**YOUTH LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS**

**For Virginia 4-H and FFA Members**

**COVID 19**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

* Will there be plenty of notice before rescheduling State Youth Livestock Events?
  + Yes, teams/youth need time to practice and we need time to plan and prepare, so as much notice as possible will be given once a new date has been determined.
* Should we continue entering teams/youth/cattle in postponed events?
  + No, we are not accepting entries for any of the postponed events, however entry systems are open with a postponement message.
  + Entry systems will reopen with a fresh start once contests can be rescheduled
* Have/will refunds be issued?
  + Yes, all Virginia Junior Beef Roundup entry fee refunds have been processed and those impacted contacted via email.
  + Youth Cattle Working coaches who sent payment are being contacted as payment is received to determine how that want refunds handled.
* Our show is run by a show committee/Fair Board, not by Extension agents, so are we exempt from these restrictions?
  + No, any event/show that requires 4-H/FFA membership for participation is automatically a VT/VCE recognized event and must comply with all directives and restrictions from the Director of Extension and/or State 4-H Office.
* Our show begins May 2nd, since the restrictions only go through April 30th, can we move forward as planned?
  + May events will be formally discussed the first week of April and guidance given at that time. Dr. Jones recommended on March 19th that all May events be postponed or cancelled, but no directives past April 30th have been given.
  + Given the current uncertainty and evolving situation, a contingency plan should be developed.
* Our show is scheduled for the first week in May. Do you recommend rescheduling to June?
  + I think a contingency plan is in the best interest of everyone involved. With a recommendation to postpone/cancel all May events, June dates could be questionable.
* A maximum of 100 participants, just means exhibitors, correct? That doesn’t count spectators, family, etc.?
  + The 100 is now 10, as of Wednesday, March 17th, and applies to total number of people in attendance, not just exhibitors.
* Do you think we are safe to plan our July Fair? Will everything be back to normal by then?
  + At this time, the best answer is we simply do not know. The situation is evolving quickly and restriction time frames are changing daily.
  + Given the current level of uncertainty, I would form a contingency plan.
* Should I purchase a project animal for my county fair?
  + That decision is up to each individual family and the youth exhibitor. It is important to consider cost, what plans you have for that animal if your fair is cancelled, and how you might recapture those project expenses in the absence of a show or sale.
* Can groups of volunteers get together and do a jackpot show that is open to everyone? Would there be any other restrictions other than the CDC restrictions?
  + Shows that require 4-H/FFA membership are governed by VCE and Virginia 4-H and FFA guidelines, restrictions, and directives. Events that do not stipulate these membership requirements are not subject to VCE policy, but also do not have VCE/VT coverage regarding liability for volunteers, participants, etc.
  + Since VCE has suspended programming due to COVID-19, VCE volunteers who choose to assist with a jackpot show are not doing so as a VCE volunteer
  + The 4-H and FFA emblems cannot be used to promote, advertise, or generate support for such events.
* How would VCE Funds Handling Policy work with a tele-auction?
  + Units should work with whichever entity or organization they always do regarding collection of payment for youth livestock sales.
  + If a Unit needs help navigating these waters and staying in compliance with VT/VCE Funds Handling Policy, please reach out and we will work to help get those answers.
* What are the directives for 4-H volunteers and agents that work with Fairs and Shows that do not require 4-H/FFA membership?
  + This is a personnel question and should be directed to Dr. Ed Jones or Jeremy Johnson