhibitors are encouraged to stay at the fair as much as possible during the week to look after their animals and participate in club and fair activities.
18. All exhibitors are required to work a goat club trash shift or goat club ice cream AND club dinner shift at the fair. Penalty for failing to do so will result in forfeiture of all goat premiums. If a goat club member cannot help with the club dinner they must work an extra trash or ice cream shift.
19. Parents are **STRONGLY** encouraged to participate and help their child through the entire week of fair (i.e. ice cream shack, trash, club dinner, gate duty and parking assistance).
20. **Rules pertaining to Market Goats:**
  - i. As a requirement to show in the Loudoun County Fair, all market goats will be weighed and tagged the first Saturday of June. There will be no limit on the number of goats a member may weigh-in, but they may show no more than 6 in the market goat classes (and a maximum of 2 per class). Ownership and bred & owned status must be declared at time of weigh in. Only goats with scrapie tag in the goat's ear will be weighed in.

- ii. All market goats must have a scrapie tag in their ear by weigh-in. Registered tattoos or microchips will only be accepted for breeding goats if registration papers accompany them from a goat association. Note: in the event of a breeding animal being implanted with a microchip, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to bring working equipment to scan the microchip on a determined date and time set by the club leader/leaders. Goats arriving at weigh-in without a scrapie tag will not be weighed in. Subsequently, not being eligible to show.
- iii. All market classes are open to wethers and/or does. All wethers must show no evidence of testicular tissue and be completely healed from castration. All market goats must show milk teeth and show no rupture of either two permanent front teeth. Any doe that is shown in the market class cannot be shown in a breeding class. Only animals shown in the market class are eligible for auction.
- iv. A goat must weigh at least 50 pounds and grade Select or better to sell in the livestock auction at the Loudoun County Fair. A two pound difference will be allowed due to scale differences. Goats which do not weigh 50 pounds at time of weigh-in at the fair will be shown in a feeder goat class. Feeder goats are no eligible for sale and only ½ of the normal show premiums. Feeder goats are not eligible for Rate of Gain.
- v. Members selling at the livestock auction at the LCF must distribute a minimum of 5 buyer letters to prospective buyers. **A copy of the letter and the name of the 5 prospective buyers must be presented to the club leader(s) prior to July 15<sup>th</sup>.** Members who fail to produce their letter and list of buyers will forfeit their right to sell a goat at the LCF auction.

\*I have read the above guidelines and understand that I must follow them to the best of my ability in order to participate in club activities and the 2017 Goat Show(s) at the Loudoun County Fair.

Exhibitor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Leader Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_