

## Dickinson FFA 2023-2024 Agriculture Science Center Barn Contract

The rules and regulations outlined below exist for the health, safety, and well-being of all projects and FFA members and visitors who are on the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center property.

### GENERAL CONTRACT GUIDELINES:

- All students and parents/guardians must sign this contract and understand that the rules will be enforced prior to having a pen assigned at the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center. The Agriculture Science Center is property of Dickinson ISD. All rules, regulations and laws set forth by Dickinson ISD and Texas State Law must be followed.
- Dickinson FFA and Dickinson ISD are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal items.
- Each person over the age of 18 must sign this contract and is required to have a background check administered by DISD every year.
- For the safety and security of all students and their projects, contact information for the student and his/her parents or guardians must be on file with the Ag Department.
- Guests are not allowed on the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center premises without prior communication with an Ag Teacher. Non-Authorized guests will be considered to be trespassing.
- Any destruction or vandalism to another person's project or pen, or to any property on the Agriculture Science Center, will result in immediate termination of this contract, and immediate removal of project(s) from the Dickinson FFA Agriculture Science Center.
- Absolutely **NO** Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes, Drugs, Alcohol, Firearms or Fireworks are allowed on the property. Failure to comply will result in immediate termination of this contract and removal of the project(s). Any unlawful activity will be reported to authorities.
- Parents and students need to only concern themselves with their own animals and stalls. Under no circumstances should a student or parent/guardian address issues with another student's animal(s). Any concerns need to be brought directly to the species Ag Teacher first and follow the chain of command.
- Most importantly, all students, parents, and guests will treat each other and the Ag Teachers with respect and proper courtesy. Anyone found to be using foul language, bullying or being disrespectful will be penalized. The Agriculture Science Center is a school facility and we strive to keep a family environment.
- All animal projects must be secured and in the barn prior to the respective tag-in/validation for that animal's intended show.
- No new animal projects will be allowed into the Ag Barn without a signed barn contract and approval from the species Ag Teacher.
- All cattle will use the exercise arena in the cattle barn. Lambs, goats, and swine are not allowed in the cattle barn for any reason.

## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:

- High School students must be enrolled in an Agriculture Science course each school year that they participate in the FFA program.
- All students must be an active member in good standing in Dickinson FFA.
- All students must pass an administrative check for prior discipline and attendance issues each year before being granted a barn contract meeting. Parents will be notified if a student is not approved to have an animal project.
- Before a student will be cleared to bring an animal to the Agriculture Science Center, they must have a barn contract meeting, all fees paid in full, and background checks completed by all those on the contract who apply.
- **NO PASS, NO PLAY** – Any student that is declared ineligible will not be able to show nor have a substitute exhibitor show his/her animal in any show or event, or participate in any FFA activities. The only exception for GCF&R is if the animal was family tagged with a sibling. All ineligible students have 7 calendar days for removal of animal(s) from the barn after notification (GCF&R Only). Eligibility will be determined by UIL eligibility rules and STAAR scores and is at the sole discretion of the Ag Teachers and Administrators.

## FACILITY:

- The Dickinson FFA Agriculture Science Center hours will be:
  - **Monday-Friday 5:00 a.m. to 10:00a.m. and 2:00 to 10 p.m.**
  - **Saturday and Sunday 3:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.**
  - Special Hours during Holidays and Stock Shows or Fairs may broaden these hours
- Presence on the Agriculture Science Center premises before or after these hours is in defiance of this contract, unless there is a medical emergency with a project and notification has been made to an Ag Teacher. Barn Scan Cards will not be active outside of these hours.
- Students are not allowed in the Agriculture Science Center during school hours (**7:05 AM – 2:35 PM**) unless they have specific permission from the Ag Teachers or Administrator, with their parent/guardian or are a senior student with off periods.
- Students placed on leave from school (suspension, quarantine, etc.) are not allowed in the Ag Barn.
- Student Holidays that are also teacher work days will be classified as a regular school day.
- If you are the last person leaving the barn you are required to shut all exterior doors. If doors are left open overnight, the surveillance video will be reviewed and the last person who left the barn will be penalized.
- Lights are on a scheduled timer and are to remain ON at all times. The timer will turn the lights off at night.
- Allocations have been made for a student to have up to three animal projects at one time. A heifer that calves is still considered 1 project. Additional animal projects may be allowed if room permits at Ag teacher discretion.
- All animal projects in the barn must be entered in a Dickinson FFA approved show. Animals not being shown through Dickinson FFA will not be allowed in the barn.
- No person is allowed to enter the stall of another student, unless there is an emergency affecting the safety and well-being of the animal or that person has permission from the owner to enter the stall. Anyone entering another student's stall for emergency purposes shall immediately notify an Ag Teacher.
- Absolutely **NO** outside animals (i.e. dogs, cats, etc.) are permitted at any time at the Agriculture Science Center. Dickinson FFA projects kept at home will be allowed to use the Agriculture Science Center facilities and equipment.

## **CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE:**

- All wheel barrows must be dumped, rinsed, and stored outside in the wheelbarrow “corral”. The shavings bunk is for shavings and bedding only. All trash must be put in the trash dumpster.
- Absolutely **NO** dumping of feed in the wash stalls, drains, or outside. All leftover or old feed must be disposed of in the trash dumpster.
- Animal stalls must be kept at the standard pen size, once pens are constructed; they may not be altered or removed until deemed appropriate by the Ag Teacher. No modifications of stalls are allowed unless permitted by an Ag Teacher. No items should be permanently affixed to stalls in any matter (ie. nails, screws, etc.).
- **NO** electrical or battery operated devices or appliances are permitted in any project pen, or any place within the barn without prior approval from an Ag Teacher.
- The wash rack and grooming area must be maintained and kept clean at all times after any use. All clipping is to be done outside if possible and must be cleaned up afterwards. The trim chute is to be stored outside.
- Weekly cleaning assignments will be determined by the Ag Teachers and will be completed by the students
- An adequate amount of clean bedding must be provided to your animal(s) in each stall. Hay may not be used as a bedding material.
- Under no circumstances should a student, parent or guardian apply any pesticides, insecticides, etc. to any area of the barn. If there is an issue with pests in the barn (ants, wasps, rodents, etc.), please contact the barn manager if there is an issue with pests so a work order can be put in.

## **DAILY ANIMAL CARE:**

- All animals must be fed, watered, and cleaned up after **TWICE** Daily.
- All students are required to sign in on the time book twice daily. By signing you are indicating that you have fully cared for your animal including cleaning of stalls. You may **NOT** sign for additional past or future days/times or for another student unless you are caring for their animal.
- If a conflict arises where you need assistance in feeding or caring for your project, please discuss the situation with an Ag Teacher.
- Animals must remain inside of the Agriculture Facility at all times. No one should walk his/her animal(s) outside the main gate at any time unless of an emergency.
- Animals should not be walked in the front parking lot at any time. Animals should be walked in the exercise arena or back pastures. While working your animal you are responsible for cleaning up after the animal at all times.
- All common areas must be cared for if used by you or your animal project including walkways, wash racks, the arena, scales, etc.

## ANIMAL HEALTH GUIDELINES:

- If your animal must be removed for any reason (i.e. vet visit, show), you are responsible for notifying the species Ag Teacher for safety and security.
- Medical care must be provided when necessary, or the animal will be subject to removal. If an animal is deemed ill, a vet appointment must be made by the owner of the animal, the Ag Teachers are not responsible for vet appointments or travel to/from vet appointments. Medications may be administered by an Ag Teacher with prior vet supervision, however minimal medications are kept on hand at the Agriculture Science Center. If your animal project is ill or there is an emergency with an animal please contact a veterinarian. A release form must be signed and kept on file for an Ag Teacher to administer any medications.
- Please know that the Ag Teachers are only here for advice and are not medical professionals and do not keep medications on hand. If the Ag Teachers or Administrator requests for you to see a Vet, you have 24 hours to schedule a Vet appointment. Proof of Vet appointment and diagnosis must be provided. Failure to see a Vet after a request from the Ag Teachers will result in removal from the Agriculture Science Center until the animal is seen by a Vet and deemed healthy.
- All Cattle coming in the barn are required to have a Brucellosis Vaccination with the accompanying ear tag/tattoo. Calves born in the barn that will be shown the following year must get this vaccination by 6 months of age (owners responsibility). This is a requirement prior to validation for GCFR.

## ACCESS AND PARKING:

- Barn scan cards will be issued to gain entry into the Agriculture Science Center Facility. Loaning of barn scan cards is strictly prohibited.
  - Each student with an animal project will be issued 1 scan card
  - One additional scan card may be issued to parents/guardians
  - Replacement Cards are \$40
  - Scan cards are timed and will not work outside of barn hours.
- Barn Scan Cards with 24 hour access will be made available through the Ag Teachers and can be checked out for use over the weekend or in circumstances where further access to the Agriculture Science Center is needed (ex. caring for a sick or pregnant animal.) The person who checks out the card is responsible for returning the card or may be fined \$40 for replacement.
- Absolutely **NO PARKING** inside the barn, in fire lanes, and in front of the barn roll up doors unless you are loading/unloading animals and/or feed and tack. No person is permitted to park in handicap parking spots unless they are permitted to do so by the state of Texas whether by hanging placard or license plate. If anyone is in violation of this rule, the vehicle is subject to being towed at the owner's expense. **NO** parking of student vehicles at the barn during school hours.
- **NO PARKING** or **STORAGE** of trailers in the barn parking lot. Any trailer left at the Agriculture Science Center for more than 24 hours without permission from the Ag Teachers is subject to being towed at the owner's expense.
- **NO PARKING/LEAVING** vehicles at the Ag Barn for extended periods unless on an FFA activity.

## EQUIPMENT AND USAGE:

- The Ag Barn exercise arena is for working your animal, and should not be left unattended in the arena for any reason (cleaning stalls, area, etc). Lambs, Goats, and Swine are not allowed in the cattle barn.
- The Ag Department truck, trailers, and/or tractor are not to be used by any student. Parents/Guardians may be given special permission to use said equipment with district approval and signed waiver.
- All equipment, supplies and tools in the Agriculture Science Center are property of the FFA and DISD. Use of any equipment should be properly cared for and cleaned upon return to its proper storage area.
- The lamb and goat treadmill and outdoor walker are to be used by lambs and goats ONLY. Use of this equipment requires instruction for proper usage of the equipment. No other motorized vehicle or equipment shall be used to move or exercise an animal, NO EXCEPTIONS.
- **Lamb & Goat Treadmill:**
  - The treadmill is to be used for the sole purpose of exercising Lamb and Goat projects only.
  - All students under the age of 16 must have a Parent or Guardian present in order to use the treadmill.
  - The treadmill shall NOT be used for an extended period of time or for any use other than its intended purpose.
  - Over-use of the treadmill can result in injury to the animal.
  - The treadmill may not be moved, altered, or any foreign objects attached in any fashion other than what has been provided by the factory.
  - Any misuse of the treadmill may result in immediate removal of the animal project and banishment from the Ag Barn.

## COMMUNICATION:

- All students and/or parents with animal projects will be required to join the messaging system set up by the Ag Teachers. This will be an information system to alert students and parents of important times and dates regarding the FFA and their animal project(s).
- Information will be posted on the Dickinson FFA Facebook page, BAND app, as well as our website at [dickinson.ffa.org](http://dickinson.ffa.org). A weekly newsletter will be sent to those who subscribe on our website.
- For non-emergency situations or to report concerns at the Agriculture Science Center, please follow the chain of command of barn contacts. Please contact the following people via email, school phone, or BAND group messaging.
- For Ag Barn maintenance issues please contact the barn manager via email.
- Please follow the chain of command for contact regarding issues in the barn or with an animal project
  1. Species Specific Ag Teacher
  2. Barn Manager
  3. Lead Ag Teacher
  4. DHS Assistant Principal
  5. CTE Director
- **CONTACTING THE AG TEACHERS OR ADMINISTRATOR VIA PERSONAL PHONE IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY!**
  - An Emergency is constituted by a situation affecting the immediate health and safety of an animal or person in the Agriculture Science Center such as fire, flood, illness leading to immediate death or death of an animal.

**For Animal Health Emergencies contact a veterinarian below and your species Advisor.**

- o Dr. Knape - (281) 331-2830
  - 15835 County Rd 185, Alvin, TX 77511
- o Dr. Jenkins - (409) 925-1629
  - 3417 Avenue J, Santa Fe, TX 77510
- o Dr. Anderson - (409) 974-0060
  - MOBILE VET

## **FEES AND DEPOSITS**

- Students are responsible for paying **ALL** fees before an animal is brought into the Agriculture Science Center. Fees are on a per pen, per year basis and are non-refundable.
  - Steer and Heifer Projects are **\$150** per pen, per year
  - Lamb, Goat, and Swine Projects are **\$100** per pen, per year
- Deposits will be submitted at the time of the barn contract meeting. Deposits will be issued as a **\$300** check, per child, made payable to Dickinson FFA and undated. This check will be held by the CTE Department. Deposits will be returned once cleared by an ag teacher at the barn clean-out day after GCFR.

## **LOCKERS & STORAGE STALLS**

- Each animal project will be provided with at least 1 locker.
- All lockers should be kept clean and organized. Lockers may be locked with a personal lock.
- Storage stalls will only be available if there are empty stalls and then will be determined by the Ag Teachers for use as storage. If Storage Stalls are available they will be made accessible to everyone on that aisle and can not be “claimed” for personal use. Storage stalls will be kept clean and organized by the students who are using that stall. Storage stalls may not be locked for any reason by any method.
- All feed and hay is required to be stored in closable containers in lockers and/or storage stalls.

## **MONTHLY SPECIES ANIMAL MEETINGS**

- Exhibitors of each species will meet monthly with their species advisor(s). This meeting will consist of feed and nutrition programs, daily care, showmanship, preparation for upcoming events as well as, cleaning of the common areas of the Agriculture Science Center (taking the place of weekend barn-clean-ups). Cleaning by all students with that species is required at the monthly meetings regardless if you are receiving assistance from your advisor. Dates may be subject to change due to conflict with holidays.

**Schedule of Animal Meetings will be issued in September and posted to our website at [dickinson.ffanow.org](http://dickinson.ffanow.org)**

## ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION

- The Ag Teachers will transport animals if they are available to do so. Transportation should be arranged 1 week in advance to the event or appointment. The Ag Teachers are not available for transporting animals during school hours.
- Transportation will be provided to and from Galveston County Fair, Houston Livestock Show, San Antonio Livestock Exhibition and other Texas Major Shows if permissible. It is encouraged that if traveling to the Veterinarian or a Show/Clinic that multiple students arrange to travel together. All prospective travel by DISD staff and students is determined by DISD Administration.

## LIVESTOCK SHOWS AND TRAVEL

- If an animal is not deemed properly cared for and show ready it is at the FFA Advisors discretion to not transport the animal. However, parents are still welcome to provide transportation for their own animals to show.
- **NO** animals will return to the Agriculture Science Center after GCFR (dependent on GCFR rules).
  - Excludes Breeding Heifer Projects except after their second show year or a senior student
  - Any second year Breeding Heifer Projects must be removed on the same deadline as market animals following GCFR regardless of pregnancy status.
- Eligible students will be excused from school to participate in Texas Major Shows & Galveston County Fair.

## SENIOR STUDENTS:

- No senior student may start a project which will not finish before school is released in June.
- Graduated seniors will not be allowed to utilize the Agriculture facilities.
- All personal belongings must be removed from the Ag Barn or will become property of the FFA.
- Seniors must have all fines and fees cleared with the Ag Department to be in good standing in order to participate in senior activities (prom, graduation, etc.)

## ANIMAL DEATH

- If an animal project dies at the Agriculture facility, it is the student's/parent's responsibility to remove the animal carcass within **two (2) hours** of being notified of its existence.
- If the carcass is not removed within two (2) hours, this service will be provided at the expense of the owner of the animal project.
- Dumping dead animals in a dumpster will result in eviction from the Agriculture Science Center Facility.

## DISASTER PLAN

- All students and parents will be required to join the messaging system set forth by the Ag Teachers. This will be an informational system to alert students and parents of plans in the event of a disaster.
- It is the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian to care for the animal project(s) in the event of a weather emergency including any weather related school closures.
- DISD will perform their due diligence in the directives and logistics of evacuating animals, but are not responsible for evacuation or care of animal projects through a disaster of any type (natural, chemical, national security, etc.). The movement or evacuation of any animal project is the responsibility of each individual animal owner.
- In the event a major catastrophe occurs and an animal is left in the Ag Facility and dies, the remains will be removed according to the dead animal removal rules previously stated on this contract.
- The Agriculture Science Center Facility must follow all guidelines and protocols put in place by DISD and by local and state officials.

## BREEDER CONTRACT

- Students wishing to have their breeder, fitter, or jock come to the barn must have a breeder contract in place with the Ag and CTE Departments.
- Breeders that have submitted an application must be approved by the CTE Director before given access to provide services at the Ag Barn.
- Must be a legitimate breeder, fitter, or jock that is ACTIVELY providing a livestock service for the students listed on their breeder contract.
- Must have an up to date background check on file with DISD.
- Must abide by the barn contract guidelines.

## YEAR END CLOSEOUT & BARN CLEAN-UP

- End of year barn clean-up is **MANDATORY** and must be attended by the student, parent/guardian, or a representative of the student.
  - Only excusable by UIL or family/medical emergencies
  - Any other excuse and/or absence will result in loss of deposit
- **Saturday, April 27th, 2024**
  - ALL student stalls, storage areas, and lockers must be cleaned, personal items removed from the Ag Barn
  - ALL animals removed from barn by 9AM\* (excluding 2nd year breeding beef projects)
  - Must be completed on this day in order to be eligible to receive your barn deposit on Sunday
  - Second year breeding beef heifer projects still in the barn must be put in the pasture.
- **Sunday, April 28th, 2024 -**
  - Barn Clean-Up (common areas, trailers, show equipment, etc.).
  - Turn in all keys.
  - Students will be assigned to their species area and will be directed by their species advisor.
  - Must be signed off by your species advisor to receive your deposit and be released.



## DISCIPLINE

1. Probation: Any signee (student or parent) may be placed on probation from the Agriculture Science Center premises. During this probation period that person is not allowed on the Agriculture Science Center property and may not be permitted to participate in any livestock shows or events concerning that project.
2. Fines: Will be assessed to students via Skyward and must be paid by the end of the school year. Students with unpaid fines will be considered not in good standing.
3. Write-Ups: Any signee (student or parent) can receive a disciplinary barn write-up against the student's barn contract. Three (3) barn write-ups in one contract period will result in removal from the Ag Barn Facility. Parents who receive a barn write up have the potential to be removed and placed on probation or banned from the premises.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATING RULES AND REGULATIONS:

The Ag Teachers will notify students and/or parents/guardians of any problems or violations noted. Failure to remedy the situation within **24 Hours** will result in further disciplinary action and possible termination of this contract and removal from the ag barn facility. If a student or any person signed on that student's contract violate any of the Dickinson ISD Agriculture Science Center rules or regulations, the following procedures will be applied:

1. First Offense:
  - Barn Write-Up and conference with the student and parent(s).
2. Second Offense:
  - Barn Write-Up and conference with the student, parent(s), and an Administrator.
3. Third Offense:
  - Barn Write-Up and conference with the student, parent(s), and an Administrator.. This contract will be terminated and the student's project(s) and all personal belongings will be removed within seven (7) calendar days from the meeting or become property of Dickinson FFA. This will also result in a ban from raising animals in the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center.

## TERMS, CONDITIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

The Agriculture Program reserves the right to remove any student and their project(s) from the facilities if any one of the following conditions exists:

- Animal abuse or neglect in any form
- Diseased or infected animals
- Animals that are unsafe to handle
- Students failing to observe rules
- Animals not being fed for show purposes
- Student is no longer involved in the program
- Major infractions of school, facility, or Student Code of Conduct rules that result in: DALC Assignment or Expulsion

## **Dickinson FFA 2023-2024**

### **Agriculture Science Center Barn Contract**

All students and parents/guardians must sign this contract and understand that the rules will be enforced prior to having a pen assigned at the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center. All rules, regulations and laws set forth by the Dickinson ISD Handbook and Texas State Law must be followed as the Agriculture Science Center is property of Dickinson ISD and the State of Texas.

IF AT ANY TIME THE AG TEACHERS DETERMINE THAT THESE RULES ARE NOT BEING FOLLOWED YOUR ANIMAL MAY BECOME PROPERTY OF THE AG DEPARTMENT AND REMOVED. SERIOUS OFFENSES MAY DEEM IMMEDIATE REMOVAL.

Your signature indicates that you understand that this Agriculture Science Center is made available through the Dickinson FFA and Dickinson ISD.

The Ag Department has authority over who is or is not allowed on the property and all rules that apply as outlined in this contract. Admittance or removal from the Agriculture Science Center is at the sole discretion of the Ag Teachers and Administration.

Dickinson Agriculture Science Center Agreement Form

By signing this document, I agree to the following terms:

**Student:**

I agree to abide by the rules and criteria set forth in the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center Rules that I have received, read, understood, and signed. I agree to pay all relevant fees associated with the expense and upkeep of my animal project(s). I agree to indemnify Dickinson ISD, Dickinson ISD employees, and volunteers of liability for any loss or injury that myself, any allowable family member, or contract signee may sustain by participating in activities at the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center. I understand that all who sign on this contract must be in compliance with the above stated rules, otherwise putting my project at risk. I agree to conduct myself in a professional manner at all times in the Agriculture Science Center at all events where I am representing the FFA.

**Parent/Legal Guardian:**

I agree to abide by the rules and criteria set forth in the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center Rules that I have received, read, understood, and signed. I agree to pay all relevant fees associated with the expense and upkeep of my child's animal project(s). I agree to indemnify Dickinson ISD, Dickinson ISD employees, and volunteers of liability for any loss or injury that my child, any allowable family member, or I may sustain by participating in activities at the Dickinson Agriculture Science Center, and I agree to monitor my child for compliance with the above stated rules. I understand that all who sign on this contract must be in compliance with the above stated rules, otherwise putting my child's project at risk. I agree to conduct myself in a professional manner at all times in the Agriculture Science Center at all events where I am representing the FFA. This document is binding and non-negotiable.

