

**2024**  
**Large Animals**  
**LIVESTOCK RULES**



## General Livestock Rules

1. New Mexico Livestock Board Regulations and all General Rules and Regulations will apply.
  - a) All Market Steers must bear the registered brand of the exhibitor, or they must be fire branded with '4H' on the left jaw (4H members), an 'A' (FFA members), or bear the registered brand of a NM Breeder. They must be accompanied by a written statement permitting the junior to show and sell the steer under that brand.
  - b) All breeding heifers must bear a registered brand.
  - c) All Market Lambs and Market Goats must be tattooed in the left ear with '4H' for 4H members or in the right ear an 'A' for FFA members.
  - d) All Market Swine must be ear notched.
  - e) Please be aware of any import requirements and contact your local Brand Inspector and the State Vet with any questions.
2. Classifier and Judge's decisions are FINAL. There will be no re-weighs.
3. The Superintendent has the privilege of combining, adding, or deleting classes when deemed advisable.
4. **Eligibility:** Jr Boosters - youth 7 years of age and in 2nd grade enrolled in My Animals Friends, must have their own animal(s), and participate in the annual tagging and/or validation process, and follow all the requirements as other livestock exhibitors. Jr Boosters are not allowed to exhibit Market Beef or Breeding Heifers. Jr Boosters must be a member in good standing and attend regular meetings. Jr Booster exhibitors will be allowed to make the Jr Livestock Sale.

Any bona fide Cibola/McKinley County 4-H and/or FFA member in good standing is eligible to exhibit their project(s) at Bi-County Fair, provided they meet the official age requirements for 4-H/FFA. Bi-County Fair 4-H and/or FFA exhibitors are not allowed to exhibit in any other county fairs (regardless of state) in the same calendar year of project enrolled and entered at Bi-County Fair. They may not be affiliated with any other 4-H club or FFA chapter, other than those which they are enrolled in Cibola/McKinley counties.

**Every exhibitor and family member should obtain a copy of the Bi-County Fair Rules and Policies and be familiar with them.**

All 4-H/FFA exhibitors and participants must demonstrate high standards of behavior and conduct. Absolutely **NO** poor or unsportsmanlike conduct will be tolerated before, during, or after the Bi-County Fair from exhibitors or family members. See protest rules for more details.

5. Animals must be owned by and in possession of the exhibitor by the deadlines outlined in each species.
  - a) Steers/Heifers: large animal validation day.
  - b) Market Lamb, Market Goat, Market Hog: by designated validation day.
  - c) Exhibitor will be allowed to tag and show a total of eight (8) Market Animals - any combination totaling up to eight (8).
6. Animals must have been owned continuously and in the care of the exhibitor from: April 1 for BEEF CATTLE; June 1st for SHEEP, MEAT GOATS, and SWINE. All animals must be in the care of the exhibitor and must be certified by the FFA Advisor or County Extension Agent. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the appropriate project to be allowed to exhibit.

7. All entries must be made online by the deadline. Entries accepted after the deadline will be charged a late fee of \$50 per entry plus the regular entry fee (for example to enter a steer late it would be \$25 plus \$50 late fee for a total of \$75). Not all entries will be eligible for late entry.
8. All exhibitors are required to attend scheduled tag/validation dates for the fair for their species. If ear tags are lost or come out of the ear, the exhibitor must contact their county extension agent of their respective county to schedule a **retagging as soon as possible** after losing the tag. All animals must have a certified NM 840 tag to come on to the fairgrounds – replacement tags will cost \$5.00.
9. An Exhibitor Meeting will be held Thursday evening after weigh-in is complete. The Junior Livestock Committee will relay any pertinent information at that time.
10. Exhibitors are expected to be present and actively involved in the care of their animals during the Fair.
11. All Sheep and Goats must be sheared to one quarter in an inch (1/4") above the hock **before** entering the Fairgrounds. No blankets or tubes during weigh-in and health check.
12. Only Exhibitors and Fair Officials will be allowed in the Show Ring while animals are being judged.
13. Animals must be shown by their owner except when:
  - a) The owner has more than one entry in a class.
  - b) The owner has a valid reason that has the Superintendent's approval.
  - c) If an exhibitor has more than one entry in a class, a substitute exhibitor may show an animal. **A qualified substitute exhibitor must be a bona fide 4-H club or FFA member in good standing from Cibola/McKinley County.**
14. Any animal that is eligible for the Jr. Livestock sale must be sold/presented by the exhibitor – no exceptions.
15. The Fair Board may disqualify any Exhibitor from present and future participation, including withholding of premium, sale, add-on, or packer monies for any violation of these rules and policies.
16. First place animals from each class will be brought back for Grand Champion judging (For Market Swine this will be the Breed Champions). Upon selection of a Grand Champion, the second place animal from the class the Grand Champion was originally shown or the Reserve Breed Champion for swine, will be brought back and included with the remaining first place animals for Reserve Grand Champion judging.
17. No exhibitor will be allowed to sell or display "FOR SALE" signs or discuss the sale of non-sale animals until after the Junior Livestock Sale is completed.
18. All animals presented for exhibition shall be free from contagious and infectious diseases and will be subject to examination daily during the fair. Any diseased or infectious animal will be removed from the fairgrounds.
19. Animals deemed to be dangerous or unable to be controlled by the exhibitor may be asked by the superintendent to be removed from the fairgrounds.
20. RELEASE OF ANIMALS WILL BE AT 7:00 pm on Sunday. All release papers must be signed by 5:00 pm. If your release papers are not signed by this time, you will be assessed a fee of \$25 per head. If you want early release of your animals, you will need to pay a cash early release fee of \$50 per animal.
21. No add-on or sale monies will be issued to any exhibitor until all such money is received from ALL donors and buyers. Every effort is made to invoice buyers immediately following the fair so the funds may be distributed to youth as soon as possible.
22. Animal Care
  1. All animals entered in Junior Livestock shows must be in good physical condition and be kept clean and fed and watered for the entirety of the fair. Their pens and surroundings must be kept clean for the duration of the time on the Bi-County Fairgrounds.

2. Animals in poor conditions or that do not comply with the stated rules for each species may be sent home at the Superintendents' discretion.
3. If an animal becomes sick or injured, a Licensed Veterinarian will examine the animal and notify the Superintendent if treatment or release is necessary. If a veterinarian is unavailable, the Superintendents and Fair Board will decide what they feel is in the animal's best interest.
  - a) No medication or treatment can be administered while at the Fairgrounds without being supervised by a Licensed Veterinarian and/or the responsible Superintendent.
  - b) No animal that has not cleared all FDA and USDA required withdrawal times may be shown or sold throughout the Junior Livestock Sale.
4. If livestock are not adequately cared for, necessary items will be supplied and charged to the exhibitor.
5. Abuse of any animal will result in immediate disqualification and forfeiture of any prizes or monies. The Fair Board reserves the right to reject any entry by anyone who participates in animal abuse of any kind.
6. The following are termed **UNETHICAL PRACTICES**: administering steroids, growth stimulants, diuretic, or artificial filling internally, this **INCLUDES** pumping cattle, tubing sheep and goats, but does not include drenching. Judges are requested to report to the management any animals upon which a surgical operation has been performed to improve their "show" appearance, except for surgical dehorning.
7. **Quality Assurance**: as a condition for participation in the show, every exhibitor must agree to submit any animal entered by exhibitor to inspection by a veterinarian appointed by the management, FDA, USDA/FSIS, New Mexico Department of Agriculture, and/or New Mexico Department of Health and agrees to have such animal submitted to any test as may be designated or requested by the veterinarian. The show specifically reserves the right to have tissue, blood, or urine laboratory analysis made on any animal entered for competition. The conclusions reached by the veterinarian as to whether such animal has been administered or given a substance or a drug in violation of the rules or has not been properly withdrawn from approved drugs shall be final, without recourse against the show or any of its officers. A licensed veterinarian should be consulted before administering any medication or growth stimulant.
  - a. The use of any chemical compound that is not approved by the FDA for use in meat producing animals and the illegal use of approved chemicals or compounds is prohibited. Unapproved is deemed to mean not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for slaughter animals. If an animal passes all USDA tests but fails any FDA testing for the presence of drug(s) or other chemicals, the animal will be condemned by show officials and not allowed for consumption.
  - b. FDA approved calming agents can be used before and during the show. It is advised that when using before the show, one should follow the recommended dosage on the product label. For the agent to work properly, and to coincide with the time of the show, one is to make sure that it is distributed to the appropriate animal in enough allotted time. During the show, can be defined as the time upon when the animal is unloaded at the fairgrounds and until it departs. The use of the calming agent is only to be used for the animals which are either unruly or under extreme stress associated with a change in the environment. For the safety of the animal, any animal which carries stress-related genes may also be subject to a calming agent. These agents are to be used with the safety of the exhibitor and the attendees of the Bi-County County Fair in mind. If the calming agents have no effect on the animal, then a decision by the fair board members must be made as to whether the animal will be allowed to be in residence at the fairgrounds or to be shown.

- c. The United States Department of Agriculture Wholesome Meat Act applies to the sale of market livestock sold during the Bi-County Fair as follows:
  - i. Animals must be in good health and carcasses free of drug or chemical residues.
  - ii. Antibiotics and sulfonamides have met required withdrawal periods.
  - iii. Drug label directions for use and withdrawal periods must be followed.
  - iv. If drug or chemical residues are found in tissues of carcasses, the entire carcass may be condemned.
  - v. It is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to ensure that the animal is free of the above prescribed drugs and substances. Extent of knowledge on the part of the exhibitor regarding the drugs or substance found in an animal is not relevant to any issue, and it shall not be a defense that a person or persons unknown introduced the prescribed substance to the animal.
8. In the case of antibiotic use in an animal prior to show, the exhibitor must notify the County Agent/FFA Advisor and the Superintendent of the species. The animal will not qualify to show or sell if the withdrawal period has not been met.
9. **Consequences:** after examination by an official veterinarian, if an animal is found to have been subject to unethical practices, including producing an analysis with a quantity of a substance or drug in violation of these rules:
  - d. Entry will be disqualified.
  - e. Barred from further exhibition.
  - f. No awards will be made for the involved animal, or any other animal exhibited by exhibitor.
  - g. Entry fees will not be refunded.
  - h. Exhibitors will forfeit all rights and privileges to exhibit livestock in the future at the Fair.
10. These rules must be strictly adhered to.
11. All livestock entries are subject to testing for any substance(s) that are inconsistent with the guidelines of the Wholesome Meat Act, Public Law 90-201. The Wholesome Meat Act may be read online at: (<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE81-Pg584.pdf>) or a copy may be viewed in the Fair Office. All exhibitors offering livestock for sale at the Bi-County Fair Junior Livestock Sale will be required to sign a certificate assuring compliance with the Wholesome Meat Act.
12. **If the Fair Veterinarian is summoned by the Superintendent and/or the Livestock Office on the behalf of the exhibitor, whether any services are rendered, the Exhibitor is responsible for all fees paid to the veterinarian.**

## **Protests**

1. The judges' decisions shall be final, and no appeal will be considered except in the case of a protest.
  - a) All protests will be examined, reviewed and ruled on by the Fair Board and must be made in writing to the Fair Board, accompanied by an affidavit setting forth ground for protest and a deposit of \$100.00 cash, which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained.
  - b) Protests against the exhibition of an entry must be filed, considered, and determined before the section/species group is judged.
  - c) Protests against an awarded exhibit must be filed within one hour of the show's conclusion on the day the award was made and will be considered and ruled on at the first meeting of the Fair Board following the Fair.
  - d) In addition to the right of protest guaranteed above to interested parties, the Fair Board reserves the right to take cognizance of any fraud, consummated or attempted, and to deal

with all persons implicated therein, in such a manner within the limits of power of the Fair Board as may, from the evidence relating to and deemed just and proper.

e) Interested parties will be duly notified of the time and place for considering protests and allowed to submit evidence.

13. There must be at least 3 entries to be eligible for awards.

### **Junior Market Livestock**

Entry Fees: \$25 per head for all species and \$10 for Showmanship

#### **Market Swine:**

1. Classes will be broken by weight and breed.
2. Gilts and barrows are eligible. The minimum weight is 200lbs, there is no maximum.
  - a) The Classifier will decide breed designation at weigh-in. All Classification decisions are final.

#### **Breeding Swine: Entry Fee \$10**

1. Classes will be broken by weight.
2. Gilts (Under 1 year of age)
3. Gilts entered in the Market Class may also show in the breeding class.

#### **Market Goats:**

1. Classes will be broken by weight.
2. Wethers and Does are eligible to show. The minimum weight is 50lbs. There is no maximum.

#### **Breeding Goats: Entry Fee \$10**

1. Classes will be broken by weight.
2. Does are eligible to show in the Market Class. The minimum weight is 50lbs. There is no maximum.

#### **Dairy Goats: Entry Fee \$10**

1. Classes will be broken by weight.

#### **Market Lambs**

1. Classes will be broken by weight.
2. Wethers and Ewes are eligible to show.
3. The minimum weight is 100lbs for all.

#### **Breeding Sheep: Entry Fee \$10**

1. Ewes (under 1 year of age)
2. Ewes (over 1 year of age)
3. Rams (under 1 year of age)
4. Rams (over 1 year of age)
5. Ewe lambs entered in the Market Class may also show in the breeding class.

**\*All sheep and goats for exhibition must have USDA Scrapies I.D. Tags (REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW)**

#### **Market Steers/Heifers**

1. Market Beef classes will be broken by weight. There is a minimum weight of 1,000lbs.
2. Both Steers and Heifers are eligible to show.
3. Market heifers must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection dated within 30 days of the show stating heifer is open.
4. Market Beef Classes show light to heavy.

#### **Breeding Heifers: Entry Fee \$10**

1. Breeding Heifer Classes will be broken by birthday into the following classes: a) Heifers calved between September 1 and December 31 of the previous year. b)

Heifers calved between May 1 and August 31 of the previous year. c) Heifers calved between January 1 and April 30 of the previous year.

### **Dairy Heifer**

1. Tooth Rule: Any heifer having two sets of permanent incisors that have broken through the skin will not be eligible to show.
2. All dairy cattle over 4 months of age are required to have a negative TB test. Test is good for 120 days prior to showing.

### **Showmanship Contest: Entry Fee \$10**

1. Individuals exhibiting livestock (cattle, sheep, swine, and goats) will be eligible for the Showmanship Award. Exhibitors may only show animals that they exhibited in previous classes. The judge has the right to ask questions of the individuals. The contest will cover the following areas:
  - a. Care and fitting of the animal.
  - b. Showmanship in the ring.
  - c. Conduct in the show ring.
  - d. Cooperation with show officials.
2. Individuals competing in showmanship classes will be called to the show ring by age group starting with the JR booster age group, followed by novice, then juniors, and ending with seniors. Those exhibitors wishing to participate in the showmanship class must designate their showmanship entry online when entering the fair.
3. Exhibitors are required to enter showmanship classes based on 4-H age divisions online when entering their animals – late entries at the fair will not be allowed.

### **County Bred Animals General Rules (\$10 Entry Fee)**

- Entries will be online at the same time as you enter the animal for market shows.
- All animals must be birthed, raised, and or purchased from a Cibola/McKinley County breeder.
- All breeds will be shown together.
- All entries and awards will be subject to the Junior Livestock rules.
- Boosters are eligible to show only small hoof animals – no steers or heifers.
- Official weights used at weigh-in for the Market Show will be used to determine County-bred classes.
- The County-bred Animal Show awards will be presented.
- A county breeder certificate must be filled out and uploaded into the system.  
\*See Bi-County website to download form.

**JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE**  
**TIME 1:00 P.M. SUNDAY OF LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

1. **Animals chosen as grand and reserve grand champions in market steers, swine, lambs, and goats and Grand Champion Meat Pen Rabbit and Meat Pen Chicken must be sold through the junior livestock sale.** Other animals accepted for the sale must be sold through the Junior Livestock Sale unless the exhibitor notifies the Livestock Superintendent to the contrary within 30 minutes of the conclusion of All Market Shows on Saturday afternoon.
2. Each exhibitor must sell his/her own animal in the sale ring. They may not get another person to sell the animal.
3. Exhibitors are responsible for the care and safe delivery of all animals after the sale. Sale animals will be released at noon for proper delivery to purchasers on Labor Day.
4. The Fair Board Treasurer will pay the money derived from the sale of market animals after the fair. **See rule #22 in the General Rules.**
5. Sale is limited to two (2) animals per exhibitor. If the exhibitor has more than two (2) animals in the sale and does not notify the Superintendent which animal to pull, the Superintendent will choose for the exhibitor. Exhibitors must complete the Intent to Sell Form.
6. All livestock sold through the sale shall be charged 7% of the total sale price and add-ons to defray judging and sale expenses.
7. The Fair Board will not be responsible for animals not listed in the auction.
8. Any exhibitor having animal(s) entered in the sale is prohibited from seeking special privileges from the buyers, such as repurchase the animal from the buyer or packer to be shown again, or to be used for other purposes including breeding. Exhibitors violating this rule will be subject to disciplinary action. The Fair Board may withhold the sale proceeds or ban the exhibitor from showing for at least one year.
9. The exhibitor whose animal does not make the livestock sale is obligated to sell his or her own animal(s). The buyer will be responsible for arranging transportation for said animal and give packer instructions.
10. After the sale and fair is over, each exhibitor must have sufficient feed and water for their animal(s) if necessary, and all paperwork must be completed at the fair office. The requirement for the completion of paperwork applies to ALL market animals. No animal will leave the fairgrounds or be left at the fairgrounds without proper paperwork.
11. Animals purchased through the sale may be donated to clubs or organizations. However, only those animals donated to the Bi-County Fair Board will be resold through the Junior Livestock Sale.
12. **4-H and FFA exhibitors that sell through the Jr Livestock sale are required to send ALL buyers and add on people thank you cards – if your cards are not received by Jan 1<sup>st</sup> following the sale, you will not be able to show at the next fair.**