

# Ferris ISD Agricultural Sciences

## MS Hammack Project Center

Rules, Regulations, and Animal Welfare Agreement

### Purpose

The purpose of this facility is to enhance the SAE projects of Ferris FFA members and to provide a stable and safe environment for such projects. The mindset of students and parents should be to make sure the entire facility is maintained properly, with the utmost importance placed on the welfare of the animal projects on site. Each animal is the sole responsibility of the FISS student, and the student is the sole provider of food, shelter, safety, and proper care for that animal. The student will be held accountable for doing everything necessary for the animal project throughout the duration of the project period. The FISS student will be held accountable by the Agricultural Sciences Teacher(s)/FFA Advisor(s) to remedy problems in a timely manner.

It will be considered a privilege to keep an animal project at the FISS MS Hammack Project Center (MSHPC). Students and parents/guardians should understand that the privilege could be revoked when all policies set forth within this document and agreed upon by the student and his/her guardian(s) are not followed.

Failure to abide by all rules will result in the following consequences:

| OFFENSE                 | CONSEQUENCE   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>ST</sup> OFFENSE | Student will receive a verbal warning from the AST.   |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> OFFENSE | Student will receive a written warning and a detention to be served on the student's home campus.*  |
| 3 <sup>RD</sup> OFFENSE | Student will receive a written warning and be placed on a growth plan. Growth plan will include additional barn duties as directed by the AST, as well as an essay assigned by the AST. |
| 4 <sup>TH</sup> OFFENSE | Student and animal(s) will be evicted from the barn and the program.  |

\*If detention is not available at home campus, student will be required to serve detention with AST in the Ag Building at Ferris High School.

Parents and students must attend an orientation with the Agricultural Sciences Teachers (AST) prior to moving projects into the facility to review rules and regulations. The MS Hammack Project Center (MSHPC) agreement must be signed by both student and parent. All fees must be paid prior to move in as well.

### General Rules and Regulations

**All FISS policies will be followed at all times. (See Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook).**

No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or controlled substances will be allowed. No persons under the influence of alcohol, tobacco or other controlled substances will be allowed on the premises at any time. At stock shows there will be no alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or controlled substances around the stall areas, including but not limited to inside coolers. **FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THESE RULES WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE EVICTION OF THE STUDENT'S ANIMAL(S) FROM THE MSHPC.**

## Guests

Students and parents should be selective of guests at the MSHPC. Guests are the responsibility of the student, and therefore must follow all FISD/MSHPC rules and regulations. As a courtesy, students should give the supervising AST 24-hour notice before bringing a guest to the MSHPC. The resident student will be held responsible for any and all actions by individuals brought into the facility.

## Ferris FFA Show Team

If a student wishes to house his or her animal project(s) at the MSHPC and haul his or her animal(s) in an FISD ag trailer, the student must collectively stall with the FISD FFA Show Team at all stock shows attended. The only exception to this may be the separation of species.

The supervising and/or species AST reserves the right to deny stock show attendance and the showing of a project animal if that animal does not meet expectations. These expectations include but are not limited to: failing a visual inspection by an AST, being underweight, or showing symptoms of contagious illness/disease.

The ASTs will not provide school transportation for students or animals to open shows. The only exception to this is the Fort Worth Stock Show Longhorn show. If a student wishes to participate in an open show, he or she must provide his or her own transportation to and from the show.

## Pets

No pets will be allowed at the project center without prior approval by the supervising AST. If allowed and the pet becomes a problem, the animal will not be allowed to return.

## Driving/Parking

Students, parents, and guests are limited to driving on designated areas only. Drivers should drive slowly and with caution both inside and outside fenced areas. **DO NOT DRIVE IN PASTURE.** Consider roadways which lead to the project center an extension of the MSHPC. Avoid excessive noise, recklessness, littering, or other disruptive behavior on all roadways in and around the MSHPC.

## Barn Occupancy

The MS Hammack Project Center is open between the hours of 5:00 AM and 11:00 PM in order to accommodate multiple student/parent schedules. Please use this time frame to access your animal(s) and complete daily tasks.

All students must be a member in good standing with Texas FFA and enrolled in an FISD Agricultural Science course.

Students not enrolled in an FISD Agricultural Science course but are members in good standing with the Texas Jr. FFA may keep their projects at the Project Center unless there is need for pen use by an FHS FFA member. Jr. FFA Students will not be asked to relinquish their pens during the middle of the show season. Jr. FFA members must follow the same rules and regulations as FFA members. Advisors may grant access to use the facility to any 4H member, if space allows, that is a current student enrolled in Ferris ISD.

Stalls are limited to one stall per student per species unless there are available stalls. In the event of an emergency (pen flooding, sick animal or birthing calf), the AST may *temporarily* allow access to an additional stall.

The supervising AST will make stall/pen assignments as well as storage area assignments for each student project. ***The assignments will not be changed without AST approval.***

Stall assignments will be based on the following criteria:

1. Animal species
2. Years in program/on show team
3. Barn occupant in good standing based on past year's conduct

A stall fee (barn rent) is assessed in order to provide equipment and cover miscellaneous expenses for the lessee to use while at the MSHPC. Fees will include Fall, Spring, and Summer rents. Fees will not be prorated. The fees are due according to the following schedule:

- Fall Barn Rent – due by the second Friday of September
- Spring Barn Rent – due by the second Friday of January
- Summer Barn Rent – due by the second Friday of May
- A late fee of \$5.00 per week will be assessed until rent is paid.

| SPECIES   | AMOUNT PER TERM PER ANIMAL |
|---|----------------------------|
| Beef Breeding Heifers/Market Steers   | \$45.00                    |
| Longhorns   | \$45.00                    |
| Market Swine  | \$30.00                    |
| Market Goats/Market Lambs   | \$30.00                    |
| *Fees for Rabbits and Chickens will be assessed if the need for stalling at the MSHPC is necessary. |                            |

Cleanliness is a necessity. It is the student's responsibility to keep the stall area and any other area used by the student/animal neat, clean, and orderly. This includes but is not limited to manure, trash, canned drinks, water bottles, bags, and old bedding material. **A \$50.00 pen cleanup fee will be assessed for students who have previously caused the MSHPC to be excessively dirty. Students will be notified in writing if they are to be assessed this fee.**

Individual stalls and feed bunk areas must be kept clean daily. All manure will be placed in the designated location. Wheelbarrows must be cleaned out and returned to the storage area.

A barn cleaning date will be posted every other month for the center aisles, arena, wash rack, and other general use areas. Students are allowed to miss one barn cleaning day during the academic year. All other cleaning dates must be attended or prior arrangements made with the supervising AST.

All animals occupying the facility must be entered and shown in at least one show throughout the project year (ECYE for market animals, any major or ECYE for breeding). Cattle must attend two shows (one major show and one jackpot or county show).

Animal ownership may not change without teacher approval.

No male breeding animals will be allowed at the facility.

All species no longer eligible to compete at approved youth shows must be removed from the facility within two weeks after the last show for which they are eligible to compete.

All market animals must be removed from project center within two weeks following the project show. Projects not removed will become property of the Ferris FFA Chapter and sold (excluding approved breeding projects).

All exhibitors must file an up-to-date emergency contact information sheet with the supervising AST. FISD is not liable for any accidents, injuries, or deaths that occur on the MS Hammack Project Center grounds.

## Project Welfare and Safety

Cruelty to animals will not be tolerated and is cause for immediate eviction of the animal as well as the student. The supervising AST will make the final decision. This includes but is not limited to: neglect, abusive training, malicious actions, using electronic devices without permission, or administering unapproved drugs. (See Animal Welfare Agreement).

Animals must enter the facility only after visual inspection by the supervising AST as well as a veterinarian issued health check.

AST's will assist students in administering medication(s) and/or advise the student to contact the veterinarian. Failure to follow instructions could affect health of other students' projects.

All projects must be fed at least twice per day unless otherwise instructed by an AST.

Hay bags are not permitted in stalls as they can pose a safety hazard to the animal.

In the event a student must go out of town or have someone other than a family member feed the animal(s), the supervising AST must be notified as early as possible.

Students and family members may not feed, move, water, or provide any other care, regardless of the intent, to help another student's project(s) without permission from the owner or AST. Advisor(s) cannot assess the health and care of the individual animal if others are caring for it. Please do not make it your business to feed or care for another person's animal, or complain about the care of the project. **The supervising AST will monitor all projects.**

Safety for self and the project is the sole responsibility of the student. Any damage to the facility or injuries occurring at the facility should be reported to an AST immediately.

**FISD will not be held liable for injury, loss or theft of a project.**

The facility will be monitored by video surveillance and viewed by the AST and FISD Administration.

## Student Responsibilities

Feed/hay/water troughs will be provided by the student.

Hay/feed/tack is to be stored in student lockers and not in a public area.

Students must keep a project journal including, but not limited to the following\*:

- Feed schedules and intake
- Medical expenses
- Show expenses
- Basic care

\*Journals will be monitored by the species AST.

Students showing loaner projects will be responsible for invoicing breeder for all expenses.

Students and parents assume all risks and should consider insurance policies which cover animal projects and other property.

Each student/family (student(s) and parent(s)/guardian) participating in a SAE project requiring animals to be kept at the MSHPC will be issued a five-digit gate code. Gate codes SHOULD NOT be given or shared with anyone.

- Gate codes may be changed as necessary by the CTE Coordinator.
- Students will be given a one week notice in advance of gate code changes. AST will give students the new gate code.
- It will be the student's responsibility to notify parent(s)/guardian of the change.
- Reminders will be emailed to student's Fisd email account from AST and/or CTE Coordinator.

In the event of an emergency/evacuation the owner is responsible for the animal's welfare.

The supervising AST reserves the right to make decisions concerning the project center rules/ projects and barn in the best interest of the residents/livestock at any time. These rules will be assessed, reviewed, and amended by the AST and Fisd Administration as needed and written notification will be given to notify you of any changes made to this agreement.

## Glossary of Terms

- **AST** – *Agricultural Sciences Teacher*
- **SAE** – *Supervised Agriculture Experience*
- **MSHPC** – *MS Hammack Project Center*
- **Supervising AST** – *AST over entire barn*
- **Species AST** – *AST supervising that species*

## AST Assignments

- **Cyruss Ragsdale** – *Supervising Barn/Animal AST*
  - Beef Heifers and Steers
  - Swine
  - Lambs
  - Goats
  - Poultry
- **Kirsten Chapman** – *Assistant Supervising Barn/Animal AST*
  - Longhorns
  - Rabbits
- **Megan Dalton** – *AST*
  - Floral/Horticulture
  - Assist with animals as necessary
  - Assist with Ag Mechanics as necessary
- **David McGee** – *Agricultural Mechanics AST*

# Ferris ISD Agricultural Sciences

## MS Hammack Project Center

### Rules, Regulations, and Animal Welfare Agreement Signature Page

Please initial the following statements and sign where indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_ As a student member of the Ferris FFA Chapter who is currently raising a project animal, I know the importance of the humane treatment of our animal projects.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree my project(s) must be fed on a daily basis on a consistent feeding schedule throughout the feeding period with a feed ration approved for my animal(s).

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree the stall, pen or coop must be cleaned by me daily by removing any manure and any soiled bedding.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree the animals should be provided with fresh water daily in a clean container.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree my project(s) should be dewormed regularly and be provided veterinary attention when their health deems necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree not to be abusive or use excessive force on my project, especially when training or exercising my animal.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree not to use any drugs (or unnatural alteration techniques) on my animal without the approval of a veterinarian and my supervising AST.

I know that failing to meet the standards set by my project AST will be grounds for removal of my project following the fourth warning from my AST. The animal(s) will then be sold at the current market value at a local livestock exchange if applicable.

Please print, sign, and date below. This document must be signed in blue or black ink.

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|--------------|-------------------|------|
| Student Name | Student Signature | Date |
|--------------|-------------------|------|

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|             |                  |      |
|-------------|------------------|------|
| Parent Name | Parent Signature | Date |
|-------------|------------------|------|

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|          |               |      |
|----------|---------------|------|
| AST Name | AST Signature | Date |
|----------|---------------|------|

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|----------------------|---------------------------|------|
| CTE Coordinator Name | CTE Coordinator Signature | Date |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------|