

# JUNIOR LIVESTOCK RULES & Antelope Valley Fair Association Local Rules

## AVFA Fair Directors in Charge

Beef Barn – TBA

Swine Barn – TBA

Show Arena - TBA

Small Animal Pavilion – TBA

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**Entry Office Staff** – Linda Erb, Ginger O'Donnell

**Livestock Barns Coordinator** - Jennifer Gilardone-Cloud

## Junior Livestock Show Barn Supervisors

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**Lamb Barn Supervisors** - Morgan Hand and Shane Giroux

**Beef Barn Supervisors** - Jeff Briggs and Derrick Hartman

**Swine Barn Supervisors** - Jacob Rough

**Small Animal Barn Supervisors** - Dannon Shaughnessy and Dottie Snyder

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[\\*Exhibitors need to read and understand all Local Rules, State Rules, and Code of Conduct](#)

## STATE RULES FOR ALL JUNIOR EXHIBITORS:

You can read all State Rules for California Fairs at [avfair.com](http://avfair.com) under Exhibit Entries/Rules and Regulations

1. Fair Management may combine classes of 4 or less entries for meaningful competition. State Rule II #10.

**Exhibit Eligibility:** State Rules VII: Exhibitor Age Requirements #1-6, Exhibit Eligibility #1-8

2. Primary Level: Must be 5 years old or in kindergarten as of **December 31, 2024**, to exhibit at fair. Primary membership ends when members qualify as junior members. Exhibitors who are under 9 years of age as of **December 31, 2024**, are not eligible to compete in large animal competitions at California Fairs.
3. Junior exhibitors must own and/or grow or construct their exhibits.
4. Advisor, leader, teacher, or parent/guardian signature with entry is required by the fair certifying that:
  - a. Projects have been under their supervision in accordance with the rules and regulations of the organization and the fair; and
  - b. The entry is the project of the exhibitor and is eligible for exhibit. Failure or refusal of such an advisor, leader, or parent to sign the entry form when required will prevent the exhibitor from entering that particular class(es).
5. Independent exhibitors must enter an open junior or Independent class unless one is not available. If an open or Independent class is not available, junior exhibitors may enter an appropriate FFA, 4-H or Grange class. Division and/or class placement of Independents may be determined by Fair Management.
6. Exhibitor's insurance will be covered by Antelope Valley Fair and Antelope Valley Livestock Council
7. Juniors who have been 4-H, FFA, or Grange project members within 60 days (120 days for horses & market beef) prior to the fair are not eligible to compete in that project as Independent juniors or enter project(s) under a different organization.
8. All junior exhibitors must have project management records and proof of supervision available as to the length of project.

**All junior exhibitors must have "on grounds" supervision by a responsible adult. (State Rule VII: Exhibit Eligibility #8)**

## JUNIOR LIVESTOCK RULES:

1. All exhibitors entering Large and Small Market Animals agree to submit to Random Project checks by Project Leaders and/or Fair Personnel. Fair personnel must be allowed access to Project animals within 24 hrs. of the initial attempt to contact exhibitor. The exhibitor must supply the Entry Office with an address and phone number as to where the Project animals are housed.
2. The Auction sales will be limited to the three Junior Fair Organizations, (4-H, FFA and Grange) as well as Independent exhibitors who qualify.
3. The sale will be held **Wednesday, April 30, 2025**, Time: 9:00am. The order of the sale will be Meat Pen Rabbit Fryers, Goats, (in reverse order) up to Bred & Fed champions, followed by organizational champions finishing with Overall Supreme & Reserve Champion goat, four lots of Chicken meat pens, all market ready Lambs, Bred & Fed Lambs, four lots of Turkeys, all market ready Beef, Bred & Fed Beef, four lots of Rabbits meat pens, all market ready Swine and Bred & Fed Swine.
4. Only 525 Market Ready Lambs, Beef, Swine, Goats including four lots of Chickens, Turkeys and Meat Pen Rabbits/Fryers will be eligible for Auction. Each exhibitor may only sell one lot of each Division of small livestock unless they own the Champion and Reserve Champion.

**ALL DIVISION CHAMPIONS MUST SELL UNLESS DEEMED INELIGIBLE BY FAIR MANAGEMENT. Champion title cannot be transferred or forfeited. All animals that are auctioned go to slaughter.**

5. Exhibitors will be required to electronically sign their online entry account in ShoWorks with the word YES, confirming parent's signature and stating that the exhibitor has read the Code of Conduct, State and Local Rules and has also fulfilled his or her responsibility for feeding and preparing the animal for Auction. All leaders are asked to provide a list of ineligible exhibitors to the Entry Office to verify exhibitors have not entered.
6. Exhibitors must sell their own animals at auction unless permission is obtained from the Livestock Office for another exhibitor to sell the animal. Exhibitors must have a signed letter on file in the Livestock Office before the Auction begins.
7. Animals shown MUST be owned by the exhibitor and SHOWN by the exhibitor in the Junior Livestock Auction or Market Class, unless under or overweight. Exhibitors must have a signed letter on file in the Livestock Office before the Market Class begins for another exhibitor to show their animal in Market Class or Auction. Only animals SHOWN by exhibitors in the Junior Market Class will be allowed to show in Showmanship.
8. No exhibitor will be permitted to condition the sale or bid on an animal from the sale ring.
9. **A MARKET ANIMAL THAT QUALIFIES FOR AUCTION MAY BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE AUCTION AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO 8 PM Sunday, April 27, 2025. FOR ANY ANIMAL THAT GOES THROUGH THE AUCTION, THE AUCTION PARTICIPANT MUST AGREE TO WAIVE HIS OR HER "RIGHT TO RESERVE BID" AND AUTHORIZE THE FAIR ASSOCIATION TO SELL "WITHOUT RESERVE" TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER. BY SIGNING OF THE ENTRY FORM, THE EXHIBITOR AGREES TO ABIDE BY THIS RULE AND MAY NOT CONTACT BIDDERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUYING, TRADING OR RECEIVING BACK THE SOLD ANIMAL.**
10. To determine the order of appearance in the Auction ring a Supreme Grand Champion will be selected from the Organization & Independent Champions and a Reserve Grand Champion chosen from the Division Champions and Division Reserve Champions. All Champion animals will follow in order of judge's placing. After all Champions sell, all other Junior Organizations and Independent exhibitor's animals that qualify for sale will be sold. (Limit of 525 animals total may be sold).
11. Classification weight will serve as sale weight, no shrinkage taken.
12. It is the responsibility of the seller to see that the animal is in the ring according to the sale order. **Animals must be presented in the auction block without any personal paraphernalia.** Seller and any additional exhibitors must present themselves in proper organizational uniform.
13. **A commission fee of 6.0% will be charged on Lamb, Goat, Swine, Meat Pen Rabbits/Fryers, Meat Pen Poultry and Utility Turkeys sold through the Junior Livestock Auction and 4.0% commission fee will be charged to Beef sold through the Junior Livestock Auction. The fee may be increased.**
14. An animal "sold through" another Fair's Junior Livestock Auction is not eligible for this Fair.
15. **No "for sale" signs are permitted on stalls or pens under any circumstances. Auction flyers are prohibited for distribution. A "for sale" list is available for sign-ups in the Livestock Office and will be posted in the Livestock Office for the duration of the Fair. Paraphernalia including buttons, badges, postcards, stickers etc.... are prohibited to be distributed the day of auction. Buyers are not to be harassed, please solicit potential buyers well in advance of the day of auction.**
16. Exhibitors will be responsible for delivering the animals for shipping at the location and time designated by management. Beef Load out volunteers must be 21 years and over. They also must be appointed by the Beef Chairpersons or Livestock Superintendent.

17. All Supreme Grand Champion animals and Reserve Supreme Grand Champion animals (Goat, Lamb, Beef, Swine, Chicken, Rabbit/Fryer and Turkey) will be exhibited for the full duration of the Antelope Valley Fair. The exhibitor/seller will continue to have responsibility for feeding, cleaning of pen while the animal is there and care of the animal "excluding all small meat pen animals". Any deviation must have written approval of the Antelope Valley Fair Livestock Office.
18. Any carcass of an auctioned animal rejected by the processing organization for drugs will result in the exhibitor's forfeiture of sale and monies received must be returned to the Auction Committee PROMPTLY. Interest of 1½% per month will be charged 30 days after exhibitor is notified.
19. The maximum weights for the determination of total sale shall be limited to 120 lbs. for goats, 150 lbs. for lambs, 1,375 lbs. for beef and 275 lbs. for swine. Should an exhibitor be overpaid by the auction, repayment to the auction (AVFJLA) WILL BE MADE PROMPTLY. Interest of 1½% per month will be charged 30 days after exhibitors is notified. Exhibitors and family members are subject to non-participation in future exhibiting for non-payment until paid in full.
20. **THE AV FAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION IS TERMINAL.** All Auction animals will be shipped by the fair, no private pick-up allowed.
21. If a sold market animal dies when barn is Closed for loading after auction or on the way to the processors, a carcass from the Resale pool will be substituted at the same live weight. If there is no resale animal available, one will be purchased at the closest weight possible.
22. **ALL ANIMALS MUST HAVE ACCESS TO POTABLE WATER DURING THE ENTIRE FAIR.** Any foreign additives must be declared, approved, and supervised by livestock office staff or fair veterinarian.
23. Shavings can be removed after the completion of the Beef sale. Decorations cannot be removed until **April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.**- Check with Barn Supervisor before removing any shavings.
24. All exhibitors, parents/guardians, leaders, and volunteers are always to be treated with utmost respect. Please show respect to each other by refraining from use of language and behavior considered improper.
25. All exhibitors, leaders, and volunteers are always required to wear closed toe shoes in all large animal barns and show arenas.
26. Any exhibitor found guilty of any violation of the above rules, Code of Conduct, and including all ethical violations may be disqualified from, but not limited to; Showmanship in all entered species, Champion Drive, Auction, removal from fair entirely, and their privilege **LAMB, BEEF AND SWINE:** to enter animals at future Antelope Valley Fairs revoked.

#### **SHOWMANSHIP & WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS RULES: . State Rule: Livestock and Horse Exhibits, Ownership # 5.**

1. If a market animal does not meet the weight requirement and thus cannot participate in the individual market class, there are specific rules for its use in showmanship.
2. **Single Animal Rule:** The animal can be used for showmanship only if it is the exhibitor's sole animal at the fair.
3. **Multiple Animals Rule:** If the exhibitor has brought more than one animal, the animal that does not meet the weight requirement can participate in local showmanship, but not in state showmanship.

#### **NOTE: MARKET GOAT,**

- I. It is the intent of the Division of Fairs & Expositions that the quality standards established for market animals must be maintained. Classification will be subject to change in the event there are changes made in Federal Grading.
- II. After weighing, Market Goat, Lamb, Beef, and Swine will be divided into weight lots within specified limitation as desired for convenience of judging. If any Organization has a large number of animals in one or all the species, these classes will be further subdivided. This will be determined by Fair Staff and Council Chair for that species. These will be broke into Light Weight, Middle Weight, and Heavy Weight Classes. The Top Two will be selected to compete for Overall Organization Champion and Reserve Champion. There will not be any Light – Middle – Heavy Weight Champions. Only First and Second Place Winners.
- III. Market Lamb must show lamb's teeth.
- IV. All Market Lambs, including the head, must be slick sheared within five (5) days of the Fair. Goats may have 3/8" hair.
- V. All market animals will be checked for health purposes upon arrival. **You MUST declare your Market Animal at this time, before going over the scale.**
- VI. **No Market Beef, Lamb, or Goat may have horns. Scurs under 1 inch are accepted.**
- VII. **ALL ANIMALS ON FAIR PREMISES MAY BE USED FOR MASTER SHOWMANSHIP AT DISCRETION OF FAIR STAFF AND OR LIVESTOCK COUNCIL MEMBER.**
- VIII. All market Beef must have a yellow brand inspection form/ Bill of Sale and transportation permit at DNA collection site and at time of weigh-in.

IX. It is suggested that all exhibitors have a bill of sale available at all times for all market animals that are on the fairgrounds. The bill of sale could be asked for at weigh-in.

**X. The Order of Organizations for Market Shows will change every year.**

**2025: Independent, 4-H, Grange and FFA**

**2026: 4-H, Grange, FFA and Independent**

**2027: Grange, FFA, Independent and 4-H**

## LOCAL RULES FOR INDEPENDENT EXHIBITORS:

Independent exhibitors need to read and understand all Local and State Rules.

a) Independent exhibitors who reside within the boundaries of the Antelope Valley Fair (Local Rule #6) and meet the eligibility and age requirements (State Rule VII #10 & 19) may enter and show animals at the Antelope Valley Fair. **If they have belonged to a Junior Organization (FFA, 4-H or Grange) during the current calendar year, in any large animal project, they will not be eligible to sell an animal in the Antelope Valley Junior Livestock Auction. Independent exhibitors must have "on grounds" supervision by responsible adult, (parent or legal guardian) at all times during the fair.** The name of the adult who is to be the responsible person must be presented to the Entry Office by **February 24, 2025, 5pm** and will be kept on file in the Livestock Office. All Independent Exhibitors must bring a certified copy of their birth certificate to verify age at time of entry, a copy of this certificate will be kept on file in the Entry Office (If not on file in the Entry Office already). **Independent Junior exhibitors shall be neatly attired in new dark blue jeans and white cotton shirts with collar. A belt should be worn if pants have belt loops. Exhibitors may also wear a clean plain white straw cowboy hat.** Independent exhibitors should also read State Rules VII: Exhibitor Age Requirements #4, Exhibit Eligibility #4-7.

**b) Rules for Independent Showmanship: Independent exhibitors who exhibit large livestock at the Fair are eligible for their own group showmanship and will be eligible for Master Showmanship.**

c) Rules for Independent Showmanship: Independent exhibitors who exhibit small animals at the Fair are eligible for their own group showmanship, but not Small Animal Round Robin.

1. Animals shown must be owned by the exhibitor.
2. All entries in Showmanship must be made at the time of Market entries.
3. Exhibitors shall be on hand and ready to exhibit at the time called for judging.
4. Independent Exhibitor Applications are due for Beef by **December 26, 2024, by 5:00pm**. For Sheep, Swine, Goat, Market Turkeys, **February 24, 2025, by 5:00pm**, Chickens, and Rabbits by **February 24, 2025, by 5:00pm**.
5. Market Animal Record Worksheets for all Market Animals are due **April 17, 2025, by 12:00 noon**. (Worksheets can be picked up in the Entry Office any time after the Auction). Applications and Worksheets will be Online or Emailed to you, they must be Emailed to [livestock@avfair.com](mailto:livestock@avfair.com) on dates listed above in #4 and #5.

## II. Junior Livestock Exhibitors:

### Ethics: Youth for the Quality Care of Animals

In order to participate in a youth livestock program (excluding horse, cavies & dogs) at the Antelope Valley Fair, all exhibitors 9 years of age and older must obtain annual certification in the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program or a comparable fair run program approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Fair and Exposition Branch. Those not certified are not eligible to participate in the Antelope Valley Fair. State Rule II: Participation #1

\*As of January 1, 2019, only YQCA certifications will be accepted at the Antelope Valley Fair.

1. For information on the YQCA program, please visit [www.yqcaprogram.org](http://www.yqcaprogram.org)
2. All exhibitors entering Market chickens, turkeys, rabbits, goat, lamb, beef, and swine must have a YQCA Certificate.
3. Deadline for YQCA certificates to be Emailed to [livestock@avfair.com](mailto:livestock@avfair.com) is **April 1, 2025, by 5:00pm**.

### Livestock Code of Conduct:

Exhibitors and a parent/guardian MUST have read the Code of Conduct. By signing "Yes" online and your signature on the paper form, the exhibitor and parent/guardian agree to abide by the Code of Conduct. Any violation of the Code of Conduct is punishable under local Junior Livestock Rules #26. **ALL PAPER LIVESTOCK CODE OF CONDUCTS ARE DUE AT TIME OF ENTRY DEADLINE!**

### Pre-registration and DNA Sampling

For the purpose of enforcing ownership requirements, the Antelope Valley Fair will require that all market animals (goat, lamb, beef and swine) receive an AV Fair ear tag and have a hair sample taken. No market animal (goat, lamb, beef, or swine) can be entered unless a sample has been taken. **All market beef collection of samples, ear tagging, and entry forms must be completed by December 26, 2024. All Beef are required to have a DNA sample taken on the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds by Fair Staff (NO EXCEPTIONS) dates TBD. The market goat, lamb and swine collection of samples, ear tagging, and entry forms must be completed by February 24, 2025.** The fee for each animal sample and ear tag will be **\$15.00 in 2025**. Replacement ear tag fee will be \$7.00. Exhibitors may DNA more than one animal per species.

**DNA is required for all species and will be held and only tested at the Exhibitor's expense if any irregularities are called into question.**

**All Champions will be tested**

**NO SWINE DNA SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN ON THE FAIRGROUNDS.** For assistance or to make an appointment, please call the Entry Office at 661-948-6060 ext. 226 or 123

**ALL MARKET ANIMALS must be clean and offloaded for sampling and tagging.**

All samples taken by the exhibitor must be submitted to the entry office **February 24, 2025**, for Market Goat, Sheep and Swine. Upon arrival at the Fair, random junior market animals will be required to have a second sample of hair collected. All Large Market Supreme and Reserve Champions will be DNA tested immediately following the show. A parent/legal guardian or leader must be present at DNA pull and sign the DNA forms. From these two samples, a DNA Matching Analysis test will be run on a select number to verify that both samples match and confirm the identity of each animal. There will be no deviation to this procedure.

IN A CASE WHERE SAMPLES DO NOT MATCH AFTER THE DNA ANALYSIS TEST, THE MARKET ANIMAL WILL BE DISQUALIFIED, THE EXHIBITOR WILL REPAY THE AMOUNT OF THE SALE PROMPTLY. INTEREST OF 1½% PER MONTH WILL BE CHARGED 30 DAYS AFTER THE EXHIBITOR IS NOTIFIED. THE EXHIBITOR MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY FAIR COMPETITIONS IN THE FUTURE. FAIR MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EXTEND THAT DISQUALIFICATION TO FAMILY MEMBERS AND LEADERS/ INSTRUCTORS. THE ANTELOPE VALLEY FAIR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TEST SAMPLES AT ANY TIME AFTER COLLECTION. (I.E. BEFORE FAIR, DURING FAIR AND FUTURE YEARS)

**\*All Champions are subject to being drug tested.**

#### **BACK-UP ANIMALS:**

1. Families with two or more exhibitors who are showing the same species may share **MULTIPLE** back-up animals per family, per species. The back-up animal must have their DNA on file with the livestock department prior to the 60 or 120-day deadline (whichever is pertinent for the species). The paperwork must show one of the family members as the owner and must also list the family members who are sharing the back-up. If one of the listed exhibitors, who is not the registered owner, decides to use the back-up animal then he or she will be allowed to transfer the ownership of that animal into his or her name, (as long as they have been listed as a possible exhibitor of the animal prior to the entry deadlines). Under no circumstances will any exhibitor be allowed to have their own backups in addition to a family back-up.
2. Clubs and Chapters can have several back-up animals for each species they are showing. The Livestock Office **MUST** have a list of all potential exhibitors for each species prior to the Entry Deadline. If an exhibitor takes ownership of a back-up animal, the Livestock Office **MUST** be informed as soon as possible.
3. If a Market or Back-up animal with DNA on file fails Vet Check and has not gone over the scale, and the exhibitor has a Back-up available in their name, it can be brought in. It **MUST** be brought in by weigh-in deadline, date and time.

#### **PRE-REGISTRATION AND DNA SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. A hair sample must be obtained on any beef, goat, lamb, or swine designated for entry at the **2025** Antelope Valley Fair. This sample must be collected by a fair representative or self, may be taken at the official collection site, the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds on or before the following dates: Goat, Lamb, Swine by **February 24, 2025**. **Beef by, December 26, 2024. All Beef are required to have a DNA sample taken on the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds by Fair Staff (NO EXCEPTIONS). There will be no Pre-Sale of DNA for Beef, you can purchase it on the day the Beef is DNA sampled on the Fairgrounds. All Beef are walked by the Exhibitor on the Fairgrounds for their Safety Walk. Photos and or Videos will also be taken at this time.** Exhibitors may DNA more than one animal per species.
2. **All market beef must have a yellow brand inspection form/Bill of sale and transportation permit at the DNA collection site.**
3. Large and Small Animal Exhibitors must submit a completed official AV Fair entry form online, pay all fees, and purchase an exhibitor packet by the Entry Deadline. Independent Exhibitors must also provide a copy of their Birth Certificate (if not on file in the Entry Office) to be eligible to show at the **2025** Fair.
4. An official **2025** Antelope Valley Fair ear tag will be applied to the ear of each animal officially registered at the time hair sample is obtained.
5. Each exhibitor will be required to pay \$15.00 in 2025 per animal (nonrefundable) fee for each sample taken.
6. **THE EXHIBITOR AND PARENT AND/OR LEADER MUST BE PRESENT WHEN HAIR SAMPLE IS OBTAINED.**
7. Entry deadlines are as follows:
  - a. Beef, **December 26, 2024** - 5 p.m.
  - b. Lamb, Swine, Goats and Utility Turkeys - **February 24, 2025**- 5 p.m.
  - c. **Meat Pen Rabbits, Fryers, and Meat Pen Chickens– February 24, 2025** - 5p.m.

8. After the hair sample is obtained and an ear tag has been applied to the ear, the animal(s) is (are) eligible for entry in the 2025 AV Fair.
9. All other entry requirements, fees, rules, and regulations for the 2025 Exhibit Guide shall apply.
10. **ANY TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP BETWEEN THE EXHIBITORS MUST TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO THE CLOSE OF THE ENTRY DATE FOR EACH SPECIES AND A TRANSFER FORM MUST BE ON FILE IN THE ENTRY OFFICE BY THESE DATES. (YELLOW COPY OF DNA FORM)**
11. All exhibitors must have a current YQCA Certificate for the Antelope Valley Fair by opening day of fair to be eligible to sell at the Junior Livestock Auction.
12. Exhibitor's insurance will be covered by the Antelope Valley Livestock Council.

**A. V. FAIR GROOMING & FITTING:**

It is the intent of the Antelope Valley Fair to promote the junior livestock exhibitors learning experience while participating at the fair. The revision to this rule and the enforcing of it will hopefully create a learning environment for all.

**RULES:**

Junior exhibitors are expected to groom and care for their animal(s) while preparing for their show at the fair. They shall NOT accept active assistance from adults and non-exhibiting youth unless the junior exhibitor is actively engaged and a current AV Fair Large Livestock exhibitor, and the assistance is only for instruction. The junior exhibitor (owner) **MUST** be there.

State Rule VII: Livestock Other #1

**ENFORCEMENT:**

The Fair Management states no person, other than a current AV Fair large livestock junior exhibitor, shall perform any clipping, grooming, or fitting of an animal while on the fairgrounds. Physical assistance in this process is limited by the above exception. Verbal assistance is encouraged and accepted. Fair management and leaders will use their discretion in the supervision and enforcement of this rule. Junior exhibitors, who for extraordinary reasons cannot weigh, fit, or show their animal, must contact the Fair management in writing prior to the date of fair. The management will therefore decide if that individual can have assistance in fitting, grooming, or showing that animal. If additional assistance is approved, the exhibitor must notify the livestock office in writing who will be assisting. Feeding animals and cleaning pens for exhibitors in school is an exception that is approved by fair management.

**SWINE ONLY MAY BE CLIPPED IN THE PEN IF THE SHEARING IS DONE WITH BATTERY OPERATED SHEARS. NO ELECTRIC SHEARS OR GENERATORS MAY BE USED. Violation of the above rules may result in disqualification from the Junior Livestock Auction and/or Showmanship.**

**III. JR BREEDING LIVESTOCK** AV Fair Local Rules #12, 21 & 25

**GENERAL RULES:**

1. Bedding: the exhibitor is required to supply own bedding.
2. Exhibitor is required to clean pens before obtaining a release from the Livestock Office.

**GROUPS** All owned by one exhibitor, entered, shown, and judged as individuals. All animals entered in groups must be of one breed type.

**Note: Limited RV spaces are available. Contact Entry Office (661) 948-6060 ext. 123**

**IV. Antelope Valley Fair Association Local Rules**

Please read all local rules carefully since important changes have been made, premium awards will be withheld if printed rules are not fully complied with.

**1. IMPORTANT:**

The Association will take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of the exhibits and property of every description entered for competition or display or any other purpose while on the grounds, but in no case, will the Association be responsible in any way for any loss, damage, or injury of any character to any property while same is on the grounds or at any time be liable for or make payment for the value thereof. Presentation of entry form shall be deemed acceptance of this rule. Exhibits entered on the basis of "Conditions" set forth by the exhibitor, will not be accepted.

## **2. ENTRIES:**

Closing dates are noted in the information at the beginning of each Department. The management reserves the right to reject any exhibits offered if it is objectionable in any way, if it requires excessive amounts of space, or the capacity of the Department has been reached. **Entry and stall fees must accompany entry forms.**

Make checks payable to Antelope Valley Fair Association (AV Fair). Entry fees will be forfeited on entries made but not exhibited. Exhibits are to be in place and removed at the times specified in the information at the beginning of each Department. No premium will be paid on exhibits removed before the specified time. Exhibits must be picked up according to each department time. The Fair assumes no responsibility for exhibits left after that time.

## **3. ENTRY PROCESS:**

- a) Entries will be taken online at [www.AVFAIR.com](http://www.AVFAIR.com). To avoid loss of premium money, take special care when entering your information.
- b) Refunds of over-payments under \$5 will not be made.

## **4. MAIL:**

All mail should be addressed to: Antelope Valley Fair - Entry Office - 2551 West Avenue H, Suite 102 Lancaster, CA 93536

## **5. CHECKS & PREMIUMS:**

**a) GIVE CORRECT NAME, MAILING ADDRESS WHEN ENTERING AS CHECKS WILL BE MAILED TO THE ADDRESS AND EXHIBITOR'S NAME SUBMITTED UPON ENTRY.**

- b) All premium checks must be cashed within 60 days after the close of the Fair.
- c) Premium ribbons, tags and cards have no value as to payment. ONLY THE OFFICIAL PLACING ON THE JUDGING SHEET CONSTITUTES THE FINAL PLACEMENT.

## **6. LOCAL DIVISIONS:**

For those divisions identified as "Local," see this rule: You are eligible if your home address lies within the following geographical boundaries: The Los Angeles County/San Bernardino County line on the East; The Ventura County/Los Angeles County line on the West; A line on the South equal to Avenue Y from the Los Angeles County/San Bernardino County line on the East to the Los Angeles County/Ventura County line on the West; A line from the intersection near Gorman of the Ventura County/Los Angeles County lines East along Kern County/ Los Angeles County line to a point equal 270th Street West; Thence North to Bear Valley Road; Thence on a line from the last point described on Bear Valley Road to a point northeasterly at the intersection of Highway 14 and Redrock/Randsburg Road; Thence on a line from the point last described easterly to the Kern County/San Bernardino County line; Thence southerly to the intersection of the Los Angeles County/Kern County/San Bernardino County lines. This Fair is open to all exhibitors who are members of A.V. 4-H Council and/or all 4-H Clubs of Kern County within the boundaries of Local Rule #6. FFA Chapters of the Antelope Valley High Schools, Rosamond, Tehachapi, Mojave, Edwards, and Frazier Mtn., also members of other Chapters that live within the Antelope Valley Fair boundaries, Local Rule #6, are eligible to exhibit. Junior and youth Granges members that live within the Antelope Valley Fair boundaries, Local Rule #6 may also exhibit at this Fair.

## **7. EXTENDED DIVISIONS:**

Extended divisions are open to all exhibitors within the United States. State Rules I #10

## **8. EXHIBITOR STATUS:**

Instructors, judges, owners of shops, teachers and those persons who commercialize their work are not eligible to compete in the amateur classes for these Divisions. They may exhibit only in professional Divisions. State Rules I #21

## **9. CHAMPIONS:**

After all entries in the Junior and Senior Departments have been judged in the livestock division, the Champions, and Reserve Champions of each of these departments may be brought together for the purpose of selecting the Supreme Grand Champion of the entire Fair. If the number of animals from any group is not sufficient then classes can be combined at the discretion of the judge.

#### **10. SICK OR AILING ANIMALS:**

To eliminate delay in treatment of sick or ailing animals or poultry exhibits, the owner extends authority to take such action as deemed expedient and necessary, to Fair Management, when and after diligent attempts to make contact with the owner or agent of said exhibit. Fair Management has the power of attorney for the exhibitor in this instance by virtue of signing the original entry form. The 50th District Agricultural Association will not assume any cost for action pursuant to this rule.

a) A Veterinarian Sifting Committee will determine health eligibility of all animals prior to penning. This time will be announced. CHECK-IN WILL OCCUR ON THE DAY OF ARRIVAL. ITEMS TO BE CHECKED, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, INCLUDE LAMB FUNGUS DISEASE, SORE MOUTH, AND SPECIFICALLY FOR MARKET ANIMALS, LAMB'S TEETH, GOAT'S MILK TEETH, PROLAPSE, TESTICLES, TAIL DOCKING (State Rule IX Sheep #A), SCRAPIE TAG, AND THERE SHOULD BE NO HORNS/SCURS ON BEEF, LAMBS, OR GOATS. All animals without proper tags will be excused from the Fairgrounds, due to the Jr. Livestock Rules stating under the Pre-registration and DNA Sampling section that all market animals are required to complete DNA samples and ear tagging by the entry deadline for that species.

#### **11. 4-H, FFA, GRANGE AND OPEN JUNIOR:**

In the 4-H Department the local leaders may sign entry forms in lieu of Farm Advisors. All meat producing livestock must be withheld from processing at least 21 days after inoculations or that length of time prescribed by manufacturer with biologics, unless otherwise stipulated by the Fair. All breeding animals must be owned by an exhibitor at least 30 days prior to the opening day of the Fair, all registration papers must be in the owner's name 30 days prior to opening of the Fair. Club leaders or agricultural instructors or parents for Independent exhibitors must sign entry Forms. All market animals must be weighed on a Certified scale located on the Fairgrounds.

**FEEDING TIME:** TBA. NO ONE ALLOWED IN BARNS AFTER HOURS.

**12. BEDDING:** The Exhibitor will furnish ALL bedding for livestock. All animals must be on some form of bedding.

**Unsanitary pens will receive one official warning, on the second offense animals will be removed from the auction.**

**13. LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR'S CREDENTIALS:** Junior Large & Small Livestock Exhibitors are required to purchase an Exhibitor Packet when you make your entries.

#### **14. VETERINARIAN:**

A Veterinarian will be on call for livestock exhibits. The exhibitor must assume the expense of the veterinarian's service.

**15. BEEF SAFETY COMMITTEE:** The Livestock Safety Committee will make the determination as to compliance with State Rules II: Participation #2 – 3 and III #4c. For more information refer to the Livestock Safety Committee Rules.

#### **16. PARTICIPATION:**

**Any member persistently neglecting his or her project animals will be asked to remove said animal from the Fairgrounds. Project animals are the responsibility of the members until such time as they are shipped from the Fairgrounds.**

#### **17. LOST AND FOUND ARTICLES:**

All lost and found articles should be reported to the 'INFAIRMATION' Booth. People who have lost articles should make inquiries at the same place.

**18. AREAS WHERE JUDGING IS TAKING PLACE MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC WITHOUT NOTICE.**

**19. BEST OF SHOW:** Will be selected from first place only. Judges Choice Award may be selected from any place.

**20. WHEN A YOUTH MAINTAINS MEMBERSHIP IN A 4-H, GRANGE AND FFA PROJECTS THE PROJECTS MAY NOT BE THE SAME SPECIES OF LIVESTOCK.**

#### **21. RELEASE OF ANIMALS:**

Exhibitors must get releases from the livestock office before taking livestock from the grounds.



## 22. JUNIOR LARGE LIVESTOCK ELIGIBILITY AND AGE REQUIREMENTS:

- a) FFA members may participate as members until the end of calendar year following the year of graduation from high school.
- b) 4-H Members may participate as members but may not exhibit large livestock animals if they have not become (9) years old by **December 31, 2024**. They may continue to exhibit as a member until the end of the calendar year in which the member becomes 19 years old. Junior exhibitors are limited to 9 to 13 years old as of **December 31, 2024**. Novice exhibitors are limited to 9 to 12 years old as of **December 31, 2024**, and has never competed in any showmanship class, whether large or small livestock, in Fair competition. 4-H Dress Code: The uniform is New Dark Blue Jeans (No bling, acid or light wash and no holes), white dress shirt, regulation hat, tie or scarf. Belts should be worn if pants have belt loops. The local uniform should be worn by all 4-H exhibitors and by helpers in sections for individual animals or Club Groups.
- c) Grange members may participate as members but may not exhibit large livestock if they have not become (9) years old on or before **January 1, 2025**. State Rule VII #9. They may continue to exhibit as a member until the end of the calendar year in which the member becomes 19. Junior exhibitors are limited to 9 to 13 years old as of **January 1, 2025**. Novice exhibitors are limited to 9 years old as of **January 1, 2025**, to 19 years old through the calendar year in which the member becomes 19 and has never shown any animal, whether large or small livestock, in any competition.
- d) These are exhibitors entered in shows and contests open to all youth enrolled in and meeting the requirements of 4-H, FFA or Grange Youth Program or qualify as an Independent Junior Exhibitor. **Independent exhibitors** must be at least (9) years old by **January 1, 2025**. State Rule VII: Exhibitor Age Requirements #4. Junior exhibitors are limited to 9 to 13 years old as of **January 1, 2025**. Exhibitors are eligible to compete/exhibit through December 31 of the year in which they turn 19 years of age.
- e) 4-H, FFA, Grange and Independent animal project members must be enrolled in the project for at least 60 days (120 days for horse and market beef) immediately preceding the opening day of the Fair. State Rule VII: Exhibitor Age Requirements #1-6 & Exhibit Eligibility #2

## 23. JUNIORS IN THE SENIOR DEPARTMENT:

- a) All youth must be nine (9) years old on or before January 1 of the current calendar year to exhibit large livestock: Beef, Boer Goats, Open Dairy Goats, Horse, Sheep, Swine, and Large Poultry (ducks, geese, and turkeys) at the Antelope Valley Fair.
- b) Exhibitors 5-8 years old (as of **Dec. 31, 2024**) may show in the Mini Obstacle Contest, Small Animal Costume Contest, and Pee Wee Show. Exhibitors 5-8 years old must be accompanied by a Youth Exhibitor at least 10 years old that has shown an animal before, to show in the Open Youth Dairy Goat Show and the Open Youth Pygmy Goat Show at the Antelope Valley Fair. A signed Release & Waiver of Liability Agreement will be required. Exhibitors 5-8 years old cannot do Showmanship.

## 24. Local Bred and Fed Contest

**Bred and Fed Project Entry Fee:** Single entry fee per exhibitor, per species regardless of the number of pre-registered dams. All animals entered in the Bred and Fed contest must also be entered in the Market Class.

It is the desire of the A.V. Fair Board of Directors to recognize the efforts of local junior breeders of quality market livestock with the following objectives:

1. To promote the education of Junior Exhibitors in the aspects of selection, breeding, caring for and marketing of beef, goats, sheep, and swine.
2. Create an incentive for youth exhibitors to breed and raise their own livestock.
3. Build the breeding programs for the Antelope Valley Fair's agricultural district.
4. Ensure the ethical treatment and husbandry of the animals throughout the entire breeding process.

The following *tenets* will help to ensure the integrity of the Bred and Fed contest.

1. **Ownership:** The dam shall be owned by the exhibitor. Other exhibitors in the same household or their siblings or stepsiblings only may share ownership prior to breeding. No other forms of shared ownership of a dam are allowed.
2. **Participation in Breeding Process (Bred):** Exhibitors shall participate in the breeding and birthing process. Exhibitors shall be involved in the selection of the sire and be available to assist with the birthing of the dam. The dam shall be in the care of the exhibitor and given birth within the boundaries as defined by Local Rule #6.
3. **Care of Offspring (Fed):** Bred and Fed offspring shall be cared for by the exhibitor from birth through market (from at least weaning with beef) within boundaries as defined by Local Rule #6.

**Verification:** Bred & Fed Project dams will be verified by the Organization Leadership (4-H, Grange, FFA, or AV Fair Staff for Independents) who are not related to the exhibitor using provided registration forms prior to breeding. Contact AV Fair Livestock office for registration forms prior to breeding. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to submit their signed pre-entry form to the AV Fair Livestock office prior to breeding and the AV Fair deadline for pre-entry to be eligible to compete.

Once entered in the Bred and Fed contest, the exhibitor will be required to notify their Organizational Leadership (or AV Fair Staff for Independents) who are not related to the exhibitor within 10 days of the dam giving birth to schedule an offspring registration. The offspring registration shall occur within the boundaries specified under Local Rule #6. Organizational Leadership (or AV Fair Staff for Independents) will verify the offspring of pre-registered dams using the provided registration forms. Contact AV Fair Livestock office for registration forms. This signed offspring registration form must be completed and submitted to the AV Fair Livestock office within 30 days of birth to be eligible to compete.

Market Ready animals only are eligible. Ribbons and trophies will be awarded for Champion and Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Market Animals. The Champion and Reserve Champion animals will be determined directly prior to the Supreme Grand Champion and Reserve Supreme Grand Champion market animals. Placing in these classes will result in sale with the other Champion Animals at the Antelope Valley Fair Junior Livestock Auction.

#### **Regarding Swine, Goats, and Lambs:**

Full implementation of all the rules would begin for the 2024 fair for Swine, Goats, and Lambs. This means that dam pre-registration would need to occur prior to breeding as proposed.

#### **Regarding Beef:**

Full implementation of the proposed rules would take place and be in effect for the 2024 fair for Beef. This means that dam pre-registration would need to occur prior to the dams being bred for the 2025 Bred and Fed Contest for beef.

#### Deadlines:

Dam Pre-Registration Prior to Breeding:

**2025 April Fair:**

**Beef: Due August 23, 2023**

**Lambs & Goats: Due March 31, 2024**

**Swine: Due May 31, 2024**

**2026 April Fair & Beyond (plus 1 year)**

**Beef: Due August 23, 2024**

**Lambs & Goats: Due March 31, 2025**

**Swine: Due May 31, 2025**

#### Offspring Verification:

Must be completed and dated by Leader (or Fair Staff for Independents) within 30 days of birth. Final Entry forms showing both Pre-Registration and Offspring Verification are due on the same date and time as the Market Animal entries are due.

**25.** All pens, stalls and surrounding areas are to be cleaned by exhibitors or helpers when the animals are released.

**26.** All Grand & Reserve Grand Market Goat, Sheep, Beef and Swine Champions may be tested for State of California prohibited drugs and illegal substances.

**27.** All Beef projects must have regulation rope halter and a regulation neck rope on when stalled. **Exhibitors have the option to use Show Halters for Lambs and Goats.**

**28. ALL ONLINE ENTRIES MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE ENTRY DEADLINE AND FORMS MAY BE RECEIVED AT THE ENTRY OFFICE NO LATER THAN THE ENTRY DEADLINE SINCE ONLINE ENTERING IS AVAILABLE.**

**29.** Letters must be on file in the Livestock Office for any exhibitor unable to show their animal in market classes or auction.

**30. NO PRIVATE SCALES ALLOWED ON THE FAIRGROUNDS AT ANY TIME. One weigh-In only.**

**31. Any animal that is over or under weight will automatically be re-weighed. The reweighing must be done before the animal leaves the scale area. Animals not meeting the specified weight requirements must be removed from the fairgrounds immediately following weigh-in if not ALREADY registered for showmanship.**

**32. The Management reserves the final and absolute right to interpret the rules and regulations.**