

The 2023 Eastland County Livestock Show
January 11-14, 2023 Eastland County Show Grounds
475 Highway 3101, Eastland, Texas 76448

Official Rules and Regulations

Rules which have been changed for the 2023 Livestock show are highlighted in orange

General Rules and Regulations

(Please read carefully)

1. The Junior Livestock Show will be open to 4-H and FFA members who are enrolled in a public, private or home-based elementary or secondary school in Eastland County at the time of the stock show, or home-schooled children who reside outside Eastland County, and are bona-fide members of an Eastland County 4-H club or FFA chapter by **November 1**. (Enrollment in public schools will be verified by the school districts. Home schooled children or children in private schools must provide a certificate of enrollment by an accredited school.)

They must have fed, fitted and cared for the animal under the supervision of a vocational agriculture teacher or a county agent to be eligible to show. Exhibitors must be at least **9 years old or in the Third Grade**. (Exceptions - See Rule 2)

If the school rules the child ineligible to show, the animal is ineligible to show. If a child is academically ineligible for any part of the stock show, you are ineligible for all the stock show. Exhibitors may not participate in any other county stock show once they have entered the Eastland County Livestock Show until May 31, of the show year. Violation of this rule may result in forfeiture of awards and/or premium sale money and/or a ban from future Eastland County Livestock Shows. If asked, exhibitors must provide documentation of their eligibility to ECLRA to be allowed to show. ECLRA reserves the right to solely determine eligibility in these matters.

Students changing school districts after the entry date do not have to pay a late entry fee, but their animal(s) must be either state-validated or a prior ag teacher or county agent must confirm ownership or validation in another county to be eligible to show. The student must be able to provide proof of membership in a 4-H or FFA club (prior to the November 1, deadline) in their former county.

2. Any child enrolled in Kindergarten – Second grade in public, private or home-based school and has not otherwise met the age and grade requirements in General Rule One, may show breeding animals.

3. All entries must be turned into the General Superintendent by **December 1**, of the year prior to the stock show. Entry **Cards must be in a single individual's name when turned in**. Exhibitors who miss this deadline may pay a late entry fee of \$50 per exhibitor until 8:00 pm the Wednesday of the stock show. The late entry fee does not exempt an exhibitor from observing validation dates for market animals or ownership dates of breeding animals.

4. **Entry fees** are as follows:

- \$20.00 for individual cattle and calves, including single commercial heifers)
- \$35.00 for a pen of three commercial heifers
- \$15.00 for sheep, goats and hogs
- \$15.00 for poultry entries (pens of broilers and individual turkeys)
- \$15.00 for market rabbit pens
- \$15.00 for each breeding rabbit

5. All breeds and species subject to market validation must be owned by exhibitors by validation day. Breeding animals must be owned by December 1, except breeding beef heifers (not commercial heifers) which must be registered in the name of the exhibitor by November 1. (*See commercial heifer rules.*)

6. Steers, commercial heifers, market swine, breeding swine, market lambs, market meat goats, market angora goats, and rabbits must be validated. County Market Validation Day will be respective of State Validation Day. Goats will be validated the same day as sheep. Market rabbits will be validated at least 30 days prior to the show. Breeding beef heifers (excluding commercial heifers) must be registered in the exhibitor's name by November 1, immediately preceding the show. (*See commercial heifer rules.*)

7. The Superintendent will assign pens and stalls before check-in time.

8. All animals to be shown must be in their respective places:

Dairy and Angora Goats-January 11, 2023 4:00-6:00pm

Hogs-January 11, 2023 from 4:00-7:00 pm

Chicken and Turkeys-January 11, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Cattle-Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 11:00 am—Weigh cards and Heifer papers turn in

Lambs, Goats and Rabbits, January 12, 2023 from 4:00-7:00 pm

9. The superintendent of each division will classify animals according to breed at the weigh-in station; or the Association may hire a team of three classifiers to assist the superintendents. When classifiers are present, the decisions will be made on the majority opinion of the classifiers. The decision of the classifiers is final. Once a decision has been made, the classifiers cannot reconsider or re-examine the animal. When a team of classifiers is not present and the decision of the superintendent is challenged, then a committee of three age teachers or a committee of two teachers and the county agent will determine the correct classification. No individual representing the town or organization of the animal being challenged shall serve on the committee. The superintendent shall appoint the committee. Only the exhibitor and animal can go through the classifying and weighing area.

10. All animals in breeding classes must be representative of their breed but do not need to be either purebred or registered except where specified by department rules. (See Breeding Beef Rules)

11. All animals that are of quality, type or conformation that will not be a credit to the show will be sifted by an appointed committee. All sifted animals must be removed from the grounds as soon as possible.

12. All entries must comply with Texas Animal Health Commission regulations. In the event an animal seems sick, the owner of the animal will have the animal examined by a certified veterinarian. It will be the discretion of the veterinarian to determine if the animal is fit to show. If the animal is not fit to be shown, it will not be allowed on the show grounds. All costs associated with the veterinarian's visit will be at the expense of the owner.

13. Market animals may not be shown in a breeding class, but female animals not qualifying for their market class when weighed in may be switched to a breeding class. Animals shown in breeding classes are not eligible to be shown in market classes.

14. Exhibitors must show their own animals unless they have two or three in the same class or they have extenuating circumstances approved by the Show Superintendent. Any substitute showman must be eligible for and entered in the county livestock show. No one can receive help in the show ring, except from show officials, unless they have a disability. You must control your animal at all times-this includes all species.

15. All animals are released after they have shown.

16. Market and breeding rabbits, broilers and turkeys will be shown on tables with no hutch or pen.

17. Swine exhibitors must declare a breed on their entry cards or the animal will show as a cross.

18. Judges are to be secured on or before July 1.

19. No one will be allowed to spend the night on the show grounds. Curfew starts at 11:00 pm during nights of the show. A security guard will be on duty each night.

20. No hay will be allowed as bedding.

21. No supplemental or artificial heat sources will be allowed in the livestock barns.

22. All exhibitors are expected to keep their part of the aisles clean and neat at all times.

23. The Eastland County Livestock Raisers Association shall not be liable in any matter for loss, injury and/or accident to any person, animal or equipment, either exhibitor or spectator.

24. All animals and equipment must be off-site by 2 hours after the completion of the premium sale Saturday night. Failure to remove animals or equipment will result in a further 10% deduction from sale checks.

25. There will be a Code of Conduct for all exhibits, parents and spectators to adhere to while attending the Eastland County Stockshow.

Special Showmanship Rules

1. Showmanship will have 3 divisions:

Junior--Kindergarten-5th grade

Intermediate---6th grade-8th grade

Senior---9th grade-12th grade

2. Breeding and market showmanship will be separate (except for beef showmanship)

3. Participants who owned and exhibited their own animal in each division may choose to compete for showmanship honors. Participants must show their own animal from the respective division being judged in the showmanship competition. Participant eligibility will be verified and ear tags cross checked off the division roster before exhibitors may enter the arena to compete for showmanship. Showmanship winners will receive a buckle at the awards ceremony. The showmanship competition may be run in heats.

4. The ECLRA shall present an award to participating 12th Grade exhibitors who have shown livestock at the Eastland County Livestock Show for at least ten (10) years.

Special Auction Rules

1. An animal must place in the top 60% of its class to sell in the special auction sale.

2. Each exhibitor may sell only one lamb, one steer, one hog, one meat goat, one market angora goat, one pen of broilers and one pen of rabbits at the special auction sale, except when both breed champions and reserve breed champions are owned by the same exhibitor. All champions sell in the special auction sale.

3. All placing market steers will be put in their respective placing in the sale order.

4. All exhibitors that have a market animal selling, must walk an animal of the same species through the sale ring unless the exhibitor cannot be present. —No animals will be present of the Sale for 2023

5. The ECLRA shall retain an 10% commission on all money generated on each animal sold in the special auction.

6. If an exhibitor has a UIL event that conflicts with the sale, the exhibitor can get a letter from the school in school letterhead stating the participation in the event.

Death in the family the exhibitor will need a letter from their family,

Religious events- A letter from the family stating the event.

In the event an exhibitor does not attend the sale due to one of the above reasons it is up to the Ag Teachers/ County Agent to find someone to fill in their spot.

Market Rules

1. All General Rules and Regulations regarding the livestock show also apply to the market division.
2. Classes for market hogs, goats, lambs and steers are judged separately, and afterwards the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion are picked from the champions and reserve champions of all breed classes. If a breed is to be broken into weight classes, no one class may have less than three (3) animals.
3. Each exhibitor is limited to three (3) steers; four (4) market hogs, provided at least one is a prospect pig; four (4) market lambs; three (3) market goats, three (3) market angora goats, three (3) market rabbit pens, three (3) pens of broilers, and three (3) single turkey entries.
4. Weighing in Schedule
 - Dairy and Angora Goats-January 11, 2023 4:00-6:00pm
 - Hogs-January 11, 2023 from 3:00-4:00 PAPERED GILTS
 - 4:00-7:00 pm-REST OF HOGS
 - Chicken and Turkeys-January 11, 2023 at 5:00 pm
 - Cattle-Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 11:00 am-Weigh cards and Heifer papers turn in
 - Lambs, Goats and Rabbits, January 12, 2023 from 4:00-7:00 pm
 - Only Animals that are exceeding weight or underweight can be reweighed. Animals must be clean and dry when weighed.
5. Swine exhibitors must declare a breed on their entry cards or the animal will show as a cross.
6. Eligible market animals may be sold at the special auction sale on Saturday.
7. The top 60% of each class will be placed, but animals in the market division will not receive premium money.
8. Market animals subject to validation will be checked for proper validation identification. Animals without proper identification will not be permitted to show.
9. All premium market hogs must weigh at least 200 and not over 270 pounds with a ten (10) pound tolerance either way. Market hogs may be either sex. Prospect pigs must be state validated barrows weighing no more than 189 pounds with no tolerance. Gilts registration papers will be used to check in and classify all registered gilts. Papers must be in the exhibitor name otherwise they will go through classification with the classifiers. (See Swine Rules)
10. Lambs may be either sex and must weigh at least 90 pounds - except for Southdowns and Hair Sheep which must weigh at least 80 pounds - with a three-pound tolerance either way.

11. Lambs must be slick shorn.

12. Meat Goats may be either sex and must weigh at least 50 pounds.

13. Market meat goats must have tipped horns. They also should be sheared no longer than 3/8".

14. The market goat show will consist of three (3) weight divisions. Each division may be broken into weight classes by the superintendent. A champion and reserve champion will be picked in each division, selected from the first and second place goats in each class within the division. A Grand and Reserve Grand Champion will be selected from the division champions and reserve division champions.

15. Market steers must be state-validated, weigh at least 900 pounds and will be classified as British, American or European Cross. Breed classes will be broken by the beef superintendent in accordance with Market Rule 2. Each breed division will have a Champion and Reserve Champion. Division winners will compete for Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Steer.

16. The market steer competition will be a "blow and show" exhibition. No color or adhesives are allowed.

17. All birds must come from the same hatch. There are no weight requirements for pens of birds.

18. The market rabbits will be divided by the Rabbit Superintendent according to entries. Pens of three must weigh between nine (9) and eighteen (18) pounds with a two-ounce tolerance each way. Market rabbits will be marked at weigh-in by the superintendent. No substitutions are allowed.

19. **Swine Classifiers MUST use chips; they CANNOT discuss the classification among themselves.**