

**UPSF Department Advisory Committee (DAC) Minutes**  
**January 6, 2024**

**Members present:** Dairy: Melissa Gatien, Kris Havelka (Zoom)  
**Sheep & Goats:** Carol Quist, Sally Ebsch, Rochelle Sundstrom, Lindsey Kronemeyer (Zoom)  
**Beef:** Veronica Wallace, Connie Wells (Zoom), John Stapleton, Steve Palosaari (Zoom), Jan Strieter  
**Swine:** Sue Baumler, Jodi Spaude (Zoom), Lee Marciniak   **Draft Horse:** Crystal VanElsacker (Zoom)  
**Poultry/Rabbits:** Pete Kleiman, Jr.   **Community Arts:** Kate Oman, Jackie Beach  
**Equine:** Jesse Willour, Judy Nelson   **Skillathon:** Sandy Gill (Zoom)  
**Junior Rep's:** Bridget Paidl, Sydney Ebsch   **Management:** Vickie Micheau, Kelly Zellar  
**Others:** Ed McBroom, Ann Harrington, Dave Radloff, Lori Dalgord (Zoom) 21 voting members present  
**Guests:** Laci Mitchell, Tyler Labadie (Zoom), Sue Streiter, Kora Beaudou, Jim Barron, Kayla Verbeek(Zoom)

**1) Introductions:**

**2) Public Comment:** Jim Barron discussed an act he would like to perform at the Fair. He was referred to Management to discuss. Sue Streiter addressed needing additional security for the animals with people who know animals in the barns at night.

**3) Adoption of Agenda:** Kelly asked to move g to end of old business. Veronica moved, Rochelle supported a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

**4) Approval of meeting minutes from November 18, 2023 meeting:** Sydney moved Sue supported a motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**5) Buildings & Grounds report:** Vickie reported. Matt continues to work on the long-term facility improvement plan. All Superintendents need to let Matt know ASAP of anything that needs to be done in their barns, John added to include everything even if small. An Americorp team has been applied for to complete projects on the grounds this spring. The DNR grant for campground bathrooms is continuing to be worked on. 2 showers & 3 stalls for 2 different bathrooms. John mentioned the bids for a new beef barn arena was \$450,000. A RFP has been sent out for bids to the builders exchange and will consider a lesser proposal.

**6) Management Report:** Vickie. Thanks to everyone for all the work already completed for the next fair. She will provide the management planning document to Superintendents after attending the MAFE convention. Jackie Hurley will be receiving the Heritage Award at the MAFE convention. Jackie is planning to attend with 2 daughters. Suggested everyone send her a card. Will be applying to MDARD for a grant to replace the roof of the Ruth Butler building. Kate stated the red barn was very dirty when they got there (trappers convention).

**7) Chairman's remarks:** Reported on executive committee meeting concerning the Overall Showmanship coordinator position. The position has been held by an existing member of the DAC committee in the past. The Executive Committee agreed to keep the coordinator position within the current DAC membership list. Dave questioned adding the coordinator as a voting member. Ed stated By-laws must be changed and it is a process. John felt adding more members will continue to increase the length of meetings which are already long. Possibly divide livestock/non livestock as not all members have knowledge about other departments. Ed doesn't feel the position rises to a voting member position. Missy questioned whether we need to even continue the program as it has caused many problems for her department. Should we drop it for a year? **Dave moved, Rochelle supported a motion to add the Overall Showmanship coordinator position to be on the DAC. Motion was made to table the motion until the end of the meeting and address during Overall Showmanship item on the agenda. Motion to table passed with Dave dissenting.**

**8) Exhibitor Department Report:** Ann-a) Received all fundraising reports and gave to Sheila for the auditors, thanked everyone for providing. b) Steer pre-registration information has been completed and will be emailed next week. There are copies available today if anyone would like one. c) YQCA has been emailed to everyone in 2 different mailings and is available on the website. Pay close attention to the deadlines & instructions page. Must be pre-registered before in-person training. John has heard from exhibitors that they have received the information. Ann asked Dave to check on a couple of the training dates to verify they are still correct. MSUE has additional training

scheduled for later in the year for small animal species exhibitors. MSUE offers training throughout Michigan. Recordbook judges will be looking for YQCA registration costs to be included in expenses. **d)** Online final fair registration will not be open until June 1<sup>st</sup> including exhibitor camping registrations. A letter will be sent to all previous campers.

Kelly-a) Showworks is not currently set up to save for multiple kids in a family, they are working on. **b)** book changes and sponsor lists need to be to her no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>, but ASAP. **c)** She will be emailing worksheets for maintenance, sound and TSC needs to Superintendents soon.

## 9) Old Business

- a) Mandatory registration date for community arts-Kelly** Kelly moved, Kate supported a motion to have an August 1<sup>st</sup> mandatory pre-registration deadline for all community arts exhibits (Department 17-27). This will allow for better building preparation as well as paperwork. Ann stated all exhibitors were told last year that it would be mandatory this year, but there was no formal motion for the change. Jackie stated there were not that many same day registrations in 2023. It is expected in all other departments and should be for CA also. **Motion passed. Ed dissenting. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**
- b) Mandatory registration date for horse pullers-Kelly** Kelly would like to require it by August 1<sup>st</sup>, up for discussion. Crystal is concerned as there is a pull earlier in the day and some decide to come or not after that pull. No other draft horse pulling shows require pre-registration. Ed agreed with Crystal and stated it's a very different group of individuals. John asked if we could charge more for same day registration, concerned there may not be a show. Steve agreed with Crystal but would like to keep the option to pre-register available. Kelly stated will leave same day registration, but if any pullers would like to reserve stalls, that must be done by August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- c) \$3.00 paper registration fee exemption for Department 23-School Exhibits-Dave** School exhibits come in from teachers with an entire classroom of exhibits. John suggested charge per classroom. Connie does not want to charge teachers for anything. **Connie moved, Sue supported a motion to exempt Department 23 (School Exhibits) from the \$3.00 paper registration fee. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**
- d) Medical emergency rule-Kelly** Questions as to why Junior & Open breeding exhibitors are not included. Ed sees no reason to change. Ed stated it's very difficult when exhibitors approach you in July when there has been a medical emergency. Lori and Ed dealt with this extensively and there are public relations/sponsorship implications. Tried to create a rule with some flexibility and compassion. Sally suggested no date. John felt Superintendent needs discretion. Jesse didn't feel would work in her department. Ann feels we definitely need a date and July 15<sup>th</sup> works. Management will continue to have discretion. She doesn't feel it should be extended to breeding exhibitors. Market exhibitors have a lot of money tied up in their animals and if they are unable to show, they cannot sell, whereas breeding exhibitors take their animals home, all they are out are the fair premiums. Is not in favor of setting up refunds as we have a policy of no refunds. The other change we need to add is an exemption for showing in showmanship as it is required to sell. John agrees need a date, not sure what it should be. Jan felt 'management discretion' should be included in the rule. Lindsay stated it should be on a case-by-case basis. Lindsay felt that Junior breeding stock should be included in the exemption due to their investments and work. Sue asked why the rule needed to be revised and by revising it we might be opening a Pandora's box. Ann stated the rule needed to be revised only to waive the showmanship requirement. Jesse stated a junior breeding exhibitor could still bring their animal and have someone show it in the open show. **John moved, Ann supported a motion to change the Emergency Medical rule (#17 under Livestock rules) to the following: At the discretion of the UPSF management on a case-by-case basis, if a Junior Market Livestock Exhibitor is unable to show during the judging due to a medical emergency, a substitute exhibitor may be used. Upon written verification of the emergency from a licensed medical profession, another Junior Market Livestock Exhibitor (preferably a family or same club member) approved and designated by the Department Superintendent and Exhibitors Manager may act as a substitute exhibitor to show and/or sell the animal. The animal must meet all eligibility requirements, a completed record book must still be entered, and the showmanship class requirement will be waived. The Exhibitors Manager and the Department Superintendent**

**must be notified as soon as possible to request this exemption approval, with enough time allowed for the necessary medical verification. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Discussion on if the medical rule should be extended to include all junior livestock exhibitors.** Jesse did not want it to include the horse department. Ann stated I know we want to be exhibitor friendly but feels this exemption would be taking it too far and cause many problems for management. Ed reiterated that the animal could still be shown in the open show (which has higher premiums). John doesn't ever remember this being an issue. Ann stated we may be trying to solve a problem we don't have. Sally moved, Connie supported a motion to extend the rule to include all Junior Livestock Exhibitors, John amended the motion, Jesse supported to exclude equine. Ann moved, Sally supported a motion to table the question. Motion to table approved unanimously. Ed suggested those who would like the rule extended to all Junior exhibitors you now have time to present your reasons at the next DAC meeting.

- e) Clarifying age rules for showing breeding stock-Kris** A chart with each department's minimum age requirements was made available for review. Kris stated there was some that felt it was unfair to be able to show a junior market animal, but not their breeding stock. Ed stated this was discussed extensively in the past when the ages were changed. Ann stated all small animals are 8 years old and large animals are 9 years old (with the exception of open poultry & rabbits). No action.
- f) Non ambulatory/deceased/isolation animal procedure committee report-Ed** The committee met with Dr. Wehner and reviewed the Indiana & Wisconsin State Fair policies. Proposed new rule: **UPSF will not allow exhibitors to unload animals that are non-ambulatory or unable to walk off the vehicle/trailer under their own power. The exception to this policy will be unloading the animal for euthanizing and/or disposal if deemed necessary by the UPSF Veterinarian. If an animal becomes non-ambulatory (unable to move under its own power) after arriving at the UPSF the following policies will be strictly enforced. 1. The owner of any animal which becomes non-ambulatory after arriving at the UPSF shall immediately notify the Department Superintendent. The Superintendent shall immediately notify the UPSF Veterinarian and UPSF Management. 2. The UPSF Veterinarian, Department Superintendent, UPSF Management and owner/parent (or representative) of the animal will consult each other to come to the best decision for the animal with the emphasis being the best welfare of the animal. 3. Livestock that become non-ambulatory after arriving at the UPSF must be removed for treatment as soon as possible but no later than 12 hours of discovering or receiving notice of the animal's condition. If the animal is treatable and the above committee agrees, the owner must remove the animal from the fairgrounds (at the owner's expense) within the 12-hour period. If euthanasia is determined to be the best option, it will be at the owner's expense. 4. If an animal dies while at the UPSF, Fair management will help coordinate the removal of the carcass from the fairgrounds. The owner is responsible for proper disposal of the carcass. 5. UPSF reserves the right to test all non-ambulatory/deceased animals in instances where symptoms of contagious disease or suspected ethic violations are present. Testing may be done at the owner's expense if ethic violations are present. John moved, Veronica supported motion to approve the above new rule. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**

Discussion: Ed stated management will contact Delta County landfill to determine if they are able to dispose of a deceased animal, as an option for owners. John asked to remove at owners' expense in #4. Questioned owners expense if ethics violations, asked to change from 'will' to 'may'. Lee is concerned with the 12-hour time frame, as being too long. Judy felt a horse owner that is not on the grounds might need longer to respond. Jan stated logistics to remove a non-ambulatory animal takes time. Vickie stated that management would work to remove an animal as quickly as possible, no matter the time frame allowed.

Committee also discussed the isolation/quarantine rules and suggested the following new rule be added to the fairbook under Livestock rules: **UPSF shall maintain an isolation/quarantine location which has been sanitized and prepared prior to the Fair. Exhibitors shall designate 1 person to monitor and care for the isolated animal. The UPSF shall appoint a Quarantine Liaison to monitor animals and facilitate communication between fair personnel and quarantined exhibitors. Kelly moved, Jan supported motion to adopt the above rule. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**

A lot of people in the isolation area can be a problem, trying to avoid a lot of people coming back onto the fairgrounds after being in the quarantine area.

**g) Veterinary procedure committee report-Ed** Committee met with Dr. Wehner and proposed the highlighted changes to livestock rule #29 page 20. No drugs shall be administered to livestock that are prohibited by State and Federal regulations. Animals under the care of a licensed veterinarian and/or taking any type of performance enhancing medication which may include but is not limited to steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatories, tranquilizers, and pain killers are ineligible for competition, show and sale. Exhibitors are responsible to read all product labels to make sure they do not contain such ingredients. Exhibitors must be aware drug residue may be found in the system longer than the labeled withdrawal time. Adequate time must have passed so the animal does not test positive for drugs during any tests during the fair or at the time of slaughter. Animals requiring such treatments during the fair may be allowed to remain for public display only at the discretion of the superintendent and the UPSF staff and veterinarian. Animals must remain free and clear of all such drugs **during the competition and sale** or be disqualified from competition, awards, placements, ribbons, or sale. **Animals needing treatment outside of 12 hours before competition and during competition or sale, may receive treatments administered under the supervision and direction of the UPSF Veterinarian with consultation with Department Superintendent, UPSF Management, and owner/parent.** Any and all questions should be directed to the UPSF Exhibitors Manager.

The UPSF veterinarians asked us to make this change to allow treating an animal that would not affect it's showing ability.

Also needed to add the following highlighted change to Livestock health requirements pg. 21 a: The following practices are presumed to be a threat to livestock health, safety, and/or welfare; human health, safety, and/or welfare; or food safety, and are prohibited. a. Injection and/or insertion including drenching of any material into an animal for medical or non-medical purpose without examination and approval of the UPSF Veterinarian.

**Excluding intermammary treatments of lactating animals. John moved, Veronica supported a motion to adopt the highlighted changes into the existing rules. Motion passed unanimously.**

**h) Record book changes-Dave** Beginner & Intermediate have been updated with a draft copy. Took a lot of the questions out of the back as they are covered in YQCA. Added a herd health plan page. Simplified the feed record pages, one for purchased grain, one for roughage. Added supply/equipment inventory page. Simplified expense record. Includes only 3 questions at the end. Still working on scoring. Intermediate book-added feed expense calculations, breakeven calculations and marketing materials utilized. Advanced still working on, possibly add 'my livestock story'. John questioned information about average daily gain, which Dave said will be in the advanced book. Ann said great job Dave but suggested the marketing material information bigger & bolder as it's a new question. Review and email any suggestions to Dave. He plans to have them all available by 2/15.

## **10) New Business:**

**a) Horse show day/time changes-Jesse & Crystal** Show Day chart was provided with the following proposals: Move miniature horse show from Monday to Saturday after open halter show to be completed by 3:00 to allow for horse pulling set-up. Move Big Bay Pony club jumping show from Sunday pre-fair to Thursday. Move Jr. speed show from Thursday to end of Jr. pleasure show on Tuesday. Possibly add an open fun horse show on Wednesday. Hoping to get Big Bay Pony club members to stay all week. Crystal expressed concern about having enough time to set up the arena for the horse pulls. She will speak with Matt about the timing. Jesse said there were only 7 mini horses and there is a good chance the show will be done sooner than 3:00. Crystal asked about holding the draft horse show on Friday. She feels they would have more participation if the show was on Friday. **Carol moved, Missy supported a motion to approve the horse show date/time changes as proposed. Motion passed unanimously.** Change draft horse show time on Wednesday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. And show everything at the same time. Would be completed by 7:00. **Crystal moved, Missy supported a motion to change the time of the draft horse show. Motion passed unanimously.** Crystal mentioned there was a spot at one time for draft horse show on Friday. A handout summarizing the proposed horse changes was available.

**Kelly moved, Vickie supported a motion to accept the proposed changes. Motion passed unanimously.** Jesse commented that the jumping show is an open show and the fun show is not 100% sure at this point. Ann stated that management will be meeting with Molly the Big Bay Pony Club leader to discuss how the jumping show will be handled as part of the fair. Jesse commented she is adding halter classes to the junior show. Proposed changes include continuing the minimum age for showing at 9.

- b) New draft/pony pulling rules/statements-Crystal & Kelly:** Proposed new rule-The use of an electrical device either handheld or remote controlled, or any other method, used to stimulate a horse to pull is prohibited. At any time, the judge, department superintendent or Exhibitors Manager may require an inspection of the horses and the harnesses for electronic shock items. Every exhibitor entered is subject to inspection. When a driver/owner is notified that his horses will be inspected they must allow this inspection to be completed before the team or driver leaves the pulling arena/area. Refusal to allow this inspection, or if the team is taken out of the pulling arena/area, or the driver leaves the pulling arena/area prior to the inspection will result in this being treated as a violation of the rule prohibiting electrical devices used to stimulate a horse and be disqualified immediately. **Crystal moved, Kelly supported a motion to adopt the new rule. Motion passed unanimously.**
- c) Placing of all market animals 1-5 and change Reserve Champion replacement rule-Ann** Current rule if a Grand or Reserve champion animal is disqualified the reserve can move up, but no further moves. Because the reserve champion goat has been disqualified for the last 2 years, is it time to change that rule? The public has asked why there is not a reserve champion goat. The beef places the top 5. The problem is no drug test. Veronica suggested drug testing the top 3. Veronica questioned how it would work for the swine show as more animals would need to be held back. Swine show is already placing the top 6, so it shouldn't be a problem. Carol felt we should place and drug test the top 3. TSC gives gift cards and publicity, and the exhibitor was subsequently disqualified. **John moved, Kelly supported a motion to place the top 5 in all market species (beef, lamb, goat, swine) and drug test the top 3. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.** This will also change junior show rules #6, new wording to be voted on at the next meeting.

## **11) Department reports-Summaries only**

**Recordkeeping**-no report

**Community Arts**-Kate has sent management her proposed changes. Kate will type up her proposed changes to present at the March meeting. A lot is changing wording. They want to eliminate digital art as it is hard to prove authenticity. They would add a maximum of 10 entries per exhibitor in the antique department. Definitions for art pieces. Premium changes will be proposed for the 2025 fair, as they are working on fundraising for those increases. They do not want to charge exhibitors an entry fee. Proposed moving Department 26 (Hobbycraft) from building 4 to building 5, as most are art.

**Dairy**-Theme is Halloween. Issues with Sunday dismissal as they are released earlier than poultry & rabbits. They have an issue with junior exhibitors showing another farms animal as they do not have the ownership rule other departments have to show in the junior show. Some fairs require the exhibitor to sign an agreement that they have worked with the animal.

**Beef**-will be checking tattoos of market beef animals entered in registered champion classes. Looney Tunes is the theme, thanks to Crafty Critters 4-H club for the suggestion.

**Highland**-has requested to be considered as a national point show again. They will be using the same judge the fair hires for the Open beef show.

**Sheep/Goat**-Theme-The Great Outdoors, Wild West. **Carol moved, Lindsey supported a motion to add Reserve Supreme Champion Ewe, and Reserve Champion Ram in both department 5 & 6, and Reserve Supreme Champion Junior and Open Goat in Department 7. Motion passed unanimously.** These classes will be given ribbons, no premiums.

**Swine**-Theme is Christmas

**Skillathon**-no report

**Poultry/Rabbit**-no report

**Horse**-Theme is Decades. There will be decoration awards for clubs and individuals. Bringing back stable management awards and high point show day awards. All horse trailers will be entering Gate 6 which is also the exit gate. Check-in will be next to the speed barn. This will cause less congestion.

**Draft Horse**-Crystal is developing a questionnaire to send to previous exhibitors to ask for suggestions to attract new exhibitors.

**Queen Contest**-no report

**Overall Showmanship**-Tabled motion to discuss making the Overall Showmanship coordinator a member of the DAC. The DAC executive committee had decided that the position would be filled with someone currently on the DAC as has been past practice. Sue asked if there were other activities that are held by individuals who are not currently members of the DAC. Others such as the queen contest and recordkeeping are held by current members of the DAC. Carol Q. brought up that there has been mistreatment of animals in this activity and the public has noticed. Sue agreed the pigs were mistreated this year. Carol asked if maybe we should discontinue the activity for a year. Ann stated that it would be nice to have an activity that involved all junior exhibitors if they choose to participate. Rochelle suggested a dance off. Lindsay stated the Chippewa county fair has 2 overall showmanship competitions, one for rabbit/poultry and another for the hogs, sheep, goats, beef. Tyler stated that overall showmanship is a very important program for many exhibitors and didn't want it taken away, he also thinks a small animal showmanship competition should be investigated. Tyler stated he did receive a letter from Chairman McBroom explaining the Executive committee's decision to appoint someone from the existing DAC membership to the position as has been past practice. He has a passion for this and would be disappointed if he is no longer able to do it. Ed stated he felt it is an important program for exhibitors to learn about showing other species and to promote sharing among the barns and would not like it discontinued. There is always room for improvement with the treatment of animals. He feels the committee is getting large and this program doesn't necessarily rise to the level of being a voting member of the DAC. Lori feels the queen contest should also be a voting member. Sydney agrees with John that the more voting members there are the more diluted everyone's votes become. John agrees the need to continue overall showmanship and add one for the small animals and also look at the bylaws and structure of the committee. Lyndsay stated if it is decided that it needs to be an existing member of the committee, she would be willing to take on the overall showmanship coordinator position. **Motion to add the overall showmanship position as a member of the DAC failed by voice vote.** John suggested creating a subcommittee to review the by-laws. Committee appointed: Ed, Veronica, Lindsey, Crystal, Sydney, Bridget, Kelly, Dave. Tyler and Lori will be invited to the meetings. **Missy moved, Lindsay supported a motion to add a rule to the dairy department that an exhibitor must show in the junior dairy show for a minimum of 2 years before they are eligible to represent the dairy department in the overall showmanship competition. Motion passed unanimously.** Lindsay stated that it has been an ongoing issue in their barn. Ed does not necessarily agree but feels that it has become an issue for other departments and how they are viewing the dairy department. **Kelly moved, Ann supported a motion to appoint Lindsey as the Overall showmanship coordinator.** John stated the program needs to move forward and someone needs to do it and the by-law subcommittee review may take too long to have someone appointed. Voice vote was taken, a roll call vote was then taken. There were 16 yes, 7 nos. Tyler questioned if zoom votes should count. After the recount to eliminate the zoom votes there were 12 yes, 5 nos. **Motion passed.** Ed stated the Authority's agent has not been keeping the by-laws updated and Ann has been reviewing minutes to get them updated. Ann stated Tyler was sent the most recent copy of the by-laws.

**Jr. Market Livestock**-none

**Youth Representative**-none

- 12) **Public Comment:** Lindsay stated Travis Miller would like to be on the agenda for the next meeting to present what he can do to provide banners for the fair.
- 13) **Next Meeting Date:** March 9, 2024 10:00 am EST @ multipurpose building conference room. Next Authority meetings January 26 and March 22, 2024.
- 14) **Adjournment** at 1:25 pm.

