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Dear Youth Participant,

It's the time of year to start looking ahead to the ADGA National Show to be held in Columbus, Ohio on June 23-30, 2018. Plans are well underway and it appears as though the committee will once again put on a "first class" show. Participation in the youth events will allow you to demonstrate your talents as well as give you an opportunity to learn something new. In addition, the events give you the chance to meet other youth from all over the country and discuss what you love most – dairy goats! Enclosed in this packet or on nationalshow.adga.org/youth-forms you should find all the information that you need, including a tri-fold pamphlet outlining the rules and frequently asked questions, as well as a youth participation entry form/parental consent form. Please remember that every youth participant under the age of 18 must have a consent form signed by a parent that identifies a responsible guardian who will be in attendance at the show. For participants over the age of 18, we ask that you sign the form confirming your willingness to adhere to the code of conduct.

We will be continuing with the embedded youth show that we started last year, so please be sure to read this letter carefully and completely.

We are pleased to announce that for the second time, we will be offering a youth show that will be embedded in the week-long open show. This will provide our youth members a unique opportunity to "shine." The embedded show and the youth events are two separate events and you can elect to participate in one or both events. Please read below for updates and information related to each.

Youth Events

Deadline for Entry – June 10, 2018

Forms Required – Youth Participation Permission Form and Online Embedded Youth Show Entry Form

These forms should be returned to the ADGA office or submitted online prior to June 10, 2018. The entry form should be filled out to help aid in planning, but we ask that you also confirm your entries with us at the youth participant check-in on June 23, 2018.

Again, we are pleased to say that this year's contests will occur on both Saturday and Sunday. The events will start with a mandatory participants' meeting at 2 PM on Saturday, June 23rd, followed by the Judging & Management contest at 4:00 PM and the Youth Mixer at 7:00 PM.

Events will resume Sunday, June 24th at 8:00 AM with the Showmanship classes. We will be doing two classes of showmanship concurrently in two side-by-side rings. This will allow us to expedite the showmanship portion of the youth events in order to complete everything before the breed shows begin. The final youth event, the Team Fitting contest, will conclude the activities at Noon on Sunday. A couple of other issues warrant comment:

- As mentioned above, we ask that in addition to filling out the entry form you confirm your entry in each class with us once you arrive at the show. Historically, we have found that individuals often “change their mind” after completing entry form and this allows us to maintain accurate entries (it is really no different than you checking-in your animals once you get to the show). We encourage each of you to stop by the table prior to the meeting and sign up for the classes in which you intend to participate in. If you are unable to make it prior to the meeting, we will also allow you to sign up after the meeting before the first event. **Remember, to be eligible for the Premier Youth Exhibitor Awards, you must compete in all three youth events.**

- As in previous years, youth are allowed to bring a showmanship doe for use in the youth events with dismissal Sunday evening. This allows youth who are unable to stay for the entire week the opportunity to use their favorite showmanship animals. It should be noted that these animals still have the same health requirements as the open show animals and must be removed from the grounds by Monday morning. Of course, youth may also elect to borrow a showmanship animal from a friend who is staying for the week. If you are interested in bringing your does for just the weekend, please read the guidelines in the rules carefully and be sure to check the appropriate box on the entry form. Due to limited space, **all showmanship does need to be entered by June 10, 2018.** After that deadline pens will not be available. Please also note that you will not be given a tack pen (all tack and supplies will need to be neatly stored in front of your animal’s pen or on your truck. Additionally, animals owned by the same family will be housed together in a single pen. **If you have entered your does in the open show and/or embedded show and have purchased pens for them, you DO NOT need to request a showmanship pen.**

- All participants are required to adhere to the code of conduct presented in the parental consent form. Individuals caught partaking in the consumption of alcoholic beverages will be disqualified from the competition and may be asked to leave the fairgrounds for the remainder of the show. If state or national laws have been violated, the authorities may be contacted. Any youth awards previously won at the 2018 Youth Events will be forfeited.

- Remember, that in order for open show placings of your does to contribute points towards the Premier Youth Exhibition awards, they must list the youth’s (and only the youth’s) name as the sole owner on the registration paper. This animal can, however, still be shown as part of a “herd unit” for the open show. Also note that placings in the youth embedded show will not count towards Premier Youth Exhibitor. If you have any additional questions concerning this, please consult the youth rules brochure or call.

- Please take note of the proper attire for showmanship as discussed in the youth rules brochure. The judges will be aware of these rules and participants who fail to conform will not be allowed in the show ring or may be penalized during judging (this action will be at the discrimination of the committee and judge).

Youth Embedded Show

Deadline for Entry – June 10, 2018

Forms Required – Enter animals online or by paper for the National Open Show. After that is accomplished you will need to also complete the Embedded Youth Show Entry form on nationalshow.adga.org/youth-forms for the embedded show as outlined in the rules and entry form.

This will be the second year for the youth embedded show. For those of you who are not familiar with this type of show, here is how it will operate. Entered animals will have a mark made on their “ring card” prior to entering the ring that will identify them as embedded show animals. All animals will enter the ring together for the open show class. Once the judge has placed the animals, a show volunteer will go down the lineup and will record the top two placed youth animals and distribute placing ribbons to those animals, as well as participation buttons to all youth entries. Following the selection of the open show champion for each breed, we will invite the first and second place youth animals back into the ring for selection of the Youth Premier Doe (One Junior (Dry) Doe and One Senior (Milking) Doe for each breed).

There are detailed directions for entry, rules and entry forms enclosed in this packet, however, some important points are detailed below for your reference:

- 1) You are not required to participate in the youth events on the first weekend to be able to participate in the embedded show, however, you are required to be entered in the open show to participate. All embedded show animals will be required to be in place for the entire week of the show and are required to follow the check-in times and dismissal times for the open show. **You cannot just bring your does in for the day of the show.**
- 2) Entry is a two-step process. First enter in the National Open Show and then complete and submit the Embedded Youth Show Entry Form on nationalshow.adga.org/youth-forms by June 10, 2018.
- 3) ADGA wants to make sure that the names of these awards are appropriately advertised. When referencing your placings online, in your project workbooks or in printed press the following terminology should be used. **By signing the embedded show entry form, you are agreeing to use the following conventions in advertising.**
 - a. Class winners shall be designated as 1st or 2nd Place Embedded Youth <insert Class Name here> Winner at the 20XX ADGA National Show.
 - b. Breed winners shall be designated as Youth Premier <insert Junior or Senior and Breed> Doe at the 20XX ADGA National Show.
- 4) All embedded show animals must have the youth’s name listed as the sole owner on the official ADGA registration paper and the animal must be shown by the youth who owns that animal. If a youth owner is not available to show the animal in the appropriate class, it cannot be shown in the embedded show.

- 5) Only 1 embedded show animal can be entered per age class. If you have more than one animal that age, you will need to select in advance which one will be entered as the embedded animal.
- 6) The youth showing the animal in the embedded show will need to follow the guidelines for show attire outlined in the open show packet (which is slightly different than the youth showmanship attire). Please review this information carefully and make sure that you have appropriate attire. If you are not wearing attire that follows the guidelines, you may be prevented entry to the show ring.
- 7) It is the youth's responsibility to make sure that his/her "ring card" has been appropriately marked for the correct animal during the show check-in.

Please note that by signing both the youth entry form and the embedded show form, the legal guardians are providing permission for the youth's names and pictures to be used for ADGA promotional purposes.

Last year's events were great fun, and I hope that all who attended in 2018 will be able to come again this summer. We also look forward to meeting new participants who were not able to come last year. You are the future of our industry, and I know you will make us all proud. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in June.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Plummer

National Show Youth Activities Committee Chair
American Dairy Goat Association