



MEMORANDUM

Date: October 6, 2021

To: San Miguel Basin Fair Junior Livestock Exhibitors and Families

From: Regan Snyder, San Miguel Basin Fair Board President

Subject: 2022 Junior Livestock Rule Changes

Dear San Miguel Basin Fair Junior Livestock Exhibitors and Families,

The Fair Board has decided to implement the following rule changes and wanted to make sure kids and their families are aware of the changes well in advance. The changes are meant to improve rule clarity, help make the fair run smoothly and ensure junior livestock sale buyers are receiving a quality meat product. Unfortunately, the carcass contest results revealed a few animals that didn't meet quality standards. Several of the rule changes are designed to help ensure quality meat production. Please feel free to reach out to the fair board if you have any questions or concerns regarding the changes.

Below are the major changes to the 2022 San Miguel Basin Fair Junior Livestock Rules.

1. An exhibitor can weigh-in three (3) animals of one species at the first weigh-in. Immediate members of the same household may share alternates. **Exhibitors must designate one main animal at the initial weigh-in.**

RATIONALE: Clarification to existing rule already in place and works complimentary to 4-H and FFA requirements regarding declared animal ownership.
2. Exhibitors can only weigh in (2) market animals of a species at the final weigh-in. **Exhibitors must designate a primary animal and declare ownership of each family alternate after the final weigh in and before market classes can be created.**

RATIONALE: Intent is to help clarify ownership of animals during the show, simplify determining sale order of animals, and eliminate ambiguities if a family alternate wins grand, reserve or bred and fed.
3. Exhibitors will be allowed to sell one animal of each species with the exception of grand champion market, reserve champion market and bred and fed champion. **If both of an exhibitor's animals of the same species wins any combination of grand champion market, reserve champion market or bred and fed champion he/she will be able to sale both animals.**

RATIONALE: Exhibitors deserve the added recognition and reward if both his/her animals of a species earn the honors of Grand Champion Market, Reserve Champion Market or Bred and Fed Champion.
4. At final weigh in, all lambs must be "clean shorn", sheared at least once between initial and final weigh in. The Market Animal weight requirements at final weigh-in for entry in the fair are as follows:

 - Lamb minimum weight of 100 pounds
 - Goat minimum weight of 50 pounds
 - **Beef minimum weight of 1,050 pounds**
 - Swine minimum weight of 220 pounds and maximum weight of 300 pounds

RATIONALE: The minimum beef weight has been increased to match the beef industry standards and to help ensure buyers are receiving a quality product.

5. Market beef, lambs, and goats must meet the minimum average daily gain requirements calculated between the initial and final weigh-in to be eligible for the market show competition:
 - a. Lambs .25 pounds per day (initial weigh in is in May)
 - b. Goats .15 pounds per day (initial weigh in is in May)
 - c. Beef 1.5 pounds per day (initial weigh in is in January)

RATIONALE: Implementing a minimum required gain for each of the above species helps ensure all animals are healthy, growing properly and well cared which are key components to producing quality meat.

6. The fair board will implement a sifting process at the final weigh-in for all market species to help ensure livestock animals are ready for market.

RATIONALE: Sifting animals that are not market ready helps ensure buyers receive a quality product and are more likely to support the junior livestock sale again.

7. **FITTING OF ANIMAL:** All junior exhibitors named as owner will accept and acknowledge responsibility for the custody, care, and feeding of their animal(s). Junior exhibitors are expected to have prepared their own project animal for exhibition. While on the San Miguel County Fairgrounds, it is expected that animals exhibited in any junior show must be handled, fitted, dressed, washed, groomed and shown for show competition by the junior exhibitor. An exhibitor may be immediately disqualified from the show and removed from the San Miguel County Fairgrounds should any San Miguel Basin Fair official observe anyone preparing an exhibitor's animal for show other than: the exhibitor, another 4-H/FFA member, 4-H leader, FFA advisor, or a member of the exhibitor's immediate family. Exhibitors must be present during all show preparation of his or her animal.

RATIONALE: Rule has been updated to be consistent with the Colorado State Fair rules. Outside or paid assistance is not allowed during show preparation on the San Miguel County Fairgrounds.

8. Exhibitors must show his/her own animal in the showmanship classes unless the exhibitor's animal died and the exhibitor doesn't own an alternate animal. If the exhibitor doesn't have an alternate, they may ask to borrow an animal from another exhibitor. If an animal is deemed unsafe to be shown by the Fair Board or exhibitor, the exhibitor may complete his/her project by participating in a project interview.

RATIONALE: Rule has been updated to be consistent with the Colorado State Fair Rules.