



# MICHIGAN LIVESTOCK EXPO

## General Rules for Michigan Livestock Expo



1. The Michigan Livestock Expo is open to all Michigan youth between the ages of 8 and 21. Age will be considered as of January 1 of the current show year.
2. The Michigan Livestock Exhibition Board of Directors reserves to its Show Manager and Sales Manager (the "Managers") the final and absolute right to interpret these Rules and Regulations, and settle and determine all matters, questions, and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incident to the Expo. Exhibitors failing to comply with any of these rules are subject to cancellations of all premiums as well as suspension from current and future Michigan Livestock Expo events, at the sole discretion of the Managers.
3. Code of Conduct: The Michigan Livestock Expo Board of Directors and Managers are committed to a safe and respectful show environment and experience that respects the rights of each and every attendee. All exhibitors, parents, and others spectators are expected to exhibit outstanding sportsmanship as well as abide by the standards of the Code of Conduct.

The MLE Code of Conduct requires attendees to refrain from the following:

- Behavior that is unruly, disruptive or illegal in nature.
- Intoxication or other signs of alcohol or substance impairment resulting in poor behavior.
- Foul, obscene, threatening, offensive or abusive language, gestures or actions.
- Interfering with the progress of the show.
- Failing to follow the instructions of show personnel.
- Fighting or physical violence of any type. .
- Conduct that endangers any other person.

Violators of the MLE Code of Conduct, as well as their immediate family members, are subject to disciplinary action included but not limited to cancellations of all premiums as well as suspension from current and future Michigan Livestock Expo events, at the sole discretion of the Managers.

4. Breed-specific rules and regulations are outlined in their respective section of the Rule Book. Exhibitors are required to read ALL rules and procedures which pertain to the division they are entering. In the event of conflict of general and special rules, the latter will govern. Exhibitors are required to read these rules and regulations and be prepared to comply with them. Please review health requirements and rules listed on the Michigan Livestock Expo website at [www.milivestock.com/rules.html](http://www.milivestock.com/rules.html).
5. All market animals must be owned by the exhibitor. Ownership dates are set forth by individual species and outlined in their respective rules. Ownership means in possession of, cared for, the responsibility of. Ownership will be considered lost if the animal has been consigned or sold through an auction, even if the exhibitor buys back his/her animal or any other transaction after the final pre-entry identification date set forth by each species. Ownership will be considered lost if the animal is exhibited by another family at any other show. All animals identified, DNA submitted on, entered and shown in the Michigan Livestock Expo must be housed in the state of Michigan for the duration of the project.
6. In the event that animals are not housed at the same location as the exhibitor's home address, the name, address and relationship of the person whose facilities the animals are housed at must be listed on the MLE registration form. Exhibitors must also clearly indicate the reason for alternative housing.
7. Show management reserves the right, at any time, to verify ownership of animals. Animals not perceived by management to be in the ownership and care of the exhibitor will be disqualified. Management reserves the right to refuse future entries from any exhibitor or their family for rule violation.
8. Official entry identification deadlines and procedures will be established by each species. Those not meeting or adhering to the deadlines will not be eligible to show. Verification of identification will occur at the show. Show management reserves the right to disqualify any animal that they believe to be a different animal than originally identified for the show.
9. **ALL DNA SUBMISSIONS MUST BE BY INDIVIDUAL SPECIE. EXHIBITORS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SEND DNA FROM MULTIPLE SPECIES IN THE SAME MAILING OR ENVELOPE.**

10. Beef DNA submissions and Animals Identification information are due on April 15. **Stall reservations for Beef are due June 15. Failure to submit stall requests by June 15 will void entries in market and showmanship classes.**
11. Pen reservations, MI Bred Certificates (affidavits and/or registration papers), and DNA submissions for **Swine, Sheep and Goats are due on May 15.** DNA submission and pre-entry deadlines are set forth by specie and outlined in their respective specie rules.
12. All proper identification must be in place at the time of check-in. (All livestock that fail to meet this requirement forfeit the opportunity to be exhibited at the current years event).
13. Exhibitors must submit identification and DNA by the deadlines spelled out in respective specie rules. No late DNA submissions will be accepted.
14. DNA Submission by family is allowed. Family means immediate family member; brother or sister living at the same residence.
15. Michigan Bred Affidavit for all species must be turned in and presented according to the rules spelled out in each particular specie section.
16. Health requirements for exhibition will be set forth by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Visit the official Michigan Department of Agriculture website or click on Health Requirements link of the Michigan Livestock Expo website.
17. Show management reserves the right to randomly DNA and/or drug test any livestock exhibited at the Michigan Livestock Expo (**DNA testing and drug testing may be performed by show management**). Any animal found to be in violation will be disqualified. Any animal containing substances at any level not in compliance with United States Food and Drug Administration and/or United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety/safety standards, illegal substances and/or tampered with will be disqualified. An animal treated with any substance that's withdrawal period will not be met at time of exhibition will forfeit the opportunity to be exhibited in any market class at the current years event. Exceptions **will not** be made in the instance of a prescription from a licensed veterinarian. Any monies awarded to the individual, including sale proceeds will be forfeited. Owners of the animals selected for the sale will be required to sign a sales agreement, in advance of the sale, in which they agree to adhere to this rule.
18. The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion from each species will be chosen for a sale along with additional entries from each species. The number of animals and how they are chosen are outlined in the respective species rules. All animals chosen for the sale must sell. All sale animals are terminal. There will be caps placed on the maximum amount that the owner can receive from the sale. The remainder will be placed into a fund to be utilized for scholarships, educational awards and show expenses. Commissions will be deducted from the sale price of the entries in the sale. The amount will be determined based upon whether or not the sales cap is reached. The amount will not exceed 10%.
19. **When a Great Lakes Grand Breed animal (Michigan Bred Breed animal) is shown, the exhibitor must present show management with the proper paper work (registration paper or affidavit) at the time of DNA submission. (See individual species rules for further requirements). Lamb classes will be classified by an official classifier to determine breed eligibility. Great Lakes Grand Breed animal (Michigan Bred Breed animal) means that the dam was owned by a Michigan breeder at the time of conception. Additional rules may apply on a per specie basis.**
20. **When a Great Lakes Grand Crossbred animal (Michigan Bred Crossbred Animal) is shown, an affidavit signed by both the exhibitor AND the Michigan breeder must be presented to show management at the required time. Great Lakes Grand Crossbred animal (Michigan Bred Crossbred animal) means that the dam was owned by a Michigan breeder at the time of conception. Additional rules may apply on a per specie basis.**
21. This is not a terminal show. Any animals that are not chosen for the sale are released from the show to the exhibitor at the conclusion of competition.
22. Exhibitors must show their own animals. In the event an exhibitor has more than one animal showing at the exact same time a request may be made to show management for a substitute show person. Substitute show person must be another registered exhibitor and participating in the current year Michigan Livestock Expo.
23. Exhibitors chosen for the sale must sell their own animals. If there is a conflict, the exhibitor may seek a waiver from show management. If a waiver is not sought and the animal is sold by someone else, the proceeds will be forfeited to the scholarship fund.
24. An exhibitor can only be chosen for the sale once per species. Sale is terminal and all sale animals will be harvested and transported under the supervision of show management.

25. Only wood by-products may be used for bedding, (i.e. shavings or bark). NO STRAW.
26. All animals must be stalled in the facilities provided. NO SHOWING OUT OF TRAILERS.
27. Exhibitors are responsible for weighing their own animals. A time will be designated by each species as to when weigh cards must be turned in.
28. Exhibitors will adhere to the National Show Ring Code of Ethics. Please note: Rule 3 in the code of ethics does not apply to Michigan Livestock Expo. Please see individual species rules for exceptions to Rule 4 in the code of ethics.
29. No animals will be permitted in the building or tie-out area of the Michigan Livestock Expo that are not entered in the show.
30. Any damage, loss or injury caused to the grounds, another exhibitor or their exhibits will be the liability of the person(s) causing the damage. The Michigan Livestock Expo and associated show management shall in no way be held responsible for the damage or injury caused.
31. All signed entry forms verify exhibitor's consent of use of photos or videos taken by official Michigan Livestock Expo photographers for use in advertisement and promotion of the event.
32. Specific rules regarding pulling are outlined in each specie rules section.
33. Showmanship sign up will be conducted at the show. Those wishing to participate in showmanship will have the opportunity to enter at the show. Specific times will be posted at Michigan Livestock Expo. Every attempt will be made to accommodate those wishing to participate.
34. ALL ANIMALS NOT SELECTED FOR THE SALE MUST BE REMOVED WITHIN 4 HOURS AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE FINAL SHOW ON SUNDAY.
35. **Violation or falsification of any of these rules may result in disqualification of the exhibitor and/or all family members from current and future Michigan Livestock Expos and/or disciplinary actions as determined by Michigan Livestock Expo management and leadership.**

## **PROCEDURE TO FILE A COMPLAINT**

### **PROTESTS**

Any and all participants in any and all events described in the Michigan Livestock Exhibition, Inc. ("MLE" or "Michigan Livestock Expo") General and Species Specific rules as well as the Premium Book and this Rule Book hereby acknowledge that they are voluntarily agreeing to participate in said event, that the participant has no constitutional or statutory right to participate or compete in these events, that the participant shall abide by and is subject to all rules and procedures applicable to the event entered as stated in this Rule Book, and acknowledge the following as an express condition of their voluntary decision to participate in any and all events covered by this Rule Book:

#### **Protests - Disciplinary Action.**

- A. The protest procedures and remedies set out in this section of the Rule Book are the exclusive procedures and remedies concerning any protest, discipline or complaint regarding any action of the Expo arising in any way from participation in any and all events covered by this Rule Book.
- B. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book hereby acknowledge and expressly agree that the procedures and remedies set out in this Rule Book shall be the exclusive procedures and remedies available to any and all participants concerning any decision or action taken by the Expo on any protest, discipline or complaint in any and all events covered by this Rule Book.
- C. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book expressly acknowledge and expressly agree that they will have the burden of pursuit and the burden of proof concerning the establishment of the grounds for any protest, discipline or complaint brought under the provisions of this Rule Book.
  1. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book shall have 24 hours from the conclusion of the individual species show involving the class in question to file any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints brought under the provisions of this Rule Book which involve any issue other than the results of drug testing.
  2. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rules Book that wish to file a formal protest against an exhibition of either animals or exhibitor shall be filed at least 12 hours prior to the scheduled start time of the individual species show.
  3. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book shall have 10 days following the receipt of testing results to file any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints brought under the provisions of this Rule Book involving the results of drug testing.

4. The Michigan Livestock Expo will not consider any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints based upon the statement that a judge or judges are incompetent.
  5. Any and all protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints filed pursuant to this paragraph shall be in writing and shall be filed with Michigan Livestock Expo Show Manager within the above-referenced time period(s).
  6. Any and all protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints filed pursuant to this paragraph shall be accompanied by a deposit of \$150 which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Deposit must be submitted to Michigan Livestock Expo Show Manager contemporaneously with any and all protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints.
  7. The Michigan Livestock Expo Show Manager and Protest Committee shall consider any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints filed pursuant to this paragraph as soon as possible and his/her decision may be appealed exclusively using the appeal procedure set out in this Rule Book. The Protest Committee shall consist of the Show Manager and the four species superintendents.
  8. Any participant who is the subject of a protest has the right to read the written protest that has been filed against them as well as appear in front of the Protest Committee and defend themselves against the protest.
- D. The Michigan Livestock Expo Show Manager and Protest Committee shall only consider protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints filed by a Participant (or parent/legal guardian of participant) entered in the same species as the Participant that is the subject of the protest, challenge of disciplinary action or complaint.

### **APPEALS OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

#### 1. Appeals of Disciplinary Action

- A. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book hereby acknowledge and expressly agree that the procedures and remedies outlined in this Rule Book shall be the exclusive appellate procedures and remedies available to any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book.
- B. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book expressly acknowledge and expressly agree that they will have the burden of going forward and the burden of proof concerning the establishment of the grounds for any appeal brought under the provisions of this Rule Book.

The appeal procedures are as follows:

1. Any and all participants in any and all events covered by this Rule Book shall have 10 days from the entrance of a decision of the Protest Committee to file an appeal of said decision concerning any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints brought under the provisions of this Premium Book.
2. Any and all appeals of any decision of the Protest Committee concerning any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints brought under the provisions of this Rule Book shall be in writing and shall be filed with the MLE Appeals Committee within the above-referenced time period(s).
3. Any and all appeals of any decision of the Protest Committee concerning any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints brought under the provisions of this Rule Book shall be accompanied by a deposit of \$150 which will be forfeited if the appeal is not sustained. Deposit must be filed with Appeals Committee contemporaneously with any and all appeals.
4. The Michigan Livestock Expo Appeals Committee shall consider any and all appeals of any decision of the Protest Committee concerning any protests, challenges of disciplinary action or complaints brought under the provisions of this Rule Book filed pursuant to this paragraph as soon as possible and their decision in the matter shall be final. The Appeals Committee shall consist of a minimum of three board members and two Species Committee members.

### **SHOWMANSHIP**

Showmanship competitions will be offered in each species. Exhibitors must use their own animal for showmanship. Animals must be eligible for competition in a market class. Any rule violation will be grounds for disqualification from showmanship.

Showmanship classes will be divided into four divisions by age (Age will be considered as of January 1 of the current show year) Divisions are as follows:

Novice: 8 - 11 years old  
 Junior: 12 - 14 years old  
 Intermediate: 15 - 17 years old  
 Senior: 18 - 21 years old

The top ten in each age group will be placed and recognized. A champion overall showman will be chosen in each specie.

## MARKET CLASSES

Market classes and their associated rules will be determined by a committee representing each individual species. Market classes may be shown by breed, weight or a combination thereof.

## GOAT RULES

1. There is no limit to the number of animals an exhibitor may show.
2. All entries must be wethers.
3. All goats must be identified with official USDA Identification. A USDA scrapie tag meets this requirement.
4. Market Goats must be owned, in possession, and DNA submitted by May 15. The animals must remain in the exhibitor's possession from set date forward. To submit DNA, you must complete the following:
  - a. Complete form with official USDA tag number.
  - b. Pull a minimum of 25-30 hairs with root follicles attached. We recommend from the tail, and place in a plastic zip lock bag labeled with the goats USDA tag number, Premise ID number, and exhibitors name.
  - c. Use a separate bag for each animal!**
  - d. Send a copy of registration paper for Fullbloods or MI-Bred affidavit for eligible crossbreds. (For eligibility see general rules 16 & 17)
  - e. Pay exhibitor fee of \$15.00/exhibitor, \$15.00/animal, and \$25.00/pen/requested pen.
  - f. Mail all of the above, DNA form, bag with hair, copy of registration paper or MI bred affidavit, and fees in a 8 ½ x 11 envelope to: MLE Goats • PO Box 189 • Union City, MI 49094
  - g. No substitutions will be allowed.
  - h. Michigan Bred Certification forms for MI Bred entries must be turned in with DNA Submission Form. Forms will not be accepted at the show.**
5. No Late DNA samples are allowed
6. All goats must proceed through check-in activities.
7. Goats with visible signs of prolapse, fungus, sore mouth or a contagious/infectious disease, as diagnosed by the Michigan Livestock Expo licensed veterinarian, will not be allowed to exhibit and must be removed from the facility immediately.
8. Animals with testicles, portions of testicles or yearling teeth will be disqualified.
9. Horns are optional.
10. Goat exhibitors are allowed to use approved goat products for fitting practices.
11. Goat exhibitors are allowed to use approved goat drenching equipment to drench their animals.
12. No personal scales are allowed.
- 13. No disassembly of pens**
- 14. A minimum of two goats per pen excluding tack pens.**
- 15. One tack pen per family.**
16. Weighing procedure will be as follows:
  - a. There will be no official weigh in
  - b. Market animals will be shown by declared weight
  - c. Declared weight must be turned in to show management by designated time
  - d. Once weight cards are turned in there will be no changing of weight
  - e. There is a minimum 50 pound weight limit to be eligible.
  - f. There is no maximum weight.
  - g. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place as well as the 1st place MI Bred animal in each class will be reweighed immediately following the class.
  - h. Animals will be allowed a 5 pound variance from declared weight
  - i. Animals over or under the 5 pound variance will be disqualified from show and all other animals will move up one place



*Note: Should an animal weigh outside the guidelines set forth, the animal will be removed from scale, scale will be balanced and the animal will be immediately re-weighed. There is a maximum allowance of two times across the scale immediately following the class. This weight will be the official and final weight. Once out of class animals will not be required to weigh again.*

17. There will be 1 Fullblood division, and a maximum of 3 Crossbred divisions. A Champion, Reserve, and Third Overall in each division will be chosen and eligible for a sale spot. Only those animals holding one of the aforementioned titles will be eligible for the sale. In the event that there is no MI Bred goat represented in the top three of each division, there will be a MI Bred alternate selected. The alternate will only be eligible for its respective MI bred title.
18. A Great Lakes Grand Fullblood (Grand Champion Bred Michigan Fullblood) and a Great Lakes Grand Crossbred (Champion Michigan Bred Percentage) goat will be chosen. In order to be eligible for the Great Lakes Grand Fullblood, registration papers will be required. In order to be eligible for the Great Lakes Grand Crossbred, MI Bred affidavit will be required. For further eligibility rules please see General Rules 16 & 17,
19. Any exhibitor who wishes to pull their animal prior to sale selection must do so before entering the champion drive. Once an animal enters the ring for selection of champions, they are eligible for sale selection and may not leave the ring until all sale animals have all been selected.
20. There will be five sale spots. Overall Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Grand Champion. Great Lakes Grand Fullblood, and Great Lakes Grand Crossbred are guaranteed sale spots. Animals are allowed to hold dual titles. In the event an animal holds more than one of the above mentioned titles, additional animals will be selected to fill the five sale spots. (Showcase Animals)

## **MARKET BEEF RULES**

1. There is no limit to the number of animals an exhibitor may show.
2. Market Beef animals must be owned, in possession, and DNA submitted by April 15. The animals must remain in the exhibitor's possession from set date forward. To submit DNA, you must complete the following:
  - a. Complete form with 15 digit RFID numbers for all animals
  - b. Pull a minimum of 25-30 hairs with root follicles attached, we recommend from the tail switch, and place in a plastic zip lock bag labeled with the calf's RFID number and exhibitors name.
  - c. Use a separate bag for each animal!**
  - d. All breed cattle, MI-Bred and non-MI Bred, must send a copy of registration paper in the exhibitors name with DNA submission. All eligible crossbreds must send MI-Bred affidavit with DNA submission.
  - e. Pay exhibitor fee of \$15.00/exhibitor and \$15.00/animal.
  - f. Mail all of above, DNA form, bag with hair, copy of registration paper or MI bred affidavit and fees in 8 1/2 X 11 envelope to: MLE Beef • PO Box 189 • Union City, MI 49094
  - g. No substitutions will be allowed.
  - h. Michigan Bred Certification forms for MI Bred entries must be turned in with DNA Submission Form. Forms will not be accepted at the show.**
3. A beef stalling request form and \$30.00/stall fee must be mailed by June 15th to the above address marked "MLE Beef Stalling". **Stall reservations for Beef are due June 15th. Failure to submit stall requests by June 15th will void any entries in market and showmanship classes.**
4. No Late DNA samples are allowed.
5. Animals showing in the breed classes must have registration papers in the exhibitors name by April 15th of the current show year.
6. The following grooming practices are PROHIBITED:
  - a. Adding any substance externally to build up, change or alter the shape or conformation of the cattle, including by way of example, but not limited to rope, false hair, graphite, hemp and powders.
  - b. No coloring agents are allowed including but not limited to paints, dye, powder, non clear adhesive, foam or shoe polish
  - c. Any attempt to disrupt or change the normal dental development of an animal
  - d. Any substances administered internally or externally to alter the conformation of the animal are prohibited.
  - e. No forced administration of fluids are allowed. The presence of drench equipment in stalling area (drench guns, tubes etc) on show day would be evidence of rule violation and cause for expulsion from show.**

- f. The show committee may adopt and implement various tests designed to monitor this prohibition, including but not limited to, a towel or glove test to check for coloring agents.
  - g. No aerosol cans or other pressurized containers will be allowed in designated line up areas.
7. All cattle must proceed through check-in activities.
  8. Animals with testicles or portions of testicles will be disqualified and all monies forfeited.
  9. No more than one fan per 3 head. No fans allowed in the show arena/holding area.
  10. Generators are allowed only on show day in designated area.
  11. **Cattle are allowed to be in designated tie-outs or exhibitors trailer from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m.; all other times the cattle must remain in the pavilion including on show day. Only exception to this rule is the grass area on the south end of the barn between doors S to T. All cattle must enter arena/holding area through the main arena entrance directly from the stalling area. (South Entrance)**
  12. **All cattle must be born after January 1 of the previous year. Animals are subject to mouthing, and will be considered "over-aged" and ineligible to compete if the first permanent incisor tooth is in wear. Decision of MLE designated veterinary will be final.**
  13. Weighing procedure will be as follows:
    - a. There will be no official weigh in
    - b. Market animals will be shown by declared weight
    - c. Declared weight must be turned in to show management by designated time
    - d. Once weight cards are turned in there will be no changing of weight
    - e. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place animals along with the first place MI Bred animal in each class will be re-weighed immediately following the class.
    - f. A 5% variance will be allowed from declared weight
    - g. Animals exceeding the 5% variance will be disqualified from show and all other animals will move up one place.

*Note: Should an animal weigh outside the guidelines set forth, the animal will be removed from scale, scale will be balanced and the animal will be immediately re-weighed. There is a maximum allowance of two times across the scale immediately following the class. This weight will be the official and final weight. All animals considered for the sales will also be re-weighed prior to the overall Championship Drive. There is a maximum allowance of two times across the scale if the 5% variance is not met.*

14. Cattle will be shown by the breeds listed in the premium book. There must be a minimum of two animals entered and shown in order for there to be a class for that respective breed. In the event there is not a class offered for the given breed or the 2 head requirement is not met, the animal(s) will be shown in an AORB class. If 2 head of a particular breed not listed in the premium book have been exhibited for 2 consecutive years, that respective breed will be added to premium book in order to offer that breed class in the premium book on the 3rd year.
15. **Each breed will select a Champion, Reserve and Third Overall. Additionally, the top five Crossbreds overall will be chosen. The top three from each class are eligible for the aforementioned awards. Only those animals holding one of the aforementioned spots/titles will be eligible for the Sale. In the event that there is no MI Bred animal represented in the top three of each breed/division, or within the top 5 crossbreds, there will be a MI Bred alternate selected. The alternate will only be eligible for its respective MI bred title.**
16. There will be a Great Lakes Grand Registered Breed Steer (Champion Michigan Bred Registered Market Beef Animal) and a Great Lakes Grand Champion Crossbred Steer (Champion Michigan Bred Crossbred Market Beef Animal) selected. **(Market Heifers that are Michigan bred will be eligible for the Champion Michigan Bred Crossbred title)** See General Rules 16 & 17 for eligibility to these classes.
17. Overall Grand and Reserve Champions, Great Lakes Grand Breed Champion, Great Lakes Grand Crossbred and those chosen for sale selection must be sold in the livestock auction.
18. Any exhibitor who wishes to pull their animal prior to sale selection must do so before the breed and /or division champion drive. Once an animal enters the ring for selection of breed or division champion, they are eligible for sale selection and may not leave the show until all sale animals have been selected.
19. Sale Selection: Eight beef will be chosen for the sale: Overall Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Grand Champion, Great Lakes Grand Breed, Great Lakes Grand Crossbred and 4 additional sale animals. Animals may hold more than one title. If a market beef holds more than one title, additional sale cattle will be chosen for the sale until a total of eight is reached.

## SHEEP RULES

1. There is no limit to the number of animals an exhibitor may show
2. Open to wether and ewe lambs.
3. Market Lambs must be owned, in possession, and DNA submitted by May 15. The animals must remain in the exhibitor's possession from set date forward. To submit DNA, you must complete the following:
  - a. Complete form with official USDA tag number.
  - b. Pull a minimum of 25-30 hairs with root follicles attached. We recommend from between the toes, and place in a plastic zip lock bag labeled with the lambs USDA tag number, Premise ID number, and exhibitors name.
  - c. Use a separate bag for each animal!**
  - d. Pay exhibitor fee of \$15.00/exhibitor, \$15.00/animal, and \$25.00/pen/requested pen.
  - e. Mail all of the above, DNA form, bag with hair, copy of registration paper or MI bred affidavit, and fees in a 8 ½ x 11 envelope to: MLE Sheep • PO Box 189 • Union City, MI 49094
  - f. No substitutions will be allowed.
  - g. Michigan Bred Certification forms for MI Bred entries must be turned in with DNA Submission Form. Forms will not be accepted at the show. (For eligibility see general rules 16 & 17)**
4. No late DNA samples are allowed
5. All lambs must proceed through check-in activities that will include health check, USDA ear tag check and breed classification
6. Lambs with visible signs of prolapse, fungus, sore mouth or a contagious/infectious disease, as diagnosed by the Michigan Livestock Expo licensed veterinarian, will not be allowed to exhibit and must be removed from the facility immediately.
7. Lambs with testicles or yearling teeth will be disqualified and all monies forfeited.
8. No muzzles.
9. Sheep exhibitors are allowed to use approved sheep drenching equipment to drench their animals.
10. No personal scales are allowed.
- 11. No disassembly of pens.**
- 12. A minimum of two sheep per pen excluding tack pens.**
- 13. One tack pen per family.**
14. Lambs must be slick shorn excluding the head and legs prior to check-in. Upon request by a veterinarian at health check, lambs must have a slick shorn full pelt.
15. Lambs will be reviewed for breed classification by an official at check-in. If the exhibitor does not agree with the classification, he/she can withdraw entry from the show, but fees paid will not be returned. The decision of the breed classifier will be final.
16. There will be a minimum of three animals per breed in order for there to be a champion chosen within that breed. Where there are not three entries per breed, breeds will be combined and an All Other Breeds (AOB) champion will be chosen.
17. When lambs are braced and/or shown on the profile they must have all 4 feet on the ground. No slapping will be tolerated.
18. The following grooming practices are PROHIBITED:
  - a. Adding any substance externally to build up, change or alter the shape or conformation of the sheep, including by way of example, but not limited to rope, false hair, graphite, hemp and powders.
  - b. No coloring agents are allowed including but not limited to paints, dye, powder, non clear adhesive, foam or shoe polish
  - c. Any attempt to disrupt or change the normal dental development of an animal
  - d. The show committee may adopt and implement various tests designed to monitor this prohibition, including but not limited to, a towel or glove test to check for coloring agents.
  - e. No aerosol cans or other pressurized containers will be allowed in designated line up areas.
19. Lambs will be shown in classes by breed, declared weight or a combination thereof.



20. There will be a minimum show weight limit of 95 pounds with no upper weight limit.
21. Weighing procedure will be as follows:
  - a. There will be no official weigh in
  - b. Market animals will be shown by declared weight
  - c. Declared weight must be turned in to show management by designated time
  - d. Once weight cards are turned in there will be no changing of weight
  - e. The top five animals along with the first place MI Bred animal in each class will be re-weighed immediately following the class.
  - f. A 7 pound variance above the declared weight will be allowed
  - g. Animals exceeding the 7 pound variance will be disqualified from show and all other animals will move up one place.

*Note: Should an animal weigh outside the guidelines set forth, the animal will be removed from scale, scale will be balanced and the animal will be immediately re-weighed. There is a maximum allowance of two times across the scale immediately following the class. This weight will be the official and final weight.*

22. There will be a Great Lakes Grand Breed Champion (Michigan Bred Breed Champion) and a Great Lakes Grand Crossbred Champion (Michigan Bred Crossbred Lamb) selected. See General Rules 16 & 17 for eligibility.
23. Overall Grand and Reserve Champions, Michigan Bred Breed Champion, Michigan Bred Crossbred Champion and those chosen for sale selection must be sold in the livestock auction.
24. Any exhibitor who wishes to pull their animal prior to sale selection must do so before the champion drive. Once an animal enters the ring for selection of champions, they are eligible for sale selection and may not leave the ring until all sale animals have been selected.
25. Sheep will be shown by breed. Each breed will select a Champion, Reserve, and Third Overall. There will also be one alternate selected from each breed. Only in the event that an animal should be pulled from the top three prior to the champion drive, would an alternate move up and be eligible for sale selection. The crossbreds will be broke down into three divisions. Each division will select a Champion, Reserve and Third Overall along with one alternate. All three divisions will be represented in the final drive and eligible for sale selection. A champion crossbred will not be selected. In the event that a Michigan bred animal is not represented in the top three animals of each breed or crossbred division, the alternate must be Michigan bred and will be eligible for one of the Michigan bred titles.
26. Eight lambs will be chosen for the sale: Overall Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Grand Champion, Great Lakes Grand Breed, Great Lakes Grand Crossbred, and 4 sale animals. Animals may hold more than one title. If a lamb holds more than one title additional sale lambs will be chosen for the sale until a total of eight is reached.

## **SWINE RULES**

1. There is no limit to the number of animals an exhibitor may show.
2. Swine must be owned, in possession, and DNA submitted by May 15. The animals must remain in the exhibitor's possession from set date forward. To submit DNA, you must complete the following:
  - a. Complete form with ear notch numbers, ear notch diagram/drawing, as well as EID#. Notches should be uniform, healed, and match the diagrams/drawings on the DNA Submission and Pen Reservation Form. Any questionable notches will not be allowed to show.
  - b. Pull a minimum of 25-30 hairs with root follicles attached. We recommend from the tail or between the ears, and place in a plastic zip lock bag labeled with the pig information/identification (ear notch and pig description) and exhibitors name.
  - c. Use a separate bag for each animal!**
  - d. Pay exhibitor fee of \$15.00/exhibitor, \$15.00/animal, and \$25.00/pen/requested pen.
  - e. Mail all of the above, DNA form, bag with hair, copy of registration paper or MI bred affidavit, and fees in a 8 ½ x 11 envelope to: MLE Swine • PO Box 189 • Union City, MI 49094
  - f. No substitutions will be allowed.
  - g. Michigan Bred Certification forms for MI Bred entries must be turned in with DNA Submission Form. (For eligibility see general rules 16 & 17)**

3. Michigan Livestock Expo supports the practices of the national Pork Quality assurance Plus program and encourages producer certification. Each exhibitor of a sale animal may be asked to provide a PQA Plus certificate prior to the harvesting of their sale animal.
  4. Weight limit: 230lbs to 290lbs.
  5. No base market or transportation to market will be provided on non-auction animals.
  6. No clipping in the barn.
  7. No exhibitor scales are allowed.
  8. No disassembly of pens.
  9. A minimum of two pigs per pen. (Example: John and Jane Doe bring 3 pigs each (totaling 6 pigs as a family), they are allowed 3 pens as a family. 2 pigs per pen. If John and Jane Doe bring a total of 5 pigs (3 for John and 2 for Jane) they are allowed 3 pens as a family. 2 pigs in 2 of the pens and 1 in the other.)
  10. No tack pens will be provided. As space permits management will assign community tack areas.
  11. Any pens not used after the final check in has closed will be open for community tack only. No swine will be allowed in these pens.
  12. No pens will be sold at show.
  - 13. All overages are forfeited.**All swine must proceed through check-in activities.
  14. Sale eligible animals are not allowed to leave the show until sale selection is complete. The swine show is a "no pull" show.
  15. Only water or designated Swine show products may be used on hogs.
  16. Swine with testicles or portions of testicles will be disqualified and all monies forfeited.
  17. Purebred hogs must present pedigrees in the name(s) of the exhibitor(s) as the owner at date of DNA submission. Farm names will not be allowed. i.e. John Doe and Family is not allowed, the animal must be in the youth's name.
  18. Breed validation and ear notch matching will take place at time of check in. Exhibitors must bring their purebred entries and pedigrees to the specified check in and have them checked by show management.
  19. Barrows and gilts will show by gender for crossbreds only. Purebred barrows and gilts will be shown together.
  20. Weighing procedure will be as follows:
    - a. There will be no official weigh in
    - b. Market animals will be shown by declared weight
    - c. Declared weight must be turn in to show management by designated time
    - d. Once weight cards are turned in there will be no changing of weight
    - e. A minimum of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place animals along with the first place MI Bred animal in each class will be re-weighed immediately following the class.
    - f. A 15 pound variance (plus or minus) will be allowed from declared weight
    - g. Animals exceeding the 15 pound variance will be disqualified from show and all other animals will move up one place.
    - h. After a pig has been weighed in class it will not be weighed again.
- Note: Should an animal weigh outside the guidelines set forth, the animal will be removed from scale, scale will be balanced and the animal will be immediately re-weighed. There is a maximum allowance of two times across the scale during or immediately following class. This weight will be the official and final weight.*
21. There will be a Great Lakes Grand Purebred/Registered Swine and a Great Lakes Grand Crossbred Swine selected. See General Rules for eligibility to these classes.
  22. Overall Grand and Reserve Champions, Great Lakes Grand Purebred Champion, Great Lakes Grand Crossbred Champion and those chosen for sale selection must be sold in the livestock auction.
  - 23. Each breed will select a Champion, Reserve and Third Overall. There will be a Champion, Reserve and Third Overall selected in the Crossbred gilt and barrow divisions. Only those animals holding one of the aforementioned titles will be eligible for the sale. In the event that there is no MI Bred hog represented in the Top Three of a breed or one of the Crossbred divisions, there will be a MI Bred alternate selected. The alternate will only be eligible for its respective MI bred title. FEES**

DNA submission fees on a per head basis will be charged at the time of DNA and identification submission/ tagging, as well as, an exhibitor fee of \$15 per youth, per specie. Stall/penning fees are due according to specie requirements.

<b>DNA Submission/Registration Fee</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Stall/Pen Fee</b>	<b>Due</b>
<b>Cattle: \$15.00/hd</b>	<b>April 15</b>	<b>\$30.00/stall</b>	<b>June 15</b>
Goat: \$15.00/hd	May 15	\$25.00/pen	May 15
Sheep: \$15.00/hd	May 15	\$25.00/pen	May 15
Swine: \$15.00/hd	May 15	\$25.00/pen	May 15

### **SALE CAPS**

The Michigan Livestock Expo will conduct a sale for the animals that are chosen for each of the respective specie sale spots. All animals chosen for the sale must be sold. All sale animals are terminal. A cap will be placed on all sale animals. Any sale amount over the cap will be placed in the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund and will be utilized for educational awards, scholarships and show expenses.

#### **The caps are as follows:**

**Overall Champion market beef: \$20,000**

**Overall Reserve Champion market beef: \$10,000**

**Overall Champion market hog: \$10,000**

**Overall Reserve Champion market hog: \$5,000**

**Overall Champion market lamb: \$10,000**

**Overall Reserve Champion market lamb: \$5,000**

**Overall Champion market goat: \$5,000**

**Overall Reserve Champion market goat: \$2,500**

**Great Lakes Grand cattle: \$8,000**

**Great Lakes Grand hogs: \$4,000**

**Great Lakes Grand sheep: \$4,000**

**Great Lakes Grand goat: \$1,750**

**Showcase beef: \$6,000**

**Showcase hogs and sheep: \$2,500**

**Showcase goats: \$1,250**

**Item Representing the Supreme Champion Dairy Showman: \$1000**

**Item Representing the Supreme Champion Dairy Cow: \$500**

**Item Representing the Supreme Champion Heifer: \$500**