



Righetti FFA Livestock Exhibitor Guidelines and Contract 2026-2027



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Rules and Responsibilities

Student Expectations

As members of the Righetti FFA Livestock Show Team, students will conduct themselves in a way that brings pride to our team:

- **Animal care:** Gain prior approval before purchasing a project; provide daily care, adequate feed, clean water, shelter, bedding, ventilation, sanitation, exercise or training, and prompt attention to illness or injury; monitor health and behavior; and report illness, injury, unusual behavior, unsafe conditions, suspected neglect or abuse, escape, or unauthorized treatment immediately to an Advisor.
- Treat and handle animals ethically, calmly, safely, and humanely using species-appropriate equipment and techniques.
- **Attendance:** Attend at least three FFA monthly meetings per semester, the FFA Awards Banquet in May, all species meetings, required weight and health checks, fair planning meetings, and scheduled barn setup and cleanup.
- Attend and arrive on time for all required meetings, barn duties, feedings, clinics, and other Advisor-designated responsibilities.
- **Fair week:** Be present for the entire fair week, including setup and breakdown; remain in designated areas; and leave only when dismissed or given permission by an Advisor.
- Submit DNA, entry forms, registration paperwork, and other required documents accurately and by the stated deadlines; read and follow all Santa Barbara County Fair Livestock Show rules and regulations.
- Follow all school, district, FFA, fair, veterinary, and Advisor instructions and remain eligible under applicable attendance, academic, discipline, and extracurricular-activity rules.
- **Conduct and safety:** Follow instructions from Advisors, fair employees, judges, and officials; refrain from profanity, arguing, harassment, threats, aggressive behavior, and horseplay; and maintain safe, clean, and sanitary barns, trailers, pens, and work areas.
- Work cooperatively with team members and Advisors before, during, and after shows, and assist fellow exhibitors and Righetti FFA projects as requested.
- Complete at least three hours of work on Righetti FFA projects at the Mark Richardson's CTE Center and assist with at least three Righetti FFA fundraising opportunities.
- Meet all required barn-duty responsibilities and keep pens and work areas clean throughout events.
- During the Santa Barbara County Fair Jr. Livestock Show, follow the schedule and remain where directed by Advisors unless permission to leave is granted.
- Wear appropriate clothing while representing Righetti FFA and required show clothing, including official FFA dress, pressed white jeans, a white collared shirt, and boots or leather shoes rather than tennis shoes.
- Display a positive attitude and good sportsmanship whenever representing Righetti FFA, including at shows outside designated school shows.
- Students are responsible for the daily care and monitoring of their animals; Advisors may deny participation when an animal is underweight, underfed, unhealthy, unsafe to show, or otherwise in condition that diminishes its welfare or brings discredit to the organization.
- Students who attend livestock shows outside designated school shows still represent Righetti FFA and must follow all school, FFA, fair, and team guidelines.
- Animals may be clipped only during Advisor-scheduled or otherwise approved supervised times; arrange an alternate time with an Advisor if needed.
- During fair, do not leave feed or water buckets in pens during non-feeding times unless directed by an Advisor.

- Respect Advisors' immediate decisions for safety, supervision, animal care, and event management; raise concerns through the Conflict Resolution Process rather than arguing or refusing to comply.
- Sign the Livestock Exhibitor Contract each year with a parent or guardian and Advisor, and understand that failure to follow these rules may result in demerits, loss of show or sale privileges, disqualification, or removal from the Show Team.
- Maintain current AET records, budgets, business agreements, journals, financial entries, and other required records by the stated deadlines.
- Communicate promptly with Advisors about absences, transportation problems, schedule conflicts, illness, injury, animal-health concerns, or circumstances affecting participation.

Parent Responsibilities

To help promote teamwork, good showmanship, and success, your assistance as a parent of the livestock show team is very important and valued. Please help us by following these guidelines:

- Review livestock exhibitor guidelines, requirements, and contract with your child.
- Ensure your child accurately completes and turns in all registration paperwork and other required forms on time to Righetti FFA and the Santa Barbara County Fair Livestock office.
- Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and profanity at all FFA-related events.
- Support the decisions and instructions given by FFA advisors, show judges, and other officials at all FFA and livestock events.
- Provide positive support for your child and the entire FFA livestock team.
- Ensure that your student is on time for all required meetings and that they follow all show team contract guidelines.
- Communicate promptly with Advisors regarding attendance, transportation, animal health, family circumstances, or other concerns that may affect the student's participation.
- Support safe, ethical, and humane treatment of all animals.

Advisor Expectations

As your Advisors, we are dedicated to your success, the success of the livestock team, and the welfare of the animals that represent our team. As your Advisors, we will:

- Lead the selection and purchasing process for student animal projects.
- Require prior approval of all show projects before purchasing.
- Provide advice on feeding, grooming, equipment, and other necessary purchases.
- Provide instruction and recommendations to help students properly groom animals for show, train their animals prior to show, learn animal anatomy and facts necessary for showmanship, and exhibit their animals successfully in the show ring.
- Provide students with entry forms for all school-sponsored livestock shows.
- Provide transportation for livestock to and from fair when needed.
- Ensure that all students who are competing have followed the rules and guidelines set forth in this contract.
- Communicate important dates, meetings, deadlines, and schedule changes through the designated communication methods described in the Communication Expectations section.
- Provide reasonable guidance regarding project budgets, record keeping, animal care, and marketing.
- Maintain confidentiality regarding student and family information to the extent permitted by school policy and law.
- The Righetti FFA Advisors reserve the right to refuse to sign fair entries if fair requirements are not met.
- The Righetti FFA Advisors also reserve the right to dismiss any student from the Livestock Show Team based on eligibility, behavior, or improper care of animals.

Social Media & Technology Guidelines

Students and parents represent Righetti FFA when attending livestock activities, fairs, shows, meetings, clinics, and other FFA-related events. Technology and social media use must reflect school rules, FFA expectations, animal welfare standards, and respect for others.

- Use social media in a respectful, accurate, and professional manner when referring to Righetti FFA, team members, Advisors, families, judges, show officials, buyers, and other organizations.
- Do not post, share, or send content that is threatening, harassing, discriminatory, profane, sexually explicit, misleading, confidential, or intended to embarrass or harm another person.
- Obtain permission before posting photographs or videos that clearly identify other students, families, volunteers, or visitors, unless shared through an approved school or FFA account.
- Photographs and videos of animals must show safe, humane handling and may not glorify rough handling, neglect, abuse, or violations of show rules.
- Use cell phones only during times and in locations approved by an Advisor; phones must be silenced and put away during meetings, barn duties, feedings, clinics, official instructions, and show-ring activities unless approved for team use.
- Violations may result in removal of content when possible, loss of technology privileges, parent contact, removal from an event, dismissal from the Show Team, or other school consequences.

Animal Welfare and Ethical Treatment

Animal welfare is the highest priority of the Righetti FFA Livestock Show Team. Ethical treatment means providing care and handling that protect an animal's health, safety, comfort, and dignity, including appropriate nutrition, clean water, suitable housing, sanitation, exercise or training, and prompt attention to illness or injury.

- Provide adequate feed, clean water, shelter, bedding, ventilation, and sanitation.
- Handle animals calmly with species-appropriate equipment and techniques.
- Use grooming, fitting, training, and showing practices that are safe, humane, and permitted by show rules.
- Never use excessive force, striking, kicking, dragging, choking, frightening, unauthorized substances, or practices that intentionally injure or improperly alter an animal.
- Immediately report sickness, injury, lameness, distress, unusual behavior, unsafe conditions, escape, suspected abuse or neglect, or possible unauthorized treatment.
- First contact the species Advisor or supervising Advisor; if unavailable, contact another Righetti FFA Advisor using the event emergency information, and notify fair staff or a veterinarian when directed.
- Do not conceal problems, delay reporting, self-administer medication without authorization, or dispose of evidence related to a welfare concern.

Neglect, abuse, abandonment, intentional injury, failure to provide required care, concealment of serious health problems, prohibited substances, or serious safety violations may result in immediate removal of the animal, disqualification, loss of show or sale privileges, demerits, removal from the Show Team, school consequences, parent notification, or referral to fair, animal-control, or law-enforcement authorities when required. Consequences will follow applicable school, district, fair, and legal requirements.

Communication Expectations

Clear and timely communication is necessary for student safety, animal welfare, deadlines, and successful participation.

- Advisors will use designated school or FFA communication methods, which may include school or parent/student email, an approved messaging platform, the Righetti FFA website, written notices, meetings, or direct communication.
- Students and parents must check designated communication channels regularly and share important information with one another.
- Routine messages should generally be acknowledged within one school day when a response is requested; Advisors will make reasonable efforts to respond within two school days during the school week, though response times may be longer during evenings, weekends, holidays, fair week, or other high-demand periods.
- Urgent animal-health or safety concerns must be reported immediately to the species or supervising Advisor using the emergency contact information for the activity; do not wait for a routine response or use social media direct messages as the primary official method.
- Communication must remain respectful, professional, and consistent with school, district, and FFA expectations, including when reporting concerns or requesting assistance.

Conflict Resolution Process

Righetti FFA is committed to addressing concerns fairly, respectfully, and promptly while maintaining immediate authority for safety, supervision, animal welfare, and event operations.

1. Address the concern first with the species Advisor or Advisor directly involved, identifying the specific rule, decision, communication, or event at issue and sharing relevant information. Parents may participate in significant eligibility, welfare, disciplinary, or financial matters.
2. If unresolved, submit a factual written explanation to the Lead FFA Advisor with the date, people involved, relevant documents, and requested resolution. The Advisors will review the concern, applicable contract, school and fair rules, and available information, and may meet with the student and parent or guardian before responding.
3. Administrative review: For dismissal, disqualification, loss of show or sale privileges, or an unresolved decision after Advisor review, the student or parent may request review by the appropriate Righetti High School or district administrator under applicable procedures.
4. Deadlines and immediate decisions: Submit review or appeal requests as soon as possible and within the deadline in the written decision or applicable policy. Decisions needed immediately for animal welfare, safety, supervision, or fair compliance remain effective while review is pending.
5. No retaliation: Students and parents may raise concerns in good faith without retaliation. Retaliation, harassment, public accusations, threats, or disruption of FFA activities is prohibited and may result in additional consequences.

Concerns should be directed to the appropriate species Advisor first, then the Lead FFA Advisor, and, when necessary, the appropriate school or district administrator. Fair-specific matters may also need to be directed to the Santa Barbara County Fair Livestock Office.

Consequences for Breaking Livestock Exhibitor Contract Rules

Failure to comply with the Livestock Exhibitor Rules at any time may result in a Righetti Show Team demerit for each offense. An accumulation of three or more demerits in a year will result in a student losing the privilege to show at the next fair, which may include the current fair if applicable. The student will also be responsible for completing an assigned task determined by an Advisor to regain the privilege of being part of the Righetti FFA Show Team.

Depending on the seriousness of the conduct, consequences may include:

- Parent or guardian contact.
- A conference with the student, parent or guardian, and Advisors.
- Corrective instruction, service, or an assigned responsibility.
- Loss of participation in a meeting, activity, clinic, show, or fair.
- Removal from the facility or event.
- Loss of show and/or sale privileges.
- Disqualification or refusal to sign fair entries.
- Removal from the Livestock Show Team.
- Referral to school administration or appropriate authorities.

Righetti FFA Livestock Exhibitor Requirements

AET Online Record Books

- **Current Members:** The current and previous year's AET Record Book SAE must be up to date and current.
- **New Members:** An AET Record Book SAE must be created and kept up to date.
- AET Record Books will be checked monthly during livestock meetings.
- Failure to keep the Record Book up to date will result in a demerit.
- Required budgets, business agreements, journals, financial entries, and other records must be completed by the deadlines stated in this contract or communicated by the Advisor.

Buyers Letters

- Members must write a letter to at least five potential buyers.
- Letters must be submitted for review to the agriculture teacher by June 1, 2027.
- Completed letters must be submitted in addressed, unsealed envelopes.
- Letters will be mailed from RHS.
- Students must complete required buyer thank-you cards and other buyer communications according to Advisor and fair deadlines.
- All thank-you cards must be proofread by the Advisors before the end of fair and mailed after addresses have been released by the Santa Barbara County Fair Livestock Office.

Academics

- In order to be eligible to exhibit, the member must maintain a minimum non-weighted grade point average of 2.0 in all courses.
- Eligibility will be checked prior to the fair.
- Members must have a minimum of a C- in all agriculture classes.
- Students must remain eligible under applicable school, district, and extracurricular-activity rules.

Banquet Attendance

- The Annual Awards Banquet is prepared by the current-year FFA Officer Team. The purpose is to recognize the outstanding efforts of our members for their involvement throughout the year. It is an enjoyable evening.

All livestock exhibitors are required to attend and be in Official FFA Uniform.

Wednesday, May 12, 2027, at 5:30 p.m. in the RHS Gym

Animal Care

These are student projects, and it is expected that the student will be solely responsible for the care of the project.

During the fair, the student will:

- Clean the pen a minimum of once per day.
- Feed the animal twice per day according to feeding times set forth in the premium book.
- Provide clean water and monitor the animal's health and behavior.
- Report illness, injury, or unusual behavior immediately to an Advisor.
- Follow all animal-welfare, fair, veterinary, and Advisor instructions.

Failure to provide required care will result in the animal being removed from the fair and forfeiture of the privilege to exhibit at the fair in future years. Additional consequences may apply under the Animal Welfare and Consequences sections of this contract.

Fair Checks

- Fair checks will be available in early September 2027, subject to the schedule and procedures of the Santa Barbara County Fair, school district, and applicable program requirements.
- The AET Record Book must be updated and completed upon the return to school in August. All required thank-you cards must be proofread by the Advisors prior to the end of fair and mailed after addresses have been released by the Santa Barbara County Fair Livestock Office.
- Advisors reserve the right to hold fair checks for students who fail to comply with applicable rules, requirements, documentation, or post-fair responsibilities, to the extent permitted by school, district, fair, and legal requirements.

FFA Participation

- Participation in FFA activities is expected. Exhibitors should be attending all monthly meetings and livestock meetings.
- A student exhibiting a market animal at the fair will benefit from hands-on, practical learning experiences. Students will be able to apply classroom instruction in a real-world situation involving record keeping, animal health and nutrition, fitting and showing, and marketing techniques.

CTE Farm Facility Use

Students with livestock projects have the option to house their animals at the district CTE Farm.

- All students must be approved to show with Righetti FFA prior to using the facility.
- Exhibitors must abide by the CTE Farm Livestock Facility Contract along with the Righetti FFA Fair Livestock Show Team Contract.
- CTE Facility use will begin after the MRC Barn Meetings held at the CTE Farm.
- Students and families must follow all facility, animal-welfare, supervision, access, sanitation, safety, and communication requirements.
- Facility access may be suspended or revoked for safety concerns, animal-welfare concerns, misuse of facilities, failure to follow instructions, or violation of the CTE Farm Livestock Facility Contract.

AET Online Record Book Deadlines

The following items must be completed in the AET Online Record Book by February 19, 2027:

- Completed and signed business agreement for all species listed above.
- Completed budgets for all species listed above.
- Beef projects: updated journal and financial entries. AET Record Books should be started by November 1, 2026.
- Any additional records required by the livestock Advisor.

The Righetti FFA Advisors reserve the right to refuse to sign fair entries if fair requirements are not met.

Righetti FFA Livestock Exhibitor Agreement 2026-2027

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Years Shown: _____

Phone Number: _____ Student Number: _____

Livestock Species Requested for SBCF 2027 - Circle one: *(One contract per species)*

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ☐ Swine | ☐ Steer | ☐ Turkey |
| ☐ Sheep | ☐ Heifer | ☐ Chickens |
| ☐ Goat | ☐ Rabbits | |

Project Housing Location: *(Circle one and provide the address)*

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ☐ CTE Center | ☐ Home | ☐ Other |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Grade Check- The student listed on this contract has maintained a non-weighted GPA equal to or greater than 2.0.

Counselor Signature: _____ GPA: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Portion

Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

As a parent or guardian of this applicant, will you support this project? ____ Yes ____ No

Who will be responsible for the applicant's travel arrangements to the CTE Farm, livestock clinics, fairs, and shows?

Student Acknowledgment

I, the student, have read, understood, and agree to all the rules in the Righetti FFA Livestock Requirements document and Fair Livestock Show Team Contract. I understand that:

- I am solely responsible for the daily care, feeding, and welfare of my project animal.
- Failure to meet these requirements may result in being ineligible to exhibit or sell a market animal at the Santa Barbara County Fair for the current year and possibly subsequent years.
- Animal welfare, school eligibility, respectful conduct, timely communication, and compliance with fair rules are required for participation.
- Advisors reserve the right to hold fair checks for students who fail to comply with applicable rules.

Parent or Guardian Acknowledgment

I, the parent or guardian, have read, understood, and agree to support all the rules in the Righetti FFA Livestock Requirements document and Fair Livestock Show Team Contract. I understand that:

- This is a student project and my role is to support and supervise, not take over responsibility for daily animal care.
- I am financially responsible for all project costs including purchase, feed, supplies, veterinary care, and entry fees.
- Sale proceeds may not cover all project costs, and I am responsible for any outstanding balances.
- My student must meet all contract requirements to maintain eligibility to show and sell.
- I will ensure timely communication with Advisors regarding any concerns affecting my student's participation.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contract Submission Deadlines

Sign and return this page to your Livestock Advisor by **February 5, 2027**.

Beef projects: Must return the signed contract by **December 1, 2026**.

By signing, the student and parent or guardian acknowledge that they have received, reviewed, and agree to follow this contract, the applicable school and district policies, Santa Barbara County Fair rules, the CTE Farm Livestock Facility Contract when applicable, and all instructions provided by Righetti FFA Advisors.

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