

Forestville FFA Exhibitor Contract & Fair Code of Conduct

TO: Fair Exhibitors of the Forestville FFA Chapter and their Parents/Guardians

FROM: Mrs. Murphy, Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor

(707) 225-7183

In order to make this a successful fair season of the 2018 Sonoma County Fair, we are asking that you read the rules listed below. The Advisor is responsible for the supervision of FFA members and their projects leading up to and during the fair. We are requesting that one copy of the Code of Conduct be kept at home and that the second copy be signed and returned to the Advisor. Failure to return a signed copy will result in ineligibility to exhibit with Forestville FFA.

As an exhibitor, the following guidelines are expected of you during the remaining part of the school year and the entire duration of the activity. Exhibitors and parents need to understand the importance, and realize the enormous responsibility of caring for a market animal(s) and maintaining a level of behavior that is a positive representation of our FFA chapter.

Sonoma County Fair- August 2nd-12th

Please read and review the following. This form is to be signed as acknowledgment of the expectations for the 2018 fair season and returned to the Advisor.

Grades:

- Students must be academically eligible (prior to and during project), an FFA member in good standing, a student at El Molino High School in good standing, and be enrolled in an agriculture class for the current and upcoming school year at El Molino High School.
 - The upcoming school year does not apply to graduating seniors, class of 2018.
- In order to exhibit an animal(s) as a member of the Forestville FFA chapter, a grade point average of 2.0 with no more than one F must be earned during the Fall and Spring semesters of the current school year/fair season. If a student does not meet the grade requirement, he/she will not be able to show as a member of the Forestville FFA chapter.
 - If the grade requirement is not met during the Fall semester of the current school year/fair season, a probationary contract between the Advisor, student, and parent/guardian must be completed. The student must obtain a 2.0 with zero F's during the Spring semester to continue with their project at the financial risk of exhibitor. See probationary contract for details.

Enrollment/FFA Membership and Involvement:

- Students must be enrolled in an agriculture class at El Molino High School for the previous two semesters, and for the upcoming school year.

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- The upcoming school year does not apply to graduating seniors, class of 2018.
- Students may exhibit an animal from the year entering 9th grade up until the summer immediately following your graduation.
 - The Sonoma County Fair allows only 2 market animals to be sold per student. Breeding animals are unlimited. As a first year and first time ever showman (8th grade graduate-12th grade graduate), you are limited to any one market animal, except steers. If you have documented prior market animal experience through 4-H or the equivalent before high school, you may show two market animals of your choice (except steers) with Advisor approval.
 - Steer Showmen: Only after one year of previous show experience with a medium sized market animal through Forestville FFA do you qualify to show one to two market steers. If you have documented prior experience through 4-H or the equivalent you may be granted special circumstances at the Advisors discretion.
- Students must attend the mandatory chapter parent & exhibitor meeting.
- Students must attend a minimum of four FFA chapter meetings throughout the current school year.
- Students must attend specified group meetings pertaining to their project.
 - Includes fair group meetings, species specific meetings, farm work days, weigh ins, showmanship practices, Advisor project visits, and record book updates.
 - Next exhibitors meeting: **Wednesday, May 16th at 6:30pm.**
- Students must complete record book using AET.

Incoming 8th Graders:

- Students must submit a letter of interest, which describes past show/livestock participation.
- Students must attend a mandatory parent & exhibitor meeting.
- Students must have a minimum of a 2.0 GPA with no more than one F at the end of the Spring semester at current school.
- Students must participate in a project visit prior to your specific specie weigh-in.
- Students must be enrolled in an agriculture class at El Molino High School for the school year following the fair.
- Students must attend specified group meetings pertaining to their project
 - Includes fair group meetings, species specific meetings, farm work days, weigh ins, showmanship practices, Advisor project visits, and record book updates.
 - Next exhibitors meeting: **Wednesday, May 16th at 6:30pm.**
- Students must complete record book using AET.

Loans:

- Loans are available for FFA market projects through First Community Bank, North Bay Credit Union, and American Ag Credit with 0% interest and are required to be paid back at the time of sale of your project. See Advisor for applications and more information.

Please initial the following statements:

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Student Initial	Parent Initial	
		Students and parents understand that showing and selling an animal at the Sonoma County Fair is a privilege and not a right.
		Students and parents understand that if these guidelines are not followed that the Advisor may choose to not allow student and project to be shown/sold at the fair.
		Students and parents understand that participating in the fair is a school activity. All school and fair rules and policies apply. Failure to follow the rules will prevent you from participating in all further fair events (including selling your animal) and/or Forestville FFA activities.
		Students and parents understand that in the event that a student is not able to exhibit their animal(s) at the fair, the animal will remain the responsibility of the student (financially, providing care of, maintenance, accommodations, etc) until the termination of the project.

Pre-Project Reminders:

- Forestville FFA Fair Contract & Summer Code of Conduct must be signed and returned to Advisor by **Friday, February 9th**.
 - If you are planning to keep your animal(s) at the school farm, Farm Use Application and Farm Use Code of Conduct must be completed and returned to Advisor too.
- Understand the following will be required of you during the fair season (these items are non-negotiable):
 - Continuous care of your project including feeding, cleaning, active participation and show practice, and vet attention if needed.
 - County Livestock Show – Market class(es), Showmanship, Born and Bred (if eligible), chapter Group/Pen, and Auction are required participation.
 - Fair Set Up – Haul in, set up, and maintenance of display.
 - Barn Duty – Attend all scheduled barn duty times during the fair and ensure the exhibit and animals are maintained.
 - Fair Clean Up – After animals have been sold/hailed out, displays will need to be removed and items put away. If you are using the school farm, the farm needs to be cleaned.
- In the case of an animal death, the student and parents are financially responsible, at no cost to the chapter, and for all profit and loss pertaining to project.
 - Project Insurance can be optionally be purchased through California FFA.
- Students are responsible for attending all exhibitor meetings/practices – Specie group meetings, fair group meetings, work days, weigh ins, showmanship practice, etc.
- Students are responsible for feeding and caring for their project animals at all times.

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- Students are responsible for all expenses that may arise during the course of this project.
- Students are responsible for keeping accurate records of their project through the AET record book system.
- Students are responsible for notifying the Advisor when questions or problems arise with your project.

Project Responsibilities:

- Preparation of Project:
 - It is the student's responsibility to properly care for your animal from the start of the project thru to the completion. You must own your animal for a minimum of 60 days before the fair (120 days for steers). You should have a receipt as proof of ownership from your breeder or seller of the animal. Before transporting your animal to the fair, be sure that your animal is correctly groomed. If an animal is sick, prolapsing, has fungus, or any other problem that will not allow a student to exhibit at the fair (guidelines set by fair) then it is the student's responsibility to care for animal(s) and sell the animal(s) on their own.
 - Animals must be of an adequate weight, pass a health inspection, and be deemed "market ready" by the judge in order to sell at the Junior Livestock Auction. **It is the student's responsibility to solicit and secure a buyer.**
 - We will have a meeting to review contacting and writing buyer's letters on May 16th. Please see Advisor well in advance if you need help, DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE.
- Equipment:
 - It is the student's responsibility to acquire all needed tack and show supplies.
- Feed and Bedding:
 - It is the student's responsibility to supply feed and bedding for your animal(s).
- Meetings:
 - It is the student's responsibility to attend any meetings, work days and practices. These will occur throughout the duration of your project.
- Project Visits:
 - It is the student's responsibility to set up and meet with the Advisor at least TWO TIMES before the fair. Also, please continuously communicate with Advisor throughout project.
- Quality Assurance/ Ethics Training:
 - It is the student's responsibility to attend the mandated ethics training per the fair. If you attended the ethics training last year, you will not need to attend again this year.
- Entries:
 - It is the student's responsibility to make sure entries and entry fees are completed and submitted prior to the deadline. Failure to do so will result in the animal not going to fair.
 - We will have a meeting to complete entries together on May 16th.
- Transportation:
 - It is the student's responsibility to secure transportation of their animals in all instances. Please communicate with Advisor of your transportation plans and if

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you need help. Advisor has access to chapter trailer and pop up if help is needed.

*****ALL EXHIBITORS WILL PARTICIPATE IN A GROUP EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE EXHIBIT.*****

Fair Time:

- It is the student's responsibility to take care of their own animal(s) throughout the fair. Parents and Advisor may NOT clean pens, water animals, fit, feed, clean, etc.
- It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the Advisor at all times. If there is an emergency, problem or issue please notify the Advisor immediately.
- It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for transportation, housing, and feeding of the animal, as well as finding a buyer for animal(s) should the animal need to be removed from the fair.
 - If the animal(s) was housed at the farm prior to the fair, it may return if it was disqualified, but must be removed from farm within 2 weeks of completion of fair (Aug. 12th).
- Uniform:
 - It is the the student's responsibility to acquire a complete FFA uniform in order to exhibit animal(s) at fair (FFA Jacket, FFA tie/scarf, white pants, white collared shirt, black or brown shoes, and black or brown belt).
 - The chapter has jackets and ties/scarves you may borrow if needed.
 - White pants must fit appropriately – Not extremely tight or baggy, and NO skinny jeans or yoga pants! Shoes must be close toed. Boots are to be worn inside of jeans- NOT outside!
 - It is the responsibility of the student to keep their uniform clean prior to their show time, plan accordingly with clothes you can wear over your whites.
 - The uniform will be worn anytime you are to enter the show ring. Students should stay in uniform and support fellow chapter exhibitors throughout the duration of the show day.
- Feeding & Barn Duty:
 - It is the student's responsibility to maintain their assigned pen, feeding and watering of their animal(s), and their species exhibit. Students understand that they must sign up for barn duty shifts (outside of regular feeding and cleaning).
 - Barn duty assignments will depend on the number of exhibitors.
 - Barn duty will be chosen based on seniority.
 - It is the student's responsibility to be present at all feeding/cleaning times.
- Showmanship & County Born and Bred:
 - It is the student's responsibility to participate in showmanship. This is not optional.
 - It is the student's responsibility to participate in County Born and Bred should your animal(s) be eligible.
- Etiquette:
 - It is the student's responsibility to positively represent our chapter, school, the state association, the national association, and the agriculture industry. Be courteous and respectful to fair patrons, fellow exhibitors, and guests at the fair at all times.

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Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to swearing, tobacco use, inappropriate dress, or alcohol consumption.

- It is the student's responsibility to follow all school rules while at the fair. Any illegal activities will result in immediate disqualification from fair, school disciplinary action, and ineligibility from future FFA participation.
- It is the student's responsibility to follow the rules as outlined in the fair premium book. **READ YOUR PREMIUM BOOK!!!** Failure to comply with fair and state rules will result in elimination from the fair and forfeiture of any premium money.
- Family members must also maintain a high level of professionalism when involved with this project including good sportsmanship and appropriate behavior of a school event. Family members may be asked to leave if such behavior is not exhibited.
 - Parents/Guardians understand that they are responsible for their child's supervision while at the fair.
- Chapter Group/Pen:
 - It is the student's responsibility to stay in uniform till the conclusion of the show in the event your animal is selected for the Chapter Group/Pen and to help.
 - The Advisor will determine the animals used in the Chapter Group/Pen. The selection will be based on uniformity and quality of animals.
- Auction:
 - It is the student's responsibility to arrive early, clean all pens, and be dressed in uniform.
 - It is the student's responsibility to remain near their pen(s) to talk with buyers and the public, as well as keep our area clean.
 - It is the student's responsibility to personally thank the solicitor and/or buyer of your animal after animal is purchased.
- Overnight Camping:
 - It is the student's responsibility to provide Advisor with written or verbal consent from parent/guardian with chaperone information. No student shall remain on the fairgrounds overnight unless the student is chaperoned by an adult 25 years or older.

Post Fair:

- Specie Display Clean Up:
 - It is the student's responsibility to help clean up display. This includes taking down the chapter display, throwing away trash, and helping (neatly) return the tack/display to the ag classroom/farm.
- Thank You Letters:
 - It is the student's responsibility to turn in a thank you note to the fair office in order to receive your check. Thank you notes should be reviewed by Advisor and say more than "thank you for buying my animal ...". See fair premium book for guidelines.
 - If you are a student using the farm, you must turn in your completed thank you letter to Advisor within 1 week of selling your animal(s). Advisor will turn in thank you letters to the fair and collect your check. Checks will be given to exhibitor upon completion of school farm clean up.

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- Farm Clean Up (applies to those using the school farm):
 - It is the student's responsibility to to completely clean out his or her pen and remove your belongings within 1 week of the sale of your animal.
 - A complete farm clean up will be **Saturday, August 18th at 8am.**
 - Failure to participate in the farm clean up will result in not being allowed to exhibit an animal or use the farm the following year.
- FFA Awards Banquet:
 - If you choose to attend the FFA Awards Banquet concluding the fair, it is the student's responsibility to be in full uniform during banquet.
- It is the student's responsibility to complete their record book within 1 week of the sale of your animal. Advisor will check using AET.
- It is the students responsibility to pay back their loans!

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**Forestville FFA Exhibitor Contract & Fair Code of Conduct
Signature Page**

Students and parents understand that not following any of the above guidelines is grounds for being disqualified from exhibiting their livestock at the Sonoma County Fair and/or being removed from the Forestville FFA chapter.

Please contact Mrs. Murphy with any questions at (707) 225-7183

Student (Printed) Student Signature Date

Parent/Guardian (Printed) Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Contact: _____
phone/email

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Contact: _____
phone/email

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