

## 4-H RABBITS

LEADERS: DAWN KREZEL AND STEPHANIE WEAVER  
ASSISTANT LEADERS: JUDY VAUGHAN AND SCOTT WEAVER

### EXHIBITING AT THE FAIR RULES

1. Record books and summary sheets MUST be turned in to the 4-H Rabbit Club Leaders by the July meeting in order to receive your Fair passes.

A penalty of 5 to 10 Achievement points could be deducted from record books turned in after the July meeting. IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP ALL RECORDS UP TO DATE.

2. Rabbits must be on exhibition by 8:00 p.m., the Thursday before Fair begins. There will be only ONE check-in. There will be NO Friday check-in unless arrangements have been made with a leader. Please talk to a Co-organizational Leader if you have a problem. All rabbits must be weaned. Rabbits must be checked-out by 6:00 p.m., the last Friday of the Fair. The Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club WILL NOT be responsible for the safety and well being of any rabbits remaining in the barn after the check-out time. If you have additional rabbits at home that you would like to “donate” to the club, please bring them just prior to check out.
3. All rabbits MUST have a permanent tattoo in the LEFT ear before entering the Fairgrounds.

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY ANY RABBIT THAT HAS A STAR IN THE EAR, MAY NO LONGER BE BROUGHT TO THE LOCAL 4-H FAIR OR THE STATE FAIR FOR EXHIBIT.**

IF THE TATTOO CAN NOT BE READ CLEARLY, THE JUDGE HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REMOVE THE RABBIT FROM COMPETITION.

4. All members are to have their remark cards for the Youth Show on Wednesday filled out for their entire display and turned in to the barn office NO LATER than 6:00 p.m. on the first Saturday of fair or they could have their display scratched and will not be eligible to show on the 4-H show Wednesday. All members will have the opportunity to make corrections and/or changes to their remark cards during the Open Youth Rabbit Show that Saturday as needed.
5. 4-H club members will be responsible for the feeding and watering of their rabbits and cleaning under their cages on a daily basis.
6. The 4-H member is responsible for the grooming of his/her rabbits prior to showing. Grooming is encouraged to be done by 4-H members.

7. **4-H MEMBERS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SEEING THAT THEIR RABBITS ARE BROUGHT TO AND FROM THE SHOW TABLES.** If you have a conflict, please make arrangements for another 4-H member to show your rabbit. If your name is called three times and you are not at the table your entry will be scratched.
8. Rabbits will be shown by breed in alphabetical order, with 6-class on one table and 4-class on the remaining tables. The show order will be A to Z on even numbered Fair years and reverse (Z to A) on odd numbered Fair years for the Wednesday show only.
9. The 4-H Rabbit Club Co-Organizational leaders and at least two Advisory Board members will rule on any special situations that may arise and their decisions will be final.
10. Any animal showing signs of illness or disease may be sent home.
11. No rabbit breeding will be allowed in or around the barn during Fair week exhibition.
12. Any 4-H exhibit removed from display prior to the official release time could be disqualified. Any 4-H placing/prizes (including ribbons, money, medals, trophies, etc.) awarded to that exhibit could be forfeited.
13. “For Sale” signs may not be placed on any cages until after the 4-H show on Wednesday.
14. All members will be allowed to display above their cages, the rabbit’s cage card, Open Show and 4-H show ribbons rosettes. All family, rabbitry or business signs owned by the 4-H member or their family are prohibited.
15. No 4-H exhibited rabbits may be removed from the barn until after Auction on the last Friday of the Fair. (Unless for health reasons). (Taken from the Fair catalog under “Indiana 4-H Program Statement of Policy, Exhibition.”)

**\*\* PARENTS PLEASE NOTE \*\***

DURING THE JUDGING PROCESS, WE REQUEST PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, SIBLINGS, ETC. USE THE PROVIDED SEATING AREA TO WATCH THE RABBIT JUDGING.

WE WANT CLUB MEMBERS HELPING CLUB MEMBERS. THEY HAVE WORKED HARD ALL YEAR FOR THIS SPECIAL DAY, SO PLEASE SIT BACK AND LET THEM SHINE!!!

## LIVE RABBIT EXHIBIT (Showing at the Fair)

Exhibiting at the Fair is NOT a completion requirement. If you do not own a rabbit, or an ARBA recognized breed, please see one of the Co-Organization Leaders for completion requirements.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR SHOWING A LIVE RABBIT EXHIBIT AT FAIR:

1. Rabbits must be an ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) recognized breed and must be bred and raised by the 4-H rabbit club member, except:
  - a. 1 Senior Buck (Must be purchased by the May meeting)
  - b. 1 Senior Doe – for 1st and 2nd year members only (Must be purchased by the May meeting)

If you change the breed of rabbit you are raising from the breed you showed at the Fair the previous year, you must follow that rule.

**NOTE:** There is a Special Class available for those not able to meet this requirement. This special class includes: if your rabbit dies after the May meeting or if you purchased a rabbit that you thought was an ARBA breed and it is not. Please see a leader if you have any questions regarding this.

2. First year members must start Rabbit Records when the rabbits are purchased. Second year members and above should keep records from Fair to Fair every year. (Include your Open Show(s) and remember to include your auction revenue)
3. Each member may enter only one (1) breed of rabbit for the 4-H Show.
4. Each member may show up to six(6) individual rabbits and one (1) Meat Pen. Members are not required to show in every class.

**NOTE: Meat Pen rabbits may also be shown individually and part of these six (6).**

For 6 – Class rabbits, there are eight (8) Classes in which to show individual rabbits;

|             |                         |             |               |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Senior Buck | 6-8 “Intermediate” Buck | Junior Buck | Pre. Jr. Buck |
| Senior Doe  | 6-8 “Intermediate” Doe  | Junior Doe  | Pre. Jr. Doe  |

For 4 – Class rabbits, there are six (6) Classes in which to show individual rabbits;

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| Senior Buck | Junior Buck |
| Senior Doe  | Junior Doe  |

5. In addition to the six (6) individual rabbits, each member may exhibit one (1) Meat Pen (Three rabbits of the same breed and variety) **Weighing a minimum of three (3) lbs and a maximum of five (5) lbs each under 70 days old for large breeds, or under 90 days for small breeds.**

6. The animals must be in good health to show. If any health problems occur with one of your rabbits during its' stay in the Rabbit Barn during Fair week AN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADER MUST BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY!
7. All rabbit(s) MUST have a permanent ear tattoo in its left ear before entering the Fairgrounds. IT MUST BE ABLE TO BE READ CLEARLY or the Judge will have the authority to remove the rabbit from competition. There will be several opportunities prior to the Fair where there will be someone available to tattoo rabbits at the club meetings. The club and the people who volunteer to tattoo rabbits will not be held responsible for injuries to rabbits during the tattoo procedure.
8. ALL rabbits must be weaned.
9. Order of showing;
 

| <u>6 – Class Rabbits</u>          | <u>4 – Class Rabbits</u>           |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Meat Pen (Under 70 days)          | Meat Pen (Under 90 Days Old)       |
| Senior Buck (Over 6 Months Old)   | Senior Buck (Over 6 Months Old)    |
| Senior Doe (Over 6 Months Old)    | Senior Doe (Over 6 Months Old)     |
| 6-8 Buck (6-8 Months Old)         | Junior Buck (Under 6 Months Old)   |
| 6-8 Doe (6-8 Months Old)          | Junior Doe (Under 6 Months Old)    |
| Junior Buck (Under 6 Months Old)  | *Pre. Jr. Buck (Under 90 Days Old) |
| Junior Doe (Under 6 Months Old)   | *Pre. Jr. Doe (Under 90 Days Old)  |
| Pre. Jr. Buck (Under 70 Days Old) |                                    |
| Pre. Jr. Doe (Under 70 Days Old)  |                                    |

\*All 4 & 6 class meat pens will be shown together.

**\*\* NOTE \*\***

**Many breeds have weight limits for Juniors and Intermediates (6-8 Months). Consult ARBA Standards for weight limits on ALL ages and breeds.**

**4-H RABBIT JUDGING CONTEST**

1. Open to all 4-H'ers enrolled in the rabbit club.
2. Participants will be grouped in the following categories:  
 Beginner: Grades 3, 4, and 5  
 Junior: Grades 6, 7, and 8  
 Senior: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
3. Participant will be given a corresponding number, similar to Royalty. Example: B-1 = Beginner, Contestant 1.
4. Participants will be given 10 minutes to complete the contest (at 9 minutes, participant will be given a 1 minute warning).
5. Each participant will judge four (4) rabbits of the same breed.

6. The breeds for each category will be posted in the barn the first Monday of the Fair.
7. Participant will mark placing card legibly, so there is no confusion as to his/her placing of the animals.
8. After marking placing card, step back from the table and hand the card to the timing judge.
9. Participant may use a “Standard of Perfection” at the judging table. (They will be provided by the club).
10. Participants will also be judged on how they judged the rabbits.
11. Show coats are recommended, dress comfortably. Show coats will be available if needed.
12. All rabbits will be judged by a A.R.B.A. judge prior to the contest.
13. Announcement of winners will be made when results are available.

*Good luck and have fun!  
If you have any questions, please contact a Leader.*

### **ROUND ROBIN PARTICIPATION**

The first place showman from the Senior Division will be eligible to represent the Rabbit Club in the Small Animal Round Robin Contest that will take place on Thursday evening during Fair Week. The Reserve Senior Showman will be the alternate. In the event there is no eligible Senior Division member, the representative will be the showman in the Intermediate Division.

The Cat, Dog, Poultry, Pygmy Goat and Llama 4-H clubs are the other clubs participating in the Round Robin Contest. Our showman will demonstrate rabbit showmanship while an adult from the Rabbit Club explains the procedure to the audience. The 4-H’ers from the five other clubs are then judged by the Rabbit Club adult on their rabbit showmanship techniques and awarded a first, second, or third placing (first = 1 point, second = 2 points, third = 3 points). The contest proceeds with the showman from each club demonstrating for their specie and then the others showing that animal. The 4-H’er with the lowest number of total points from the placing wins.

Prior to the Round Robin Contest, the Rabbit Club showman and the alternate representative are responsible for contacting the other participating clubs in order to get an information sheet on their specie and be instructed on their showmanship techniques. In case of a tie in the Round Robin Contest, the participants will be required to answer questions that have been taken from these information sheets, in order to determine the placings.

On Thursday evening during Fair Week, come and cheer for your Rabbit Club Senior Showmanship winner! Wear your rabbit club T-shirt and watch the fun as the winners demonstrate each other’s animals!

### **RABBIT POSTER EXHIBIT**

1. The 4-H Rabbit Poster exhibit is open to any 4-H member and is not limited to exhibitors of 4-H rabbits. 4-H’ers may also use their 4-H Rabbit Poster as part of their Illustrated Talk or Action Demonstration. “The purpose shall be to visually demonstrate 4-H Rabbit Poster knowledge and to demonstrate to others 4-H Rabbit Poster possibilities.”

2. The 4-H participants will be grouped in the following categories:  
 Level 1: 3rd, 4th, 5th Grade  
 Level 2: 6th, 7th, 8th Grade  
 Level 3: 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th Grade
3. Requirements:
  - a. Poster Board: Use white 22" x 28", displayed horizontally with stiff backing and the front covered with clear plastic. Leave a space in the lower front right hand corner for a 3 1/2" x 4 1/4" name tag. The name tag will be filled out when the posted is checked in.
  - b. Each poster must have been made by the 4-H member enrolled in the current year's 4-H program.
  - c. Proper footnoting should be used with any reference material. Attach a 3" x 5" file card to the back of the poster listing all references.
4. Standards of Evaluation:
 

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Content and Information (Accuracy & Completeness)  | 40 points         |
| Originality and Creativeness (Attracts interest, encourages thought)                               | 25 points         |
| Overall Appearance/Appealing (Neatness, arrangement, background, workmanship, attention to detail) | 15 points         |
| Suitable Subject and Age Appropriate (Matches child's age and ability)                             | 10 points         |
| Conveys Message/Accomplishes Purpose   | 5 points          |
| Meets Exhibit Requirements   | 5 points          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>100 points</b> |
5. Entering Date: Monday, July 24, 2006, 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the 4-H Exhibit Building.
6. State Fair Participation – There will be one poster from each level that will be chosen by the judges to represent Elkhart County at the State Fair in August, unless the judge feel none are worthy of State Fair Exhibition.

### **COUNTY ACTION DEMONSTRATION CONTEST**

This contest is sponsored through the Extension Office. Entries should be made with the Extension Office by July 10. A schedule and place will then be made for 4-H Fair Action Demo presentations.

The 4-H Action Demos will have the following levels:

Junior Division: 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade

Intermediate Division: 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade

Senior Division: 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Grade

All 4-H'ers completing an Action Demo will be awarded a special activity ribbon. In addition, participants will be eligible to represent Elkhart County at the Indiana State Fair.

Please contact the Extension Office for materials to help you plan your Action Demo. Achievement Points will be given to Rabbit Club members participating in this contest. All Rabbit Club participants are encouraged to use this opportunity to promote the Rabbit Club and the Rabbit industry.

## RABBIT ILLUSTRATED TALK AND ACTION DEMONSTRATION CONTESTS

1. The Rabbit Illustrated Talk Contest is an educational contest for any 4-H Rabbit Project member. This contest will be implemented and sponsored by the State 4-H Advisory Board Committee. The Illustrated Talk is a presentation to an audience.
2. The 4-H participants will be grouped in the following categories:
 

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Prince/Princess</b> | 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade          |
| <b>Duke/Duchess</b>    | 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade         |
| <b>King/Queen</b>      | 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Grade |
3. Previous winners may compete again, but must select and present a different topic.
4. 4-H'ers may use their 4-H Rabbit Poster(s) as part of their Illustrated Talk.
5. **Requirements:**
  - a. Presentation should be of original and of practical nature related to some phase of the rabbit industry. Elaborate and expensive equipment cannot be justified.
  - b. The Illustrated Talk should last 5 to 7 minutes for the Prince/Princess and Duke/Duchess categories. King/Queen participants should use 5 to 10 minutes. Judge(s) will deduct points when the presentation exceeds the allowed time limits.
  - c. Each participant will receive an A, B, or C placing.
  - d. Additional information is available from the County Extension Office. Participants are eligible to compete at State Fair.

### YOUTH ONLY OPEN RABBIT SHOW

#### SHOW SUPERINTENDENT SHOW SECRETARY: WENDELL HERSHBERGER

**Judging: SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2007**

1. Rabbits must be on exhibit by 8:00 a.m., Saturday morning and must be out after judging Saturday, except by special arrangement with the Show Superintendent.
2. Judging will begin at 9:00 a.m. This show will be governed by the latest revised rules of the A.R.B.A. and filing an entry indicates acceptance of these rules.
3. Any rabbit showing symptoms of disease will not be permitted in the showroom, by order of the Show Superintendent.
4. 4-H members may compete in Open Class with the same rabbits shown in 4-H classes and/or with other rabbits.
5. Each member is responsible for bringing their rabbits to the show table. No person, other than the OWNER, SHOW OFFICIAL, or JUDGE shall handle the animal not belonging to them without permission of the owner. Only Judges and Show Officials will be allowed behind the judging tables.

6. Each rabbit must have a PERMANENT, LEGIBLE EARMARK IN THE LEFT EAR. **SECTION 26.** All animals must be permanently and legibly earmarked in the left ear.  
 (A) Rabbits not legibly earmarked must be disqualified from the class. Legibility of the earmark is at the discretion of the judge. This ruling also applies to rabbits with leg bands. In addition to a leg band they must also have a legible earmark in the left ear.
7. **ENTRY FEE:** Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club Members will be charged \$1.00 for each single rabbit or meat pen entry up to nine (9) entries. Additional entries will be \$2.00 per entry. All other exhibitors will be charge \$2.00 per entry.
8. **ENTRY:** Fill out the top of your own show remark cards. Use A.R.B.A. entry blanks and cards only. Turn in completed cards to the Show Secretary; they will go to the judge's table.
9. **CASH PRIZES:** 1st - \$3.00; 2nd - \$2.00; 3rd - \$1.00  
 No cash prizes will be paid on disqualified or eliminated rabbits. There will not be any pay-backs on fur entries. No cash prizes for classes of less than three (3) rabbits. **SECTION 12.** A rabbit may be shown in the appropriate showroom class, the breed fur/wool class, and the commercial normal fur class (if normal fur), in the same show. Other multiple class showings are allowed as follows:  
 1) Pre-junior or junior (not both), single fryer, meat pen  
 2) Stewer, intermediate or senior  
 3) Roaster, junior.  
 No other multiple class combinations are allowed for rabbits.

### OPEN CLASS DIVISIONS

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| 6-Class       | 4-Class     |
| Senior Buck   | Senior Buck |
| Senior Doe    | Senior Doe  |
| 6-8 Buck      | Junior Buck |
| 6-8 Doe       | Junior Doe  |
| Junior Buck   |             |
| Junior Doe    |             |
| *Pre-Jr. Buck |             |
| *Pre-Jr. Doe  |             |

\*Some breeds do not have Pre-Junior class, these breeds must be shown in the Junior Class.

**ALL meat pens will be judged together in one meat pen class.**

10. Rosettes will be awarded to BOB and BOS of all breeds. Placing ribbons will be awarded through tenth place.
11. Rules and specials posted the day of show will take precedent over all.
12. This show is sanctioned by the A.R.B.A.
13. We reserve the right to substitute judges as conditions require.
14. Any emergency not provided for in the above list pertaining to the show room, show or exhibitors will be referred to the Show Superintendent. His/her decision will be final.

### **OFFICIAL A.R.B.A. YOUTH SANCTIONED SHOW**

Glen C. Carr, Secretary  
P.O. Box 426  
Bloomington, IL 61702

**Sanction Fees:** Open -\$10.00; Youth - \$5.00

**Membership Dues:** ADULTS - \$15.00 or \$40.00 for 3 years

YOUTH - \$8.00 or \$20.00 for 3 years

COMBINATION HUSBAND/WIFE - \$20.00 OR \$50.00 for 3 years

FAMILY - \$20.00 plus \$2.00 per youth or \$50.00 plus \$6.00 per youth for 3 years

### **RABBIT AUCTION RULES**

On the last Friday of Fair, each member has the opportunity to auction a pen of rabbits he/she has exhibited in the 4-H show.

THIS IS NOT A REQUIREMENT OF THE PROJECT – IT IS OPTIONAL – **EXCEPT FOR:**

6 Class Grand Champion Meat Pen

6 Class Reserve Champion Meat Pen

4 Class Grand Champion Meat pen

4 Class Reserve Grand Champion Meat Pen

**These must be AUCTIONED**

1. If the 4-Her decides to auction a pen of rabbits and exhibited a Meat Pen During Fair week, the Meat Pen must be auctioned (all three rabbits). If you did not exhibit a Meat Pen, you may Auction 1 (one) of the following:
  - One (1) Senior Buck or Doe
  - One (1) 6-8 “Intermediate” Buck or Doe
  - One (1) Junior Buck or Doe
  - One (1) Pre-Junior Buck or Doe

**“All rabbits must have been checked in and exhibited during Fair week.” NO SUBSTITUTIONS.**

2. If you cannot be at the Auction, you Must make arrangements with another 4-H Rabbit Club member or the Auction Chairperson for your rabbit(s) to be Auctioned.

**Please be Advised: The Auction Chairperson and/or leaders will not be responsible for finding your rabbit(s) unless previous arrangements have been made.**

3. If you decide to Auction, the decision must be made by the 6:00 p.m DEADLINE after the 4-H show on Wednesday during Fair week. The deadline is set according to when the list of names MUST BE TURNED IN to the Extension Office so they can print the bill of sale with the name of the member, rabbit breed, sex, and class. **No Exceptions.**

**Missing this deadline will forfeit your chance to Auction.**

Each member must have their rabbit(s) breed, sex, class and tattoo number(s) ready at the time they draw their auction number. You will not be allowed to draw your number until you have that information ready to be turned in. There is a \$2.00 transaction fee to participate.

4. The pen of rabbits to be Auctioned will then be required to have a *special Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club Tattoo* placed in its Right ear. This is to make sure the rabbit(s) will not be Auctioned again. Please make arrangements with the Auction Chairperson to have another rabbit club member Tattoo your rabbit(s) for you if you can't be there.

**Effective Immediately, once your rabbit has been Auctioned it may no longer be shown at the local or State Fair level.**

**If your rabbit(s) do not get the Rabbit Club tattoo, they will not be allowed to go to the auction.**

5. For a successful Auction, make as many contacts as possible. Write a letter to your feed dealer, insurance man, car salesman, banker, small business owner or people you or your family does business with.

**The Auction Buyer has the right to keep the rabbit(s) he/she has just purchased.**

6. If your Auction buyer does not wish to keep the rabbit(s) he/she has just purchased, they will become the property of the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club. If you wish to purchase your rabbit(s) back , the club will sell them back to the original owners for a fee of \$5.00 per pen. The \$5.00 fee goes to the Rabbit Club Booster fund account.

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL 4-H EXHIBITORS AND SMILE**