

Virtual FairEntry ***Participating in a Virtual Animal Show***

During this season, virtual animal shows look different than in-person shows. Virtual shows are meant to provide a space for youth to showcase their projects and continue practicing learned skills.

For families interested in showcasing livestock projects online, videos of animals can be uploaded to FairEntry. For families that have already uploaded exhibit info to FairEntry (without videos) entries can be edited and a video can be uploaded in the Additional Entry Questions section – see attached documents for instructions.

Tips for Preparing your Exhibit

- 1. Be sure to your animals are clean.** Presenting your animal to the best of your ability gives you the best chance for success. When preparing to enter your animal in a virtual show, remember to prepare just as you would for a traditional show.
- 2. Appropriate show attire must be worn – no hats may be worn by the exhibitor.** Just like you are presenting your animal to the best ability, wearing the proper attire will give you the best chance for success.
- 3. Take video and photos during the “Golden Hour” to maximize quality.** The two times of the day with the best lighting are an hour after sunrise and an hour before sunset. Having shadows on the animal can hurt the quality of the video and can distort the looks of the animal. Make sure the photographer’s back is facing the sun. Avoid glare.
- 4. Plan ahead to take photos or videos to check if the weather is good enough.** Avoid extremely windy days or overcast weather if possible.
- 5. Check your background.** You want the attention to be on the animal and the showman, avoid any distracting backgrounds so the animal can stand out. Try to utilize an open space like a field or grassy area to showcase your animal.
- 6. Check the angle of the camera.** Generally, photos and video should be taken at the shoulder height of the animal since you will get the best qualities from the animal at that point.
- 7. Position animal on a flat surface.** This will ensure you are getting the best angles of your animal.
- 8. Stabilize videos and provide clear images.** Avoid any blurry photos and utilize tripods or devices to stabilize your device so the judge can really look at your animal.
- 9. When taking photos or video, hold your phone or camera horizontally rather than vertically.** This will allow the photos to be in “landscape” and allow the judges to see more of your animal.

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Tips for Market Shows

1. **Show all views and angles of your animal in your photos.** Just like in a traditional show, the judge can better assess your animal if they can see them from all angles. Below are the views you should include. Photos should include a full image of the animal and showman.
 - a. **Front View**
 - b. **Rear View**
 - c. **Side View (Both sides)**
2. **Videos should focus on the animal, not the exhibitor.** However, videos should include the youth with their animal.
3. **Video should be between 60 and 90 seconds, no more than 4GB.** This will allow the judge to watch you lead your animal from all directions.
4. **Do not alter videos by placing any overlays, etc.** To uphold the integrity of virtual competition and shows, individuals may not utilize any photo services or tools to edit, alter or change images. Any exhibit that has been altered will be disqualified from the competition.



View Examples:

Tips for Showmanship Shows

1. **Video should be between 60 and 90 seconds.** This will allow the judge to watch you lead your animal from all directions.
2. **Maintain eye contact in the video.** Just as you would in a live show, act as if the camera is the judge.
3. **Watch and listen to your video before submitting.** By watching your video in its entirety before submitting, you can verify it's something you're happy with.

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4. **Avoid background noises in video.** Try to limit any background noises if at all possible. If noise caused by wind or other things is too loud, mute the sound on the video.

Tips for Horse Shows

1. **Video should be between 2 and 3 minutes.** This would be a condensed ride time compared to an in-person show.
2. **Choose classes that are accessible to you.** Some classes require additional equipment that not all families may have access to. Consider choosing pattern classes.
3. **Act as if the camera is the judge.** This will make showing feel more “real”
4. **Watch and listen to your video before submitting.** By watching your video in its entirety before submitting, you can verify it’s something you’re happy with.

Tips for Pets/Cats

1. **Video should be between 2 and three minutes.** During this time youth should talk about their pets: how they care for them, train and play with them, anything unique about them, etc.