

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was held January 9, 2025, at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Bradford Cosenza at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call revealed that Bethel, Clifton, Corcoran, Gray, Kemper, McCorkle, and VanHoose were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cosenza.

Guests – Kacey Shaffer, and Ryan Kline.

Kline thanked the Board for their support of the Jr Fair Board during the OFMA Convention and the lunch that was provided. Kline presented a set of rules for the Llama/Alpaca Jr Fair Show. The show would held Friday 9:00 am, lasting approximately 3 hours with 11 exhibitors. The rules for the Ross County Breeding Gilt Show were also presented.

1-1-25: Haubeil Jr moved, Clever seconded to approve the following Llama and Alpaca rules for the 2025 Ross County Fair. Motion carried.

BEFORE THE FAIR

1. **NUMBER OF ANIMALS.** Each exhibitor may take one (1) Llama **OR** one (1) Alpaca to the Ross County Jr Fair.
2. Llamas and/or Alpacas must either be owned by the exhibitor, member's immediate family, or *leased in the continual care of the exhibitor by **May 1, current year.**
 - A. *Leased animals. If member is leasing their project animal, all lease agreements must be submitted by **May 1** to the Extension Office. Continual care does permit boarding an animal provided the member is involved with regular feeding, cleaning, and care as agreed in the lease agreement.
3. Llama and Alpacas may be registered or unregistered.
4. **ANIMAL AGE REQUIREMENT.** The Llama/Alpaca must be at least 6 months old by first day of the fair August 2, 2025.
5. **JR FAIR LIVESTOCK ENTRY FORMS DUE JULY 15.**
 - A. Exhibitors must submit an online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form to be eligible to exhibit at the Ross County Junior Fair.
 - B. Animals brought to the fair must match the entry for to be eligible.

AT THE FAIR

1. **JR FAIR EXHIBITOR DRESS CODE:** Exhibitors must adhere to the following dress requirements at **all show and sales** at the fair: must wear nice jeans or slacks (no low-rise, no holes or tears); a shirt, blouse or polo with a collar and sleeves and without slogans or

advertisements (4-H club/member name is acceptable); no cleavage showing; no undergarments showing. Shoes must be closed-toe (no sandals or flip flops).

2. FAIR MOVE-IN/OUT

- A. All Llamas/Alpacas will be trailered in (no overnight stay).
 - B. Animals must arrive **Friday of the fair from 7:00am – 8:00am**.
 - C. Exhibitors **must check-in at 8:00am** with Barn Superintendent, Amy Francis at her livestock trailer by Horse Show Arena.
 - D. Llamas/Alpacas must be checked by the Fair Veterinarian upon arrival.
 - E. Llamas/Alpacas must be free of disease. No animal with evidence of diarrhea will be permitted to stay at the fair or show at the fair.
 - F. Stalls – There will be designated stalls for Llamas/Alpacas in the Horse Barn. Only designated stalls may be used! Exhibitors must clean animals' stall(s) down to the dirt floor before leaving fairgrounds.
 - G. Trailers – Exhibitor must clean area used before leaving the fairgrounds.
 - H. If stalls and/or trailer areas are not cleaned, then the exhibitor will be ineligible to receive a stall the following year.
 - I. All animals will be released from the fairgrounds at the completion of the Llama/Alpaca Show.
3. **GROOMING.** Animals must be neatly groomed.
- A. Alpacas – The only grooming material permitted is water.
 - B. Llamas – Shampoo, conditioner, and show sheens are permitted. If animal is leased, then products must be approved by the owner.
4. **ANIMAL CARE.** Exhibitors must maintain/provide stall bedding, hay, and fresh water to animals while on fairgrounds.

JUNIOR FAIR LLAMA/ALPACA SHOW

1. **Friday of the Fair 15 9:00am in the Horse Show Arena.**
2. Youth ages 8 – 12 years (as of January 1) may not show an intact male animal over 24 months.

CLASSES

1. SHOWMANSHIP

- A. **July 15** – Showmanship sign-ups (Junior, Intermediate & Senior) are included in the online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form due July 15.
- B. *Refer to current Ross County Fair Book for complete rules (age divisions, fitting/showing rules, show order, etc.).*

2. OBSTACLE COURSE

- A. If there are fewer than 5 participants, then there will not be an Obstacle course class.
- B. Exhibitors are required to navigate their animal(s) through 4-8 obstacles.
- C. Obstacles may include, but are not limited to: jumps, maneuverability, a change of pace, backing, a bridge, and a ramp.
- D. Animals must be shown with a well-fitted halter and lead.

3. COSTUME CLASS

- A. The animal and the handler must be a unified, creative costume that is safe for both the animal and the handler.
- B. Participants must provide a short paragraph about their costume which will be read by the announcer. Description must be turned in before the start of the Costume Class to the Barn Superintendent.

4. **PUBLIC RELATIONS CLASS. ** *Note: Not offered in 2025! For informational purposes for future years!***

- A. This class is for Llamas/Alpacas that participate in community events/activities. This includes going to community events, schools, hospitals, parades, charity functions, and other functions or events.
- B. The animal must be shown in a well-fitted halter and lead.
- C. The course will include obstacles found in a community, including but not limited to: loading into a trailer, backing, ramps, picking up feet, and petting by strangers.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY

OUTSTANDING EXHIBITOR:

This award is for the exhibitor who goes above and beyond with their project, making it a “full circle” project.

Points will be based on:

- Skillathon Score
- Showmanship placing
- Obstacle course placing
- Costume class placing
- Attending Herd Health Education Day offered at Francis Farm (dates TBA)
- A clothing/textile project using yarn or material from the Alpaca
- A Natural Resource gardening project using Llama/Alpaca manure and explaining the benefits.
- Volunteering at a Public Relations event with a Llama/Alpaca farm

1-2-25: Clever moved, Chain seconded to approve the following rules for the 2025 Ross County Gilt Breeding Show. Motion carried.

2025 Ross County Gilt Breeding Show

Show: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. in the Swine Practice Show Arena

Move in day: Saturday, August 2, 2025 7:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. (with market swine move-in/ weigh-in)

Move out: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:00 a.m.-7:00 a.m.

Youth must have enrolled in the swine breeding project, completed quality assurance and completed skillathon in order to exhibit.

Youth may bring a maximum of 2 breeding gilts. Youth may register up to 3 breeding gilts (1 being an alternate) but may only bring 2 for exhibition.

Swine are required to have an 840 USDA tag. An 840 USDA tag from the breeder you purchase/lease your animal off of is acceptable. An 840 USDA tag from your farm is acceptable.

Youth cannot exhibit a gilt tagged in for the market show. Youth are not permitted to register or exhibit a gilt as both a market entry and breeding entry. Youth cannot exhibit the breeding gilt in showmanship.

Breeding gilts must be in the possession of the youth, owned or continuously cared for including showing rights on or before May 15, 2025. The youth's name must match exactly as the owner's name on the registration paperwork or showing rights paperwork. Partnership and family-owned pedigrees will be accepted. Ownership will be considered lost if by May 15th, the animal is consigned or sold through an auction or any type of transaction, even if the youth “buys back” his/her animal.

Youth must register the swine through the extension office by the May 15th deadline. Youth must provide any showing rights paperwork with the May 15 registration. For purebred gilts, registration paperwork must be submitted with the May 15 registration. Registration entry information should include: breed, registration number (purebreds), 840 tag number, sire, sire of dam, ear notch, birthdate and breeder. Youth name, address and name and address of the premise id holder must also be submitted. All breeding gilts must be farrowed December 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025. Purebred breeding classes will be shown by age, youngest to oldest. Crossbreds will be shown

by weight, lightest to heaviest. Declared crossbred weight will be determined by the weight, in which they weigh in on move in day. Crossbred breeding gilts must weigh 200-350 lbs.

Each breed will exhibit as its own division. For each division, there must be at least 4 gilts to make an individual class. If there are not enough to make an individual class, the gilts will be shown as a division. The grand champion for each breed division will come back to compete for overall grand and reserve champion breeding gilt, placing a top 5 overall.

All rules for grooming and care that apply to the market swine, will apply to breeding gilt.

1-3-25: Clever moved, Free seconded to accept the December 9, 2024 Minutes. Motion carried.

1-4-25: Clever moved, Haubeil Jr seconded to approve the 2025 Working Budget. Motion carried.

1-5-25: Clever moved, Hill seconded to approve the December Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

1-6-25: Prater moved, Nelson seconded to pay December 10-31, 2025 bills totaling \$30,965.91. Motion carried.

1-7-25: Prater moved, Free seconded to pay January 1-9, 2025 bills totaling \$11,121.72. Motion carried.

1-8-25: Boggs moved, Clary seconded to approve letting the Pioneer School to hold their Pony Camp at the Horse Barn June 23-27, 2025. Motion carried.

The County Engineer and the Fair Board thanked Wheeler for the help and the great job he did on the snow removal.

1-9-25: Elliott moved, Haubeil Jr seconded for Wheeler to be paid his 3 weeks of vacation pay. Motion carried.

Haubeil Jr – Still need to decide on Monday night at the Grandstand and figuring out the School Bus Derby. Will need to purchase 8 buses (\$2,800.00 per bus), one school has their own bus. The money will be recovered after derby by scrapping the buses. There will be 9 schools participating.

Hill – There are 2 nights to fill at the Bandstand. Hank FM will be a sponsor for the first Saturday Campground Concert. They will be setting up in the Bandstand area for broadcasting during the fair. There will be Goat Island Petting Zoo and Gilligan Monkey Racing. The wood carvers will be there Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, should we sell the carved items at his site or have a silent auction?

Nelson – If we are going to use Campspot year rounds for non-fair camping, a digital map, blackout dates, and rules are needed to put on Campspot.

1-10-25: Boggs moved, Wetzel seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm. Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRADFORD COSENZA
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK
RCAS SECRETARY