

SOUTH FLORIDA FAIR



PALM BEACH COUNTY EXPOSITIONS, INC.

ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

The purpose of the South Florida Fair's Livestock Committee is to address all issues of animal care including:

- Appropriate care and management of animals while on the South Florida Fairgrounds by exhibitors
- Educational programs for exhibitors and the general public
- The philosophy of the South Florida Fair in regard to animal care and management
- Handling expressions of concern for animal care from the public

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

The South Florida Fair is an animal welfare advocate requiring the humane treatment of animals. Animal welfare advocates continue to expand their knowledge base about animals, their behavior, and their management as science and technology dictate. Animal welfare advocates celebrate the bond between animals and humans.

IN CONTRAST, animal rights activists seek to sever any bond between humans and animals. Most animal rights activists believe animals should only be admired from afar, without human intervention. A large fraction of the movement is also pushing for animals to be given the same rights and status as humans. Animal rights activists fundamentally believe animals should not be utilized to feed, clothe, assist, entertain, or benefit humans.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ALL LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND RABBIT EXHIBITORS

**** The use of "Livestock" throughout this document is intended to include all Beef Cattle, Steers, Hogs, Dairy and Meat Goats and Dairy Cattle.**

1. Entries and awards in all livestock, poultry and rabbit departments shall be subject to the rules and regulations published in the premium book. Each exhibitor must complete and submit, in its entirety, the Fair's online entry form via ShoWorks, and the W- 9 form and photos of market steers and hogs. No paper, faxed, mailed or day-of entries will be accepted. Any entries received without payment will not be accepted.
2. All livestock, poultry and rabbits must meet expected industry standards and body score conditions.
3. All livestock, poultry and rabbit arrival/check-in dates/times, as applicable, will be strictly adhered to.
4. The Sell-a-Bration of Champions Youth Livestock Market Auction is a terminal event for both market steers and market hogs.
5. ALL YOUTH EXHIBITORS ENTERED IN THE SOUTH FLORIDA FAIR YOUTH SHOWS MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE ETHICS TRAINING WORKSHOP OR HAVE A CURRENT ETHICS NUMBER BEFORE JANUARY 1, TO SHOW AN ANIMAL AT THE SOUTH FLORIDA FAIR. **Poultry/pullet exhibitors, ages 5-7 years old, are not required to have an ethics number.**
6. The South Florida Fair believes that every youth exhibitor should receive proper training and information for raising and showing an animal project. It is important that the exhibitor understands: the purpose and importance of ethics in youth livestock projects, proper animal handling and management, and the difference between animal welfare and animal rights. The MANDATORY Youth Livestock Show Ethics and Animal Care Workshop is designed to certify exhibitors to meet these requirements. This program has been endorsed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the University of Florida, IFAS.
7. Youth livestock exhibitors cannot be under the age of 8 or over the age of 19 as of January 1 current year, depending on the animal they are showing (see rules per specie). Youth exhibitors must also be attending school (elementary, middle, high), or be enrolled in a certified home school program. Youth exhibitors who have graduated from high school or obtained their High School GED are not eligible to compete in youth shows (unless breed show rules supersede.) MARKET PROGRAM EXHIBITORS MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF SCHOOL ENROLLMENT, unless otherwise stated in the specific specie and breed association rules.
8. Upon submission of entries, exhibitors agree to abide by the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services guidelines, the rules and regulations listed in this book and online by the South Florida Fair for Admission of Animals for Exhibition. The South Florida Fair shall govern the competitions at the South Florida Fair.
9. All animals must have a current and valid health certificate upon arrival. The original health certificate must be presented on-site; no phone photos or copies are allowed. The Livestock Committee Chairperson and/or staff and management reserves the right to reject or disqualify any entry and/or have removed from the fairgrounds any entered animal deemed by any of them to be unsafe, uncontrollable, ill or underweight. The South Florida Fair, by and through its Livestock Committee Chairperson and/or staff and management, reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and to settle and determine all matters, questions, or disputes in regard to these rules and to all Shows.

10. Exhibitors are to wear enclosed shoes at all times; no slip-on shoes.
11. All exhibitors shall treat each other with respect and without bullying or harassment. Bullying includes cyberbullying and means systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on an exhibitor which may include: Teasing; Social exclusion; Threat; Intimidation; Stalking; Physical violence; Theft; Sexual, Religious, or Racial harassment; Public or private humiliation; or Destruction of property. "Harassment" means any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal, or physical conduct directed against an exhibitor that: Places the exhibitor in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; Has the effect of substantially interfering with the exhibitor's performance, opportunities, or benefits; or Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the shows. If an exhibitor is subject to bullying or harassment, it should be reported to the Livestock Committee Chairperson for investigation and corrective action, if necessary.
12. Protests: All Livestock/Poultry/Rabbit protests must be submitted in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00 cash or certified check, which will be forfeited if protest is not sustained. Such a protest must state plainly the cause of the complaint or appeal and must be delivered to Fair's Livestock Committee Chairperson within twenty-four (24) hours after the occasion for such protest. The Livestock Committee Chairperson shall within a reasonable time period after the protest is submitted, consider and issue a decision on the matter protested. Should the exhibitor disagree with the decision of the Livestock Committee Chairperson, they may appeal the matter to the South Florida Fair AgriBusiness Manager, whose decision shall be final.
13. Disqualifications: Any exhibitor who has been disqualified from competition in any livestock show or has premiums withheld or withdrawn on the grounds of rule violation(s), will not be allowed to compete in other shows. This shall include, but is not limited to, disqualification for fraud, misrepresentation, unethical fitting, deception, bullying or harassment. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation, and depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a thorough investigation is completed. No complaint or appeal that a judge overlooked an animal, will be considered. If any exhibitor, in any way, whether in person or by their representative, interferes with the judge(s), or shows any disrespect to them or to show officials, the existing show may excuse him/her from the ring and exclude him/her from further competition; premiums that may have been awarded may also be withheld. If an animal is disqualified after having won awards or premiums, the animals placing below him may be moved up at the option of the Livestock Committee, to fill the vacated position.
14. Except for the animals being shown, or as otherwise permitted by law, NO ANIMALS are allowed in any exhibit building or on the fairgrounds.
15. All livestock, poultry and rabbit exhibitors must provide their own: water and feed buckets, feed and hay, grooming tools and supplies, stall cleaning tools and bedding (over and above what bedding the Fair provides. See bedding details in specific specie rules and regulations).
16. Exhibitors should bring your own generator(s) to ensure electrical needs. The respective superintendents will designate specific locations as may be deemed by the Fire Marshal's Office.
17. At the time of entry submission, livestock are required to reserve a grooming chute location on the entry form. Locations will be determined by the respective superintendents. A permit will be issued by the Fair.
18. Use of drugs not in compliance with manufacturer's label as to dosage, time limitations, other manufacturer's limitations and show regulations is prohibited. Animals will be subject to examination at any time. Violators will be disqualified and will forfeit all premiums and awards.
19. At no time is livestock to be walked/exercised in the parking areas adjacent to the AgZone area.
20. Sleeping or cooking is not permitted in or outside of any barns or show arenas. Microwaves, crockpots, coffee makers, etc. are not permitted in barns or show arenas. NO Exceptions.
21. Camping reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis, and must be registered/payment made online at www.southfloridafair.com. No day-of reservations allowed. All camping must be in camping units: Tents are permitted on a limited basis for youth exhibitors; reservations must be made and paid for online within the respective timeframe.
22. All exhibitors/volunteers must wear the fair-issued gate admission badge at all times, except while showing their animals.

SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATIONS

- Contact the AgriBusiness Manager at Paige@southfloridafair.com to advise of any needs or concerns.

RELEASE POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR ALL LIVESTOCK/POULTRY/RABBITS: NEW

Prior to the release of ALL animals entered at the South Florida Fair, the following policies and procedures are:

- No early dismissal of entries. Release dates/times will be strictly adhered to.
- All animal bedding in stalls, pens or cages must be completely cleaned, raked and the bedding material properly disposed of in the Fair's designated manure handling areas. Exhibitors must remove all feed, hay, feed bags, matting, and supplies to either take them with you or properly dispose of them. Any exhibitor not complying will forfeit all premiums, awards and market auction proceeds.
- Only the Livestock Committee Chair/co-Chair, or the designated specie department Show Chair/co-Chair is permitted to issue the South Florida Fair Livestock Exhibitor Release Form, once the stall/pen/cage clean-up has been approved by them. These forms will be checked at the Fairgrounds exit upon leaving (Gate 5 or 6).
- All livestock must be out of the barns by designated date/times to allow for preparations of other entry arrivals.

RELEASE SCHEDULE: NEW

Trailers will not be permitted to exit the Fairgrounds until the designated dates and times and with the Fair issued Release Form

BEEF JACKPOT

- All entries are released Friday, January 17, following the respective show. All beef jackpot entries must be out of the barn by 7 p.m. Friday.

MEAT GOAT JACKPOT

- All entries are released Saturday, January 18, following the youth livestock judging contest. All meat goat jackpot entries must be out of the barn by 3 p.m. Saturday.

STEERS & MARKET HOGS

- All entries will be transported following the market auction by the Fair's contracted hauler to the designated processor.
- All hog pen panels and gates must be dismantled and properly stored by 1 p.m. Sunday, January 19.

BEEF BREEDING: Angus, All Other Breeds

- All entries are released Sunday, January 19, following their respective shows. All entries must be out of the barn by 9 p.m. Sunday.

BEEF BREEDING: Brangus

- All entries are released Tuesday, January 21, following their respective shows. All entries must be out of the barn by 9 p.m. Tuesday.

DAIRY GOATS

- All entries are released Sunday, January 26, following all shows. All entries must be out of the barn by 4 p.m. Sunday.

BEEF BREEDING: Brahman

- All entries are released Sunday, January 26, following the shows. All entries must be out of the barn by 9 p.m. Sunday.

DAIRY CATTLE

- All entries are released Sunday, February 2, following the shows. All entries must be out of the barn by 9 p.m. Sunday.

POULTRY/RABBITS

- All entries are released at 8 p.m. Sunday, February 2. All entries must be out of the exhibit area by 10 p.m. Sunday.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR LIVESTOCK/POULTRY/RABBITS

Please consult the Fair's official Premium Book for all specie rules/regulations/clarifications.

Entry deadlines:

MARKET STEERS, PULLETS, HOG ENTRIES

- Market Steers: Entries open August 1; close at 11:59 p.m. on September 10
- Pullets: Entries open September 3; close at 11:59 p.m. on September 30
- Market Hogs: Entries open September 16; close at 11:59 p.m. October 16

MARKET STEERS/PULLETS/HOG ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS (BY THE ABOVE ENTRY DEADLINES) MUST INCLUDE:

- Example copies of auction buyer's invitation and thank you letters.
- Completed buyers list with five names and addresses, including two new buyers.
Submit via Google Docs at <https://forms.gle/t4wbNBmQBNoDnXt7>.
- Proof of exhibitor's school enrollment (latest report card or signed letter from school administrator on school letterhead).
- Completed/signed W-9 form .

PROJECT PHOTOS: MARKET STEERS/HOGS

Photo submission deadlines via ShoWorks:

- Market steers: Thursday, September 19, 2024 by 11:59 p.m.
- Market hogs: Monday, November 11, 2024 by 11:59 p.m.

Photos uploaded (1 pdf file for all three photos) on ShoWorks of all market steers and hogs. Photos are not required for pullet projects.

- Three (3) total photos:
 - o Both sides of animal (2 photos)
 - o Head photo of animal with ear tag clearly visible with exhibitor's face (1 photo)

Submit all three photos as ONE pdf file, and not as three separate files

STEER WEIGH-IN/EAR TAGGING/DNA TAIL HAIR PULL (MANDATORY)

- Thursday, September 12, 5-7 p.m., at Okeechobee Livestock Market. Exhibitors bringing steers to the September 12 weigh-in/ear tagging/DNA tail hair pull without being properly entered by September 10, will not be accepted.

MARKET HOG TAG-IN (OPTIONAL)

- Saturday, October 19, 9-11 a.m., inside Gate 8 at the South Florida Fairgrounds. Exhibitors bringing hogs to the October 19 tag-in without being properly entered by October 16, will not be accepted.

WORK DAYS (MANDATORY)

- Saturday, December 14; Saturday, January 4 and Saturday, January 11, 2025, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Kubota AGZone. Youth Livestock/poultry/rabbit exhibitors must work one of the work days.

LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND RABBIT ENTRY DEADLINES (this does not include market steers, pullets, hogs)

- Entries open for livestock, poultry/rabbits, (other than market steers/pullets and hogs) on Tuesday, October 1 and close at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, December 13, 2024.

SUBSTITUTION DEADLINES, ALL BEFORE 5 P.M. to sflf.livestock@gmail.com

Substitutions for up to two (2) animals will be accepted on the substitution form, detailing the deleted entries and the substituted animals. See details in specie specific exhibit rules and regulations. This does NOT apply to market animals. If the exhibitor does not complete and return the appropriate paperwork by the specified date/time, the substitutions will not be accepted.

- Rabbits and Poultry (does not include Youth Pullet Project Program) 5 p.m. Saturday, January 11, 2025
- Dairy Goats: 5 p.m. Monday, January 20, 2025
- Dairy Cattle: 5 p.m. Monday, January 27, 2025

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

- October 1, 2024, Livestock Camping reservations open online, first come, first served
- Saturday, November 2, 2024, 9 a.m.: Ethics training and Youth Market Clinic, South Florida Fairgrounds.
- Consult the Fair's Livestock Calendar for all other check-ins, weigh-ins, show dates/times, and other events on the fair's website at southfloridafair.com.

FAIR ADMISSION BADGES/PARKING PASSES

- Fair admission badges are issued four (4) per entered/paid exhibitor; one (1) parking hang tag PER FAMILY.

Failure to comply with the above rules governing this show and those listed in specie specific sections of this premium book will result in the immediate removal of the exhibitor from the fairgrounds and the forfeiture of all premiums and awards.

