



PAUL J. PLUMMER
National Show Youth Activities Committee Chair

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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 Sacramento, California on July 18–25, 2009. 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 – goats! Enclosed in this packet 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. These forms should be returned to the ADGA office prior to June 30, 2009. The entry form portions should be filled out to help aid in planning, but we ask that you also confirm your entries with us at the youth participant meeting on July 18, 2009 at 2 PM.

Once again we are pleased to announce that this year's contests will take place on both Saturday and Sunday. The events will start with a mandatory participants' meeting at 2 PM on Saturday, July 18th, followed by the Judging and Management contest at 4:00 PM and the Youth Party at 7:00 PM. Events will resume Sunday, July 19th at 8 AM with the Showmanship classes. This year 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 that is mailed back to the office, 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 mailing in the 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). Previously, this has been done as a “mad rush” at the end of the participants' meeting. This year we are pleased to announce that there will be a Youth Sign-in Table open prior to the participants' meeting (the table will be open from 11:30 AM - 1PM Saturday). 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

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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 that 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. **If you have entered your does in the open 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 2009 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. 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 showing or may be penalized during judging (this action will be at the discrimination of the committee and judge).

Last year's events were great fun, and I hope that all who attended in 2008 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 July.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Plummer

National Show Youth Activities Committee Chair
American Dairy Goat Association