

# Livestock Rules

All State, Local & Health Rules apply to ALL exhibitors.  
Please Review “State Rules for California Fairs”.

## 1. Entries:

Please see entry deadlines on each division for specific dates. All completed entry forms and fees must be in the fair office by 5PM on closing date of entry or postmarked no later than the closing dates listed for each division. Entries must be on an official entry form. Entry forms are available at [lassencountyfair.org](http://lassencountyfair.org) and in the fair office. Entry forms and fees may be uploaded online through ShoWorks at the above website. Exhibitors are responsible for all errors on entry forms.

## 2. Market Beef Pre-weigh in:

All beef market animals must be led across the scale at pre-weigh in. Those animals unable to be led will have one week to teach animal to lead and will re-weigh the following Saturday. This is only for steers that do not meet the lead across the scale requirement. If animal is still unable to be led it will not be tagged and is ineligible to be entered into the fair.

## 3. Ultrasound:

All large market species (beef, goats, sheep, and swine) will participate in an ultrasound at fair weigh in. The results will be used to determine winners of the carcass contest if an in person grader is not used.

## 4. Livestock Removal Time:

**NEW** Animals are required to remain in their pens until 4PM on Sunday of fair week unless prior arrangements have been made with fair management. If animals are removed before stated release times the fair will penalize the exhibitor with a \$25 fine and could include losing the privilege to show at the following year's fair.

## 5. Removal of Livestock:

All livestock must be removed from the fairgrounds no later than one day after the fair.

## 6. Registration Certificates:

All original livestock registration certificates must be presented to the Livestock Office at least 24 hours prior to judging.

## 7. Fair Bedding:

First bedding will not be provided by the fair for any livestock exhibits. Exhibitors must also clean out final bedding. Exhibitors will receive a \$25 fine if bedding is not cleaned out and could lose the privilege to show at the next fair.

## 8. Exhibitor Ages:

**Exhibitors under the age of 9** – these exhibitors may show in the open division under the parent's/guardian's name unless division specifies otherwise.

**Exhibitors 9-19 years of age** – Entering in small animal classes must enter in Junior Classes. These exhibitors may enter an Open Senior Class if a Junior Class is unavailable. Junior Classes is a class open to all junior exhibitors and have no junior organization affiliation requirement. Junior exhibitors may enter Senior Classes in Featured Breed and/or Sponsored Association Shows, provided the Junior Exhibitor also enter in the Junior Classes.

## 9. All Goats & Sheep:

All goat and sheep species must have a Scrapie tag or tattoo appropriately applied. Exhibitors are required to indicate the premise identification number as well as the individual identification number on the animal's entry form. Failure to provide proper identification will result in denial of the animal's entry into the fair.

## 10. Exhibit Animals:

Only animals being exhibited at the Lassen County Fair are allowed on fairgrounds unless exhibitor has received prior written approval from fair management.

## 11. Transfers:

No transfers between divisions or classes will be accepted unless there is evidence of a clerical error.

## 12. Generators:

No generators in the barns.

## 13. Health Inspections:

Exhibitors who bypass the health inspection and unload their animals will be disqualified from livestock shows and must remove their animals from the premises.

## 14. Red Tag Policy:

Livestock exhibitors are solely responsible for the care of their animals while on exhibit at the fair. If the Livestock Superintendent becomes aware of any livestock exhibit that is not being cared for in an ethical, humane, or acceptable state as determined by the Livestock Superintendent then the following shall occur:

1. The Livestock Superintendent will affix a red tag with the exhibitor's name, the problem observed, and the date and time of the citation. The Livestock Superintendent will make a reasonable effort to notify the club/chapter leader or parent/guardian to make them aware of the situation resulting in the red tag.
2. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to respond to the red tag by contacting the Livestock Superintendent within 12 hours of the citation being issued. The exhibitor will formulate and initiate a plan of correction approved by the Livestock Superintendent.
3. Any exhibitor failing to make contact with the Livestock Superintendent within 12 hours may be issued an automatic second red tag.
4. Any exhibitor receiving two red tag citations during the fair will be declared ineligible for further competition, including participation in the Junior Livestock Auction Sale. The exhibitor will forfeit all premiums, awards, and will be required to remove the animal from the premises within 12 hours of second red tag.

## 15. Safety:

All exhibitors must be able to safely handle their livestock.

## 16. Market Animal Tags:

All exhibitors of market animals must have their animals tagged with a Lassen County Fair numbered tag.

## 17. Showmanship & Breeding Animals:

4-H, FFA and Independent members exhibiting breeding livestock may enter the appropriate showmanship class.

## 18. Animal Disease:

**NEW** Any animals that arrive on the fairgrounds with any evidence of communicable diseases or exhibit any unsightly conditions will be disqualified and removed from the fairgrounds immediately. This includes parasites. This applies to the duration of the fair should any conditions or injuries develop during this period. Per California State Rules all decisions made by veterinarians cannot be protested and are final. Animal health decisions will be made in the best interest of the animal and for other animals at the fair as determined by fair management in consultation with the fair veterinarian. View California State Rules "Animal Health Rules" for all official requirements

<https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/>

## 19. Class Descriptions:

**FFA:** Members who are enrolled in high school vocational agriculture classes and may exhibit as members through the end of the calendar year following graduation.

**4-H:** 4-H members may enroll when they enter kindergarten and exhibit as a member until the end of the calendar year in which the member turns 19.

**Primary Members:** Enrolled in the 4-H program. Must be 5 years of age or in kindergarten as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the program year.

**Independent Exhibitors:** 9 to 13 years of age on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the fair year must exhibit in 4-H classes. 14 to 19 years of age on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the fair year must exhibit in the FFA classes. Members may exhibit until the end of the calendar year in which they turn 19.

**Junior Divisions:** Open to youth ages 9 to 19 years of age.

**Open Divisions:** Open to exhibitors over the age of 19.

## 20. Signs:

No signs of any kind will be allowed to be hung outside any barn unless approval of the fair manager is obtained prior to the fair. Club signs shall only be displayed in the club's designated stall area. **No "For Sale" signs in the barns.**

## **21. Market Animals:**

Market animal entries are limited to two animals per species, per exhibitor. This includes rabbit and poultry meat pens.

## **22. Prop 12:**

**NEW** As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, swine that will be resold and entering public commerce must be from sows that were raised under the Prop 12 conditions. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, all market hogs must come from a certified farm regardless of size if being resold and entering public commerce. The Lassen County Fair will not be offering any “re-sale” option for the market swine. Alternative options will be available for buyers. All market swine will be sold in the Lassen County Junior Livestock Auction ONLY for personal consumption and thus the Prop 12 regulations will not apply for the 2024 Lassen County Fair.

## **23. Market Animal Exhibitor**

### **County:**

All market animal exhibitors are limited to residents of Lassen County or those enrolled in the Lassen County School District.

## **24. Second Market Animal:**

The second market animal of an exhibitor may be shown by a resident of Lassen County or those enrolled in the Lassen County School District if the exhibitor can not show the animal due to a class conflict.

## **25. Weight Classes:**

All market and feeder animals will be weighed for classification and sale weight at designated times. If weight accuracy is questioned the animal will be removed from the scale while the scales are balanced. The animal will then immediately be re-weighed. Animals to be re-weighed may not leave the scale area.

## **26. Sale of Market Animals:**

All market animals qualified and designated for sale must be sold at the Junior Livestock Auction. All market exhibitors must declare their animal for sale by 5PM of show day. All beef exhibitors must submit the sale form by 2PM on show day.

## **27. Junior Exhibitors Showing:**

Junior exhibitors must show and sell their own animal. If for any reason this cannot be done at the time of the showing and selling arrangements must be made with the approval of the Livestock Superintendent and the fair manager. This group will look at each situation separately. All exhibitors must show their own animal in the showmanship class, no exceptions.

## **28. Jr Livestock Shows:**

The Junior Classes are limited to FFA chapters, 4-H clubs, Private exhibitors, Grange members and Independent exhibitors who reside in Lassen, Plumas, Modoc, Sierra, Shasta, Siskiyou, Trinity and Tehama counties or those enrolled in the Lassen County School District.

## **29. Sifted Animals:**

Those animals being sifted must be removed by 8PM on weigh-in day or show day (if sifted by a judge) unless they go into the feeder class. Animals not making weight are eligible for the feeder class. Before removal of an animal, the exhibitor must obtain an early release from the Livestock Superintendent.

## **30. Terminal Sale:**

The Junior Livestock Auction is a terminal sale. All animals going through the sale are considered sold and must be consigned for immediate slaughter. No live pickup of animals except for rabbit/poultry meat pens.

## **31. Pre-fair Livestock Meeting:**

All livestock exhibitors, parents and leaders are required to attend the pre-fair livestock meeting held at 2PM following weigh-ins. Failure to attend will result in a red tag. See livestock rule #14. All passes may be picked up in the livestock office following this meeting.

## **32. Dress Code:**

The fair requires all exhibitors to be in their official dress uniform during all livestock shows and during the Junior Livestock Auction. Independent exhibitors must dress appropriately in white pants, white shirt, black tie, and black belts.

### 33. Independent Exhibitors:

**NEW** An Independent Exhibitor is a junior exhibitor who is not eligible to show as a 4-H, FFA, or Grange exhibitor. Youth exhibitors may be ineligible to participate as Independent if documented disciplinary action involving their project(s) has been taken against them by 4-H, FFA or Grange Organizations. Ineligibility will be evaluated by management. You must declare as an Independent Exhibitor by January 1<sup>st</sup> of the show year. Exhibitor will be required to turn in an independent project record book, as provided by the fair. A partially completed project record book will be due with the individual entry form on June 15<sup>th</sup> of the show year. A completed record book will be due to the fair office by July 30<sup>th</sup> of the fair year. Livestock sale checks will be issued 30 days after the Junior Livestock Auction and the independent record book must be received in the fair office.

### 34. Club & Chapter Policies:

The Lassen County Fair & staff are not responsible for enforcing any club or chapter policies. Any conflicts / violations to these policies must be resolved by club / chapter leaders, advisors, instructors & exhibitors.

### 35. YQCA:

**ALL JUNIOR MARKET ANIMAL AND BREEDING ANIMAL EXHIBITORS MUST PARTICIPATE IN A YOUTH QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM PRIOR TO FAIR.** The certificate must be submitted with the livestock entry form. Entry forms are not accepted without it. This is for all junior exhibitors 9 years or older except those showing in the cavy, horse, or dog division. Visit <https://yqcaprogram.org/> for certification.

### 36. Junior Exhibitors & Care of Animals:

All junior exhibitors are required to groom and care for their animal(s) when at the fair. They shall refrain from accepting active assistance from adults and non-exhibiting livestock youth unless the Jr. exhibitor is actively engaged, and assistance is only in the form of instruction.

### 37. Veterinary Treatment:

Any treatment provided by the veterinarian more than the health check is the financial responsibility of the animal's owner.

### 38. Minimum Market Animal Weights:

A minimum average weight will be used to sift market animals at fair time weigh-ins for all market animals:

**Beef Steer:** 1100 lbs.

**Dairy Steer:** 1200 lbs.

**Swine:** 225 lbs.

**Lamb:** 110 lbs.

**Market Goat:** 65 lbs.

**Rabbits:** Minimum 3.5 lbs. & Max 5.5 lbs.  
Total of 10.5 lbs. (Pen of 3)

**Poultry:** 4 lbs.-6lbs.

Total of 8 lbs. (Pend of 2)

**Duck:** 5 lbs.-8 lbs. total of 16 lbs. (Pen of 2)

**Turkey:** 14lbs.-50lbs. (Pen of 1)

**Goose:** 12 lbs. minimum (Pen of 1)

### 39. Livestock Arrival at Fair

**NEW** All livestock must be on grounds by their designated time assignments located in each division. Pen assignments will be posted at 10AM on Monday of fair week. No animals will be allowed on grounds before 5:00 PM on Monday of fair week. All livestock must go through a health inspection prior to unloading onto grounds. Any exhibitor who bypasses the health inspection may be sent home and unable to show at the Lassen County Fair. **All sheep and goat exhibitors must check-in on Monday night of fair week. Official weigh-in and check-in will be from 5PM to 7PM. Market sheep and goats will also receive their ultrasound following their mandatory weigh in Monday night prior to the fair.**

### 40. Class Size and Combining Classes:

**NEW** Any livestock class with five or fewer animals entered may be combined with another class. This includes 4H and FFA Market classes (i.e.: 4 FFA goats are entered into the market division, these goats will be shown with the 4H division).



#### 41. Unethical Behavior:

**NEW** Exhibitors, their immediate family or agents thereof, causing public disturbance, are verbally abusive, are uncooperative and/or unsportsmanlike, not following good animal welfare practices as determined by management, or found in violation of rules or in practices inadmissible with the Fair program and/or policies/procedures shall be penalized. Penalties may include forfeiture of awards, premiums, sale proceeds and a disqualification of exhibitor from showing at any Lassen County Fairgrounds event for 13 months following the date of infraction.

#### 42. Poultry Show:

**NEW** Poultry inspection will now move to the Tuesday morning of fair week from 8AM to 10AM. The breeding poultry show will occur Tuesday evening of fair week at 6PM. Showmanship and market classes will be held on Wednesday of fair week with market birds starting the show at 8AM.

#### 43. Rabbit Show:

**NEW** Rabbit exhibitors will now check in Tuesday of fair week with check in occurring 10AM to 12PM. Primary members will show Thursday evening of fair week at 6PM.

#### 44. Clean Stalls:

All barn areas are to be cleaned by 9AM each morning. All waste must be placed in designated dumpsters.

#### 45. Pre-Fair Tagging & Information:

**NEW** No pre-fair weigh-in is required for rabbit or poultry meat pens. Only two animals per species, per exhibitor will be tagged and shown at the fair. Every animal will go through a health inspection before any weigh-ins.

##### **Beef Steers / Dairy Steers –**

MANDATORY pre-weigh in and tagging on March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8AM to 11AM at the Lassen County Fairgrounds. All market beef will be entered into a rate of gain contest. A hair sample from the tail will be collected with the exhibitor's name and ear tag number. A picture of the animal and the exhibitor will be taken with the animal's ear tag visible. All beef market animals must be led across the scale at pre-weigh in.

**Goat / Sheep / Swine –** All the below requirements must be met on or before May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (61 days before fair).

- Animals must be tagged in the animal's right ear, or whichever ear the scrapie tag is not in. Tags and taggers will be supplied by the fair office. Limited taggers available and must be checked out and returned.
- Pigs must be tagged with their ear tag number visible on the outside of the ear.
- A hair sample must be returned in the sealed, plastic bag provided by the Fair with the exhibitor's name and ear tag number. Please pull hair and not cut.
- A picture of the animal and exhibitor must be emailed to [lcfair@co.lassen.ca.us](mailto:lcfair@co.lassen.ca.us) the animal's ear tag must be visible.
- The fairgrounds will hold an optional tagging day to assist exhibitors with tagging their animals, collecting hair samples and photos on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 8AM to 11AM at the Lassen County Fairgrounds. Exhibitors who attend the optional tagging day will also have their animal weighed and be entered into a rate of gain contest.

## 46. Clean Stall Awards:

This award is judged on the cleanliness and neatness of the exhibit area and animals. It will also include evaluating the educational and attractive values of the display. No pre-entry fee required. All exhibits must remain up until 4PM on Sunday of fair week. If any part of the display is removed before 4PM the club or chapter is disqualified from the contest. All pen and stall areas will be judged daily. Adults must only assist with ideas and provide guidance. Awards will be judged based on the following:

### Judging Criteria

Interesting, informative, and educational displays – **25 points**  
Pens cleaned by 9AM daily - **15 points**  
Club members on barn duty – **15 points**  
Aisles swept & tack tidy – **10 points**  
Animals clean & healthy – **10 points**  
Originality of barn area – **10 points**  
Double tie-on beef, sheep, goat, and swine pens securely latched – **5 points**  
Equipment put away by 9AM - **5 points**  
Club members doing their own work with cleaning and animal care - **5 points**  
**TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 100**

## 47. Market Livestock Judging

### Standards:

#### Beef

#### GRADE

Market Ready: Market steers projected to have sufficient fat deposition to meet the marbling for USDA Prime, Choice or Select+ quality grades.

Not Market Ready: Market steers lacking evidence of sufficient fat deposition to produce a desirable consumer product. Steers projected to grade USDA Select – or lower.

Group 1 – Above Average.... Purple Ribbon

Group 2 – Average.....Red Ribbon

Group 3 – Not Market Ready...White Ribbon

#### Goats

#### GRADE

Market Ready: USDA Prime or Choice with 12<sup>th</sup> rib back fat range of .08-.12, .13-.22 back fat acceptance, average or greater conformation and cut ability.

Not Market Ready: Good or lower quality grade with 12<sup>th</sup> rib back fat range <.08 or >.12 under finished goats grading USDA good or lower, below-average conformation or cut ability.

Group 1 – Above Average.... Purple Ribbon

Group 2 – Average.....Red Ribbon

Group 3 – Not Market Ready...White Ribbon

#### Sheep

#### GRADE

Market Ready: USDA Prime or Choice with 12<sup>th</sup> rib back fat range of .16-.35, average or greater conformation and cut ability.

Not Market Ready: Good or lower quality grade with 12<sup>th</sup> rib back fat range <.16 or >.35 under finished lambs grading USDA good or lower, below-average conformation or cut ability.

Group 1 – Above Average.... Purple Ribbon

Group 2 – Average.....Red Ribbon

Group 3 – Not Market Ready...White Ribbon

#### Swine

#### GRADE

Market Ready: U.S. No. 1 & No. 2 hogs of average or greater conformation that are acceptable leanness, muscularity, and production traits.

Not Market Ready: Any hog of below average conformation including U.S. No. 3, U.S. No. 4, and utility grade hogs.

Group 1 – Above Average.... Purple Ribbon

Group 2 – Average.....Red Ribbon

Group 3 – Not Market Ready...White Ribbon