2020 Kansas 4-H Virtual Livestock Sweepstakes
Coaches Guide & Contest Guidelines

- The Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes will be hosted virtually in 2020. Please refer to event schedule for specific contest dates, times, and platforms. The dates are tentatively planned for the same weekend as the originally scheduled event – August 22-23, 2020. Significant modifications in dates or schedule will be communicated to extension offices as quickly as possible.

- Each contest will be held at a specific time on a specific date. Participants must log on to the appropriate platform at the designated time to compete; contests will not be offered during a window of time. Some contest will have a virtual orientation prior to the contest beginning. Links will be provided to coaches/extension staff the week prior to the event. All contestants must provide their own device (computer and/or tablet preferred) and have reliable internet access. Youth who have technology needs should contact their local extension office.

- Entries are due August 15, 2020. Registration is completely ONLINE using Cvent. The link for registration has been emailed to local extension units and is to be filled out by agents. Each contest is $10/participant. Fees need to be mailed to 201 Umberger Hall, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66506. No refunds are available.

- No “on-site” or “at time of contest” registration is allowed. All participants must be pre-entered.

- Districts who have multiple teams should email a list of the team members, designated by team (Southwind #1, Wildcat #2, Meadowlark #3, etc.), for each contest, to Lexie by the end of the day on August 17 to ensure contest team numbers are assigned appropriately. Final teams and their specific team members must be designated by this date.

- Coaches and Extension staff will receive their assigned team numbers within two days before the state contests. It is their responsibility to make sure team members use the appropriate team number for each contest. This will also be covered during the Zoom orientation before each contest.

- Each team is only allowed three or four members in the Livestock Judging Contest, Meats Judging Contest and Livestock Skillathon. No alternates. The top three scores of each competition will be counted toward the overall team score. The individual with the lowest score will still be eligible for individual awards. Quiz Bowl is a team contest only, and a team must include exactly four members for the entry to be accepted. Quiz Bowl teams may submit one alternate for each team, if they wish. Although team and overall individual sweepstakes participation is strongly encouraged, extension units may enter 5 individuals to compete in the individual competitions (livestock judging, meats judging, skillathon) in addition to their team. Therefore, counties may enter up to 9 total youth/contest.

- Members must be 9, but not yet 19, before January 1 of the current year. Contestants in National 4-H Competitive Events cannot have reached their 19th birthday as of January 1 of the current year. If a team has one or more members who are under 14 years of age, that team will be ineligible to qualify for national competition.

- Event t-shirts may be ordered during online registration (Cvent). Shirts cost $10 and are available in adult sizes S-3XL.

- Electronic scantrons and scorecards will be used to score all of the contests. It is vital that participants follow the instructions and complete their scantron correctly. Teams will be assigned team numbers which are consistent across all contests for the sake of sweepstakes tabulation. These team numbers will be provided to the coach for each team prior to each contest. It is imperative that youth use the correct team number on their scantron/answer sheet for each contest.

- Youth will be expected to practice integrity and display their knowledge without using outside resources during each contest. Securities will be in place and every effort is being made to uphold the integrity of each virtual contest, but coaches and parents/guardians are asked to be supportive in those efforts as well.

- Please refer to individual contest rules for specific details and methods of conduct for each of the contests.
Extension Agents and Coaches are encouraged to use contest rules and the Kansas 4-H Livestock Reference List as a guide in preparing teams. This information is not all-encompassing but provides quality resources and a basis for educating youth about important knowledge competencies related to the various livestock industries.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Please note in the registration system if an individual has competed in the National 4-H Livestock Judging (NAILE in Louisville, KY), Skillathon (NAILE in Louisville, KY), Quiz Bowl (NAILE in Louisville, KY), and/or Meat Judging Contest (American Royal in Manhattan, KS). These individuals are not eligible to compete on a team in those respective areas, but may participate as an individual for the overall Sweepstakes competition. These members will not be eligible for awards in the contest, but their score will count toward individual Sweepstakes awards. For example, if a 4-H’er who participated in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest in Louisville last year wants to compete in this year’s individual Sweepstakes contest, which includes the state 4-H livestock judging, they may participate in the livestock judging contest. However, they will not be recognized during the State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest Awards; their score will only be used towards the individual Sweepstakes awards. If a member who has competed in a designated national 4-H contest does not wish to participate in the Sweepstakes competition, but still would like to participate in an individual contest, they may do so. However, they will not be eligible for awards for that specific contest. Also, coaches are asked to provide the 4-H age and grade for Fall 2020 for each 4-H member who registers.

**NATIONAL 4-H CONTEST ELIGIBILITY:** 4-H members must have reached their 14th birthday, and not have reached their 19th birthday, before January 1, 2020 to meet the age requirement for all national contests. Additionally, members must not have completed post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the 4-H competition, nor has he or she participated in training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of the 4-H competition.

We hope your 4-H’ers will enjoy this opportunity! Please contact Lexie Hayes at adhayes@ksu.edu or 785-532-1264 with any questions.