



4-H Alberta Beef Project Standards

All 4-H members registered in the beef project must follow the requirements as set out by 4-H Alberta in consultation with the 4-H Alberta Beef Advisory Committee (BAC).

4-H Beef Project Member Minimum Requirements:

- ❖ Regardless of the 4-H level of the show, a registered 4-H project animal(s) must be shown only by a registered 4-H member in good standing. Refer to 4-H Alberta Youth Member Standards
- ❖ If a 4-H member is unable to show their beef project animal (due to medical, family emergency, or other reason that the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee deems acceptable), another registered 4-H member will be allowed to show the project animal:
 - The project animal will be eligible for all conformation classes.
 - The project animal will be eligible for rate of gain classes.
 - The project animal and its showman will not be eligible for showmanship, grooming and other skill classes.
- ❖ Priority for proxy showing will be club members first, followed by district members and then region members.

Project Animals:

- ❖ All project animals must be identified with a CCIA (RFID) number.
- ❖ All project animals must be identified as the 4-H member's project by having
 - A registration paper, bill of sale, or lease agreement in the name of the 4-H member and
 - One or more of the following, as required by the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee: a 4-H tag, breed registration tattoo, 4-H tattoo or electronic identification.
- ❖ Replacement of animal(s) can only be done with the permission of the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee and must meet project criteria.
- ❖ All project animals with testicles are prohibited from showing/selling.

- ❖ All project animals with horns exceeding 2 inches from the hairline are prohibited from showing/selling.
- ❖ Feed, care and management of project animals:
 - 4-H members must personally provide the major part of the feeding, care and management for their Market Beef Project animal(s).
 - 4-H members must take an active role in the management, care and feeding of Beef Breeding Project animal(s).
 - In the event a 4-H member has two residences, the 4-H club will ensure that the “active role” is in realistic proportion to the time spent at that specific residence

Project options and rules:

All projects must be registered with the club by December 31st of the current club year.

- ❖ Beef Breeding Projects:
 - Heifer (heifer raised for show and bred for production).
 - Members may register only one yearling heifer project
 - The yearling heifer project *must* be born in the calendar year in which it is registered as a 4-H project
 - Two Year Old Cow Calf (continuation of the heifer project to a two year old cow/calf unit). All two year old cow/calf projects must have a completed cow/calf record book insert.
 - Three Year Old Cow Calf (continuation of the two year old cow calf project to a three year old cow/calf unit) All three year old cow/calf projects must have a completed cow calf record book insert.
 - This is the final year of the beef breeding project.
- ❖ Market Beef Projects:
 - The market beef project animal(s) must be born in the calendar year in which it is registered.
 - The market beef project animal(s) must be on feed for a minimum of 160 days.
 - Market beef – LIVE: steer (both testicles removed) or heifer to be raised for show and slaughter, usually marketed at the 4-H club sale.
 - Members may register only one market beef – LIVE project.
 - Market beef – live projects must show in order to be marketed by public auction.
 - Market beef – CARCASS: steer (both testicles removed) or heifer to be raised for slaughter, carcass evaluation and sale, marketed through private means.
 - Beef Pen - Minimum of three (3) Market Beef or Beef Breeding animals; if sold can only be marketed by private means.
 - No individual market beef – live project animal, nor market beef – carcass project animal, may be included in a member’s Beef Pen Project.

- ❖ Novice Beef – a calf, born in the calendar year it is shown and raised for show only.
 - If registering in the Novice Beef project, the participating member may not register in additional beef projects.
- ❖ Beef Creative Options – a self-designed beef project which has club approval.
 - The project cannot be marketed at the 4-H sale.
 - Creative Options beef animals can only compete against similar Creative Options beef animals.
- ❖ Beef Green Certificate – one of the beef curriculum options offered by the Green Certificate Program.
 - Members taking this project are required to complete all the requirements of the Green Certificate program as well as those of the 4-H program, including a record book and log separate from the Green Certificate training manual

4-H Sales:

4-H sales committees must register their sale with their Area Coordinator by February 1st.

- ❖ 4-H members can only sell a single Market Beef-LIVE project at their local achievement day sale, by public auction.
 - Any 4-H animal that is marketed using the 4-H brand is required to be a registered 4-H project with a completed record book.
- ❖ Additional beef project animals or projects will not be sold at the local achievement day sale. Members can sell additional beef projects through private means outside of the achievement day event/sale.
- ❖ Regardless of the number of clubs to which they belong, a member may only sell one beef project animal at a 4-H public auction per 4-H club year.

Events Beyond the Local Achievement Event:

- ❖ Must be a member in good standing. In order to attend an event beyond the club.
- ❖ In the event a project animal(s) is sick or injured at the local level achievement event, a veterinarian certificate is required for the animal to be shown at district, regional and provincial events.

Tranquilizers:

- ❖ The use of tranquilizing products on 4-H animals, immediately preceding or at any 4-H project event is prohibited. Any animal that is tranquilized cannot be shown or sold at a 4-H event.
- ❖ Any participant or member of a participant's family can make a protest to a member of the club, district and regional show/sale achievement committee responsible for the show regarding suspected use of a tranquilizer. The club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee must deal with the protest immediately by contacting a veterinarian who will inspect/test the animal.
 - If the animal is deemed to be tranquilized, the member will be required to pay the veterinarian costs. The member will forfeit any awards and cannot sell the animal at the 4-H sale.
 - If the animal is deemed to be not tranquilized, the protester will pay the veterinarian costs.

Unmanageable Animal(s):

- ❖ A member's animal that has become unmanageable on show day, must be housed in an adequate enclosure to contain the animal until it is removed from the facility or brought under control. If the animal is removed, it may not be sold at that event. If the animal is brought under control, it will be sold at the discretion and direction of the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee. Safety must be the primary concern.

Medications & Feed Additive Withdrawal Times:

- ❖ Medication and some feed additives have withdrawal periods listed on their labels according to the dosage given. It is the legal responsibility of the owner of the animal to be sold for slaughter, to ensure that the withdrawal periods have passed. If the withdrawal period has not passed at the time of sale, it is the responsibility of the member to tell the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee and the responsibility of the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee to communicate this to the potential buyers. Animals that show drug residues at time of slaughter are condemned.

4-H Event Safety:

- ❖ Safety is, and will continue to be, a priority at any level of achievement.
- ❖ It is strongly recommended that members wear appropriate safety gear. For example, leather boots when working with and showing project animals.
- ❖ Club, district, regional achievement show & sale committees have the authority to remove dangerous, unsafe or unsound project animals from 4-H classes or events.
- ❖ Members, parents and leaders are required to abide by 4-H Alberta Code of Conduct.
- ❖ All members attending 4-H achievement events or other project events must have a designated responsible adult present at the event.

Club or Interclub 4-H Project Regulations:

- ❖ In addition to the 4-H Alberta minimum requirements, there may be additional regulations from the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee. Club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee will provide any additional local requirements and clarification. It is the member's responsibility to know these rules and regulations.

If, due to unforeseen circumstances, a member is unable to finish a 4-H project in the traditionally accepted manner, the "club, district, regional committee, and or club leadership along with the 4-H member" need to consider and explore alternate methods that support a successful completion of the member's project. 4-H Alberta provides a safe, fun and inclusive environment for our members that is supported by caring adults who recognize that, in trying times, 4-H can also be flexible and accommodating to best serve our positive youth development focus.

Anyone violating any of the above requirements will not be able to advance with that project to any 4-H project event, during the remainder of the project year at the club, district, regional achievement show & sale committee discretion.