Hamlin County 4-H

Achievement Days

**August 4-7, 2025**



Contact & Resource Information

**Hamlin Co. Extension Office Contact Information**

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Hamlin County Extension Office

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**Website References:**

4-H Online: https:/v2.4honline.com/

Hamlin County Entry*:* <https://fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/22034>

State Fair Entry:

State Horse Show:  <https://fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/21616>

County Horse Show: <https://fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/22035>

State Dog Show:

Hamlin County 4-H Website: <https://hamlincounty4-h.godaddysites.com/>

SDSU Extension: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/>

4-H State Fair Book: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/sites/default/files/2025-04/MC-03745-v2.pdf>

South Dakota State Fair: [www.sdstatefair.com](http://www.sdstatefair.com)

**All Yellow Highlighted information is new information/changes for 2025**

**Changes to the 2025 SD State Fair 4-H Book**

Below are changes that can be found on pages 5, 6 and 7 that are changes made from the 2024 South Dakota State Fair 4-H Livestock shows to 2025 shows.

* Tack stalls in the DEX will be available for $90/tack stall upon online entry. Only one tack stall per family is allowed.
* All market animals in Market Beef, Market Goat, Market Sheep and Market Swine intended for 4-H competition at the South Dakota State Fair are required to submit DNA samples. A DNA sample must be self-identified and submitted to the County Extension Office by June 1 of the current year for State Fair eligibility.
* All Market Animals, Breeding Swine, and Commercial and Wether Dam Goats that are shown by weight must declare a weight and turn them into the show officials during check-in. Once a weight has been submitted, the weight cannot be changed. Scales will be available to weigh the animal prior to declaring the weight. Weigh-backs will occur immediately after the class for the top 3 purple ribbon animals in each class. The animal must weigh within 5% of their declared weight or they will be immediately excused from the show and will not be eligible for awards.
* The State Livestock Skill-A-Thon contest will take place at the 2025 State Fair on Wednesday, Aug. 27 at 6:00 p.m.
* Livestock trailer parking is available at Huron Continental Marketing located west of Huron at 39763 US Hwy 14, or at the Heartland 4-H Rodeo Grounds located east of Huron at 2125 US Hwy 14.
* Beef
	+ Cattle can move in to the DEX beginning Wednesday, August 27.
	+ The beef showmanship contest will take place on Monday, September 1, 2025.
	+ Qualifying beef exhibitors may sign up on FairEntry for Bred and Owned recognition at the State Fair.
	+ Consult the State Fair DEX rules for barn rules specific to the DEX.
	+ Tack stalls will be available for $90/tack stall.
* Dairy Cattle
	+ Dairy Cattle check-ins will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 28 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
	+ Dairy Cattle exhibitors have the option to wear their exhibitor t-shirt provided by South Dakota 4-H.
	+ Dairy Cattle exhibitors can wear white or black pants.
* Dairy Goat
	+ Dairy goat check-ins will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
	+ Dairy goat show will take place on Thursday, Aug. 28 beginning at 8:30 a.m. with showmanship to follow.
* Meat Goats
	+ Only registered does must be present at check in to verify tattoos and tags.
	+ Commercial breeding does will show by weight, with a minimum weight of 45 pounds.
	+ There will be no market doe division. Market does should be shown in the Wether Dam/Slicked Doe division and do not need to submit a DNA sample.
	+ Meat goats can be shown with a collar or halter and may be braced. All four legs must remain on the ground when bracing.
	+ All 4-H meat goat shows will take place on Thursday, Aug. 28 beginning at 8:30 a.m. with showmanship contests to follow.
	+ Meat goat check-ins will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the 4-H Livestock Complex.
	+ The Meat Goat show order will be as follows; Registered Does, Commercial Does, Registered/Commercial Showmanship, Wether Dams, Market Wethers, Wether Dam/Market Showmanship.
* Poultry
	+ Absolutely NO birds are allowed on the grounds that are not registered in the 4-H show.
	+ Once a bird is checked in, its class cannot be switched.
* Rabbit
	+ Substitution notifications must be provided to the 4-H Rabbit Committee Chairs by August 22, 2025 via email OR inperson during the question time at State Fair on August 29, 2025.
	+ 4-H rabbit event question time with advisors will take place Friday, Aug. 29 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
	+ Rabbit barn hours are 9:00 a.m.-8:00p.m. daily. The barn will open at 8:00 a.m. on show day.
	+ Each showmanship participant is required to provide their own carpet square.
	+ Moved Harlequin, Himalayan, and Lionhead breed lots to “Any Other 4 Class Purebred”
	+ Moved Flemish Giant and French Lop breed lots to “Any Other 6 Class Purebred”
	+ Removed Roasters and Stewers classes.
* Market Sheep
	+ Check-in will be Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
	+ All Market lambs must be present at check ins to be breed classified and checked for fungus.
	+ Market lambs should be fresh shorn within 7 days of arriving to the State Fair to assist the State Veterinarians in Club Lamb Fungus inspection.
	+ Once an entry card with declared weight has been submitted, both the exhibitor and a parent/guardian must sign the card confirming the weight entered before leaving the check-in table.
	+ Added Oxford breed lot.
* Breeding Sheep
	+ Check-in will be Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
	+ Breeding Sheep show will take place on Friday, Aug. 29 beginning with showmanship at 8:30 a.m.
	+ Added Dorper breed division to Breeding Sheep.
* Breeding Swine and Market Swine
	+ All purebred AND crossbred breeding and market swine will show by weight.
	+ Market swine must weigh between 230 and 300 pounds to qualify for any champion awards.
	+ Breeding swine must weigh between 200 and 350 pounds to qualify for any champion awards.
	+ All swine must have an ear notch entered on 4-H Online by June 1. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary actions.
	+ Exhibitors will indicate their intention to participate in showmanship at check-ins.
	+ Only one person is allowed with the youth and their animal in the staging area.
	+ Exhibitors will indicate their intension to participate in showmanship during check-in time.

**Hamlin County Information**

**Livestock Committee:**

Hamlin County 4-H Livestock Committee will provide guidance to the 4-H Leaders as it pertains to livestock exhibits/exhibitors. Committee members include Jill Opdahl, Kathryn Jurrens, Danielle Mikkelson, Becky Goens, Lacey Namken and Paula Grupe.

 “Livestock” is defined to include the following species: Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goats, Meat Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, and Swine.

**Livestock Registration Requirements:**

Animal breed registration papers must be uploaded at the time you register in Fair Entry. Deadline for Achievement Day registration is July 28th at 11:59 P.M. and State Fair registration is due August 12th at 11:59 P.M. Annual 4-H Youth Livestock Literacy (YLL) or YQCA program certification must be turned into the 4-H Office by July 1. Hamlin County Fair Entry will be available for entering exhibits for Achievement days between Saturday, June 1st and Monday July 28th. All livestock entries must be in Fair Entry during that time, if not all awards and premiums will be forfeited.

**DNA/Green Tags:**

If you intend to exhibit market sheep, market goat, market beef, or market swine at the South Dakota State Fair then you MUST submit a DNA collection to the Hamlin County Extension Office by June 1. This requirement was implemented by the State Fair office and there are no exceptions. Contact the Extension Office if you need DNA envelopes.

Market animals that do not have a Federal or NUES tag must be tagged with a 4-H NUES Green tag to be exhibited at the county level and at the State Fair.

**Livestock Integrity Pledge:**

The Livestock Integrity Pledge is needed in order to participate at both the county and state 4-H level. Each 4-H Livestock Exhibitor and parent need to read and sign the SD Livestock Integrity Pledge. This form is due to the Hamlin County Extension Office by July 1. Each 4-H member should have received a pledge form via email.

**Showmanship:**

We will have showmanship following the judging of the species classes. The order will be senior, junior, and then beginners. Showmanship will be the last class in the ring for each species. You will not be required to sign up for showmanship in Fair Entry for County Achievement Days, but it is required to sign up in Fair Entry for the State Fair.

**Health Certificate:**

**Health papers are required for all livestock.** Do not bring any livestock that has apparent health problems, as they will be sent home. Health papers can be made out to the SD State Fair. You can refer to the 2025 State Fair Book, page 17. Health certificates are only good for 30 days, so if you plan to go to State Fair, your animal may need a new Health Certificate depending on check in at the State Fair. Rabbits will be inspected by the Judge prior to the show for any contagious diseases and the rabbit will be sent home if any diseases are present.

***NOTE: If an exhibitor is showing multiple animal species, they will need a separate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) for each species (see page 17 of your State Fair book).***

**Livestock General Regulations:**

All 4-H rules listed in the 2025 State Fair Book will be followed (can be found starting on page 16). Please read it carefully. 4-H Exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at Achievement Days or State Fair.

***Only the 4-H Exhibitor, a member of the Exhibitor’s immediate family or 4-H Club Leader may perform fitting, blocking, or clipping on any 4-H animal exhibited at these 4-H events. The***

***4-H Exhibitor should be present while such fitting is performed.***

**Livestock Stalling and Check-In:**

Livestock stalling during the 2025 4-H Achievement Days will be assigned. Watch for signage when bringing in livestock on Tuesday, August 5 and Wednesday, August 6, as we will be stalling in clubs. Livestock may stall on Tuesday evening but will not be checked in until Wednesday morning from 8:00 am to 9:30 am. Any livestock not checked in on time will result in loss of premium and will not be eligible for an award, but you will be able to show. All 4-H members with livestock will have to fill out their own barn cards at Achievement Days. All livestock must have correct identification per species according to the South Dakota State 4-H book before Achievement Days.

Check-in will be at the species scales. Beef and dairy trailers will enter the middle main gate and unload in the Arena area and exit to the south. Sheep, Goats, and Swine will enter the east gate and unload by the scale at the swine barn. Milking dairy cattle will be allowed to come in between 8-9:30am on Thursday and leave after their show. Rabbits and Poultry must be checked in from 8 to 9:30 by the cages. All rabbits and poultry must be sexed before arrival of Achievement Days. You must be present to show your poultry. Eggs will be judged in the 4-H Auditorium during Static Judging on Tuesday night.

**Round Robin Showmanship:**

Following are the guidelines for the Round Robin Showmanship Contest, which will be held on Thursday.

* Senior champion and reserve showmanship winners will compete for the round robin showman in the following species (if that species has representation): beef, dairy, sheep, swine, dairy goat, meat goat and horse.
* Alternates in each species will be selected in case the champion or reserve does not want to compete or are representing more than one species. Judges will name the top 5+ seniors (what is needed to fill positions) during showmanship.
* All participants in the Round Robin contest will first be required to take a written species knowledge exam as part of the rotation. The result of the written exam will tally points the same as the showing.
* All participants in the Round Robin contest will be rotating to show each of the other species. Participants will be placed by each species’ judge from 1-4 placement and receive points accordingly (1st=5; 2nd=4; 3rd=3; 4th=2, and all other participants will receive 1 point for that species).
* ***The top Sr. Showmanship winners and the animal they won with will come back for Round Robin Showmanship.*** Each species will have a judge and the participants will rotate around to each. If needed, more than two pigs will be used if determined necessary. (ex. Extremely hot weather)
* If there is no representation in a species, that species will not be shown (ex. Dairy Goats).
* Participant’s animals must be present both Wednesday and Thursday of Achievement Days. All animals must be checked in by 9:30am on Wednesday and may not be released until after the Parade of Champions to be eligible to participate in the Round Robin Competition. The only exception to this rule is Horse and Milking Dairy.
* Each participant will automatically get the full 5 points for the species in which they represent in the Round Robin contest. In addition, that participant will not be showing the species they represent during the Round Robin contest.
* Each participant will be required to attend a short meeting prior to the written exam to review the rules of the contest.
* A tie-breaker will be determined by the participant that scored the highest in the showing portion of the contest and the second tie-breaker will go to the participant that scores the highest on the written portion of the contest.

**County Horse Show and Project Awards:**

With the Premium Auction happening on Thursday evening, the Parade of Champion awards will be moved to Recognition Event in November. Project exhibitors, County Horse Show grand and reserve champions, and top points winners will also be recognized.

**Herdsmanship Competition:**

Herdsmanship will be presented to the club with the best total herdsmanship. This is given to the club with the cleanest pens and alley, barn cards present, and equipment is tidy during the entire Achievement Days. This award will be presented at the Recognition Event.

**Livestock Release and Clean-Up:**

Livestock will not be released until Friday at 8:00 A.M., each youth must check in with the 4-H Advisor when arriving at the fairgrounds and check out to be dismissed when all clean-up is complete.

All stalls must be cleaned out before leaving or forfeit premiums/awards. Wood chips are preferable to straw in all barns. All panels need to be picked up, benches and cages need to be put away on Friday morning after the livestock are loaded. All families are needed for this!

**Volunteers:**

Volunteers are always needed to make this event great. Please consider volunteering when the sign-up is available.

Thank you to all the exhibitors, families, and volunteers that make this happen. We look forward to seeing you again at Achievement Days! Please call the office if you have any questions.

 *Hamlin County Livestock Committee*