# Sheep Clipping Competition

CANADA
4-H Nova Scotia

The Sheep Clipping Competition is open to a team of two 4-H Sheep members. This competition is open to both junior and senior members. Teams will be evaluated on the following: Report Card, Clipping and Showmanship.

## Rules & Regulations:

1. This is a team competition; members may be either a team of junior members, senior members, or a combination of the two.
2. Counties may send one team to the provincial competition at the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. Team members will be selected through county competition.
3. Once a member has won the provincial competition, they are no longer eligible to compete with the same team member in subsequent years.

## New for 2026: Animal Requirements

Animals used for the Sheep Clipping competition at the 4-H NS Provincial Show will be provided by the organizing committee, allowing for consistency in animal size, handling experience, wool type, wool length, and/or condition of the sheep's cleanliness.

**For county-level competitions, teams may be required to provide their own animal. Check with your General Leader or County Committees for more information prior to the event.

## Animal Care

1. Team members are responsible for supplying and caring for their own grooming/clipping/fitting equipment/materials/supplies during the competition. In the case where the animal provided to the draw requires specific grooming/clipping/fitting equipment/materials/supplies, the team supplying the animal must provide the specific equipment/materials/supplies to the draw.
2. The organizer is responsible for providing all feed and bedding requirements for the duration of the event for all animals.
3. Team members/animal owners understand that team members are responsible for feeding, handling, preparing, and caring for their competition animal for the duration of the competition, as this is part of their score. All feeding instructions will be provided to the teams for their competition animals. From then on it is the teams' responsibility to feed and care for the animal that they drew until the conclusion of the competition. Ensure someone from the committee feeds and cares for the spare animal throughout the weekend.
    - New for 2026: following the conclusion of the competition (after showmanship), care for each animal, including feeding, returns to the team/committee that brought it.

## Competition Guidelines and Scoring

1. The judge does not have to be in attendance for the selection/draw, and members can work with their animals following the selection/draw, but no clipping may be done until the assigned clipping time.
2. Ties in the competition are to be decided using the team's score in showmanship – highest over lowest.
3. The welfare and well-being of all the animals will be foremost in the competition. The organizing committee responsible for the competition will ensure animals are well cared for (including spares).
4. Team members must submit their competition report cards by the time indicated in the program.

5. In the case where, after the event "scratch date" an individual team member cannot continue in the competition the remaining team member may continue in the competition. For aspects of the competition where points are allotted to each team member the remaining team member can only earn points for their own work.
6. In the case where a member must temporarily step away from the competition for good reason, the remaining member may continue working however, clipping, feeding, and stall clean-up/prep is a joint effort for members to share equally.

Teams will be evaluated on the following:

1. Report Card (20%) – Members determine the weaknesses of the animal and explain how these are to be overcome by proper fitting and clipping.
2. Herdsmanship (10%) - Team effort – Members provide proper care and handling, watering, stall and animal cleanliness, feeding (Includes cleaning out stalls after animal leaves).
3. Showmanship (30%) - 15 points will be allotted to each team member based on their showmanship abilities and how they handle the animal in the ring. Team member points will be combined for a combined score.
4. Fitting & Clipping (40%) - 20 points will be allotted to each member based on their fitting and clipping abilities and techniques as well as overall teamwork and sharing of tasks. Team member points will be combined for a combined score.

Please note that the National Farm Animal Code of Practice should be followed when housing animals for 4-H events.

These standards can be found at: http://www.nfacc.ca/

## Contagious/Infectious Disease & Quarantine

4-H members, leaders, parents and livestock owners are reminded that 4-H Achievement Days and shows are showcases for the 4-H program, and the agricultural industry in this province. They are reminded that infectious diseases can be transmitted during transport, as well as at the show. As such, it is strongly recommended for the protection of the public, participants, and the animals at the show, that animals having or showing signs of infectious diseases not be brought to shows. As well, livestock exhibitors and owners must understand that in attending 4-H Shows, there is a risk of their animal contracting disease regardless of the best efforts of all involved.

If you suspect that your animal has a contagious/infectious disease, please contact your local veterinarian immediately and learn more about the consequences, treatment, and transmission of the disease.

Brochures, "Skin Infections of Particular Concern to 4-H Calves: Ringworm, Warts and Lice" and "Fact Sheet: Animal Health and Safety Best Practices" are available. If you wish to receive a copy by mail or email, please contact your Regional Program Coordinator. It contains important information for all livestock members on this topic and will be critical to review with 4-H Clubs, livestock owners, and your local veterinarian when making decisions about attending 4-H achievement days and shows.

## Animal Movement Reporting

Regulations around moving animals to and from Fairs, Exhibitions, Achievement Days, 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show and other events are in place or are coming into place for some species. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is responsible for these regulations regarding the identification of

animals and how livestock owners report moving animals on and off the farm. This includes individual animal ID tags and reporting the movements of animals. Tag numbers are to be reported by the owner/operator of a premise when the animals enter, and then by the farmer/owner when the animals are brought back to the farm or where they are housed for the species affected.

Movement Document – A Movement Document is to travel with the animals. This document will record the departure premise and destination premise, as well as the quantity of livestock being transported. These documents will be made available by CFIA once the regulation changes come into effect.

There are three things 4-H members can do to prepare for these changes.

1. Identify your livestock premises by applying for or confirming a premises identification (PID) number with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture www.novascotia.ca/agri/pid.
2. Confirm or set up a Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database account at https://www.canadaid.ca/ with Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) by toll-free telephone at 1-877-909-2333 or email: info@canadaid.ca CLTS MOBO - a free app to submit animal movement events quickly and easily to your CLTS database account using a mobile device
3. Voluntarily report receipt (move in) event data to your CLTS database account for livestock arriving at your livestock premises using the individual animal identification, within seven days of receipt.

For more information please contact the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture Premises Identification Office at 902-956-2707 or NSPID@novascotia.ca.