



Santa Maria FFA Beef Cattle Exhibitor Contract

The purpose of this contract is to provide both the parent and the student with an outline of expectations that come with raising a **market beef animal** for the Santa Barbara County Fair. As a Santa Maria High School FFA exhibitor, you are expected to adhere to the rules in this contract. Failure to follow these expectations will result in disciplinary actions which can ultimately result in the student being ineligible to exhibit their animal as a member of the Santa Maria FFA. Students assume all financial debits and losses on the project.



I. Daily Expectations

- 1. Feeding & Nutrition:** Students must feed their animal at least twice daily with a quality show feed.
 - **Morning:** 5:00 am – 9:00 am (may vary at CTE Center)
 - **Afternoon:** 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
 - Students must track all feed intake and maintain a weekly schedule of who is responsible for each feeding.
- 2. Sanitation:** Pens must be cleaned a minimum of twice daily during feeding windows.
 - All manure/waste must be designated as a dumpster immediately.
 - Equipment (shovels, buckets, wheelbarrows) must be clean after use.
- 3. Pen Maintenance:**
 - Fly control (strips/traps) must be maintained if needed.
 - Students are responsible for repairs to housing, fences, gates, and plumbing at school farm. (see CTE Handbook for CTE details)
 - **Property Upkeep:** The entire school farm and CTE Farm property must be kept clean. Students are expected to pick up trash and keep tack areas and aiseways organized daily.

II. General Rules

- **Academics:** Students must maintain a **2.0 GPA** or higher to be in good academic standing.
- **Graduates:** Graduate students must attend meetings; a Zoom option is available for those away at college. Participation in all fair setup and cleanup activities is mandatory. It is the graduate's responsibility to maintain regular contact with the advisor regarding key dates and meeting schedules.
- **Buyers Letters:** By June 15th, 10 buyer letters must be sent out to members of the community. Before sending them out you must show Mrs. Powell the letters and the addressed envelopes. Failure to do so will result in the below listed consequences.
- **Record Keeping:** Students must maintain project records in **AET**, including all dates,

hours, and expenses. Record books will be checked monthly and if not up to date it results in an infraction. AET must be checked by the Advisor before Fair paychecks are issued.

- **Meetings & Practice:** Attendance is mandatory for all exhibitor meetings, weekly weigh days, and showmanship practices. Missing 3 or more required events will result in farm removal.
 - **Communication:** If a student cannot attend a meeting, they must notify the Advisor 24 hours in advance.
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III. Animal Health and Welfare

- **Daily Monitoring:** Students must monitor health daily and notify the Advisor of any issues.
 - **Veterinary Care:** Students must contact a Veterinarian if the animal is sick or injured and are responsible for all costs (farm calls, services, and medication).
 - **Animal Cruelty: Zero Tolerance Policy.** Any animal cruelty, including excessive hitting, will result in immediate removal from the farm without prior notification.
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IV. Santa Barbara County Fair (SBCF) Rules

- **Dates:** Students must be at the fair for its entirety (July 6th – July 14th, 2026).
 - **YQCA:** Documentation must be completed and turned in to the Advisor by **May 1st**.
 - **Still Exhibit:** Students must enter a high-quality still exhibit at the fair, due to the Advisor by **June 1st**.
 - **Official Uniform:** Students must own and wear the Official FFA Uniform: FFA Jacket, white pants, white dress shirt, FFA tie/scarf, and appropriate footwear.
 - **Buyer Thank You:** A thank you letter must be written and approved by the Advisor by 11:30 am on the last day of the Fair.
 - **Barn Duty:** Students must serve all assigned barn duties at the fair.
 - **Daily Fair Meetings:** All beef cattle exhibitors **MUST** attend morning (7:00 am) and evening (4:00 pm) feeding and cleanings during the entire week of the fair. Students must have transportation to the fair every day and should not commit to working from July 1st through the Monday following the last day of the fair.
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V. Disciplinary Process

Failure to adhere to the rules above will trigger the following steps:

1. **First Infraction:** Written notice; must be signed by parent/student and returned within 24 hours.
2. **Second Infraction:** Second written notice and "Notice of Potential Animal Removal"; must be signed and returned within 24 hours.
3. **Third Infraction:** "Animal Removal/Ineligibility Notice." The animal must be removed from the school farm within 5 days.

Notice on Behavior: Any parent or person associated with an exhibitor who exhibits abusive, threatening, or argumentative behavior toward advisors or other exhibitors will result in the immediate ineligibility of the student and removal of the animal.

VI. Fees and Logistics

- **Visitors:** Friends or visitors are not allowed on farm property without prior approval from the Advisor.
 - **Fees:** All payments will be made to the SMHS Business office, this will include insurance, DNA & entry fees.
 - **Livestock Insurance Notice:** It is strongly recommended to purchase livestock insurance through California FFA. If payment is not received by the SMHS Business Office by the deadline, insurance will not be secured by the agriculture teacher. Students who forfeit this opportunity will risk significant financial loss if something happens to their animal.
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Signatures

Student Name (Print): _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Parent Name (Print): _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____