

SAN MATEO COUNTY 4-H FARM RULES



MEMBERS

- 1) Members are to meet project age requirement and be a member in good club standing to apply for farm use (member must attend 80% of the club's general and project meetings and turn in a completed record book to be in good standing).
- 2) Members will be allotted space based on completion of *Farm Request Form* and final approval by the County Farm Management Committee.
- 3) Any youth member over 9 years of age requesting to raise a first time large animal, who has never raised a small animal, must complete the large animal project requirements prior to obtaining the animal. Final authorization shall be in agreement with the project leader and the parent as to the capabilities of the youth to raise the animal throughout closure of the project. The farm manager will give final authorization of farm use for the animal project.
- 4) Members will be reviewed throughout the project year as to his/her project goal.
- 5) An Adult Resource or Project Leader must accompany members while visiting, feeding or working on the farms. 4-H accident insurance covers only in the event there is a project leader or resource leader present. (See 4-H policy handout.)
- 6) Primary age 4-H members must follow 4-H livestock requirements.

As of July 1, 1998, the levels of membership returned to an age based system with each level defined as follows:

PRIMARY: *Must be 5 years old as of January 1st of the Program year. The only approved animal projects for primary members are dogs, rabbits, rats, cats, poultry, cavies, mice, embryology, entomology, marine science, pygmy goats, and therapeutic animal projects.*

JUNIOR, INTERMEDIATE, & SENIOR: *Must be 9 years old by January 1st of the program year.*

- 7) Smoking, drug use and the consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

VISITORS (NON 4-H YOUTH and ADULTS)

- 1) Prior permission must be obtained from a Farm Manager or Farm Boss.
- 2) Visitors must be made aware of the farm rules and agree to abide by them.
- 3) Visitors are prohibited from entering animal pens and/or feeding the animals.

FEEDING

- 1) Members are to feed and care for their livestock daily. (Member and Farm Management may prepare alternative farm rules for a substitute feeding program.)
- 2) Members are responsible for the cleanliness of their animal and pen. Manure, bedding (including but not limited to straw and shavings) and feed are to be picked up and placed in the appropriate areas or removed from farm as designated by local farm management.
- 3) All feed, equipment and personal tools are the responsibility of the individual member. Private owned tools and equipment are the total responsibility of the individual and not covered under the University of California insurance policy.

PENS

- 1) Farm request for animal pen ***must be submitted in writing*** by the member. Approval is subject to space availability, project leader approval, parent and members signature and final approval by the County Farm Management Committee.
- 2) Pen allocations will be given priority to farm club members and then to other club's members.
- 3) Animals ***may not*** be placed on farm until rules are signed and monthly fees are paid.

Countywide recommended fees are per animal, per month:

STEER	\$8.00
SHEEP	\$5.00
GOAT	\$5.00
POULTRY	\$.50
RABBIT	\$.50
SWINE	\$5.00
GARDEN SPACE	\$2.00

Individual farms may raise the fees as necessary to cover the cost of electricity, water, maintenance, etc. The fees are determined by each farm and approved by the Farm Management Committee.

Offspring of breeding animals will be assessed pen fees 90 days after birth.

BREEDING ANIMALS

- 1) Market animals take precedence over breeding animals.
- 2) Exception from rule #1 may be made if space is available and member shows ability to manage project animal with approval of County Farm Management Committee.
- 3) Offspring of breeding animals must be used as market animals or sold by the end of August if shown at county fair. An exception may be made to keep one of the offspring as a breeding animal.

CLEAN-UP/WORK DAY

- 1) Members and parents are expected to participate in scheduled farm clean-up, farm fundraising and encouraged to assist in farm repairs.
- 2) Members who use more than one farm will be expected to participate in each farms clean-up days, follow farm rules and participate in farm fundraising.

❖ Members not following rules will be subject to removal from farms. Farm manager will give one verbal warning to member and parent. Second warning shall be written to member and parent all three (3) parties must sign warning and a written copy submitted to County Farm Management Committee.

If not resolved within 1 week of signed acknowledgement, member will be subject to removal from farm.

- ❖ In the event there is a dispute, members may present their cause for discussion before the county Farm Management Committee for review/discussion. This committee will make the final decision.
- ❖ In addition to these rules, all other 4-H rules such as the Code of Conduct, County Policies, and Club specific rules apply.
- ❖ Being a part of the 4-H Farms is a privilege. San Mateo County 4-H is proud to offer a program that allows urban youth to raise livestock. Please respect all county and local farm rules to be a part of the 4-H Farm experience.



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4-H Member Name _____

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND AGREE TO COMPLY WITH STATE, COUNTY, & LOCAL CLUB FARM RULES.

MEMBER SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Farm Management Use:	
Date Received	_____
Received by	_____

S:\4-H\farms\sm co. farm rules
Revised 1/23/2009