



YAKIMA VALLEY FAIR & RODEO

812 Wallace Way

P.O. Box 27, GRANDVIEW, WA 98930

email: yakimavalleyfair.rodeo@gmail.com

phone: (509)882-1197

website: www.yvfair-rodeo.org

June 30, 2020

To Registered YVFR Livestock Exhibitors:

It is with heavy hearts that the Board of Directors has voted to cancel the 2020 Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo. We had been holding out hope to move forward with our fair. However, due to restrictive State 4H guidelines & Yakima County still being in Phase 1, we are limited but have considered alternatives.

We are proud of the youth who have invested in livestock projects and we hope you will honor the mottos & goals of 4H and FFA. Worthwhile learning occurs during the entire project: selecting, feeding & caring, fitting, showing and selling your animal. We encourage you to complete your project to proper market weight & to promote/communicate about your project by sending letters to potential supporters. REMEMBER that you represent not just yourself and your family, but also your 4H club/ FFA chapter, your school and the agricultural industry at large. Finish well!

Here are some available options for your animals:

- 1) Sell your animal privately (try Facebook, Craigslist, and all connections you have). There are still people who want farm-raised locker meat and would like to support youth projects. Realize that there is limited processing capability this year, so be sure you or your buyer contact meat processing facilities to see if there are dates available.

***at the end of this letter, we have included a list of local processors and their phone numbers*

- 2) Sell your animal at the Surplus Show Animal Sale on Friday, August 7th at Toppenish Livestock Commission. This sale will accommodate the selling of previously registered market steers, lambs, goats & hogs for custom harvest or to pre-arranged turn buyers. A turn buyer is also available for small animals separate from this sale. To sell your animal at this sale, the following requirements MUST be met.
 - a. By Friday, July 17 @ 11:59pm, fill out the online form that will be available on the fair website
 - b. to let us know which animals you intend to sell on August 7th.
 - c. Watch for further information to be released on Facebook and the fair website. This will include specific drop off times and directions.
 - d. **Maintain your project. All animals entering the sale are REQUIRED to meet the following criteria: Market ready – meeting the minimum weight requirements for each species [overweight animals may be accepted but will only be paid for the maximum weight limit], pass inspection by a veterinarian, scrapie tags present in all sheep/goats, health certificates present and filled out correctly, brand slips for steers. Animals must also be clean like they would be to enter the show ring.** Not meeting all requirements will forfeit sale eligibility. No exceptions!
- 3) If you wish to discontinue your project before your animal reaches market weight, you can instead choose to sell your project animal(s) at any Toppenish Livestock Commission Saturday sale (no sale on Saturday, July 4th).

Other Important Information:

- All registered exhibitors will be eligible to receive *add-on support* donations, regardless of how animals are sold. We will post exhibitors' names and registered livestock species on the fair website; we will include an option to donate to an Exhibitor Support Fund used to benefit exhibitors. Add-on support will be accepted in any format and payment should be received by August 15th.
 - If you are sending your own support letters, please check out the 'Livestock Market Sale Information' tab on the fair website for written directions of how add-ons will be processed.
- Refunds for RV parking, Season Passes, Parking Passes, and Rodeo Tickets will be automatically processed and were mailed with this information on July 1st.
- This year has been difficult for everyone. Businesses have suffered lost revenue and your 2020 projects might be affected as well. Remember to thank all those who have helped and supported you this year; we have a great community of supporters.

We'll "Stirrup Some Fun" in 2021!!

****Local Processing Facilities, in no particular order:**

CJ's Custom Meats – Wapato	509-877-2227
Prosser Lockers – Prosser	509-786-1313
Alvord's Custom Meats LLC – Sunnyside	509-837-0079
Jerry's Valley Meats – Sunnyside	509-837-3626