MEMO



4/2/2020 Date:

TO: **SLO County 4-H Families**

FM: SLO County 4-H Office Staff

RE: Facebook Post Regarding the Santa Barbara County Fair Planning & Follow SLO County 4-H Facebook Link

Please see the announcement below if it pertains to your family. This is the quality of the Facebook announcement as we received it. Also, please follow our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/SLO4H/

April 2, 2020

Attention:

Large Livestock Exhibitors & Parents Small Livestock Exhibitors & Parent **Horse Show Exhibitors & Parents** Still Exhibitors

Re:

Santa Barbara County Fair planning

The Santa Barbara County Fair is scheduled to take place as planned, July 15-19, 2020.

The Fair Board, The JLA Board, the Foundation Board, and the staff all understand the educational and personal growth benefits that raising and exhibiting animals offer our exhibitors, and we are committed to supporting those benefits through this crisis. We understand the investments that you make in time and money in your projects, and we're committed to continuing to support your efforts.

However, due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, you need to be aware that there could still be significant impacts on the 2020 Fair, animal competitions, and the junior livestock auctions.

If the Santa Barbara County Fair takes place as planned, there likely will still be very significant economic impacts on participants, the Fair, and buyers at the auction. There likely will be fewer buyers, and prices likely will be significantly lower that normal. Please evaluate your budget and plan accordingly.

There is a real possibility that the Fair would be postponed or canceled. The Fair and the JLA are actively working with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and meat processors to develop alternate plans for gathering, vet checking, evaluating quality, shipping and selling livestock projects, not only at the SBCF but across California and the United States. This process will take time, and we do not yet have all the answers for you. Please be patient.

We are all dealing with the uncertainty surrounding this health crisis together. Please be diligent about the safety of yourself, your community, and your family. And please be kind to each other. The Fairpark staff will continue to be available to answer your questions about your entries. The best way to reach us during this time is to leave voicemail or email at the entry office. (805)925-8824 x109 or livestock@santamariafairpark.com.

Sincerely.

Richard Persons, CEO Santa Maria Fairpark