

Loudoun County Fair 2017 Sheep Club Rules

1. All Yearling and Aged breeding stock must be owned and cared for by the member on or before January 1 of the current year and continuously thereafter.
2. All registered sheep that are shown must be registered in the member's name. Copies of registration papers must be submitted with entry form. Purebred sheep less than 1 year old (registration pending) must show copies of dam and sire registrations. No appendix registrations accepted.
3. **No more than 2 entries per exhibitor may be shown in a class. No more than 1 entry in pair classes per exhibitor. Pair must be within 15 pounds of each other. Exhibitors must show their own entries unless the exhibitor has more than one animal in the class or permission is given by the Fair Superintendent. Substitute show persons must be eligible 4-H or FFA member with sheep entries. Exhibitors must show their own/entered animal in showmanship. The animal must be entered and eligible to show in the sheep show.
4. For bred and owned classes, animals must be out of dam owned by member at time of breeding and dam must be in possession of member prior to breeding and at time of lambing. Only 2 bred and owned market lambs can be shown in the B&O Market Lamb classes.
5. Market lambs and lambs shown in the breeding classes must be owned, separated, and cared for by the member on or before June 1 of the current year and continuously thereafter.
6. No ram lambs may be shown in market lamb classes. Market lambs may be wethers or ewes. Wethers must show no evidence of testicular tissue and be completely healed from castration. Ewe lambs shown as market lambs may not be shown in breeding classes.
7. As a requirement to show in the Loudoun County Fair (LCF), all market lambs will be weighed and tagged at the June weigh in. There will be no limit on the number of lambs a member may weigh in, but they may show no more than 6 in the market lamb classes (and a maximum of 2 per class). Ownership and bred & owned status must be declared at time of June weigh in. Scrapie tags must be in lamb's ear at time of June weigh in. One designated adult will operate and read the scale for the entire weigh-in.
8. A lamb must weigh at least 90 pounds and grade Choice to sell in the livestock auction at the LCF. Lambs which do not weigh 90 pounds at time of weigh in at the fair will be shown in feeder lamb class. Feeder lambs are not eligible for sale or premiums. They are not eligible for Rate of Gain. Feeder lambs will be shown after the Market Lamb show.
9. **Exhibitors are expected to care for their animals in an acceptable manner and adhere to quality assurance guidelines. Application of ice or iced water in any form is prohibited (sprays, packs, blankets or towels). The use of muzzles is prohibited. Drenching of sheep is prohibited unless the onsite veterinarian gives exhibitor permission due to health of animal. The use of coloring agents is prohibited.
10. **Sheep must have been recently shorn prior to arrival at the LCF to accommodate veterinary inspections. Fleece length shall not exceed 1/4 inch at arrival (exemption provided for breeding sheep shown in fleece or with fitted fleece). Any animal arriving not meeting this rule will be sent home immediately and disqualified.
11. Market lambs and feeder lambs must be exhibited slick shorn to the skin.
12. **All sheep must remain in the designated penning area and immediate area upon arrival until released from the LCF. Sheep are not allowed to be taken to trailers, cattle barns, cattle tie-out area, or other areas away from the sheep barn at any time other than the livestock auction, wash rack, and scales.
13. Members selling at the LCF livestock auction must distribute a minimum of 5 buyer letters to prospective buyers. A copy of the letter and the names of the 5 prospective buyers must be presented to the club leader prior to July 15. Members who fail to produce their letter and list of prospective buyers will forfeit their right to sell a lamb at the LCF auction.
14. Members are required to hand auction thank you letters to club leaders by the post fair cleanup. Failing to do this will result in forfeiture of all sheep premiums.
15. The seller will be responsible for all their sale animals (either through the livestock sale or private sale) until the time of shipment.
16. **All animal project exhibitors must keep their exhibits area, aisles in barns and areas around the barns clean and neat at all times. Exhibitors will be responsible for cleaning their exhibit area and feeding and watering their animals by 8:30 am each morning. Evening feeding and watering will be set daily by the barn superintendents 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. Exhibitor will be given 1 warning and after that, they will forfeit

any prizes and premiums. If animals are fitted in a designated area outside the barn, the exhibitor is responsible for clearing their area immediately after use.

17. **Pen must have a sign which shows (minimum) the exhibitor's name, weight of animal, gender, and grade and sale tag # (added on Friday). This sign must be displayed by Monday at 5 PM during the fair. Grade and sale tag # are for sale animals only.
18. **No coaching from the sidelines during a show. Coaching will result in the exhibitor being disqualified and the "coach" being removed from the show. Exhibitors should be paying attention to the judge not the sidelines.
19. **All exhibitors are required to work a sheep club trash shift or sheep club ice cream shift AND the sheep club dinner (either setup, serve or clean up) at the fair. Penalty for failing to do this will result in forfeiture of all sheep premiums.
20. **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.
21. **All members are required to participate in at least one major sheep club fundraiser during the club year. These fundraisers will be announced at the December meeting. Failure to work at least one major sheep club fundraiser will result in forfeiture of all sheep fair premiums and prize awards.
22. **Members are strongly encouraged to stay at the LCF as much as possible during the week to look after their animals and to participate in the many club and fair activities.
23. **Only the 4-H member, immediate family, and leaders are allowed in exhibitor pens unless given prior permission.

For non-ownership projects:

24. ** Non-ownership project members are only allowed to show breeding animals.
25. **Every non-ownership project member must attend a minimum of 12 farm visits/work sessions at the farm they are assigned and have the assigned farmer sign off on those visits/work sessions. All farm visits/work sessions must be completed prior to project book sign-off before the start of the LC Fair.
26. **Purebred sheep must have registration papers and a copy must be submitted with the entry.
27. **Novice non-ownership members are allowed to show one animal. Second year members are allowed a maximum of 2 animals and those members with 3 or more years in a 4H sheep club can show a maximum of 3 animals. Assigned farmer will have final say on number of animals for members who are not novice but cannot exceed the limits given.
28. **Non-ownership project participants must be registered as part of the LC 4H Sheep Club. Declaration of "non-ownership" is required at the start of the current 4H year (October) and shall remain as such throughout the year.

All ** rules apply to non-ownership projects as well as ownership projects. Items without a ** do not apply to non-ownership projects.

Adopted November 2, 2016 at the Sheep Club meeting.

The Loudoun County Fair may be referred to as "LCF" in the rules.