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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 Louisville, KY July 13-18, 2024. This letter details current plans but we strongly encourage youth participants to watch the national show webpage closely for updates.

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 you should find the information that you need, including a tri-fold pamphlet outlining the rules and frequently asked questions. 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.

Some key highlights of the youth events for 2024! Please read carefully.

1. On Saturday July 13, 2024, we will once again be hosting a youth pizza party. This is open to all youth, regardless of participation in youth events or not. Please listen for announcements around 7 PM and join us for some free dinner and social time.
2. This year we will be implementing the requirement for each youth having participated in some form of animal quality care training and provide documentation. For almost all youth that participate in 4-H or FFA, you are likely already doing this and we are simply asking for verification that it has occurred. There are two mechanisms to accomplish this task:
 - a. Youth for quality Care of Animals provides age-appropriate online training modules that are used in many state 4-H and FFA programs. All youth are able to register for an account at their website (<https://yqcaprogram.org/>) and complete the age-appropriate training (either their age group or valid "test-out" certificate. Each online module costs \$12. At the conclusion of the training, you will be provided with a certificate and a certificate number. The certificate number will be required when registering for the youth events.
 - b. Alternatively, some state 4H and FFA programs have other similar training that they require for participation in their events. If your state uses one of these programs, we will accept that as long as it is a state approved program. If there is a certificate of completion you can provide that at registration, or you can get a brief letter from your 4H leader or county extension agent verifying you have completed the training.
3. Like last year, instead of providing an animal for teams in the fitting team event we will be requiring each team to bring an animal for the event. We will have a list of folks that might be willing to loan animals to teams in order to assure that every team has an acceptable animal, however your team will be responsible for contacting those folks and arranging to use the animal. The judges will be looking over all animals prior to the start of the contest (someone from your team or a parent will need to bring your animal up to the ring 15 min prior to the class starting) and judging will be based on how well the team did in fitting ***during the contest***. So carefully consider and select the animal, having an animal that is "near" fit when coming into the contest may not allow your team to show what you can do. Requirements for the animals include:
 - a. They must be does and not lactating.
 - b. They should be the size of senior kids (large breeds) or Nigerian Jr or Sr yearlings.
 - c. They should have hair of sufficient length to make new clipping obvious to the judges.
 - d. They can have their feet trimmed prior to the class.

We are pleased to say that we will again 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 30, 2024

Online Forms required –<https://adga.fairwire.com/> Youth Participation Permission Form and Youth Entry Form –

<https://nationalshow.adga.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/YouthPermisPartic23-1.pdf>

These forms should be submitted online with the registration prior to June 30, 2024. Due to moving to an online registration we request that all participants be sure and fill in this information and register in advance.

Again, we are pleased to say that this year’s contests will occur on both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday July 13, 2024, we will be in touch regarding the participant meeting details and the Judging and Management contest will start at 4 PM, followed by the pizza party at 7 PM.

Events will resume Sunday, July 14 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.

A couple of other issues warrant comment:

- **Remember, to be eligible for the Premier Youth Exhibitor Awards, you must compete in all three (showmanship, management, and judging) 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 30, 2024.** 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 2023 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 – July 1, 2024

Forms Required – Enter animals online for both the National Open Show and 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 follow national show guidelines 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 open show and then complete and submit the embedded youth show entry form. The youth embedded show entry form must be submitted by July 1, 2024.
- 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 ADGA 20XX 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.

As mentioned earlier, we strongly recommend that you closely watch the National Show website for changes. 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 July.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Plummer

National Show Youth Activities Committee Chair