

El Dorado County Junior Livestock Auction Committee Fact Sheet

Who runs the auction? Who is on the committee?

The Junior Livestock Auction Committee is a non-profit organization which is comprised of business owners, community members, a County 4-H representative, FFA Advisors and the Fair Manager. All members are volunteers. Our sole purpose is to make the auction the best experience for everyone involved.

How are market weight requirements decided?

The processors we work with to harvest our animals set the weight requirements (minimum, maximum and paid to max). The processors are all USDA certified. They buy back from us the animals that are “resold” by the buyers, so they require that all of our animals fit within the weight limits that can be resold back to their consumers.

Why is money taken out of my check? Where does the seller’s commission go?

A commission is kept from each purchase at the auction. This is standard practice for any auction. As previously stated, the Livestock Auction Committee is non-profit organization. We use the commission from the previous year’s sale to pay for the next year’s sale. Here is a partial list of costs that go into producing a sale: advertising, insurance, auctioneers, bookkeeping supplies, sale catalog and sale slip printing, thank-you hats, mailing/postage, transportation fees for livestock, refreshments/snacks for buyers during the sale, meal coupons for buyers to use after the sale. The greatest expense of the auction is credit card processing fees.

When will sellers get paid?

The seller’s checks come directly out of the Livestock Auction Committee’s checking account. As with any account, we cannot write the checks until we have money in the bank to cover them. It’s that simple. Once we have enough money collected from the buyers, we pay the sellers. Even if you know that your buyer has paid their bill, our computer system does not print individual seller checks; all checks must be covered in order for any to be printed and disbursed. All checks are printed at once.

How is the Sale Order determined?

The sale order is compiled based on class placings. All first place (class winners) will sell first, then second places sell, then third places, etc...

What can 4-H/FFA/Grange Members do to help the Auction Committee?

There is no better salesperson than the exhibitor who raises the animal! Exhibitors can help us by getting buyers to the sale. We write letters to the buyers who have participated in The Group or made a personal bump from the 2 previous year’s sales. This is a mere invitation, it is a good idea for members to go out and personally solicit previous buyers to come back, as well as find new potential buyers and solicit them too.

What is The Group?

The Group is a compilation of buyers and community patrons who each contribute a minimum of \$200. Each year the entire funds raised by The Group are spent on boosting prices for exhibitors.

Further Questions? Contact the Livestock Auction Committee at edcauction@gmail.com.