

Chautauqua County 4-H

Beef Project Rules

2024-2025



...so much more than the showing

chautcobeeffprogram@gmail.com

Chautauqua County 4-H Beef Project

2024-2025

Goal: The goal of the Chautauqua County 4H Beef Project is to educate our participants on the proper, ethical treatment of beef cattle, so that they learn about the beef cattle industry and are able to raise a steer with a quality carcass as well as learn about the female production side of the cattle industry.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION

1. Registration papers for both steers and heifers must be turned into the 4-H Office no later than the close of business on October 31, 2024. No registration papers will be accepted after October 31, 2024 for the 2024-2025 project year, with the exception of a senior participant's spring heifer registration.

2. All steer calves must be born on or after January 1, 2024. Heifer calves should be born between January 1, 2024 and May 31, 2024.

3. First Year Participants may register only one steer **or** one heifer.

Junior Participants can register two steers and up to three yearling heifers, but only one heifer can be vouchered to bring to Fair.

Senior steer participants may register two steers in the project. Senior heifer participants may register up to three yearling heifers but will only be allowed to voucher two yearling heifers to bring to Fair (which possibly includes one spring purchased heifer).

Heifers

1. The heifer project is considered a one year project.

2. Heifer Spring Registration: Senior participants (ages 14 and older as of 1/1/25) may register one new yearling heifer purchased no later than May 1 of the current project year. This heifer will be one of two yearling heifers allowed to be vouchered for the Fair.

Although not mandatory, the committee encourages each heifer participant to bring their yearling heifers back the following year with a calf by their side.

2a. Once a spring registered heifer is purchased, the participant must contact the Chairperson of the Beef Committee who, along with another committee member, will visit the heifer to verify its ID, date of birth and BVD and rabies certificates.

WEIGHING & TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

1. A mandatory tagging of all steers will be held in early November of the project year.
2. All steers must have a Federal ID tag attached before coming to County Fair or any cattle shows.
3. All steers will receive a project tag in early November from committee members.
4. All heifers must have a Federal ID tag confirmed by a committee member.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

1. All steers must produce a negative BVD certificate at tagging day. Heifers registered in the project must produce a negative BVD certificate at the first barn visit along with a verification of a federal ID tag. **If purchasing a steer or heifer from another state, it needs official identification (RFID 840 tag or state tag) and an interstate certificate of Veterinary Inspection at the minimum. Use [www. interstatelivestock.com](http://www.interstatelivestock.com) to determine if any additional regulations must be met.**
2. All animals must have official identification (Federal ID tag/840 tag) and an interstate CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection) when unloading at County Fair or the Classic Show.
3. The Beef Committee strongly recommends rabies and shipping fever vaccinations be given to the animals prior to tagging day.
4. All steers must be castrated and dehorned by the tagging date. Castration must only be done by banding or surgical removal. No nose rings will be allowed.
5. Implants are strictly prohibited.

BARN VISITS

1. Mandatory barn visits for first and second year participants will be made twice yearly by committee members at a mutually agreed upon time. Third year and above participants will receive barn visits if the committee deems them necessary for the proper finishing of the calves for Fair or if the participant and their family request them.
2. Participants and their family may request a barn visit at any time for any reason by calling their barn advisor or any member of the beef committee.

MEETING AND PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION

1. There will be educational meetings offered during the project year. Participants must be physically present for their required meetings and sign in and out in their own handwriting at meetings. All first year and Junior participants must be present for 3 of the educational meetings. Seniors (14 and older as of 1/1/25) must be present for 2 of the meetings.
2. If a participant attends a clinic on a beef related subject that is not being offered by the Chautauqua County 4-H Beef Project, they must get proof of attendance and/or participation from the presenters. When proof is verified, then the clinic will count as one meeting requirement.
3. Expense sheets for steer only participants are mandatory and due to the **chautcobeeffprogram@gmail.com** account no later than the 15th of each month from November through August. Each participant will be emailed a file to use to make management of their steer's progress easy.
4. Heifer Participants are not required to turn in monthly expense sheets. They are only required to complete a heifer project record and turn it in for final project completion by September 15 of the current project year.
5. Failure to turn in 2 expense sheets will result in a warning letter/email. If expense sheets have not been turned in for 3 or more months, the beef committee will refer that participant to the 4-H Program Committee for a decision on a possible consequence.

OPTING OUT OF MEETINGS

An opt out track is available for senior participants who are attending college and allows the participant to opt out of mandatory meeting attendance and still be able to show their animals at County Fair.

1. Participants must submit a letter of their intent to opt out of meetings to the Beef Committee no later than October 31st of the current project year.
2. Opt out candidates must have successfully completed three years in the beef project with either a heifer or steer.
3. Participation into the opt out track is at the discretion of the 4-H Beef Committee.

EVALUATION FOR COUNTY FAIR

1. Per Chautauqua County Fair Board mandate, all cattle coming to County Fair must be evaluated for control. This is mandatory and non-negotiable.
2. If a participant or their family feels that their animal cannot be controlled on a lead, the 4-H Beef Committee recommends that the animal not be brought to County Fair for the safety of the participant and fairgoers.
3. If the participant does bring the animal to Fair and the animal is not able to be controlled on a lead, the Beef Committee will contact the 4-H Program Committee and the 4-H Program Leader and recommend that the animal go home immediately for safety reasons.
4. Any animal that comes and shows at the Classic Show in May and can be controlled and handled on a lead will need no further evaluation.

WHITE RIBBON RULE (STEERS ONLY)

1. All market species brought to County Fair to sell are expected to be high quality meat animals. This insures that the buyer (who pays a premium price) receives the highest quality meat from your animal.
2. Per Meat Animal Sale Committee Ruling: Any participant receiving a white ribbon on the animal they will be selling the in the Meat Animal Sale, will receive a warning for their first offense. The participant and their family will be required to meet with the Meat Animal Sale Committee and the respective animal project committee to discuss better methods for raising an animal that is properly finished for slaughter.
3. If the participant receives a second white ribbon at any time in the future on a beef steer that will be sold in the Meat Animal Sale, that animal will not be eligible to sell in the Meat Animal Sale. That animal can be sold private treaty at the conclusion of the Meat Animal Sale.

UNTIMELY TERMINATION OF AN ANIMAL

If a steer or heifer registered in the project is terminated for any reason before County Fair, a letter of explanation must be turned in with that steer's/heifer's final records (up to the point of termination) in order for the participant to be able to participate in the beef project the following year. The participant must also notify the chairperson of the Beef committee of the termination as soon as possible.

COUNTY FAIR

1. All animals that are entered in the 4-H Beef Project, and are at Fair, must show in all their respective showmanship, market and breeding classes.
2. Only a judge can excuse a participant from any class.
3. An updated list of barn rules will be distributed closer to County Fair time.

FINAL RECORDS

1. Final Records for the steer that sold in the Meat Animal Sale and/or heifers that were shown in 4-H showmanship at County Fair are due to the 4-H Office no later than September 15 of the current project year. They may be turned in "late" no later than September 30 but will only be eligible for a red ribbon.

2. **Steer Final Records** must include:

**** All pages from the expense sheet file** (summary sheet, monthly expense sheets, line graph, etc.)

**** On the summary sheet include the true value/purchase price of your steer**, the amount of money it sold for at the Sale and all other monetary awards such as premiums from the Open Show. If you're reading this sentence, contact Jan for a surprise.

**** All receipts** for the project year, including:

-- the receipt for the purchase of your calves

-- all receipts or copies for grain, hay, vet bill, hoof trimming, trucking, equipment purchases.

**** Copies of all thank you notes for awards received and for the buyer of your steer.**

An automatic white ribbon will be given if no thank you notes are included in the final record.

3. **Heifer Project Records:** The Heifer project record must be completed with up to date information and turned in each year

**** Use the heifer that was shown in Showmanship at County Fair for your records.**

**** copies of all awards and thank you notes must be included in the final records**

**** all receipts for the project year must be included, the same as the requirements of the steer records**

PROJECT CHAMPION

1. Project Champion is an award that is given to the participant with the highest point total at the end of the project year. There will be two Project Champions: one for steers and one for yearling heifers.

a. Points will be given to both steers and heifers if participants are enrolled in both.

2. No points are given for barn visits. Points are only taken on the steer that was sold in the Meat Animal Sale and/or the highest placing heifer shown at our Fair.

3. Points are as follows:

** Each meeting or clinic attended = 20 points.

** Arriving early or leaving late by approximately 20 minutes = 10 points.

** Monthly expense sheets = 10 points if on time. No points if late.

** Major Barn Workday = 200 points, pro-rated for the time worked

** Steer and Heifer Showmanship Classes: Grand Champion = 200 points, Reserve Champion = 150 points. Showmanship class individual points: Class/Heat Champion = 100 points, Class/Heat Reserve Champion = 90 points. All other placings will receive 50 points. If there is more than one heat in a class, each heat will be judged separately.

** Market Steer Class: Grand Champion = 200 points, Reserve Champion = 100 points, Third Overall = 75 points, Fourth Overall = 50 points, and Fifth Overall = 25 points. All other steers: Blue Ribbon = 20 points, Red Ribbon = 10 points, White Ribbon = 5 points.

** Heifer Classes: Supreme Female = 200 points, Reserve Female = 100 points. Class Champion = 75 points, Class Reserve Champion = 50 points, All Other placings = 25 points.

** Presentations: All presentations must be judged on a 4H judging scoresheet and that sheet given to the committee to receive the points. Participants will receive 100 points for a presentation in either steer and/or heifer categories. Consideration will be given any participant who gives a public presentation on any topic to allow for those participants to meet the requirements of other programs and expand the subject matter of other topics.

a. Any participant that conducts a beef meeting or a clinic will receive 100 points.

** Fundraisers: 100 points if participating in the fundraiser.

** Classic Show: Attending but not showing = 25 points, attending and showing either a steer and/or a heifer = 100 points

** Final Records: Purple ribbon = 125 points, Blue ribbon = 100 points, red ribbon = 75 points, white ribbon = 50 points.

PROJECT COMPLETION

The Heifer and Steer parts of the 4H Beef Program will be considered complete when:

1. Monthly expense sheets for steers have been turned in according to the rules.
2. Meeting attendance requirements are met.
3. Final records have been turned in on time.
4. All rules and regulations have been met satisfactorily according to the Beef Committee.
5. If any or all of the above have not been met, the participant may be barred from the beef project the following year pursuant to the 4-H Policy book.

4-H Beef Committee

Dave Schauman	716-487-9650
Jan Schauman	716-499-8363
Julie Covert	716-499-9173
Holly Griffith	716-397-0475
Corey Schauman	716-485-1743
Mike Carpenter	716-485-1703