

# 2026 Livestock and Small Animal Competition Requirements

## General

- A. The Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements, General Livestock Competition Requirements, Junior Livestock Competition Requirements, Animal Welfare Policy, Colorado State Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct, and National Show Ring Code of Ethics will govern all livestock competition events at the Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition (“State Fair”).
- B. **IRS and Colorado Department of Revenue Compliance:** To comply with the Colorado Department of Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service tax-reporting requirements, a properly completed current IRS form W-9 must be submitted for any premium earning of \$600 or more or any monies derived from a sale. Monies won or earned at the Fair will only be paid if the IRS Form W-9 form is correct.
- C. **Premises Identification:** All exhibitors entering Open Livestock or Market Livestock competitions must provide a valid premises identification number (PID) at the time of entry as set forth at 8 CCR 1208-1 Article 8.4(a)(i). To obtain a PID, contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 303-569-9130 or click on the following link:  
<https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises>
- D. **Schedule Of Events:** Authority officials reserve the right to cancel events, change schedules, combine classes, split classes, cancel classes, and adjust premiums if necessary. Officials have the right to combine any classes with five (5) or fewer animals entered at the time of the show.
- E. **Using Animals In Judging Contests:** Exhibitors understand that by entering their livestock into competition at the State Fair, the livestock may be used for judging purposes by the members of collegiate judging teams or for the Colorado State Fair Premier Exhibitor Contests. When an exhibitor is called upon to furnish one or more animals for the students to judge in the Dairy or Livestock Judging Contests, he or she is expected to do so. An exhibitor who refuses to allow his or her animal to be used in this manner may be subject to discipline as outlined in the Determination of Violations Section of the General Competition Requirements.
- F. **Clean Up:** All stalls and alleys must be cleaned daily before 10:00 am. Dirty shavings and manure must be piled in the designated area of the barn. No manure should be put into trash cans.

Livestock Pavilion - West End Disposal

Sheep And Swine - Southside Disposal

Anyone found dumping manure or trash in undesignated areas will be subject to a fine of \$100 or disqualification, determined by Authority officials.

- G. Requesting of New Breed Show and Infractions of Existing:** Management will consider requests for new breed shows with a signed request by five potential exhibitors and a payment of \$500, which amount will be applied toward the show's premiums presented to the Livestock and Small Animal Events Coordinator before February 1 of the intended year for such participation.

Breed shows that decrease to less than 10 exhibitors will be placed on a one-year probation period; pending animal numbers for the upcoming year will determine the Authority's right to discontinue that Association's show for the following year. The Authority requires at least 5 exhibitors and not less than 5 animals to be entered and present to conduct a breed show. If those requirements are not met at the time of the show, those animals will be placed in the Other Pure Breed classes.

A Breed association with any debt from the previous State Fair year will not be allowed to conduct a breed show in the current year. The full payment in the prior year must be remunerated in cash directly to the Authority's accounting department. The Colorado State Fair Board of Commissioners reserves the right to decide whether to reinstate that breed show for the following year.

- H. Release of Animals:** Participants must obtain a release form from the species-specific Livestock Superintendent or Department Coordinator to release all their animals, equipment, tack, and feed or bedding before leaving the grounds. Your vehicle and trailers will be checked, and the release will be collected at the exit gate. Animals removed from the Colorado State Fairgrounds without a signed release or before the scheduled release time may be subject to discipline as outlined in the Exhibitor Admission Section of the Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements and any penalties prescribed by law.

## Entry Information

- A. Entries must be submitted online. To submit an entry, visit [www.coloradostatefair.com](http://www.coloradostatefair.com), click "Competitions," then "Livestock," and scroll down to the appropriate show.

B. **Entries:** Exhibitors can enter as many entries in any class as they want, except in Market Classes, which have specific limitations outlined in the Junior Livestock Competition Requirements. All exhibitors must purchase an exhibitor's pass and bring an International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) National Code of Show Ring Ethics form and Colorado State Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct, which they must sign. Market exhibitors must bring a Quality Assurance Certificate for each animal they will show at the State Fair. Exhibitors will not receive credentials or back/ear tags until they submit each form to the Livestock Office.

C. **Effect Of Entry:** Every exhibitor expressly understands and agrees that an exhibitor's completed entry form accepts all of the Authority's competition requirements, whether outlined in a general or a specific rule. The exhibitor further agrees and understands they will abide by the competition requirements at the State Fair. Additionally, the exhibitor agrees and understands that failure to comply with the competition requirements may subject them to penalties, including the loss of prize or award money and the return of any other non-monetary awards they may receive.

D. **Erroneous Entry:** Participants are responsible for their errors and those of their agents and representatives when preparing entries. By applying the participant acknowledges they have read

- Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements
- Open and Junior Livestock Show Competition Requirements
- Junior Livestock Sale Competition Requirements
- Specific or special division Competition Requirements
- Colorado State Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct
- National Show Ring Code of Ethics
- USDA Wholesome Meat Act

Participants further agree to observe and abide by these competition requirements.

E. **Objectionable Exhibits:** Management reserves the right to exclude any entry that may be falsely entered from the grounds and also reserves the right to exclude those considered undesirable or objectionable without assigning a reason. Any person or persons who violate

any of the competition requirements herein may be subject to discipline as outlined in the Determination of Violations Section of the Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements. The Management reserves the right to decline acceptance of entries at any time without a statement of reason.

- F. **Premiums:** There is no limit to the number of animals an exhibitor may enter in a show or in any one class (with the exception of market classes). There is no restriction as to how many places one exhibitor may be paid per class. Premiums will be paid in accordance with the premium schedule listed in each division. Available show premiums are listed under each individual division. Champion classes consist only of those animals that have been awarded first place. Reserve Champion classes consist of the remaining first-place animals and the second-place animal from the class from which the Champion was selected. Ribbons will be awarded through 6th place in all classes. Rosettes or banners will be awarded for champion classes. See individual breeds for special awards.

## **Parking**

- A. Only Official parking permits are allowed on the grounds.
- B. The owners or exhibitors of livestock in illegally parked vehicles may be subject to discipline as outlined in Determination of Violations Section of the Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements.
- C. Only 30 minutes of loading and unloading will be allowed inside Gate #4 barn areas.
- D. All vehicle parking credentials are for outside of Gate #4. Overflow parking will be in the South Lot. Otherwise, parking with a fee in public lots will apply. Large trucks and all livestock trailers must park in the secured designated area.
- E. Vehicles parked in unauthorized areas without designated parking passes will be towed at the owner's expense. Anyone refusing to move his or her vehicle out of the loading area upon request by officials will automatically be towed at the owner's expense, and, at that time, the offending individual, their animals, and their tack will be removed from the premises by a

Colorado State Fair Authority Public Safety Officer. Further, all pre-paid entry or credential fees and any premiums won at the State Fair will be forfeited.

- F. Exhibitor vehicles will not be allowed on the grounds except during load-in and load-out. Once load-in has been completed, exhibitor vehicles will not be allowed on the fairgrounds until such time as the exhibitor will be loading the exhibitor's animals to leave after the show. Exhibitors may not enter the fairgrounds in a vehicle through any gate, including Gate 4, for the purpose of bringing additional feed or bedding.

## Show Requirements

- A. **Dress Code:** All livestock exhibitors must wear appropriate show attire when competing. Shorts, tank tops, low-cut shirts, sheer blouses, flip flops, t-shirts, shirts with inappropriate messages or logos, ball caps, or bare midriffs are unacceptable and may not be worn during a show event.
- Recommended dress is as follows: long- or short-sleeved, button-down shirt or blouse, clean jeans or slacks with a belt. Hard-soled, closed-toe shoes or boots are recommended to protect the feet.
  - Rabbits and Poultry: jeans or slacks and long-sleeved shirts are preferred for safety.
  - Dairy Cattle and Dairy Goats: white shirts and pants are recommended.

Management may refuse entry into the show ring for anyone improperly dressed until said exhibitor is appropriately dressed.

- B. **Show Back Numbers:** Each animal entered is assigned a State Fair competition number. Those numbers will be given to each exhibitor as a back number at check-in time. Every back number has the animal's name and class(es) written on the back. The exhibitors must have the correct back number displayed on their back or in a holder attached to the waist before entering the show ring. Not having the correct show animal number displayed coinciding with the original entry on the official judges' sheets may disqualify that animal. Special event hip tag numbers must be displayed on the animal's hip when the animal is in the show ring.

C. **Unethically Fitted Livestock:** The following are unethical practices and may result in disciplinary action:

1. The injection, use, or administration of any drug or substance that is prohibited by federal, state, or local law or any drug that is used in a manner prohibited by federal, state, or local law;
2. The injection (or internal or external administration) of any product or material, whether gas, solid, or liquid, to an animal for deception, including concealing, enhancing, or transforming the true conformation, degree of firmness, color, breed, condition of age, or by making the animal appear sounder than otherwise would appear;
3. Cutting or tearing of the hide, cutting or tearing underneath the hide, or removal of tissue in any attempt to alter, change, or modify the shape or appearance;
4. Any artificial means of removing or remedying physical defects or conformation (i.e., doctoring, doping, tubing, injecting, or lifting or filling under the skin);
5. Any type of injection where oils, glycerin, or like substances are used to alter and change the conformation of an animal;
6. The administration, use, or application of any drug, feed additive, or substance affecting the central nervous system;
7. The administration of diuretics for cosmetic purposes, tissue manipulation, removal, surgical attachment, or otherwise to change, conceal, enhance, or transform the true conformation or configuration of the animal;
8. Any unnatural means of providing an animal feed, water, or other fluids (i.e., stomach pump, I.V.) except for the drenching process;
9. Any physical or physiological attempt to alter the natural musculature or weight by use of injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health and marketability of beef, sheep, swine or goat carcasses or for deception;

10. Artificial color (paint) will be allowed on cattle only, but any attempt to change the original color and/or markings of the animal will be prohibited.
11. Prohibited practices also include the use of artificial tail-heads, switches, polls, and hair, as well as any internal or external hoof treatments or artificial substances meant to improve soundness.
12. External application of such things as liniments and blistering agents that would cause edematous condition; and
13. Use of ice packs or other refrigerants to alter the quality of the finish of an animal.

D. **Show Ring:** Exhibitors must exhibit and parade their animals in the show ring as directed by the Livestock Program Superintendent. The Livestock Superintendent may exclude stock from competition for unnecessary or upsetting delay on the part of the exhibitors in bringing animals into the show rings. Violation of a Superintendents' directives or of ring steward show ring procedures may result in discipline as outlined in the Determination of Violations Section of the Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements.

## Exhibitor Eligibility and Project Rules

- A. **Health Requirements:** All exhibitors must comply with the respective livestock health requirements, a copy of which can be found at [www.coloradostatefair.com](http://www.coloradostatefair.com). All livestock will be carefully examined at the arrival gate for evidence of infectious or contagious diseases. If, in the opinion of the examining technician, any evidence of infectious or contagious disease is found, Authority Management will consult and follow any necessary procedures outlined in the Animal Welfare Policy.
- B. **Open Division Eligibility:** Open Division eligibility requires all animals to be registered in their respective Breed Association and be owned continuously in the exhibitor's name or Ranch/Farm name since July 20 of the current year. Individual-owned animals cannot be combined with a Ranch/Farm name to accumulate points toward Premier Breeder/Premier Exhibitor awards. Original registration papers and transfers must be available for inspection and comparison with the animal at show time. All Breed Division Special Competition

Requirements must be met. Exhibitors entered in the Junior Breeding show may enter the corresponding Open classes upon meeting all requirements and making proper entry and payment by the August entry deadline.

- C. **Check-In Procedure:** All livestock exhibitors must enter through Gate #4, proceed to their load in/out area, and then report to the Livestock Office. Exhibitors must have all necessary paperwork to complete check-in in a timely manner. Entry changes must be made final 12 hours before show time. See individual division for other specifics. Each exhibitor will be required to review entry information and credentials. The exhibitor's signature will constitute the exhibitor's acceptance of entries as recorded in the secretary's record and his or her statement that he or she has observed and will abide by all competition requirements of the Authority. Any parent, guardian, or other legally responsible person signing for the exhibitor will take full responsibility and liability for the named exhibitor's acceptance of the terms and that the exhibitor has observed and will abide by all competition requirements of the Authority.
- D. **Substitutions:** Open Breeding substitutions of livestock within the same age, class, and owner will be accepted in the Livestock Office up to 24 hours before the respective show. Substitutions not officially recorded in this manner for the secretary's books are invalid. Only one substitution for the original animal will be allowed. No substitutions will be allowed for different age classifications or owners. Substitutions will not be permitted once check-in is completed. This competition requirement pertains to all species.
- E. **Class Descriptions:** Classes with one or two animals making an entry (Cow/Calf, Dam/Daughter, Produce of Dam, and Pair Classes) are considered individual classes and require pre-entry and payment of the regular entry fee. Classes with three or more animals making up an entry are considered group classes. Group Classes require pre-entry by a single identifying exhibitor with no entry fee. There are no group classes offered in Open Breeding Cattle and Open/Jr. Dairy divisions. All animals shown in group or herd classes must have been entered and shown in their respective individual age class. No nurse cows or nurse goats are allowed on the grounds.
- F. **Water:** A water container with water must be visible and available for watering regularly in each penned/stalled area at all times. NO feeding or watering of livestock in show rings,

holding pens, or to and from re-weigh stations will be permitted. At their discretion, State Fair Officials reserve the right to contact a State Fair veterinarian to determine if water should be given.

## **Barn/Stalling Information**

- A. **Bedding:** Exhibitors are responsible for their own livestock bedding. Entry into competition at the State Fair does not include bedding.

Exhibitors may pre-order bedding and shavings through the Authority's approved bedding supplier or bedding and shavings will be available to purchase on-grounds from the Authority's approved bedding supplier upon arrival. The phone number and order portal will be posted on the Authority's website.

Straw may only be used for dairy cattle, dairy goats, breeding sheep, and open breeding cattle tie-outs. All other uses of straw are prohibited.

Outside bedding for livestock exhibitors is permitted.

- B. **Generators / Coolers / Fans / Blocking Chutes / Trim Chutes / Trim Tables and Portable Scales:** There will be a \$25 charge for ALL generators payable at the time of entry or added on at the time of check-in. An Authority Livestock Superintendent must approve generators. A permit tag will be assigned after payment is made. Management will move or confiscate any generator without an Authority permit. Any such confiscation will result in a one-time charge of \$50 and a daily storage fee of \$25 per day until the generator is retrieved from Management and properly located. Please observe all "No Generator or Cooler" signage. Fans, blocking chutes, generators, trimming chutes, and trim tables are restricted to the individual exhibitor's assigned stalling area so as not to interfere with any other exhibitor's stalling area or aisle ways. Generators and portable coolers are only allowed in the cattle barns.

1. Free-standing fans will not be allowed. Hanging fans will only be allowed when attached to the tie rails or to supports attached to the tie rails. No fans will be allowed to blow from behind an animal, regardless of attachment or location. All fans must be hung above the stalling area.

2. Breeding Beef and Market Beef Exhibitors: One (1) oversized and refrigerated free-standing cooler will be allowed per family. There will be a \$25 fee for ALL oversized and refrigerated coolers payable at entry or added on at check-in time. A cooler permit tag will be issued after payment is made. Management will move or confiscate any cooler that does not have an Authority permit. Confiscation of coolers will be handled in the same manner and with the same fees as generator confiscations (see above). All extension cords must be UL approved minimum 16.
  3. Refrigerated free-standing coolers are not allowed in the Sheep and Swine Barn, the north Livestock Pavilion barn, or the goat barn. Any such coolers will be subject to confiscation.
- C. The State Fair Superintendents have the authority to remove any non-approved equipment. Management may charge a one-time fee of \$50 to anyone who has non-approved equipment, including, but not limited to, fans, blocking chutes, generators, trimming chutes, and trim tables. Additionally, anyone using prohibited equipment may be subject to discipline as outlined in the Determination of Violations Section of the Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements.
- D. No outside scales will be allowed in any barns. Those scales will be provided by the Authority.
- E. **Stalls, Tack Stalls, Pens, and Tie Outs:** All tack stall requests must be submitted in writing and received in the Livestock Office no later than the entry deadline date. There is no guarantee the request can or will be honored. The Authority Superintendents will allocate stall space within the barns when entry fees are completely paid. A cow-calf pair is considered as one (1) entry. A limited number of tie-out stalls are available and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Tampering with other exhibitors' stalls, pen assignments, or tie-outs will not be tolerated, resulting in immediate disqualification and immediate removal from the premises. Straw bedding may be used in the cattle tie-out areas. All stalls and tie-outs must be cleaned daily before 10:00 a.m. The Authority is not responsible for any animals in the tie-out area any time of day or night.
- F. **Signs:** A sign may be hung over any animal's stalling area, addressing the owner's name and organization. NO SIGN, which refers in any way to a commercial product, including "For Sale" signs, may be placed anywhere in the Livestock, Sheep/Swine, Goat, or Small Animal barns.

Brochure distribution of advertisement is not permitted. Such signs and brochures will be confiscated. Management reserves the right to have objectionable signs removed immediately with no dispute from the distributor.

- G. **Show Photographer:** Beverly Englert Photography is the exclusive livestock photographer at the CSF and the only entity with the right to sell livestock images. All exceptions must be vetted directly through Beverly Englert Photography and the Authority show staff.