

# 2026 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

**Livestock Superintendent** – Don Cook

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

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

## Junior Livestock Show Barn Chairpersons

**Goat Barn Chairpersons**- Melissa Love and Neil Love

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

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

**Swine Barn Chairpersons** - Jacob Rough and Brittany Porter

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

**Thank You to our 2025 BUCKLE SPONSORS**

**AS OF 2025, ALL CLUBS AND INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITORS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A FORMAL APPLICATION IN ORDER TO BE GRANTED THE PRIVILEGE TO EXHIBIT AT THE ANTELOPE VALLEY FAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK.**

## Eligibility-

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

1. Primary Level: Must be 5 years old or in kindergarten as of **December 31, 2025**, 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, 2025**, are not eligible to compete in large animal competitions at California Fairs.
2. Junior exhibitors must own and/or grow or construct their exhibits.
3. 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 advisor, leader, or parent to sign the entry form when required will prevent the exhibitor from entering that particular class(es).
4. 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.
5. Exhibitor's insurance will be covered by Antelope Valley Fair and Antelope Valley Livestock Council
6. 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.
7. All junior exhibitors must have project management records and proof of supervision available to the length of project.
8. 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.

## **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, 2025**. 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, 2025**. Novice exhibitors are limited to 9 to 12 years old as of **December 31, 2025**, 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, 2026**. 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, 2026**. Novice exhibitors are limited to 9 years old as of **January 1, 2026**, 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, 2026**. State Rule VII: Exhibitor Age Requirements #4. Junior exhibitors are limited to 9 to 13 years old as of **January 1, 2026**. Exhibitors are eligible to compete or 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

## **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, 2025**) 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.

## **YQCA: 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, 2026**, by 5:00pm.

## 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. 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 Grange members that live within the Antelope Valley Fair boundaries, may also exhibit at this Fair.

## 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 person responsible must be presented to the Entry Office by **February 24, 2026**, 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. Market Animal Record Worksheets for all Market Animals are due **April 17, 2026, at 12:00 noon.**

(Worksheets can be picked up in the Entry Office any time after the Auction).

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.

## Entry Rules

1. 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 turned in their application, 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.
2. 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.
3. All exhibitors, leaders, and volunteers are always required to wear closed toe shoes in all large animal barns and show arenas.

4. Possession of any illegal weapon on the Fairgrounds is prohibited.
5. All exhibitors are strictly prohibited from possessing, consuming, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while on the Fairgrounds.

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

1. 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.
2. Exhibitors may DNA more than one animal per species.
3. **THE EXHIBITOR AND PARENT AND/OR LEADER MUST BE PRESENT WHEN HAIR SAMPLE IS OBTAINED.**
4. A hair sample must be obtained on any goat, lamb, or swine designated for entry at the 2026 Antelope Valley Fair. This sample must be collected by the exhibitor, turned in at the official DNA drop box at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds on or before **February 16, 2026**, at 5:00pm.
5. A hair sample must be obtained on any beef designated for entry at the 2026 Antelope Valley Fair.  
**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 of the Beef Safety Walk. All Beef are walked by the Exhibitor during their Safety Walk and Videos will also be taken at this time.** After your Safety Walk your DNA MUST be turned in at the official DNA drop box. All Beef DNA is due on or before **December 18, 2025**, at 5:00pm.
6. **All market beef must have a yellow brand inspection form/Bill of sale and transportation permit at the DNA collection site.**
7. An official 2026 Antelope Valley Fair ear tag will be applied to the ear of each animal officially registered at the time hair sample is obtained.
8. Each exhibitor will be required to pay \$15.00 in 2026 per animal (nonrefundable) fee for each sample taken. Replacement ear tag fee will be \$7.00. Exhibitors may DNA more than one animal per species.
9. 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 2026 Fair.
10. **GIVE CORRECT NAME, MAILING ADDRESS WHEN ENTERING AS CHECKS WILL BE MADE TO THE ADDRESS AND EXHIBITOR'S NAME SUBMITTED UPON ENTRY.**
11. All premium checks must be cashed within 60 days after the close of the Fair.
12. **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)**
13. Entry deadlines are as follows:
  - a. Beef, **December 18, 2025** - 5 p.m.
  - b. Lamb, Swine, Goats and Utility Turkeys - **February 16, 2026**- 5 p.m.
  - c. **Meat Pen Rabbits, Fryers, and Meat Pen Chickens February 16, 2026 – 5:00pm.**
14. All other entry requirements, fees, rules, and regulations for the 2026 Exhibit Guide shall apply.
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.
20. WHEN A YOUTH MAINTAINS MEMBERSHIP IN A 4-H, GRANGE AND FFA PROJECTS THE PROJECTS MAY NOT BE THE SAME SPECIES OF LIVESTOCK.

### 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 weening with beef) within boundaries.

**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:

2026 April Fair:

Beef: Due August 23, 2024

Lambs & Goats: Due March 31, 2025

Swine: Due May 31, 2025

2027 April Fair & Beyond (plus 1 year)

Beef: Due August 23, 2025

Lambs & Goats: Due March 31, 2026

Swine: Due May 31, 2026

#### 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.

#### Auction:

1. The Auction sales will be limited to the three Junior Fair Organizations, (4-H, FFA and Grange) as well as Independent exhibitors who qualify.
2. The sale will be held **Wednesday, April 22, 2026**, 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.
3. 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.**
4. 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.
5. No exhibitor will be permitted to condition the sale or bid on an animal from the sale ring.
6. **A MARKET ANIMAL THAT QUALIFIES FOR AUCTION MAY BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE AUCTION AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO 8 PM Sunday, April 19, 2026. 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.**
7. To determine the order of appearance in the Auction ring a Supreme Grand Champion will be selected from the Division Champions and a Supreme 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 in total may be sold).
8. Classification weight will serve as sale weight, no shrinkage taken.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. An animal "sold through" another Fair's Junior Livestock Auction is not eligible for this Fair.



12. No "for sale" signs are permitted on stalls or pens under any circumstances. Auction flyers are prohibited from 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.
13. 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.
14. The maximum weights for the determination of total sales 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.
15. **THE AV FAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION IS TERMINAL.** All Auction animals will be shipped by the fair, no private pick-up allowed.
16. 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.
17. 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.
18. All Shavings and decorations must be removed by **April 23<sup>rd</sup>, by 6:00pm**. -Check with Barn Supervisor before leaving.

## Market Animal Rules

1. 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.
2. Market Lamb must show lamb's teeth.
3. All Market Lambs, **entire body above the hocks** must be slick sheared within five (5) days of the Fair. Goats may have 3/8" hair.
4. 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.**
5. **No Market Beef, Lamb, or Goat may have horns. Scurs under 1 inch are accepted.**
6. **ALL ANIMALS ON FAIR PREMISES MAY BE USED FOR MASTER SHOWMANSHIP AT DISCRETION OF FAIR STAFF AND OR LIVESTOCK COUNCIL MEMBER.**
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. **All animals must have their ear tag in place before entering the Fairgrounds to drop off. Lambs & Goats must have Scappie tags.**
10. **The Order of Organizations for Market Shows will change every year**  
**2026: 4-H, Grange, FFA and Independent**  
**2027: Grange, FFA, Independent and 4-H**  
**2028: FFA, Independent, 4-H, and Grange**
11. After weighing, Market Goat, Lamb, Beef, and Swine will be divided into weight classes within specified limitations as desired for convenience of judging. If the number of animals from any group is not sufficient then classes can be combined at the discretion of the judge. If any Organization does 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 broken into Light Weight, Middle Weight, and Heavy Weight Classes. There will not be any Light – Middle – Heavy Weight Champions. Only First and Second Place Winners. The Top Two will be selected to compete for Overall Organization Champion and Reserve Champion.

12. Animals shown MUST be owned by the exhibitor and SHOWN by the exhibitor in the Market Class or Junior Livestock Auction. 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.
13. **NO PRIVATE SCALES ALLOWED ON THE FAIRGROUNDS AT ANY TIME. One weigh-in only.**

**ALL MARKET ANIMALS must be clean and offloaded for weigh-in and Vet check**

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\*.

**SHOWMANSHIP & WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS RULES:**

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. **Single Animal Rule:** The animal can be used for showmanship only if it is the exhibitor's sole animal at the fair.
4. **Multiple Animals Rule:** If the exhibitor brought more than one animal, the animal that does not meet the weight requirement can participate in local showmanship, but not in state showmanship.

**BACK-UP ANIMALS: See State Rules under Preface #5**

1. An exhibitor may **participate in only one backup structure per species: Individual backup, Family backup or Club backup.**
2. Individual exhibitors may only have one (1) backup per species.
3. Families with two or more exhibitors who are showing the same species may share one (1) backup of animals per family, per species.
4. Clubs and Chapters can have one (1) 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.
5. The back-up animal must have their DNA on file with the livestock department prior to the 60 or 120-day deadline.
6. 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.

**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 of 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 the 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 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.**

## Health/Veterinarian

1. **ALL ANIMALS MUST HAVE ACCESS TO POTABLE WATER DURING THE ENTIRE FAIR.** Any additives must be declared, approved, and supervised by livestock office staff or fair veterinarian.
2. **Animals must consume food and water voluntarily; the use of any device or equipment other than a standard feed pan is strictly prohibited without the supervision and direction of the official veterinarian or designated fair official. Any violations of this rule may result in exhibit and/or exhibitor being disqualified.**
3. **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.**
4. **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. 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.
5. **Physical abuse of an animal will not be tolerated. For the safety of the animal and the public, animals are not to be left unattended outside of their pen or on fitting tables or blocking chutes.**
6. **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.**
7. A Veterinarian will be on call for livestock exhibits. The exhibitor must assume the expense of the veterinarian's service.

**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 BEEF, GOAT, LAMB, AND SWINE: to enter animals at future Antelope Valley Fairs revoked.**

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