

2026 PCJLS AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS RULES

Superintendent – Jason Payne

ENTRY DEADLINE: **First Friday in December**

Entries are due in the barn by 12:00 pm on Wednesday the week of the show. Once the project is on site, they may not be removed from the show grounds, until silent auction closing. Once projects have been put in place, projects can not be modified (painted, welded, or fixed in any way)

SPECIAL RULES

1. Entry Fee: The entry fee for each project is \$30.00. Entries must be completed and submitted by December 1.
 - Exhibitors' names should be spelled correctly with the first letter of names capitalized.
 - Exhibitors must live in Panola County or attend a Panola County public, private, or home school, and be a member of 4-H or FFA, in Panola County, during the feeding period. **No one may exhibit in any other county show other than Panola County.** Exhibitors must be in good standing as outlined in his or her respective school, 4-H or FFA Chapter in order to exhibit livestock or shop projects. Late entry Fee of \$60 by the second Friday in December.
2. Eligible Entries: Contestants must meet all Panola County Junior Livestock Show Rule Requirements.
3. Projects: Projects must have been constructed by FFA or 4-H members either as a part of their agricultural mechanics instruction in agricultural science class or as part of their supervised work experience program within the 4H. Projects must be designed and constructed under the direct supervision and guidance of the AST/CEA.
4. Individual/Group Entries: Projects may be individually or group constructed. Entries must be made in the name of the FFA Chapter or 4-H Club. Entries must include only the name(s) of those who participated in the planning and construction of the project. Group entries are composed of two (2) or a maximum of six (6) students.
5. Number of Entries: No exhibitor may be involved in the construction of more than 3 projects, whether group or individual. This does not limit the number of projects a chapter or club may enter. Individuals can sell no more than 1 project within the auction.

6. Exhibit Space: In so far as possible projects will be displayed by class. Placement of the projects will be at the discretion of show officials. Some projects will be displayed outside.
7. Judging Procedures: Only exhibitors of the project may present the project to the judges.
8. Project Sales: Junior Ag Mechanics Projects cannot be sold or advertised for sale during the Junior Ag Mechanics Show on Thursday. Exhibitors can only sell 1 project within the auction.
9. Construction Date: A project may be exhibited only one time at the Panola County Junior Livestock Show and must have been completed within one calendar year of the exhibition date.
10. Project Substitutions: Substitutions are to be made directly to the show Superintendent, unless otherwise announced. Substitutions not officially recorded in this manner are invalid. Substitutions will not be permitted once Check-In is complete. Substitution of owners is not permitted.
11. Refunds: There will be no refund of entry fees.
12. . Only those projects that fit into the stated classes will be accepted. Final project classification will be at the discretion of the Classification Committee. Leather goods, spurs, knives, canoes, teepees, boats and glass top tables/benches are not approved projects. No repurposed structures or remodeled projects are allowed. The list of unacceptable projects above is not complete.
13. Vehicles: Trucks, tractors, trailers or other vehicles that are not entered to be exhibited are not allowed in the exhibit area. If a vehicle needs to be a part of a display the Superintendent must grant permission.
14. Project Completeness: All projects must be complete including finish. Any item necessary for use of the project must be a part of the project (example: hinges and latches on gates and panels). Documentation (all 4 components) is considered part of the project.
15. Project Presentation: Criteria to be considered for Showmanship:
 - a. Neatness of project – Clean and free of dust and debris.
 - b. Neatness of surroundings– Includes floor under and around the project.
 - c. Documentation – Presented in a manner that judges and the public can view. Awards, exhibitor cards, ribbons, or other materials from other or previous project shows should not be included in the documentation or display.
 - d. Signs–All projects are to be identified with the official exhibitor card. Other signs, banners, etc. are subject to approval by the Superintendent. "For Sale" signs are not permitted.
 - e. Exhibitor Card–It is recommended that the exhibitor card be placed in a clear plastic sleeve and affixed neatly to the front center of the project. Exhibitor Cards must be on projects when they arrive at show grounds.
 - f. Sponsors – Sponsors of a project may be identified with approval of Superintendent
 - g. Logos – Do not use company logos on projects unless provided a limited use agreement.

- h. Inappropriate Silhouettes – Inappropriate silhouettes or cutouts should not be used on projects.
- i. Safety – All safety procedures must be adhered to when displaying projects. Oxygen and fuel cylinders, acetylene or propane are not allowed.
- j. Clutter – Exhibitors should confine paraphernalia, chairs, show boxes, cleaning supplies, brooms, and wiping rags to their assigned display area.
- k. Painting/Scratches – Paint is not allowed in the display area. Judges will be instructed to make allowances for scratches or damage due to transportation or off-loading

16. Exhibitor Presentation: Criteria to be considered for Showmanship:

- A.** Attire – Exhibitors should be dressed appropriately and be with their project when it is judged.
- B.** Sportsmanship–Exhibitors should be courteous and helpful to those viewing their project, including those exhibiting next to them. Exhibitors should not interfere with or shield those who are exhibiting next to them.
- C.** Knowledge – Exhibitors should be available to answer questions when their project is being judged. Knowledge of the project will be evaluated at this time. Knowledge is part of Presentation on Judging
- D.** Criteria. Exhibitors should be well informed of the project they are representing.
- E.** Exhibit Aids – Exhibitors should provide any equipment that may be necessary to judge their project (flashlights, mat or creeper for judging projects where the judge needs to get under project such as trailers)
- F.** Exhibitors may be requested to hold measuring tape and assist judge in taking measurements of project.
- G.** Naming Project–Proper project name and classification will be reflected on the Exhibitor Card.

Note: At least one chapter/club exhibitor should be available to answer questions from the public or show officials, including showmanship and documentation to judges at all times.

18. Documentation & Research: Documentation is considered a research portfolio and should not be constructed as a scrapbook. Documents should be easy to read and arranged neatly in a tabbed notebook with table of contents and numbered pages.

Documentation & Research Package must include the following four components:

- A.** Working Drawing: Must include an original (exhibitor-drawn) multi-view orthographic projection drawn to a given scale with proper lettering and dimensioning. Scale must be identified on the drawing. Dimensioning shown on drawing should be specific and complete enough for it to be apparent that drawing was used to plan and construct project. Judges will spot check dimensions on projects to see if they comply with drawings. Drawing may be pencil or CAD (Computer Aided Design). Pictorials, isometric, oblique or perspective may be included.
- B.** Bill of Materials (BOM): Must include a list or a description of material, including columns
 1)Date, 2) Description, 3) Size, 4) Quantity, 5) Unit, 6) Cost per item, 7) Extended or Total Costs.
 Other information such as, OC (Opportunity Cost) to identify items that were donated but have

value, PE (Professional Expenses) to identify work done by others, sum of all (Total Costs) cost including OC and PE should be shown in BOM. Vendors name and/or Purchase Order Number, etc. may be included. Invoices or Sales Receipts are recommended to be included with the BOM, but do not replace the BOM. BOM may be developed using computer spread sheet program.

- C. Photographs: Show working progress and should illustrate proper safety procedures including clothing, eye and face shields, etc. Photographs should be sequenced in the order of constructing the project. Exhibitor(s) should be in pictures. CEA/AST should be in some of the pictures. Pictures must be of good quality with labels identifying activity and exhibitor(s) in the picture. No more than 40 pictures may be included. Two, but no more than four pictures per page is recommended. Pictures should be labeled identifying person in them and skill. Additional photographs may be displayed in a separate notebook for public viewing, or may be displayed using computer display if electricity is available. Videos may also show construction, but computer displays and videos do not substitute for the photos required in the documentation notebook.
- D. Research - Papers to be included: Product Information (PI) bulletins and/or Safety Data Sheets (SDS) or (MSDS) must be germane to the project and should include paints and chemical supplies, etc. Manufacturer's specifications or PIs for trailer and equipment components such as axles, springs, wheels, jacks, break-aways, and hydraulic cylinders should be included.

Projects having no documentation are not complete and will be disqualified.

19. Project Safety:

A. Display: Appropriate and safe display stands must be provided for gates, panels, and other projects requiring support. Sharp edges and points; such as found on roofs of self-feeders, bale movers, etc., must be padded and/or protected where necessary to prevent possible injury to spectators and exhibitors.

B. General Safety: Flammable and/or combustible liquids shall not be stored or sprayed in buildings, or on the show grounds. This shall include, but not limited to enamel paints, thinners, reducers, or gasoline. No cylinders (oxygen, acetylene, or propane) are allowed. Electric extension cords must not cross aisles used as exit ways.

C. Projects with Engines: No more than 2 inches of fuel depth is allowed in any fuel tank. The fuel tank cap must be in place. Fuel cap does not need to be taped. All batteries, except tractors must be disconnected.

- 20. Transportation Statutes: All trailers and other equipment that will be operated and/or transported on public roads must be equipped with safety equipment specified in Codes of Federal Regulations, Title 49 Transportation, parts 300 to 399. No Agriculture Exemptions except farm tags are allowed.

A. Trailer wiring, lights and brakes will be working properly. Colors of conductors in the wiring harness should meet industry standards. Trailer must be grounded to the vehicle with a grounding wire in harness. (Trailer grounding only through hitch is not acceptable.)

All Projects pulled on public highways must include relevant DOT codes including Federal Lighting

B. All trailers must have a Vehicle Identification Number(VIN) or Serial Number(SN) or Trailer Identification Number (TIN) placed on the tongue. SN, VIN or TIN will not be used to check registration. All trailers that are pulled to the show must have a license plate. May use Farm Tag.

C. All tongue equipment that are pulled on a public highway – for example: trailers, squeeze chutes, hydraulic log splitters, mowers, tillage tools, sprayers, etc. will have DOT approved (1) safety chains, (2) tongue jacks, (3) lights and reflectors.

D. All trailers rated 4500 pounds GWR or greater must have approved brakes, safety chains and break-away equipment. This includes bumper pull as well as gooseneck trailers.

E. All trailers must be equipped with lift jacks for hitching and unhitching including goosenecks and tongue.

F. Tie down attachments (D Rings) (minimum of 4) are recommended on all utility trailers.

G. Fender Wheel Clearance– Judges will abide by specifications provided in PI documents. General specifications are: (a) Four-inch fender clearance above the tire is required with exceptions of (b) torsion axle 3 inches and (c) single axle trailers 3 inches. Fenders must be wider than tire tread so the edge of the fender does not cut the tire.

H. Any trailer that is over wide (102 inches) must have a signed Texas over width permit. Current over width permit must be presented at the time of DOT inspection. Trailer widths will be measured at the widest point on the trailer, metal to metal. Permit dates must include days in transportation to and from PCJLS. Review *Trailer Construction Guide* for major codes and rules. It is the exhibitors' responsibility to have reviewed and understand all TxDOT and Federal Codes.

Any trailer that is over 102 inches in width without permit will be discounted 10 points. Over wide without a permit does not designate disqualification for the show.

21. Loss or Damage: Every precaution will be taken to protect projects, however, neither the Panola County Junior Livestock Show nor the show officials will be responsible for any loss or damage to projects during unloading and loading them.

22. Projects Needing Off-loading Assistance: Projects that must be hoisted from the topside are to be fitted with lifting eyes at balance points that will accommodate one-inch shackles. Projects that Show Officials conclude cannot be safely off-loaded with equipment available may be shown on the trailer.

23. Project Show Judging Criteria: (see scorecard for further breakdown)

Workmanship 30

Design 20

Interview/Showmanship 20

Record Book 20

Safety 10

Judges will place projects using the scorecard.

24. FFA or 4-H show cards must be on each exhibit showing the name or names of the students who built the project and the name of the chapter. All names appearing on projects will be removed during the judging

Judges

Judges will only serve two consecutive terms.

Awards

Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, and Showmanship will receive a belt buckle and a banner. The show will provide up to two belt buckles for team entries. If more buckles are needed it is the responsibility of the FFA or 4-H to provide them.

Reserve grand champion will receive a belt buckle and a banner.

Top two wood and top two metal projects receive a rosette.

Ribbon awards are blue and red. Blue ribbons are presented to the top 10. Red ribbons for 11th and under. Only Blue Ribbon projects are eligible for placing Showmanship award. The judges can choose to add blue ribbons past 10th place.

Showmanship Award

A separate award will go to the individual who best displays and demonstrates their knowledge of their project. The judges will pick this person from among the top 10 blue ribbon exhibitors. The showmanship winner will get a belt buckle.

AUCTION

All qualified projects will participate in the Silent Auction. The highest bidder through the Silent Auction is the winning bid *if the Market Value is met*. Bidding will start at 8:00 AM Friday morning. Bid sheets will be displayed with the project. Silent auction ends at 3:00PM on Friday.

All bids must require a registered buyer's number. Falsifying bids will disqualify a project from the auction.

If for sale, a minimum price must be exhibited. Starting bid is \$100 over material cost.

All projects must be removed from property the day of Auction.

PCJLS 2026 Ag Mech Classes

Class 1: Trailers- single axle, tandem axle, gooseneck Example- utility, car hauler, low boy, float trailer.

Class 2: Livestock Equipment and Agricultural Machinery: Example- creep and mineral feeders, saddle racks, hay forks, box blades, carryalls, shop tables, wire rollers, goat carriers, hay unrollers, bumpers, gates, etc.'

Class 3: Yard Conveniences: Example- picnic tables, swings, arbors, playhouses, wood racks, bar-b-que pits, fish cookers, smokers, fire pits, etc.

Class 4: Household Projects: Example- gun cabinet, hutches, corner shelves, chests, household furniture, coffee tables, bakers racks, etc.

Class 5: Wildlife: Example- deer stands, deer feeders, hog traps, game hangers, duck blinds, etc.

Top project from each class gets a rosette. Grand and reserve come from the rosette group. Judges have the discretion to pull more than one from a group for Grand and reserve champion.

Class #:	Entry #:	Project:
Chapter/Club:	E=Excellent G=Good NI=Needs Improvement	
Workmanship (30) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Square- Diagonals & Square ❖ Weld Quality- Uniform bead profile, feathering good penetration, cold welds, over welding, lack of penetration, undercutting, overlap, distortion control, poor bead profile, pin holes ❖ Fabrication- Good joints and fit-up. Sharp edges, poor fit up, rough torch cuts ❖ Weld grinding- excessive or lack of proper grinding, sharp corners ❖ Paint Prep & Finish- slag and buckshot removal, no body filler, uniform paint coating with no runs. 	_____ Square & True _____ Weld Quality _____ Fabrication- Metal cutting & Drilling _____ Grinding (leave beads if possible) _____ Paint Prep & Finish (Powder coating allowed but not rewarded)	
Design and Materials (20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dimensions consistent with drawing ❖ Materials- over or undersized for load ❖ Fasteners- Screws, bolts etc. Screws and bolts coating compatible with treated lumber ❖ Design principles- gussets and braces. Materials- angles, I beams and trusses ❖ Practicality and functionality 	_____ Dimensions _____ Materials _____ Fasteners _____ Design _____ Practicability	
Documentation and Presentation (20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Drawing- to scale, dimensioned, complete enough to build from ❖ BOM- include receipts ❖ Photos- sequenced work in progress, labeled, 40 max ❖ Knowledge of manufacturing process and materials ❖ Presentation-Speaking ability and presentation to judges and public, attire 	_____ Organization _____ Presentation _____ Drawing _____ Display _____ Bill Of Materials _____ Photographs (40 Max) _____ Technical Knowledge (Why questions and knowledge of project)	
Difficulty (20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Size, Scope, Complexity- use of several skills and processes ❖ Sophistication- Intricate, technical and more difficult to build. 	_____ Size, Scope _____ Sophistication	

Safety (10)

- ❖ Safe work environment- shown in photos
- ❖ Safe Projects- good smooth joints & fit up
- ❖ Project Displayed Safely- sharp points & edges protected, sturdy stands
- ❖ Electrical- extension cords, appliances, video display & computers

_____ Safety- depicted in pictures

_____ Safe project

_____ Project display

_____ Electrical

Showmanship Comments: