

## **2023-2024 CATCH-AN-ANIMAL RULES**

### **RULES OF THE CATCH-AN ANIMAL CONTEST AT THE FAIR:**

1. In order to compete in the Catch-A-Animal contest, the child must be a member in good standing with a Park County 4-H club. Youth and parent(s) must be present prior to the contest to review the contest rules with the Park County Livestock Committee (PCLC) coordinator.
2. In order to compete in the small animal Catch-An-Animal contest, the participant agrees to enroll in a Park County 4-H Club by the required dates.
3. Contestants must reach the age of eleven years, on January 1, 2024 for Catch-A-Calf, and must reach the age of 8 by December 31, 2023 for Catch-An-Animal. All enrollment dates for 4-H will apply. All contestants must have the written consent of their parents. Entrants that will be too old for 4-H participation in the coming year will not be eligible to enter the contest.
4. Contestants for Catch-A-Calf must have completed successfully a prior large market animal project (lamb or swine, market beef or breeding heifer).
5. Any 4-H member who wishes to compete in the contest must submit a Release from Responsibility & Assumption of Risk and Waiver form to the PCLC prior to the contest. The release must be signed by the parent.
6. Each 4-Her may successfully participate one time in each species of the contest; he or she will not be eligible to repeat in any species of Catch-An-Animal in Park County.
7. All contestants will carry halters, no lariat ropes allowed. A ten foot lead rope may also be attached to the halter, but may not be used as a lariat. The halter must be placed on the calf in the usual manner. While a contestant has a hold of a calf in any manner, those without calves may not touch the animal. If the calf gets away from the contestant before it is lead across the finish line, it is considered loose and anyone may try to catch it. If it gets loose with a halter on it, that halter must be removed by the new contestant who catches it and their own halter shall be placed on the calf.
8. Any 4-H member/contestant who catches an animal and does not complete the project, or doesn't live up to the signed contract for the program will forfeit the animal to the PCLC, including all money invested in feed and the money derived from the sale of the animal shall be used to purchase an animal the following year to be donated in the original donor's name.
9. If the participant moves out of the county before the project is completed, he or she must buy the animal at market price plus 20% (price based on the weight and market price at the time the contestant received the animal from the donor).
10. All Catch-an-Animal winners are encouraged to attend Spring Classic, if it is available—with or without their animal(s). The fees for Spring Classic will be waived if the winner attends Spring Classic.

## **ITEMS TO BE AWARE OF IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT:**

1. Successful contestants must attend A MANDATORY ORIENTATION MEETING WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT – on THE THIRD MONDAY OF OCTOBER at 6PM at the Shawnee Community Center. The project rules will be reviewed with both the child and parent(s).
2. Hard work and cooperation will be needed by both the 4-Her and their parents to complete this project. Contestants need to be aware of the expense involved in the market beef project. In order to complete your project, the typical costs for feed, etc. are estimated to be between \$1500 and \$1800. Additional expense may be required if show equipment, grooming products, etc. are needed to participate in the fair. Contestants must be able to provide adequate transportation for their project animals – this means no animals can be transported in a car. Please be sure to take this into consideration when making the decision to participate in the program.
3. The catch animals will compete in two classes – in a catch-a-animal class and the regular market weight class.
4. 4-H market animal projects in their weight division and will be eligible to be shown for overall Champion. They will sell in their prospective sale order. To maintain the program, 10% of the gross selling price for each catch animal will be retained from the exhibitors check.
5. The winning participants will be encouraged to attend the Spring Classic event that may be scheduled by the Park County Livestock Committee. This event is a way for participants to learn about caring for, preparing and showing their animal at the Fair. The participant may attend with or without his or her animal.

## **IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL – PLEASE TAKE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS INTO CONSIDERATION:**

1. Prepare a place for your animal: A secure pen making sure your animal will stay inside and unwanted animals will stay out, with shelter from all elements of weather. You must include a place to store feed and supplies you will need for the project.
2. Schedule inspection dates: The 4-H member will contact a PCLC member to schedule pen inspections. Contact information will be provided to the winners. The inspection will be made by the end of each listed month: Schedule your appointment early!
  - a. Before Oct 15th for initial pen inspection (animal shall not be moved to another facility unless the Livestock Committee is notified and an inspection of the new facility is made). Approval of the pen inspection must be completed at least two weeks prior to the November weigh-in. If the pen is found to be unacceptable and alternate arrangements cannot be made, the animal will be awarded to an alternate contestant whose name is drawn from a pool of all other contest entrants.
  - b. By December 15th for a progress inspection.
  - c. By February 15th for a progress inspection.
  - d. By April 15th for a progress inspection.
  - e. By June 15th for a progress inspection.
  - f. For each progress inspection date not met, an additional 5% penalty will be assessed on the final sale check to the 4-H member.
  - g. After passing the October facility inspection and attending the mandatory orientation meeting, (third Monday in October at 6:00 pm) you will be contacted by a Livestock Committee Member to make arrangements to pick up your animal. At that time you will get the name and address of your sponsor for your letters. It is your responsibility to be able to pick up and transport your animal. At any time, the facility can be subject to an unscheduled inspection by the Livestock Committee.
3. Sponsor relations: The 4-H'er will prepare a monthly letter (in triplicate, original to the sponsor, one for their record book and one to be mailed to the PCLC (at PO Box 1215, Bailey, CO 80421) telling the sponsor how the animal is doing and any other information the 4-Her would like to include about their project. All letters must be hand written and a minimum of 100 words in length. The sponsor will

receive at least one letter per month from the date of the weigh-in for that species until the fair in July. For every letter that is missed or not postmarked by the last day of the month, an additional 5% will be deducted from the sale price of the animal.

4. Club attendance, Record book and Marketing Preparation: The 4-H'er must attend at least 6 of the monthly 4-H livestock club meetings, the record book must be reviewed by their leader prior to the Fair for progress prior to the fair to be eligible for showing. The record book must be completed and turned into the leader prior to picking up their sale check. The 4-Her must supply the PCLC with a minimum of three buyers' registration forms for their species by May 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year.
5. In the event an animal has to be removed from the 4-Hers possession due to a health issue and it is able to be sold (no vaccine withdrawal period, etc.) the case must be reviewed by the PCLC. The committee will request a written explanation of the issue, corrective actions taken, veterinarian contact information, etc. from the 4-H member/parent. Based on this information, the Committee will determine how the funds will be distributed based on a review of the health issue, length of time into the project, funds invested in feed, etc. and the 4-Hers effort to prevent and/or correct the health issue.
6. A thorough health inspection by the PCLC veterinarian will be performed on all catch-an- animals by their prospective weigh-in dates to confirm each animal has a clean bill of health when the projects starts. If a health issues should arise, each case will be addressed by the PCLC. The cost of the initial vet check will be paid by the PCLC.
7. The PCLC reserves the right to request their veterinarian to perform a health check and treatment on any catch-an- animal at any time a health concern is found. Depending upon the diagnosis by the vet, the billing will either be paid by the Livestock Committee or if the vet check determines an illness that is customarily covered by the producer, the vet check and treatment will be the responsibility of the 4-H member for payment.
8. All bill of sale documentation involving catch animals will be made out in the name of and retained by the PCLC.
9. All decisions by the PCLC will be final.

Additional rules may be viewed online at [parkcofair.org](http://parkcofair.org)

A complete copy of the rules will be provided at the October meeting. Please feel free to contact any PCLC member with any questions you may have.

## **PARK COUNTY LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE 'CATCH-AN-ANIMAL' MEMBERS:**

**Bea Everest- 303-907-6126**  
**Adam Shirley 303-947-3904**  
**Steve Benninghoven – 303-903-2863**  
**John Carpenter- 720-600-8417**  
**Deb Wagler 775-721-0355**

**Tara Zuber 719-839-0333**  
**John Everest 303-906-6453**  
**Jason Gemmer 303-947-0353**  
**John Woodward- 303-241-9638**

**PLEASE... CALL any of the above members with ANY questions at all!!**

**Rules? Animal Health? Animal environment? Dates? Times? Help with problem  
Animals-- not eating, not behaving, etc.**

**AND...HAVE FUN 1 HAVE A GREAT PROJECT  
THANK YOU!**

**Park County Livestock Committee  
(PCLC)**