

GENERAL RULES

NO DOGS ALLOWED ON THE FAIRGROUNDS UNLESS A SERVICE DOG

1. All 4-H members who are actively involved in at least one project (this project can be self-determined or a regular project group) and who have attended at least three regular monthly club meetings and must sign in at the meetings (determined by sign-in sheet) between September and the Fair are eligible to enter the 4-H show if they are registered by December 1st with the Texas 4-H, Inc. (THIS IS A LOC 4-H RULE.) FFA members must be signed up by December 1st as well.
2. Each exhibitor, parent, vocational instructor, extension agent, and adult leader is on his/her honor to abide by the rules and report any violations to the Live Oak County Board of Directors. Upon entry, everyone agrees to read and comply with all the rules of the show provided herein. Any individual not abiding by these rules will be subject to penalties as listed in rule 32. In all market animals, breeder tags will be removed by county weigh-in. In exception of the Lone Star Elite show tags, TLBA tags, or scrapie tags.
3. All entries in 4-H, FCCLA, FFA, Young Feeders, Young Crafters and Eager Bakers must be eligible under NO PASS - NO PLAY, meaning that a student who is ineligible because of failing grades will not be eligible to show or exhibit their projects during the Fair in which they are ineligible at check in and at time of their projects show. No one else may exhibit a project for an ineligible student.
4. The Live Oak County Junior Livestock Show is open to any boy or girl who is a resident of Live Oak County or is enrolled in a public or private school in Live Oak County. Provided they are active in a 4-H Club, FFA or Young Feeders club in Live Oak County, but can show in only one county show per year.
5. Young Feeders:
 - a. Must have reached their 5th birthday but not their 9th birthday by September 1st of the year prior to the Fair.
 - b. Must be enrolled in a public or private school and/or live in Live Oak County at the kindergarten through second grade levels. PRE-Kindergarten is NOT Eligible.
 - c. Are required to **attend 3 regular monthly 4-H meetings** or attend at least one showmanship clinic and one rules clinic sponsored by the County Extension agent and/or Agricultural Science instructors prior to exhibiting their animals at the Fair.
 - d. Are Not eligible to enter or exhibit market steer or breeding heifer projects but are eligible to enter and exhibit one Pen of Three heifers.
 - e. Must enroll in 4-H as a Clover Bud by December 1.
6. All animals must be entered with the various 4-H, Young Feeders or FFA project advisors by the appropriate due dates.
7. The Live Oak County Fair Association will not be held responsible for any loss, damage or illness that may occur to animals or projects entered in the fair.
8. No person may administer a drug internally or externally except for treating a recognized disease, in which case treatment must be administered by a licensed veterinarian. All drugs for this purpose must be approved by the superintendent in charge.
9. No glue, artificial or natural coloring shall be used on market animals except adhesive may be used on the tail switch.
10. Ag teachers, county agents or any adult is legal to help the exhibitors with their projects.
11. All animals must be validated at the appropriate time.

12. The exhibitors shall, at the time of validation, provide a list of exhibitors of the immediate family that will be showing animals that are owned and fed jointly.
13. All animals must be in the exhibitor's possession by validation date and stay in exhibitor's possession till show date. Any exceptional circumstances of an exhibitor's animal not being fed at exhibitor's stated physical address will be presented to the Live Oak County Fair Board explaining the reasons for such conditions to exist and the Board shall rule on the eligibility on a case-by-case basis. The physical address of animal residency must be provided in writing during the completion of validation. If animal residency changes at any time, the respective superintendent must be notified.
14. Any animal that is sold at a major show after validation may not exhibit at the county fair.
15. Any animal losing a validation ear tag must be examined and re-tagged by an advisor prior to arriving at the fairgrounds.
16. All pens will be assigned by the superintendent of each species.
17. No pens will be locked before check-in.
18. Exhibitors are not allowed to pipe in and tie in place any kind of pressurized automatic water system into any hog, sheep, goat, or cattle pen. Pressurized automatic waterers are allowable, as long as they are not tied in place or left inside the pen.
19. No animal may be re-weighed if they are within the legal weight limit at check-in. If the animal is either under or overweight, then they may re-weigh one more time before the deadline.
20. The judges and classifiers decisions are final and not subject to change.
21. Exhibitors are responsible for the watering, feeding and cleanliness of their exhibits.
22. Each exhibitor can show 2 hogs, 2 lambs, 2 rabbits and 2 goats. The exhibitor can show 6 beef cattle entries, but no more than 2 entries in each division. Market steers, halter heifers, and pen of 3 are separate divisions. Only 2 market entries are eligible (Pens of three constitute one entry.)
23. All animals must be housed in their assigned pens from check-in until dismissed, except during exercise and grooming. Only animals checked-in and weighed may be housed in assigned pen.
24. All Exhibitors will take their animal projects home. There will be no truck sales.
25. All animals must be halter broken to the point that they can be shown by the exhibitor alone.
26. Superintendents and their assistants or the classifier have the right to reject any animal.
27. The judge will place a maximum of 15 animals in each lamb, goat, steer, heifer and swine class: placing 20 in the rabbit class.
28. When an exhibitor has more than one animal in the same class or is unable to show for another approved reason, another eligible exhibitor will be allowed to show the animal for him/her. This substitute showman must be an eligible Live Oak County 4-H or FFA member and has an animal project in the current show. All substitutions must be approved by the species superintendent prior to the showing of that species.
29. Only exhibitors, superintendents and their workers, or fair board officials will be allowed in the show ring or holding area during the show. Students with special needs may be accompanied by another LOCF exhibitor. Parents must notify and be approved by the species superintendent at the time of check-in of the exhibitor that will be helping their child.

30. All Food or Livestock protests must be made to the protest committee in writing, within one hour after the occurrence to the protest committee, accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00, which will be forfeited if protest is not sustained.
31. All Grand & Reserve Champions of each class of Market Goats, Lambs, Hogs, and Steers will have DNA pulled prior to leaving the ring following the Champion selection. The sample must match the DNA sample taken at validation. Violation can result in any or all of those listed in General Rule #33.
32. Any direct criticism or interference with judges, show management or county personnel on the part of any Person is prohibited. Appropriate action will be taken by the Live Oak County Association Livestock Show Board of Directors.
33. Should an exhibitor violate any of the above listed General Rules, the Live Oak County Agricultural and Livestock Show Board of Directors may do the following:
 - a. Declare the exhibit ineligible to show.
 - b. Forfeiture of prize money and ribbon for that exhibit.
 - c. Forfeiture of Premium Sale Proceeds for the exhibit and/or
 - d. Exhibitor ineligible to exhibit a project in the following year or years in the county show.
 - e. Ban any person from the show grounds.

The Live Oak County Agricultural and Livestock Show Board of Directors may impose any or all of the above penalties for violating General Rules in its sole and absolute discretion.

34. A fee of \$40 will be charged to clean your pen if not cleaned by the end of the school year of the show date. You will be charged \$40 if not cleaned by the due date. Fees must be paid prior to the next December validation or exhibitor will not be allowed to enter.

PREMIUM SALE RULES

1. A maximum of 144 animals are to sell through the auction.
2. No exhibitor may sell more than one animal in the auction with the exception that all Grand and Reserve Champions will be sold.
3. The top placing animals in each class will sell. Steers through 4th or 5th place depending on class break (see market steer rules), lambs through 6th place each class, swine through 5th place in each class, goats through 6th place in each class and 12 pens of rabbits will sell. If an animal is dropped from a class, the next placing animal in that class will be brought up and all animals of that same species placing will be brought into the sale until the appropriate number of animals is reached. (Steers 20 - 24; Lambs 18 - 23; Goats 36 - 41; Hogs 40 – 47)
4. If the exhibitor has more than one animal eligible for the auction sale, he or she must tell the respective superintendent within one hour after the end of the beef cattle show which animal they will sell. If they do not, the superintendents will make the decision.
5. Any exhibitor selling his or her project through the premium sale, rosette auction or silent auction, or received an add-on, must bring a thank you letter/card with the address of the buyer(s) and a self-addressed stamped envelope, and a completed W-9 form, to either extension agent, agriculture teacher or FCS teacher in order to receive their check.
6. All Grand and Reserve animal exhibitors must walk through the sale ring. All other placing exhibitors eligible for auction must walk through the ring or find a suitable replacement for the exhibitor to walk through as approved by the superintendent of that species.
7. All exhibitors in the sale must check in one hour prior to the start of the sale. If the exhibitor is not in line, their sale lot will not be sold in the sale.
8. NO decorations on animals sold through the auction. (Bows, Glitter, blankets, balloons, paint, etc.) OMIT
9. Steers, hogs, sheep, and goats are to be sold by the head instead of by the pound. Rabbits will be sold by the pen.
10. An individual may add on money by **April 20th, 2026**, to any exhibitor exhibiting a project as a youth in the Live Oak County Fair. Preferred method is to use the approved form.
11. A 5% commission rate will be deducted from all projects that go through the premium sale.
12. If thank you letters are not received by July 31, year of the auction, to the advisor, the auction check will be voided, and funds will be restricted for use by the coop at the next auction. All thank you notes/letters MUST be handwritten.

BREEDING BEEF HEIFERS

1. The Breeding Beef Heifers will be open to all Breeds, Cross Breeds, Registered and Commercial Heifers.
2. Heifers cannot be born prior to September 1, **2023**.
3. Heifers must be owned and validated on the second Saturday in November.
4. Heifers must be on feed by validation date.
5. Heifers must be dehorned with the exception of those allowed to be shown with horns by their breed association.
6. Classes will be set up as American and its crosses (ABC) or Exotics/English and their crosses (AOB) and will be exhibited as follows:
 - a. Registered Heifers of each breed. (1 heifer will constitute a breed)
 - b. Commercial / Crossbred Heifers will be ABC or AOB to be classified at check in. ABC being heifers with Brahman influence. AOB being English and Exotics and their crosses.
 - c. All Heifers shown in the **2026** fair shall be divided into **seven** classes:
 - i. **September 1, 2025 – Validation Date**
 - ii. **May 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025**
 - iii. **January 1, 2025 – April 30, 2025**
 - iv. **September 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024**
 - v. **May 1, 2024 – August 31, 2024**
 - vi. **January 1, 2024 – April 30, 2024**
 - vii. **September 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023**
7. Prize money will be:
 - a. Registered: Blue - \$50.00; Red - \$40.00; White - \$30.00
 - b. AOB & ABC: Blue - \$30.00; Red - \$20.00; White - \$10.00
8. Buckles and banners will be given for Grand and Reserve Champions in two divisions, American Breed and Exotic/English Breed.
9. The Grand Champion of each division will receive \$1,000.00 and Reserve Champion of each division will receive \$750.00.
10. Young feeders may exhibit a breeding heifer that falls under the Miniature Hereford breed specification. Exhibitors in this division are required to show their animal. Participants will be required to have a sibling or other intermediate/senior participant accompany them in the show ring. Exhibitors are to handle the majority of the showing, and the use of the show stick, and assistants may help in control of the animal.

PEN OF 3 BREEDING HEIFERS

1. Validation date is the second Saturday in November.
2. These heifers will be graded on a merit basis for breeding potential, along with showmanship and the exhibitors' knowledge of their project. Bred heifers shall not be given preference over open heifers.
3. A buckle will be awarded for Grand and Reserve Champion Pens.
4. Will not discriminate against a heifer that has had a calf.
5. Heifers cannot be born prior to September 1, **2023**.
6. Exhibitors will be allowed to pull out individual heifers and show them as halter heifers.

MARKET STEERS

1. Steers must be on feed by validation day.
2. Validation date - second Saturday in September. Steers will be ear tagged, nose printed and tattooed, DNA Sample Collected. Also, they can be validated for county show at major show validation.
3. Steers must be dehorned, trimmed, fitted and halter broken.
4. Classes will be as follows:
 - a. English breeds or their crosses and exotic breeds will be divided in classes by weight (light & heavy). Top 5 per class sell. If there are over 10 steers per class. A middle weight class will be added and the top 4 per class sell.
 - b. Brahman Crosses must show evidence of American Breed Characteristics. These steers will be divided in classes by weight (light & heavy). Top 5 per class sell. If there are over 10 steers per class, a middle weight class will be added and the top 4 per class sell.
5. All steers must be sheared with no more than 1/4" hair allowed, except for switch.
6. Grand and Reserve Champions will be awarded buckles and banners.
7. Steers will be classified at weigh in.
8. Must weigh a minimum of 1,000 lbs. at weigh in.
9. Breed will be declared at weigh in.

MARKET SHEEP

1. Market lambs will be divided as follows:
 - a. Southdown
 - b. Fine Wool and Fine Wool Crosses (must be 50% Fine Wool)
 - c. Medium Wool and all other Crosses
 - d. If there are over 10 lambs per class, split class into 2 equal classes by weight. If classes split, sell top 3 out of each class.
2. Grand and Reserve Champions will receive buckles and banners.
3. All sheep must be on feed by the first Saturday in December.
4. No weight limit on lambs.
5. Must be slick shorn on or before the show date.
6. Must be validated on the first Saturday in December. Lambs will be ear tagged, nose printed, tattooed, and DNA Sample will be Collected at validation. Lambs can also be validated for county show at major show validation.
7. Lambs will be classified at weigh in.

MARKET GOATS

1. Must be on feed by validation date. Will be validated, ear tagged, Tattooed and DNA Sample will be Collected on the first Saturday in December. Can also be validated at county show at major show validation.
2. Goats must weigh between 50 and 130 pounds with a 2-pound tolerance at top and bottom ends and be divided into 6 classes by weight in as even numbers as possible.
3. Goats must be dehorned or tipped and castrated by show date.
4. Grand and Reserve Champion will receive buckles and banners.

COMMERCIAL DOE

1. Must be on feed by validation date. Will be validated, ear tagged, tattooed and DNA Sample will be collected on the first Saturday in December. Can also be validated for county show at major show validation.
2. Goats must be dehorned or tipped by show date.
3. Goats must weigh between 50 and 130 pounds with a 2-pound tolerance at the top and bottom ends.
4. All entries will be evenly divided into classes according to their weight. The number of classes and entries per class will be determined by the Goat Superintendent not to exceed approximately 20 goats per class.

MARKET SWINE

1. All market hogs must weigh between 215 - 285 pounds with a 5 lb. allowance.
2. All market hogs are to be divided into eight classes by weights as equal in numbers as possible.
3. Grand and Reserve Champions to receive buckles and banners.
4. All market hogs to be on feed by validation date.
5. Must be validated on the first Saturday in December, DNA Sample Collected.
6. Must be reasonably clean at weigh-in.

MARKET RABBITS

1. Pen of three only.
2. Weigh between 3 lbs. and 8 oz. and 5 lbs. and 8 oz. with no tolerance.
3. Rabbits should weigh about the same.
4. Rabbits will be judged on meat type uniformity, condition, and fur, and follow A.R.B.A. show guidelines and its disqualifications.
5. Rabbits must be healthy.
6. All breeds and crosses are eligible.
7. All rabbits must be in exhibitor's possession by validation date.
8. Grand and Reserve Champions will receive buckles and banners.
9. Rabbits will be validated on **Saturday, January 31, 2026, from 8 A.M.- 12 noon.**
10. It will be the responsibility of the Rabbit contestant to sign up for Showmanship during check on **Wednesday, March 4** between **8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.** Showmanship will be **Wednesday, March 4 at 1:00 p.m.**
11. Any Rabbit losing its pen number after it has checked in, must be replaced by only the Rabbit Superintendent or the assistants. Anyone else changing the number may be a rule for disqualification.
12. Meat type - 40 points
Condition of flesh – 30 points
Uniformity of body weight - 20 points
Fur - 10 points

SHOWMANSHIP DIVISION RULES

To be eligible for Showmanship, the exhibitor must own an animal in that division in which he or she is selected.
The showmanship will be divided into Beef, Lamb, Swine, Goat and Rabbits.

1. Young Feeder Showmanship (for Lamb, Goat, Rabbits, and Swine) will be grades kindergarten, first and second.
2. Jr. Showmanship will be grades third, fourth & fifth.
3. Intermediate Showmanship will be grades sixth, seventh & eighth.
4. Sr. Showmanship will be grades ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth.
5. Showmanship will be judged following each species starting with Senior Division. The appointed showmanship judge will select the participants while they are showing their animals (except rabbits).
6. Rabbit Showmanship will be on **Wednesday, March 4 at 1:00 p.m.**