

BLUE RIBBON BUDDIES



PRESENTED BY THE JUNIOR LIVESTOCK BOARD

PURPOSE

The Blue Ribbon Buddies Program pairs experienced Central Florida Fair Junior Board Members with new or younger exhibitors to:

- Provide guidance on raising and showing livestock
- Build confidence in fair participation
- Foster leadership and community spirit
- Strengthen the overall youth livestock program at the Central Florida Fair

PARTICIPANTS

Mentors:

- Active Junior Board Members in good standing or Livestock Exhibitors.
- Must have at least 2 years of livestock experience
- Committed to being positive role models and resources for younger exhibitors

Mentees:

- Youth exhibitors new to the livestock program (or those wanting extra guidance)
- Ages 8–18
- Willing to attend one on one meetings, ask questions, and communicate with their mentor

PROGRAM TIMELINE

- July–August 31: Mentor & Mentee sign-ups
- September: Mentor & Mentee pairing announcements
- September–February: Monthly check-ins & Workshops (if needed)
- March (Fair Time): Watch your Year long of hard work Pay off! Mentors are encouraged to help prepare for Shows & Sales
- Post-Fair: Wrap-up celebration and reflection meeting

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Kickoff Meeting: Meet your mentor/mentee and set goals
- Monthly Check-Ins: Short updates via phone, text, or meetups
- Show Week Support: Mentors available during weigh-in and show days
- Wrap-Up Celebration: Recognize mentors & mentees, collect feedback for improvement

CODE OF CONDUCT

- Maintain respectful and positive communication
- Stay committed for the entire fair season
- Seek guidance from Fair Staff or Junior Board if issues arise

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MENTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Communicate regularly (at least twice a month) with mentees via text, email, or in-person
- Share best practices on:
 - Animal care & feeding
 - Showmanship tips
 - Record book completion
 - Fair rules & deadlines
- Encourage mentees to attend workshops & Jackpot shows
- Be a friendly face during the fair to answer questions and calm nerves

MENTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Stay engaged – ask questions, seek advice, and participate in check-ins
- Attend workshops, shows, and planned meetups
- Be respectful and responsive to mentor guidance
- Follow all Central Florida Fair rules and deadlines

RECOGNITION

- Mentors will receive service hours and special recognition at the fair
- Mentees will earn a certificate of completion and confidence for future fairs
- Outstanding mentor/mentee pairs may be highlighted on the fair's social media or at awards night



APPLY HERE