

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Central Kansas District Ottawa County Fair Edition</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4-H News</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 2026</b></p>
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**OTTAWA COUNTY FAIR**

Soon the fun times of fair exhibits, rides, and games will be upon us. We are expecting a fantastic 2026 Ottawa County Fair. The 4-H members, parents, and exhibitors are what make our fair so special. To get prepared we have written this 2026 Ottawa County Fair Guide. **Things change from year to year, so please take the time to read about all changes, rules, and entries for the 2026 fair.**

Please read carefully, frequently, and be sure to share this information with your family and friends. A good idea is to keep this newsletter on file for future reference.

**PRE-ENTRIES**

**Pre-entries are due online by Monday, June 15, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.** Late pre-entries will be accepted until June 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m. However, late-entered projects will not be eligible for premiums and will be penalized one ribbon drop at the fair. No entries will be accepted after June 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

Please enter EVERY item that you plan to show during the entry process. This includes Fashion Revue and Showmanship classes. Members not pre-entered into showmanship will not be able to add at the fair.

An online version of the fair paper is available on the CKD website. To view the paper or the green fair newsletter, visit <http://www.centrankansas.k-state.edu/4-h> under county fairs. Additional copies of the green newsletter will be available at the Minneapolis Extension Office. Fair papers can be printed upon request. Stop by any time. We'd love to visit with you!

**FAIR THEME**

“Stars, Stripes, and Summer Nights!”



# 2026 Ottawa County 4-H Judging Schedule

Fair Theme: Stars, Stripes, and Summer Nights

4-H=4-H Building EX= Extension Office CH = Courthouse Meeting Room

LA=Livestock Arena RA=Rodeo Arena

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## Thursday, June 15

11:59 pm Pre-Entry Deadline

## Friday, July 10

7:00 pm Fairground Cleanup

## Monday, July 13

8:30 am 4-H Foods/Foods Preservation judging (EX)

1:30 pm 4-H Visual Arts judging (EX)

## Tuesday, July 14

8:00 – 11:00 am 4-H/FFA and Open Class Livestock entered

8:00 am – 12:00 pm 4-H/FFA Divisions (building exhibits) entered

10:00 – 11:00 am 4-H/FFA Horses entered

11:00 – 12:00 pm 4-H/FFA/Open Class Rabbits & Poultry entered

12:00 pm Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting (LA)

12:30 pm Cloverbud show & share sign up with session at 1:00 pm (4-H)

1:00 pm 4-H Posters/Pets/Notebooks/Booths/Banners/Communications/Interior Design & Architecture /Civic Engagement/Leadership/Reading Adventures/Self-Determined/Veterinary Science/Family Studies/Health & Wellness/Shooting Sports (4-H)

1:00 pm 4-H Woodworking judging (4-H)

1:00 pm 4-H Photography judging (EX)

1:15 pm 4-H/FFA & Open Class Agronomy/Entomology Forestry/Horticulture & Landscape Design/Environmental Science/Geology/Wildlife judging (4-H)

2:00 pm 4-H/FFA Ag Mechanics Welding judging (4-H)

2:30 pm 4-H Aerospace/Rocketry/Astronomy/Building Block Engineering/Computer Science/Electric & Renewable Energy/Robotics/Small Engines/UAS judging (4-H)

6:00 pm Parade

## Wednesday, July 15

8:00 am 4-H/FFA Swine Show (followed by Sheep, Meat Goat, Dairy Goat, & Dairy Cattle) (LA)

4-H/FFA show first, followed by Open Class

1:00 pm 4-H/FFA Rabbit & Poultry judging

4-H/FFA show first, followed by Open Class

5:30 pm Bucket Calf show (LA)

4-H/FFA Beef Show, Breeding heifers, Market steers (LA)

4-H/FFA show first, followed by Open Class

6:00 pm Open Class Baking Contest (4-Her's eligible to enter)

## Thursday, July 16

8:00 am 4-H Horse Show (Classes 1-38)

**11:00 am 4-H/FFA Projects & Livestock Intent to Sell Forms DUE ONLINE**

1:00 pm 4-H Sewing & Textile Design/Shopping in Style/Fiber Arts judging (EX)

1:30 pm Fashion Revue judging (CH)

7:00 pm 4-H Horse Show (Classes 33-53) (RA)

## Friday, July 17

9:00 am 4-H/FFA Round Robin (LA)

2:00 pm 4-H Ag Olympics (LA)

5:00 pm Preview of Silent Auction Items (4-H)

5:30 pm Public Fashion Revue/Shooting Sports Awards/4-H/FFA Awards Ceremony/Farm Bureau photo contest winners announced (LA)

6:00 pm 4-H Silent Auction (Silent Auction ends 30 minutes after the Premium Auction) (4-H)

7:00 pm 4-H/FFA Premium Auction and Project Auction (LA) Midnight Livestock Exhibits Released

9:00 pm Livestock Exhibits release by Fairboard

## Saturday, July 18

8:00 am Fair Clean-Up and release of building exhibits

## Saturday, July 25

8:30 am 4-H Dog Show – Salina – Saline County Livestock & Expo Center (Ag Hall & 4-H Building)

## Sunday, July 26

1:30 pm 4-H Performing Arts – Salina – First Christian Church, 2727 E. Crawford

## Saturday, August 1

5:00 pm CO2 Car Races – Salina – 4-H Building

# GENERAL



# INFORMATION

## FAIR ENTRY SYSTEM

Get ready to showcase your amazing 4-H projects at the fair! This year, we are continuing with the Fair Entry system to make submitting your entries easier than ever. If you are a new member, please get yourself familiar with the system in advance so you can reach out with any questions!

### **What is Fair Entry?**

Fair Entry is a website where you can register all your project work for the fair. It's like a one-stop shop for everything from your prize-winning pig to your delicious cookies!

### **Why use Fair Entry?**

- **Save Time:** No more filling out paper forms! Fair Entry allows you to enter everything online, at your own pace.
- **Easy to Use:** The website is designed to be user-friendly, so even first-time exhibitors can navigate it with ease.
- **Track Your Entries:** Fair Entry lets you keep track of your submissions all in one place.

### **How to Get Started with Fair Entry**

1. Head over to the Ottawa County Fair page <https://tinyurl.com/4s9smxd9>
2. The fair schedule, fair paper, step by step instructions, and Fair Entry link will be found on the fair website. (You'll want the fair paper handy when completing pre-entries.)
3. Be sure to read the pre-entry instruction guide first.

Get ready to shine at the fair! With Fair Entry, showcasing your hard work is just a few clicks away.

**Don't forget, pre-entry due date is June 15 at 11:59 p.m.**

## EXHIBIT CARDS

Your entry cards will be printed out at the Extension office and will be available for pick up at the Minneapolis office starting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please be sure to pick up all your entry cards by no later than July 10<sup>th</sup>. Note that the Extension office is open Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Extension office is closed over the lunch hour (12 pm-1 pm). Please complete the sign-out sheet when you pick up your cards. The building will be closed on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## 4-H BUILDING ENTRIES AT THE FAIR

Remember, your entry cards will be scanned when you bring them to the fair on Tuesday morning from 8:00 a.m. – Noon. When you arrive Tuesday morning, please bring all entries to the front of the 4-H building to be scanned. Once scanned in, you will take items to their respective project areas.

If you forget an entry card at home, a new one WILL NOT be printed for you. We will have set up a table with supplies near check-in where you can attach your entry card to your project. We kindly ask that your cards are securely attached to your projects before checking them in.

### **Exceptions:**

Foods and Visual Arts – Your entries will be scanned in when you arrive for judging on Monday.

Photography – Your entries will be scanned in when you arrive for judging on Tuesday.

Animal Science/Livestock – We will already have your entry cards.

### **FAIR CLEAN UP**

The work ethic and teamwork our 4-H members and families showed last year were outstanding. Our 4-H members, Ottawa County Fair Board members, and supporters have worked hard to update the facilities. On Friday, July 10, at 7:00 p.m., all 4-H members are expected to attend! Please bring buckets, cleaning cloths, paper towels, glass cleaner, rakes, mowers, large brooms, wheelbarrows, hammers, and pitchforks. We need a lot of equipment, but even more, we need your help! We will also need to clean up the wash racks, remove old leaves, etc., and install light bulbs in the livestock buildings.

### **OTTAWA COUNTY BARACADE BARREL PAINTING CONTEST**

Instead of trash cans, this year the barrel painting contest will use concrete barricade barrels instead. After years of this contest, all trash cans have been wonderfully painted with our club's art! Unfortunately, due to the weight of the barrels, they cannot be moved and must be painted at the fairgrounds. They are located between the sheep and swine barns. You can paint up to 2 barrels. Ensure that they are painted before Tuesday, July 14th, as judging will take place on that day. This project is a club effort, and the club will provide the paint. Prize money will be \$50, \$30, and \$20 for the top three placings. Remember to include "2026" on the barrel. Sponsored by the Ottawa County Fair Board.



### **MANDATORY EXHIBITOR MEETING**

All exhibitors are expected to attend the mandatory Ottawa County Fair Exhibitor Meeting on Tuesday, July 14th, at noon in the livestock arena. This meeting is essential to ensure you're informed of important updates, including rule changes, key dates, and fair policies. Your attendance is crucial to a smooth and successful fair experience.

### **FAIR PAPER**

Each year, the fair paper is updated to reflect changes in rules and competition organization that are more in line with Kansas 4-H policy and Kansas State Fair guidelines. **Please read it carefully to make sure you pre-enter your exhibits correctly.** Some classes offered at the Ottawa County Fair are not offered at the Kansas State Fair. Be sure to look over the fair paper to see which exhibits are "County Only" or State Fair eligible. As you review items, if you find any broken links, please let one of the Extension Offices know and we will get it fixed.

### **4-H PREMIUM MONEY**

Premium money is not paid out at the fair. Club leaders will be notified of check availability and delivery after the fair.

### **LIVESTOCK OPEN CLASS PREMIUM MONEY**

Open class livestock premium money will be available and released on Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, at 1 pm, and can be picked up at the fair office.

## **PHOTOS SUBMISSIONS & BACKDROP**

Did you win at the Ottawa County Fair? Do you have a photo you like that you want to share? Want to show off your project? We want to see all your photos from the 2026 Ottawa County Fair. Submit them using the QR codes you will see around the grounds during fair week. We also have a great photo backdrop, made possible by contributions from all of the Ottawa County 4-H Clubs. Central Kansas District Agents/Interns will be taking photos.

## **AG OLYMPICS**

Ag Olympics will be held on Friday, July 17. Registration is at 1:45 p.m.; the Olympics begin at 2:00 p.m. Each 4-H club is responsible for and in charge of an event. No early registration is required, and no limit on the number of teams.

## **4-H SPIRIT AWARD**

The Central Kansas District 4-H Council is proud to sponsor the 4-H Spirit Award. You can pick up a nomination form in the 4-H Building or scan the QR Code posted to submit nominations for individuals (youth and adults) you have seen:

- Make a positive impact on the fair and/or 4-H members.
- Gone above and beyond to help with 4-H activities or aid 4-H members.
- Demonstrated a positive attitude and forward thinking during the county fair.
- Provide us with details and information thru the Spirit Award Nomination Form.

The 4-H SPIRIT AWARD will be given to the individual(s) who fulfill(s) these characteristics. These nominations will be due no later than 9 a.m. on Friday during the County Fair. They may be given to Paula at the fair office or put in the nomination box in the 4-H Building.

## **CLEAN UP DURING THE FAIR**

**Solomon Valley** - 4-H Building and Ag Hall (includes dusting display areas and sweeping floors) and Livestock Arena (trash and debris around arena and in bleachers).

**FFA** – Small tent area, rabbit and poultry barn, and area west of the ball field dugouts, including the large tent.

**Livewires** - Livestock and horse barn areas.

**Pleasant Valley** - Arena area between the roads on the south, east, and west sides and up to the stage in front of the 4-H Building.

**Woodsdale** - Rodeo arena, south of the circle drive, and west of the small baseball diamond and parking lot.

Cleanup should be done by 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Take plastic bags with trash out of the box or barrel, throw them in the nearest dumpster, and put a new bag in the box or barrel. Also, pick up all trash in your assigned area. Trash bags are available in the fair office.



## **4-H BUILDING EXHIBIT INFORMATION**

### **ENTERING EXHIBITS**

All static exhibits must be in place by noon on Tuesday, July 14, unless otherwise noted. Extremely special requests or considerations regarding 4-H fair entries

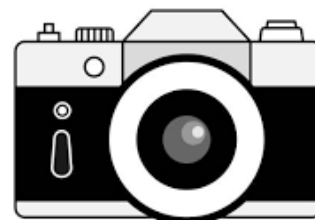
### **WHEAT VARIETY PLOT PROJECT**



If you would like to plant a 4-H wheat variety plot this fall, you need to call our office by Tuesday, July 14. You will get signs and seed of five varieties.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Don't forget to bring your photos and entry cards to judging. Superintendents will transport all photography exhibits to the fairgrounds following judging. To protect exhibits from dust and moisture, each photo must be placed in a plastic sleeve after judging. Sleeves will be available at the judging site and should be purchased from the Extension Office when you purchase your photo mount boards prior to the fair.



### **FOODS & NUTRITION**

Please read the Foods & Nutrition section of the fair book carefully and review all exhibit requirements before judging day.

- Check the fair schedule for your club's judging time.
- Bring your entry cards, recipes, and any required frosting/filling sugar calculations.
- Only one person may accompany a 4-H member during conference judging.
- All food exhibits must be non-perishable.
- Baked goods should be exhibited whole and uncut. Exhibit 3 cookies, 3 muffins, 3 brownies, etc., or 1 loaf of bread.

### **BEST OF SHOW CHAMPION AWARDS**

We are excited to introduce a new award for exhibits in divisions 13-15, 17-48, and 53-55.. This year, we will present “Best of Show Champion” awards. In those divisions with 5 or more enrolled exhibitors, the judges will name a Best of Show Champion. This award will be presented on Friday night at the awards ceremony. Exhibitors who receive this award must write a thank-you note and return it to Ellie Vincent on Friday night. We want to thank our 4-H Building sponsor, Carrico Implement, for helping us reward our exhibitors' hard work and for making this possible!

## **IMPORTANT: NO PERISHABLE FOOD ENTRIES**

To ensure the health and safety of all participants and judges, only non-perishable food exhibits will be accepted. Perishable foods are not eligible for entry.

Examples of prohibited items include:

- Dairy-based fillings or frostings (including cream cheese frosting)
- Fresh meats
- Cream pies
- Foods containing fresh fruit
- Foods containing uncooked eggs
- Refrigerated items
- No-bake products containing raw flour

## **FROSTINGS AND FILLINGS**

Any exhibit with a frosting, filling, or glaze must include a sugar percentage calculation. Frostings and fillings must contain more than 65% sugar to meet food safety requirements. Entries missing the calculation will be lowered one ribbon placing.

A confectioner's sugar frosting made with vegetable shortening is a good choice for fair exhibits because it is considered non-perishable.

## **FREEZING TIPS FOR FAIR EXHIBITS**

Many baked goods freeze well and can help reduce last-minute stress before the fair.

- Cool baked goods completely before freezing.
- Use freezer bags, foil, or airtight containers.
- Separate cookie layers with wax or parchment paper.
- Freeze cakes and breads unfrosted and add frosting after thawing.
- Thaw products in their packaging at room temperature before repackaging for exhibit.

## **SEWING & TEXTILE DESIGN, FIBER ARTS, FASHION REVUE JUDGING**

Sewing & Textile and Fiber Arts entries will be judged at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16, in the Extension Office. Fashion Revue Judging (Shopping in Style and constructed garment revue), will begin at 1:30 p.m., July 16<sup>th</sup>, across the street in the Courthouse Meeting Room.

### **4-H Garments:**

**Entry:** Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> (8:00 a.m. – Noon) at 4-H Building (in clear plastic bag)

**Judging:** Thursday, July 16 pick-up entries and take them to Courthouse Meeting Room (return garments to 4-H Building after judging for ribbon placement.)

### **FASHION REVUE – SHOPPING IN STYLE**

Entries will be judged on Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 p.m. at the Courthouse Meeting Room.

### **4-H Garments:**

**Entry:** Tuesday, July 14 (8:00 a.m. – Noon) at 4-H Building (in clear plastic bag)

**Judging:** Thursday, July 16 pick-up entries and take them to Courthouse Meeting Room (return garments to 4-H Building after judging for ribbon placement.)

**A color photo of the 4-H member wearing their fashion revue project must be included in their paperwork on judging day.**

**Prep for Fashion Revue:** Practice answering these judges' questions beforehand!

- + How much did your outfit cost?
- + Where will you wear the outfit?
- + What is the fiber content?
- + Why did you choose this (fabric, pattern, color, etc.)?
- + How does it fit into your wardrobe plan?
- + What is the cost per wear for the outfit?
- + What new things did you learn in the project? (choosing fabric, accessories, putting in zipper)
- + What did you like most about the project?
- + Where did you get help? (Leader, Mom, magazines, visits to stores)
- + How did you feel your project could be improved?
- + What would you do differently next time?

### **PUBLIC FASHION REVUE – New start time!**

**Date:** Friday, July 17 (5:30 p.m)

**Line-up:** 5:15 p.m. (south side of covered arena.)

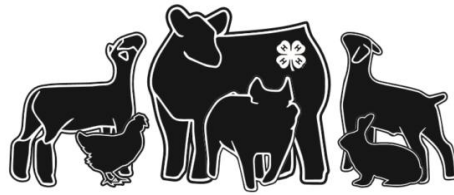
**Script:** Email script for your outfit to [meliss89@ksu.edu](mailto:meliss89@ksu.edu) by July 10 at 5 p.m.

An informational handout about how to draft your script will be sent out with judging schedules in early July.

### **SILENT AUCTION**

Only purple ribbon projects (no animals) are allowed to sell at the silent auction. **You will need to go ONLINE and fill out an “Intent to Sell” form by 11:00 a.m. Thursday, July 16.** We will deduct the \$4.00 fee from your sale check. Items should be on display at 5:00 p.m. on Friday to allow time for buyers to preview. The silent auction will begin at 6:00 p.m. and last until 30 minutes after the livestock sale on Friday evening, July 17. Only one project per member may be sold. Any non-perishable food item sold at the live/silent auction should be made fresh and delivered at an agreed-upon time with the buyer.





## **LIVESTOCK/ANIMAL SCIENCE INFORMATION**

### **NO FIT SHOWS**

Please remember that the livestock shows are no fit shows. “No-fit” is defined as using no adhesive glue, paint, or powder products. Using combs, blow dryers, and clippers is allowed.

### **ATTENTION DOG SHOW EXHIBITORS**

The 2026 County Fair Dog Show will be held on Saturday, July 25. To ensure we have what we need ready for the contests that day, we ask that everyone register online for this show. This year, you will enter the dog show just like all the other projects, through Fair Entry online. Please go to <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h> under county fairs, Ottawa County Fair. To sign up for any additional open show classes, use the link provided by K-9 Capers and the Extension Office at [https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3VEcbwG6qfeLCce](https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3VEcbwG6qfeLCce). 4-H fair classes must be entered on Fair Entry.



### **FAIRGROUNDS UPDATES**

Year after year, the Ottawa County Fair Board has continued to enhance the fairground facilities and amenities to better our fair and the experience of our exhibitors.

If you see a Fair Board member, fair sponsor, or 4-H Fund Drive Donor, give them a hearty handshake and thank them for their support.

### **LIVESTOCK INSURANCE**

As a reminder, if you are taking livestock to the fair, you should have either purchased or opted out of livestock insurance during pre-entries. Insurance cannot be added at the fair.



### **SWINE BARN**

There will be no wood chips or shavings allowed in the swine barn this year. If you'd like to use a rubber mat, you will need to bring your own.

### **MARKET ANIMALS**

All 4-H members showing market animals need to plan on taking them home after the fair. No buyer or floor bids will be set on any animal.

**Intent to sell forms will be available on the Central Kansas District website and need to be done ONLINE by 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 16!**

### **ROUND ROBIN SHOWMANSHIP**

The Round Robin Showmanship will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 17. All Round Robin competitors will meet ringside for a meeting at 8:30 a.m. As a reminder, the top two showmen in both Junior Division (7-13 years old) and Senior Division (14 years and older) in each livestock show are eligible to compete in the Round Robin Showmanship Contest. However, exhibitors may only qualify in one species. So, if an exhibitor places first in Swine Senior Showmanship and first in Cattle Senior Showmanship, they must choose which species they will represent in the Round Robin Showmanship. Junior and Intermediate Horse Showman will compete in a final round to determine who will qualify as the Int./Jr. showman and compete in Round Robin.

**Superintendents are required to secure an adequate number of animals for the contest in their division.**

### **RATE OF GAIN CONTEST**

Market Sheep, Market Goats, and Market Beef exhibitors who attended their specie weigh-in have the opportunity to compete in the Rate of Gain Contest. Starting weights begin at the official CKD tagging/weigh-in, and ending weights are recorded at the fair weigh-in.

**To be eligible, be sure to pre-enter in the Rate of Gain class within your species.**

### **SATURDAY MORNING CLEAN UP**

Family representation is required on Saturday at 7:30 AM for post-fair cleanup for all livestock exhibitors. Attendance will be recorded by the Fairboard and Superintendents to ensure that cleaning has been completed in both individual stalling areas and community-used areas. If exhibitor families fail to participate in post-fair duties or do not follow release procedures, they may be subject to having all premiums withheld and/or being suspended from future premium auctions.

### **LIVESTOCK RELEASE**

**Livestock exhibits will be released at according to Fairboard release schedule on Friday evening, July 17th. No exceptions.** A staggered release schedule will begin at 9 p.m. on Friday, organized by the Fairboard and Superintendents based on 4-H Club/FFA Members and species. Access for loadout will also be determined by the Fairboard and Superintendents. Exhibitors must prepare and stage their tack and supplies before trucks and trailers enter the loading areas to minimize loading time. All trucks and trailers must remain south of the wooden fence in the Horse Arena area until their designated release times. Departures from the loading areas during the release period will require authorization from the Fairboard and Superintendents. Please be mindful that the fair is still open to the public. I encourage you to be extra cautious about public safety when loading livestock and equipment during this time. You need to clean the livestock pens and cages thoroughly. Rabbits and poultry members will need to bring a brush, soap, and bucket to clean their cages. A hose with a nozzle helps to rinse them off. **If a pen or cage is left uncleaned, the fair board will withhold premium and sale money due to the 4-H member until the problem has been corrected.**

**NEW BANNER OR BUCKS AWARD SYSTEM FOR HORSE EXHIBITORS** - We will be making some changes this year in the horse project regarding awards and trophies. Instead of trophies, we are introducing an option called "Banners or Bucks". If you win champion in a class, you can choose to receive a \$10 payout (bucks) for that class or an 8x10-inch vinyl banner. The banners will be ordered after the fair and can be picked up at the extension office when notified they are ready. If you win champion in one or multiple classes, please let Justine know whether you'd like "Banners or Bucks" by Thursday evening after the Horse show. This decision applies to all the classes you have won—it's a one-or-the-other choice. If you select Bucks, you will need to sign the sheet to confirm you received your payment. If you choose Banners, you'll sign to confirm your decision.

**THANK YOU NOTES FOR BANNERS OR BUCKS** - If you receive banners or bucks, you must submit a handwritten thank-you letter to ***ALL THREE*** sponsors who contributed (listed on the address sheet in your horse exhibitor packet). After your show, pick up a thank-you card and envelope from Justine. Use the attached list to address each note accordingly.

### **EXHIBIT AND LIVESTOCK SALE**

The 4-H and FFA Sale will be held Friday, July 17, beginning at 7:00 p.m. **You will need to get your "Intent to Sell" form completed ONLINE by 11:00 a.m., Thursday, July 16, if you plan to sell market animals or a grand champion or reserve grand champion project at the sale.** We will deduct the \$4.00 fee from your sale check. If a 4-H member shows up at the sale with a project or animal to sell that was not listed, the project or animal will not be allowed to be sold.

Please remember that white ribbon market animals are not sold. Prospect animals are also not eligible to be sold. No blue, red, or white ribbon static exhibits will be eligible to sell. Only Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion static exhibits sell.

If you choose to sell produce, flowers or a non-perishable food, you should plan to provide a fresh item that has not been on display. If you are selling a food item such as a pie or cake, please give the buyer a gift certificate and arrange for a delivery time on another day. Be certain that you follow up with the item after the fair.

The premium auction sale will begin with champion static exhibits, followed by sheep, steers, goats, and hogs. When you invite buyers to come to the fair, be sure you tell them about the sale order. Sale bills & add-on slips will be available at the ring prior to the auction.

### **BY-BIDDING AT THE PREMIUM AUCTION**

This is a reminder that no by-bidding is allowed at the Ottawa County Fair 4-H Premium Sale. By-bidding is defined as the practice of a person or persons bidding at the auction on behalf of the owner in order to run up the price and/or for the purpose of misleading other persons who are bidding in good faith. If it is determined that this practice has taken place, the animal or project will be disqualified from the sale and the premium forfeited.

### **ABSENTEE PREMIUM SALE BUYERS**

Given the quick turnaround of the premium payouts after the fair, it is crucial to contact any absentee promptly. If you know your absentee buyer, provide the contact information (phone, fax, and email) to the sale clerk. **If payment from absentee buyers & add-ons is not received by payout, the member won't get their 4-H sale premium check. Once payment is received, the check will be available to the member.**

### **PREMIUM SALE ADD-ONS**

There are multiple ways for buyers to add on to an animal during the sale.

1. All previous buyers will be provided with an 'add-on slip' in their buyer letter that they receive prior to the auction. If they would like to make an add-on contribution to a member's project, they may fill out that slip, stating how much they would like to add on and for which exhibitor. They can return it to the extension office either before the fair or to the livestock agent prior to the Premium Sale.
2. Add-on slips will be provided at the sale along with the sale bill. Buyers may fill it out then and return it to Justine Johns before the sale begins.
3. Additional add-ons may be made in person by visiting the fair office after the sale.

All buyers who turn in the add-on slips before the start of the Premium Sale, 7:00 pm, will be announced at the conclusion of the sale. Only buyer names will be announced.

### **4-H SALE CHECKS**

Due to the switch to fair entry, checks will be printed for each exhibitor and picked up by club leaders. Club leaders will be responsible for distributing the checks to each exhibitor.

### **SAY "THANK YOU"**

Remember to say "Thank You" to all project buyers after the fair. It's the best way to ensure their support for another year. Written notes to buyers are always appropriate and are appreciated by the buyers.

### **AWARD, BANNER, AND BUCKS THANK YOU LETTERS**

Many awards, trophies, and gift certificates are provided by the Ottawa County 4-H Foundation, established memorials, and various individuals, families, and businesses. If you receive an award or trophy, you must submit a handwritten thank-you letter before receiving it. After your show, you'll be given an envelope, a blank thank-you note, and your sponsor's name and address. You are required to write the thank-you note, address the envelope to your sponsor, provide a postage stamp, and return it to your Livestock Agent (Justine Johns). Your award will not be released until the thank-you note is submitted. If you know who your sponsor is and see them around the fair, it is highly encouraged that you shake their hand and thank them in person as well.

### **GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE 4-H DIVISIONS AT THE FAIR**

A 4-H grievance committee handles disputes throughout the year, including those from the county fair. Disputes should first be addressed to the appropriate 4-H division superintendent or Extension staff. If dissatisfied with their decision, a written appeal must be submitted within 2-3 hours via the online form or to staff in hard copy. A \$50 fee payable to "4-H Council" must accompany the appeal; the fee is forfeited if insufficient information is provided. The committee reviews the complaint and responds via email as soon as possible.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **June**

- 15 2026 Small Animal Livestock Nomination form to show at State Fair & KJLS deadline.
- 15 **Ottawa County Fair 4-H Pre-entries due ONLINE by June 15 at 11:59 p.m.**
- 18 **Ottawa County Fair 4-H Late-entries due ONLINE by June 18 at 11:59 p.m.**

### **July**

- 10 Fairground clean up - 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting 12:00 p.m. in the Arena
- 15 **Kansas State Fair Livestock Entry Deadline:** Market Steers, Market Heifers, Commercial Heifers, Registered Breeding Heifers, Market Lambs, Commercial Ewes, Registered Breeding Ewes, Market Hogs, Pedigreed Breeding Gilts, Commercial Breeding Gilts, Market Does, and Commercial Does

### **14-17 OTTAWA COUNTY FAIR**

- 18 Fair cleanup and fair building entries released at 8:00 a.m.
- 25 4-H Dog Show at 8:30 a.m. at the Saline Co. Expo Center, Ag Hall, and 4-H Building

### **August**

- 15 **State Fair Horse Entry Sign-up Deadline** (due online through KSF ShoWorks)
- 15 **Kansas Junior Livestock Show Entry Deadline:** Market Steers, Commercial Heifers, Registered Breeding Heifers, Market Lambs, Commercial Ewes, Registered Breeding Ewes, Market Hogs, Pedigreed Breeding Gilts, Market Does, and Commercial Does
- TBD Friday (**date & time subject to change**) State Fair exhibits are due in the extension office (except foods, agronomy, and crop entries) 5:00 p.m.

### **September**

- TBD State Fair food, agronomy, and horticulture exhibits are due at the extension office by 3:00 p.m.
- 11-20 Kansas State Fair

### **October**

- 2-4 Kansas Junior Livestock Show