

## 2026 Rules - San Jose Reptile Show

**Thank you for choosing to vend with Reptile Realms San Jose.** We are excited to bring The San Jose Reptile Show back to the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds in SJ, but we need your help!

In 2018, as the **Bay Area's Largest Reptile Show**, we battled Santa Clara County for the right to host our Show and Sale at their fairgrounds. Outdated municipal codes did not allow for animal sales on the property, and they didn't want to update the code with new exceptions for animal tradeshow. **We were able to reach a compromise and we were presented with a conditional permit** containing specific rules that we (and our vendors) must follow. Every year we reapply for our event permit, and must follow these specific rules:

- 1) The Show and its exhibitors/sellers shall be limited to selling, offering for sale or exhibiting reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates only. No slider turtles shall be permitted other than those being exhibited or made available for adoption by groups with a valid 501c3 non-profit registration specific to animal rescue.
- 2) All animals sold, offered for sale, and/or exhibited at the Show must be housed and exhibited in an indoor, temperature-controlled environment. Proper temperature and ventilation must be maintained for all animals at the Show.
- 3) At the time of sale of an animal at the Show, the buyer of the animal must be provided with species-specific written recommendations to provide appropriate guidance on the housing, equipment, cleaning, environment and feeding of the animal. **(A written care guide)**
- 4) Only animals free of injury and illness may be sold, offered for sale or exhibited at the Show.
- 5) At least five (5) business days before the first day of the Show's two-day event, the Show's organizer shall provide Animal Control with records for each live animal exhibitor/seller. The records shall include the name under which the vendor's business is licensed, the name of the business owner, address, e-mail address and telephone number.
- 6) Each exhibitor/seller shall maintain an inventory of animals on site for the entire event, which such inventory including the date every animal was acquired or hatched. **(Sample Inventory Sheet is included in this document. Inventory list must be presented before show can open on Saturday morning, and maintained throughout the event.)**
- 7) County Animal Control Officers shall be allowed access to the Show at any time to inspect for compliance with the terms of the Conditional Authorization and for any

violations of state or local law. The Show and its exhibitors/sellers shall cooperate with any such inspections. Should a violation of this Conditional Authorization be identified, the Show and/or any of the exhibitors/sellers at the Show may be cited, this Conditional Authorization may be revoked, and the Show may be shut down.

8) The Show shall not exceed two consecutive days.

9) The Conditional Authorization shall not create any right or expectation of approval with respect to other events or future reptile shows.

10) The Show's Organizer shall provide a copy of this signed Conditional Authorization to every exhibitor/seller of the Show. **(Signed copy will be provided once available).**

Please take a moment to review all 10 rules above. It is imperative that you follow the rules outlined so that there is no reason for the County to revoke our waiver, or deny our applications for future shows. The rules are pretty straight forward and contain things that most of our vendors already do on a regular basis. **The most challenging condition is that you MUST maintain an inventory list throughout the show.** You will find an inventory sheet on the next page containing the mandatory fields, and a sample sheet giving examples of how you can list your animals. Normally the County considers animals to mean any type of vertebrate, so at this time you will not be required to list invertebrate species (though there is no harm in having them on the list).

**As with previous events, we are 100% restricted to displaying/selling ONLY reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates in 2026.** That means no fish, birds, or live mammals of any kind (including no live feeder rodents). We will bring in our own private compliance officer who will be checking in with everyone to make sure they are following the rules of our permit before doors open on Saturday. Anyone not in compliance will be required to make the necessary adjustments, or asked to leave. At any point throughout the day, the compliance officer has the right to confiscate animals deemed not to be in line with our policies, CA Law, or the Conditional Permit. Those animals will be released back to the vendor upon completion of the event Sunday evening.



# The San Jose **REPTILE SHOW**

## Live Animal Inventory Sheet

(Sample Inventory) Species/Morph	Date Acquired/ Hatched	QTY Available	Qty Sold
Ball Python - Banana Pied	03/15/18	5	
Normal	03/21/18	10	
Gold Dust Day Gecko	01/05/18	2	
	05/14/18	2	
	11/12/17	1	
Brazilian Rainbow Boa	03/31/18	20	

**We will provide additional show setup instructions closer to the event in case anything changes, but here are some of the basics...**

**Vendors are allowed to setup:**

Friday **June 12th** from **2:00PM** until **10:00PM**

Saturday **June 13th** from **7:00AM** until **9:00AM**

Doors open at 10:00AM for show attendees, so we would like to see that all vendors are 100% ready for business no later than 9:30AM.

Please enter the Fairgrounds through **GATE B ONLY** (Tully Road). You can park around the **Expo Hall** for loading and unloading (**DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS**), but must relocate to the vendor lot BEFORE 9:00AM on Saturday. We will provide Vendor Parking Passes during check-in on Friday. If you have any trouble at the gate please call

**Rick @ 408-784-1806 or Laila @ 510-219-4512**

**You will have access to Fairgrounds power at No Additional Charge.** All power is pulled from the perimeter walls, or building columns so please bring long extension cords and power strips to take advantage of this power supply (50ft+). All extension cords must be properly taped/secured to the floor to prevent tripping hazards.

**Our goal is to maintain a well rounded, and visually pleasing show** to encourage customers to continue coming back every year. Please be sure to bring your own table covers, and banners on stands. Nothing is to be affixed to Fairgrounds walls. The tables are standard banquet/expo tables @ 8' x 30". We typically have a waiting list of vendors trying to get into this event, and we will give priority to those with unique offerings or those taking care to have a booth designed to impress. First time vendors are always welcome, and can learn and grow with us.

**The California Department of Fish and Wildlife will typically walk through the event**, so expect them to be here again this year. We are also expecting representatives from the Santa Clara County Animal Control Office to make their rounds while checking on permit compliance. The director likes to attend in plain clothes, so always put your best foot forward. Make sure you are only bringing species that are legal to sell within the state of California. There are to be no turtles under 4" (and no sliders regardless of size). No "Hot" reptiles (i.e. Rattle Snakes, Cobras, Beaded Lizards, etc.). As a side note, please also make sure that you have **Basic Care Sheets** available for all the species you sell (California Law, and Permit Item #3). If you run out of sheets, we will have a printer on site and can print extra copies for you if you have a flash drive with your care sheet files.

We appreciate everything that you do in making this show a success. Your cooperation with regards to the 2026 permit rules, will allow us to maintain a good working relationship with the County and give us leverage for negotiating more relaxed regulations for our future events. If you have any questions please let me know.

Best Regards,

Rick Porter  
Reptile Realms - The San Jose Reptile Show

[www.SanJoseReptiles.com](http://www.SanJoseReptiles.com)

[www.ReptileRealms.com](http://www.ReptileRealms.com)

[www.Facebook.com/SanJoseReptileShow](https://www.Facebook.com/SanJoseReptileShow)

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### **Additional Venue Specific Rules:**

1. **Dogs:** Santa Clara County Fairgrounds has a "No Pet" Policy, so dogs and other non-reptilian "pets/emotional support animals" will not be allowed at your vendor booth. ESAs are not recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act as legitimate exempt service animals, and venue policies will not be waived for ESAs. Please make alternative arrangements for your pets before arriving at the San Jose Reptile Show.
2. **Alcohol:** Alcohol is prohibited by the Fairgrounds, unless it is sold by them. Please do not bring your own alcoholic beverages, as they will be confiscated.