



NORTHEAST REGION 4-H SHEEP REGULATIONS

Updated January 16, 2018

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES of the 4-H SHEEP PROJECT(S)

1. *To provide an educational opportunity at the regional level for 4-H members to broaden their knowledge of showing, trimming, and judging sheep, as well as the general sheep industry.*
2. *To promote and encourage awareness of the **4-H Sheep Project** and all of its related activities to fellow project members from around the region.*
3. *To promote and demonstrate proper care and handling of a sheep as well as, to help members develop skills, patience, and understanding of the handling practices essential to working with sheep.*
4. *To encourage members to develop an appreciation of the sheep industry and its importance in the local community, the province, and the country.*
5. *To provide an opportunity for 4-H members to display, through an organized competition, their grooming, project knowledge, judging and showmanship skills.*
6. *To provide an enjoyable opportunity for sharing ideas and socializing between 4-H members and clubs throughout the province.*
7. *To promote to the public an awareness of the 4-H Sheep Project through an effective display of members' project activities.*
8. *To allow each show committee, club and 4-H district the right and responsibility to set rules and procedures for their show within provincial Policy 6.10 4-H Alberta Sheep Project Policy and Northeast Regional rules and guidelines.*

These regulations shall apply to all sheep projects, the members, leaders and clubs of such projects, as well as, all Northeast Regional functions associated with the sheep projects.

I. MEMBER GUIDELINES

1. Participation in the sheep project will be open to registered 4-H sheep members of the Northeast Region who have reached their ninth (9th) birthday and have not reached their twenty-first (21st) birthday on or before December 31st of the current club year.
2. All members, leaders, parents, volunteers and guests participating in the sheep project(s) must abide by the Policy 1.01 4-H Alberta Code of Conduct Policy.
3. All members participating in the sheep project(s) must meet the basic member expectations as outlined in the 4-H Alberta Program Policies: Policy 2.01 4-H Alberta Club Member Policy
 - a) Complete project records and have them signed by the appropriate Leader.
 - b) Attend a minimum of 70% of designated club activities.
 - c) Complete a communication activity.
 - d) Participate at their 4-H Club Achievement Event.
 - e) Complete a community service activity.



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II. PROJECT GUIDELINES

A. Identification:

1. All 4-H sheep projects must be registered with the member's club.
2. All 4-H Sheep Projects animals must be identified by a CSIP tag and/or a tag agreed upon by each individual district. Market animals must be identified as of weigh-in. Members must identify their ewe projects 60 events prior to Achievement Event in the Northeast Region. Lost tags must be replaced before Achievement Event and reported to Project Leader.
A **bill of sale** is required for all purchased livestock or a lease agreement in the name of the member is required for all livestock projects as outlined by Provincial policy.
3. All NE Sheep projects (Market Lamb/Pen of Three/Carcass/Ewe Lamb) must be born on or between December 15th and April 30th of the current 4-H year.
4. Sore Mouth and Keds – **NO** active sore mouth or Keds will be allowed at any NE 4-H Sheep event. Ewe lambs and Yearlings unable to show due to sore mouth will be eligible to show the following year (Leaders to confirm and notify).
5. **Tails must be docked no shorter than the distal end of the caudal fold.** Please refer to the Code of Practice or the Sheep Guide for more information. Those projects registered in the 2016-2017 (Yearlings) and 2015-2016 (Mature Ewes) will be grandfathered into the program, however lambs from these projects must follow the code of practice

B. Substitutions (In Event of Death):

1. If a lamb project dies within 30 events after weigh-in, the member is eligible for showmanship, grooming, and judging competitions. The replacement animal is eligible for the Club/District/Interclub sale.
2. Lambs replaced after 30 events will not be eligible for the rate of gain.
3. If a ewe project dies after 30 events, the replacement animal is eligible for showmanship, grooming competitions, and is **ineligible** for conformation as a ewe lamb. The ewe lamb will be eligible to continue as the member's yearling ewe project the following year.
4. Replacement of animals **MAY ONLY** be done by club motion.
5. Death of all animals must be confirmed by the appropriate leader.

C. Lambs (Market and Carcass):

1. There will be no weight restrictions on lambs.
2. Lambs must be weighed, and tagged on the club weigh event and member must be registered with a market lamb project no later than December 1 of the club year.
3. All market lamb projects (regardless of breed) must be clean, tail docked by an approved method and castrated by an approved method (knife, Burdizzo or ringing/elastrator band) prior to weigh-in. The exception for tail docking is for the hair purebred sheep breeds (Katahdin, Dorper, etc.) and short tailed purebred breeds (East Friesian, Finn, Icelandic, Karakul, Romanov, Shetland)
4. All market lamb projects (regardless of breed) must be slick shorn or trimmed to a maximum of one-quarter (1/4) inch on Achievement Event.
5. Lamb projects may not be transferred between members.
6. Each member is to select and provide the majority of the feed, management, and care of the project.
7. Members are **NOT** allowed to sell more than one sheep project within the region at public auction.
8. Due to the possibility of rejection of carcasses, any animal can be treated within the allotted withdrawal time prior to achievement event but must be announced. If an animal is sick at achievement event it can be treated, and shown. If the animal is sold at the 4-H sale, it must be announced by the auctioneer, and buyers are given the choice of taking the lamb immediately or of having the member take it home and care for it until after the withdrawal period. Should the carcass be rejected, the decision of the meat inspector is final. If the



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cause of rejection is the result of the member, sale money is to be returned to the buyer 100% and all incurred expenses from the Butcher will be the members responsibility.

D. Breeding Projects:

1. There will be no weight restrictions on ewe projects.
2. All breeding stock (ewe lamb, yearling ewe, mature ewe) must show in fleece that is less than 1 inch in length on Achievement Event.
3. Ewe projects may not be transferred between members.
4. Members must register their ewe projects with the club by December 1st.
5. Any Yearling Ewe or Mature Ewe project must have been a Ewe or Yearling Ewe project of the member in the previous year. Ewes can be shown in their respective age class with or without lambs at foot.
6. Each member is to select and provide the majority of the feed, management, and care of the project.
7. The 4-H breeding project is a three year project. It involves a member achieving each year with the same animal, first as a Ewe Lamb, then a Yearling Ewe with or without lambs at foot, if bred, then with a Mature Ewe with or without lambs at foot. If the project cannot be shown on achievement event for health reasons it may only continue as a 4-H project upon verification by the Leader. A Veterinary Certificate may be required to be provided to the club if the leader cannot verify the health condition. Projects not shown for any other reason are ineligible to be shown the following year. is provided to the Club.

E. Creative Options Projects:

1. The sheep Creative Options project must be above and beyond the traditional project, and should focus on exploration or non-traditional sheep research type of project that is agreed upon by the member's club and leader. Record book must be completed for this project.
2. Any project that is registered in Creative Options that involves sheep is ineligible to compete against any registered sheep project (identified as II. C or II. D) under the sheep projects.
3. Any member registered in Creative Options with a sheep is eligible to compete in trimming, or showmanship, marketing, and judging will be optional and discretion of the club.
4. Any project that is registered in Creative Options that involves sheep cannot be sold as a sheep project at a 4-H Sale, but can be marketed through "private treaty" sale.

III. COMMITTEES

The following committees are responsible for the organization and the monitoring of the regulations governing the Sheep Projects in the Northeast Region:

The Northeast Regional Sheep Committee:

This committee consists of two representatives from each club that has a sheep project within the Northeast Region: 1 adult representative and 1 member representative. The representatives will elect a chairperson, the ShAC representatives and a recording secretary at the NE Sheep Committee annual meeting.

The Northeast Regional Sheep Committee meets at least twice a year, following the general Northeast Regional meeting in November and again March prior to the April Northeast Regional meeting. The Northeast Regional Sheep Committee must be accountable to the Northeast 4-H Regional Council.

The Northeast Regional Sheep Show & Workshop Committee:

This committee answers to the Northeast Regional Sheep Committee. Its duties are to organize and coordinate the Northeast Regional Sheep Show and the Northeast Regional Sheep Workshop. The committee consists of the following individuals:



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Minimum of 5 representatives from the Northeast Regional Sheep Committee, of which at least one must be a current 4-H member; and the chairman of the Northeast Regional Sheep Committee.

This committee is to be appointed at the first meeting of the current 4-H year Regional Sheep Committee meeting and would be responsible for the organizing and facilitation of the Northeast Regional Sheep Workshop in Spring and a Regional Sheep show in summer if decided by the committee.

Executive Roles and Responsibilities for Northeast Regional Sheep Committee:

(Each position is a one year term)

Chairperson

- Present and help prepare agenda for the two sheep committee meetings
- Attend regional executive meeting
- Submit budget proposal to regional executive meeting in March
- Provide/submits the NE Regional Sheep report at the Northeast Regional Meetings
- Sit on the NE Regional Sheep Committee

Secretary

- Record minutes at the sheep committee meetings
- Submit minutes to regional office and all committee members within a month of meeting
- Keep records of all attendees at meetings
- Help prepare the agenda

IV. NORTHEAST REGIONAL 4-H SHEEP SHOW

The Northeast Regional 4-H Sheep Show will comprise of the following components:

- *Industry Quiz*
- *Conformation (Ewe Lamb, Yearling Ewe, and Mature Ewe, Flock)*
- *Judging Classes*
- *Marketing*
- *Trimming*
- *Showmanship*

1. The Northeast Regional 4-H Sheep Show Committee organizes the Northeast Regional 4-H Sheep Show. This committee reports to the Northeast Regional Sheep Committee annually at the December meeting.
2. There are rules governing the Northeast Regional 4-H Sheep Show. They are in the show booklet and should be examined carefully. These rules are reviewed annually.

V. NORTHEAST REGIONAL 4-H SHEEP WORKSHOP

The Northeast Regional 4-H Sheep Workshop will provide to both members and leaders the opportunity to learn more about the current agriculture industry trends, and best practices as they pertain to the sheep project

1. The Northeast Regional 4-H Sheep Committee will appoint an organizing committee at the December meeting to plan and execute a NE Regional Sheep Workshop – Lamb Jam.