

GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES AND REGULATIONS

INTERPRETATION AND VIOLATIONS OF RULES

The Austin County Fair Association's Executive Committee reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and to determine the matters in regard thereto and the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgment may determine. Conduct deemed unacceptable by the Executive Committee may result in the expulsion from the grounds and further Austin County Fair sponsored activities. Any exhibitor who violates any of the following rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums, and he/she shall be subject to such penalty as the Executive Committee may order.

All exhibits will be under the control of the Board of Directors but the organization will in no case be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to or occasioned by, arising from any animal exhibited by him/her. He/she shall indemnify the organization against all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto, as well as damage to any of the animals exhibited by him/her or arising out of or in any connection with such exhibitors or any of the animals solely exhibited. **All protests must be filed in writing at the Fair Office with a non-refundable fee of \$250 per exhibitor.**

ALL ENTRIES IN THE LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTIN COUNTY FAIR MUST COMPLY WITH THE TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSIONS REGULATIONS AND ANY REGULATIONS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE AUSTIN COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS GOVERNING ADMISSION OF LIVESTOCK INTO SHOWS, FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS.

INTERFERENCE WITH JUDGES

If an exhibitor or parent in any way, whether in person or by agent or servants, interferes with the judges during their adjudication or as a result of the show, shows any disrespect toward them or the show, the management may demand a proper apology from such exhibitor or it may also withhold from such exhibitor such premiums that may have been awarded or take such steps as they deem necessary. This includes **remarks spoken, in print or in electronic format that are deemed derogatory or defaming to Judges, Livestock Officials and/or committee members**

All judge's (including sifting judges) decisions and weights are final.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **ENTRY PROCEDURE:**

Exhibitors will go to the Austin County Fair's website (www.austincountyfair.com). Click on "Online Entry" tab & follow step by step instructions to complete entry form. **Payment must be made online during this transaction.** Exhibitors will need their Social Security number and access to some type of payment form to complete entry. Online entries will be open from 8:00 a.m. on July 12th to August 20th, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Extension Agents & FFA teachers will be granted access to verify exhibitor's eligibility to show in the 2021 Austin County Fair after online entries close.

Late entries turned into the fair office from August 28- September 10, 2021 will be charged all standard entry fees and will be assessed an additional \$250 fee per entry.

Entries turned into the fair office from September 11 –October 1, 2021 at 5:00 pm will be charged all standard entry fees and will be assessed an additional \$500 fee per entry. No entries will be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on October 1, 2021.

2. All exhibitors must be permanent residents in Austin County or be enrolled in a public school, private school or home school in Austin County and enrolled in a 4-H or FFA Chapter in Austin County and not have graduated high school in order to exhibit at the Austin County Fair.
3. If an exhibitor EXHIBITS an animal at an adjacent county fair within A CALENDAR YEAR OF the Austin County Fair, then he/she is ineligible to show or sell another market animal at the Austin County Fair. This does not include major shows.
4. Family tagging and tattooing will be allowed in 2021. This will be interpreted as immediate family living in the same household. This rule applies to Market Steer, Halter Heifer, Commercial Pen of Heifers, Market Lambs, Market Swine, Market Broilers, Market Turkeys, Market Goats, Market/Breeding Rabbits and Horse divisions.

COMMERCIAL PEN OF HEIFERS TAG-IN DATE:

Fri., May 14, 2021, Four County Auction in Industry, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Exhibitors will be charged \$15.00 per animal tagged and a \$55 validation fee per pen.

MARKET STEER & HALTER HEIFER TAG-IN DATE:

Sat., May 15, 2021, Four County Auction in Industry, 7:00-10:00 a.m.

Exhibitors will be charged \$15.00 per animal tagged.

MARKET SWINE TAG-IN DATES ARE:

Saturday, June 26, 2021, Fairgrounds in Bellville, 6:00-8:00 a.m.

Saturday, July 10, 2021, Fairgrounds in Bellville, 6:00-8:00 a.m.

Exhibitors will be charged \$10.00 per animal tagged.

**ALL MARKET SWINE MUST BE PROPERLY IDENTIFIED WITH EAR TAGS BY
SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2021**

MARKET LAMB & GOAT TAG-IN DATES ARE:

Saturday, June 26, 2021, Fairgrounds in Bellville, 7:00-8:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 8, 2021, Fairgrounds in Bellville, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Exhibitors will be charged \$15.00 per animal tagged.

**ALL MARKET LAMBS& GOATS MUST BE PROPERLY IDENTIFIED WITH EAR TAGS BY
THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021.**

5. All exhibitors of Market Swine, Beef Cattle, Market Lambs, Market Goats, and Market Rabbits will be required to complete a validation form (not an entry card) when the animals are tagged. Exhibitors of Market Broilers and Market Turkeys will be required to complete an information sheet (not an entry card) when ordering. The form will include a statement as to the physical location of the animal with a release stating that this is for committee use in project visits.
6. All families of exhibitors who SHOW OR SELL in the Livestock Division of the Austin County Fair are required to provide two adults to work a minimum of three (3) full hours each (total of 6 hours) at either the entrance gates or refreshment facilities. Families with 3 or more exhibitors showing will be required to work an additional 3 hour shift (one adult only) in addition to the 6 hour shift requirement. **Families choosing not to work their full shift(s) will be assessed a fee of \$750.00 per**

family. You must notify the fair office if you choose not to work in order for the exhibitor to be eligible to show or sell. You may make payment to the Austin County Fair or the fee will be deducted from exhibitor's check. THIS RULE DOES NOT APPLY TO 4-H, FFA CONCESSIONS or YOUTH AUCTION SALE. Funds will be deducted from exhibitor's checks for parents that do not work their FULL scheduled shift.

7. All market animal exhibitors will be allowed as many entries as desired, but can only present to the sifting committee a maximum of two sale animals and may only sell one. In the Market Steer, Market Swine, Market Lamb, Halter Heifer, Market Goat and Horse divisions, an exhibitor may have two entries with no back up animal. If an exhibitor shows two entries in a division, he/she will be ineligible to show in any other division, excluding Scramble Heifers and Breeding Rabbits. Market Broiler, Market Turkey and Market Rabbit exhibitors may have one entry in these divisions with one back up entry. No back up entries are to be unloaded if first animal passes sifting. **Exhibitors will only be allowed to enter and show ONE PEN of Commercial Pen of Heifers, therefore exhibitors will be allowed to show an animal in another division if they choose.** Market Broiler, Market Turkey and Market Rabbit exhibitors will be eligible to show one other entry in another division. Scramble Heifer and Breeding Rabbits are not considered market animals, therefore an exhibitor may enter two sale animals along with the Scramble Heifer or Breeding Rabbits, but may only sell one market animal. NO ENTRY FEES WILL BE REFUNDED.
8. **Exhibitors feeding at a location other than their own home must bring it to the attention of the Livestock Superintendent and/or show officials at the time validation sheets are due or any time this changes.**
9. If an exhibitor has two (2) entries that qualify for the sale, he/she has the right to choose which entry will be sold with the exception of Champion and Reserve in the species which must sell. In the event that the same exhibitor has Champion or Reserve in the same and/or different species, that exhibitor is only allowed to sell one Champion animal.
10. All animals (including poultry and rabbits) leaving the Fairgrounds prior to Sunday move out must obtain a signed release form from the committee chairman unless part of sifting procedure. Forms may be obtained at the Fair Office.
11. All Market Steers and Halter Heifers must be halter broken and easy to handle by the Mandatory Progress Show on **Saturday, August 21, 2021.**
12. All animals and poultry must be in their assigned place on time according to the daily schedule. They must be kept in their assigned places until 11:00 a.m. on **Sunday, October 17, 2021**, unless released by a division chairman or superintendent. Broilers, Rabbits and Turkey will be released at 10:00 a.m.; all other species must be kept in their assigned places until 11:00 a.m. on **Sunday, October 17, 2021**, unless released by a division chairman or superintendent. Removal of animals without a release from the division chairman or superintendent will result in the possible forfeiture of sales proceeds and/or prizes.
13. Livestock exhibitors will be permitted to display a sign over each exhibit advertising the exhibitor's herd; however, they may be no longer than the standard exhibitor stall or pen and must be approved by the species superintendent. NO FOR SALE SIGNS PERMITTED.
14. All exhibitors will be required to bring their own feed, hay, water buckets, etc. to the show.

15. All exhibit areas are to be kept clean during visitor hours. Animals, including poultry and rabbits, must be fed and cleaned each morning. A **\$100.00** fee will be deducted from the exhibitor's sale check if the area is not maintained or cleaned upon move out.
16. **DRESS CODE** – All exhibitors must wear appropriate clothing while in the show ring and the sale ring. Any exhibitor whose wardrobe is deemed inappropriate by Committee Chairperson or Livestock Superintendents may be disqualified from the show.
17. **UNETHICAL FITTING AND SHOWING OF LIVESTOCK:** Unethical practices performed on any livestock entry or entry form in order to deceive judges or the sifting and project committee members is prohibited, and the exhibitor shall be barred from this show and all future shows. Unethical practices will be determined by the Executive Committee of the Austin County Fair Association with assistance from anyone deemed necessary.
18. All entries will be exhibited and sold by their owners unless he/she is physically unable to do so or if the exhibitor has more than one entry showing in different divisions at the same time. Exhibits to be shown or sold by someone else other than the owner must be approved in writing by the respective committee chairman. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to obtain and complete the required form. Forms will be available at the Fair Office.

If an exhibitor is **academically ineligible** to show, the exhibitor AND THEIR PROJECT are ineligible to participate in the Austin County Fair.

19. All animals in this show and sale must have been fed and cared for by the exhibitor in an approved location of the show. If the exhibitor does not meet the qualifications above, the exhibitor will be disqualified from the show and sale.
20. Resale list is final.
21. No Pass Out (PO) will be allowed in any department.
22. All animals will be subject to use during the Livestock Judging Contest on **Saturday, October 9, 2021**.
23. All exhibitors must be entered through the fair website by **August 27, 2021 by 5:00 p.m.**
24. **Quality Counts:** In keeping with the Austin County Fair drug residue avoidance policy, ALL exhibitors are now required to pass the "NEW" Quality Counts Verification test for entry into the 2020 Show. Junior market and breeding show entries will not be accepted without verification code for each exhibitor. Verification codes are not required for Agricultural Mechanics exhibitors and Judging Contest contestants. The Quality Counts training and test can be found at:
<https://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com/qc/qcregister.aspx>
25. When Youth Auction Sale checks are ready, exhibitors will be contacted. In order to receive their check, exhibitors must bring **STAMPED and ADDRESSED HANDWRITTEN** thank you notes to their buyers and add on donors to the Fair Office. Once the Fair Office has checked their thank you notes, exhibitors will seal them and then receive their check.