

Procedure for Reporting Excessive Adult Involvement

Please use common sense in all situations. Know the whole story and do not make assumptions about what is going on in the incidents you are observing. For example, excessive adult involvement does not include a parent holding an animal for the next class when the member is in the ring showing another animal or when a parent is helping lead a steer to tie-outs. Examples of excessive adult involvement include a parent cleaning a pen or a professional fitter grooming an animal.

At the time of the incident, the **4-H/FFA member or adult** needs to:

A) Contact the Division Chairperson and discuss the incident they observed. The Division Chairperson will then visit with Roni Baker, Extension Agent and/or Department A superintendent(s) about the incident.

OR

B) Contact Roni Baker, Extension Agent, and discuss the incident they observed. This can be done through the 4-H Office in the Expo Center. Roni will then visit with the Division Chairperson in that species and/or Department A superintendent(s).

OR

C) Contact Department A Superintendent(s), and discuss the incident they observed. This can be done through the 4-H Office in the Expo Center. Superintendent(s) will then visit with the Division Chairperson in that species and/or Roni Baker.

First Infraction

The youth and adult need to talk to the person(s) involved in the infraction. The Division Chairperson needs to write up information about the incident as reported, time, date, species, witnesses etc. This document will be filed in the fair Livestock Office. The incident will be investigated. The people involved (member(s), adults, leader(s), witnesses, Division Chairperson(s), Superintendent(s)) will discuss the incident.

Second Infraction

A written warning will be given to the person(s) involved – either youth or adult. Depending on the seriousness of the infraction, the fair livestock committee can determine the extent of the consequences for the second infraction. Consequences can include just a warning, no participation in the sale, loss of premiums, adults will be expelled from the barn for the remainder of the fair, etc. The letter from the 2nd infraction must include two signatures. One signature from the Extension Agent and one from a livestock committee chairman or superintendent.

Third Infraction

If a third infraction occurs, the consequences for the adult(s) and youth may be serious and have a lasting effect. Consequences may include expulsion, loss of sale proceeds, losing the option to sell at the fair, expulsion from future fairs or any other consequence determined by the committee.

The fair livestock committee will consist of the 4-H Extension Agent, Department A Superintendent(s), Division Chairpersons, Jr. Chairs and the Sale Committee president.

“Just do the Right Thing”

- ❖ Life skills such as responsibility, self-discipline, concern for others, marketable skills, planning/organizing, goal setting, problem solving and leadership are taught when youth clean the pen, feed the project animal, water the project animal and exercise the project animal.
- ❖ Adults need to help youth before the fair to groom, clip and prepare. Adults should not do the members work at the fair. This includes cleaning stalls and preparing animals for the show.
- ❖ Adult involvement in youth livestock projects is good, but youth exhibitors still need to do the majority of the work.
- ❖ Advice and encouragement are acceptable and appropriate roles for adults in youth livestock shows.
- ❖ If youth livestock exhibitors make a mistake while clipping or grooming an animal – that is how they learn.
- ❖ Professional fitters will be welcome at youth livestock shows if: 1) they follow all rules at a livestock show 2) they teach and coach young people and not do their work for them 3) they help everyone from their club or community, not just the people paying for their services. In this way, they are a true volunteer.