

2025 Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration Information



Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration Goals:

1. Develop a program/event which allows as many Fair youth exhibitors as possible an equitable opportunity to be recognized for outstanding Fair achievement.
2. Expand community awareness and participation in the Fair, its events/programs and the Fair's value to youth development.
3. Demonstrate positive human to human interaction and goodwill.
4. Reaffirm the importance of the Fair and Fair Park as valuable community assets to residents of Jefferson County, Fair attendees, and youth exhibitors.
5. Incentive to develop skills associated with positive animal management as a recreation or business.
6. Develop an understanding and appreciation of the role of an event/public auction in philanthropic and entrepreneurship activities.

Successful Auction Participation Guidelines:

Auction Buyer Communication: Auction participants are strongly encouraged to communicate with their auction supporters, bidders and buyers after your animal sells and at the conclusion of the auction event. Personal contact and engagement are the best ways to show appreciation and thanks. Following up after the Fair with a written communication is also encouraged. Contact the Fair Office if you need assistance in obtaining accurate contact information. There are NO REQUIREMENTS from the Fair for how participants should demonstrate their appreciation to AUCTION, FAIR and YOUTH supporters.

Auction Supporters: Auction participants are strongly encouraged to promote the Auction by inviting prospective supporters and bidders to attend the Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration. Favorable auction price discovery will require a strong active support base and personal connections. To maintain and strengthen an active supporter/bidder base, it will be crucial to continue communications with current supporters but also by adding **NEW prospective supporters/bidders**. **Participants who have identified potential auction supporters/bidders should submit the prospective bidder information online. Listed below is the process the Fair will follow for actively soliciting 2025 prospective supporters/bidders:**

- **New Prospective Bidders:** Any new auction bidders that participants have identified must submit the bidders contact information to FairEntry online by May 23. Go to the Fair website for more information on how to enter bidders.
- **Bidders from the 2024:** Information is automatically entered in the Fair Entry system for bidders that were entered for the 2024 Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration. If an exhibitor or bidder wants to verify their information is enter, contact the fair office at 920-674-7148. Check the Fair website for a list of available bidders.
- **All bidders:**
 - Bidders that are entered into the FairEntry system by May 23rd will receive **two (2) complimentary Fair admission tickets (good for Saturday July 12th ONLY)**. Admission tickets will be sent via mail no later than June 15th. If a bidder has not received their ticket by July 1st should contact the fair office at 920-674-7148.
 - Upon arrival to the fair on Saturday July 12th buyers will receive their **bidder card and two (2) complimentary Auction hospitality wristbands** at registration.

Auction Photographs: There will be at least two backdrops available for auction photographs (location TBD). Each exhibitor is encouraged to seek out their supporters and invite them to have their picture taken.

Protest and Appeal Policy

Any participant or their immediate family may file a Protest or Appeal with the Jefferson County Fair if they would like consideration/reconsideration of a program violation. See Jefferson County Fair Entry Information for further protest and appeal procedures.

Participant Eligibility:

1. Auction participants must meet Jefferson County Fair exhibitor eligibility requirements as stated in the Fair entry information (available online at [the Fair website](#)) and successfully enter/participate in the respective market divisions (Department 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8) at the 2025 Jefferson County Fair. The auction will be organized by special awards and ribbon place.
 - Beef weigh-in on December 14th in the indoor arena is not mandatory, but you must attend if you would like to be involved in rate of gain
 - Any exhibitor not able to participate in weigh-in on December 14th must submit DNA to the fair office by 5PM on Monday, December 16th 2024
 - Attendance at the Goat/Sheep weigh-in on Sunday, May 4th, 2025 in the MAP is not mandatory, but you must attend if you would like to be involved in Rate of Gain.
 - Any exhibitor not able to participate in weigh-in on May 4th must submit DNA to the fair office by 5PM on Monday, May 5th 2025.
2. Grand and Reserve Overall Champion Information:
 - Grand and Reserve Overall Champion must sell
3. Exhibitors may sell in the auction in the following ways:
 - **Sell a Market Animal Lot:** Youth with market project(s) that meet all Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration requirements may sell one of the following:
 - **One (1) large animal in departments Beef, Swine, Sheep or Goat.**
 - **Two (2) Poultry (Blue Ribbon)/ Rabbit (Any Ribbon)**
 - **One (1) large animal and one (1) Poultry (Blue Ribbon)/ Rabbit (Any Ribbon)**
 1. Market Poultry/Rabbit entries will sell independently, back to back. Youth will receive all auction proceeds from the market animal lot, minus a percentage of up to 5% off the gavel price, which changes year to year.
 - **Dairy Pledge Drive: Designated** award-winning dairy youth will be recognized during the Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration. Auction supporters will have the opportunity to support this group of award winners through a pledge drive. All proceeds from the pledge drive minus a percentage of up to 5% off the gavel price, will be distributed equally to these award-winning youth. Dairy Pledge Drive participants are NOT REQUIRED to meet the market animal guidelines listed below to participate. Dairy Pledge Drive participants are still eligible to sell a market animal lot if they meet the requirements noted below.

Exhibitor Initial: _____ *(Please initial to acknowledge you read and understand Participant Eligibility Info)*

Participation Requirements:

1. **840 Ear Tag Identification:** All beef, swine, sheep and goats must have an any 15-digit 840 ear tag identification will be accepted; RFID ear tags are preferred but not required.
 - Beef: if not attending weigh in, DNA is due to the Fair Office by Monday, December 16th 2024, by 5pm
 - Goat/Sheep: if not attending weigh in, DNA is due to the Fair Office by Monday, May 5th 2025, by 5pm
 - Swine: DNA is due to the Fair Office by Monday, May 5th 2025, by 5pm
2. **Jefferson County Fair Entries Due: Online only at the Fair website by May 23rd 2025, 11:59 p.m.**
3. **Youth for Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Certification completed:** The Fair believes the national YQCA program is beneficial for participants of the animal auction. Therefore, by May 23rd all JCF auction participants must complete and submit a current YQCA certification number with their Fair entries. For additional YQCA information please go to JCF Entry Information document entitled YQCA at [the Fair website](#).
4. **W-9 forms:** As a county entity, the Fair must follow county policy and applicable laws regarding having a W-9 on file with the county for all Fair participants who receive a check(s). The W-9 on file must have the exhibitor's current address and related information. W-9 should be on file with the fair office by May 23rd, 2025. If we have a current one on file, we do not need another.

Weigh-in schedule: Tuesday July 8th

Auction exhibitor meeting will be held ½ hour after swine weigh-in is completed in the MAP building on Tuesday July 8th, 2025. This meeting will go over what each youth needs, timelines and rules. All species will be weighed in on Tuesday July 8th, 2025. An animal will only be reweighed if there is a scale malfunction.

- 10:00 am – Beef
- 12:00 pm - Goat
- 1:00 pm – Sheep
- 1:00 to 7:00 pm – Poultry & Rabbits
- 2:00 pm – Swine

1. Minimum Weight/Quality Grade Requirements:

- **Steers:** 1,100 pounds
 - i. **Lowline:** 900 pounds
- **Lambs:** 110 pounds
- **Swine:** 230 pounds
- **Goats:** 65 pounds
- **Poultry:** Blue ribbon only
- **Rabbits:** Must be determined market ready by judge

2. Unacceptable Market Animal Quality: The market judge from any species show can determine if an animal is unsuitable for market. Unsuitable market animals could possess any of the following flaws: meat quality (odor/taste due to masculine characteristics), physical health issues/injuries, and/or testicles present. Post-harvest inspection may also determine if unacceptable market quality exists, and an animal is subject to an adjustment between the buyer and the seller under the guidance of Fair Management.

3. Animal Health/Injury: If an auction animal is injured or has any health concerns during or after the sale, the participant must immediately notify the Auction Coordinator/Fair Management.

Auction Event Details:

- **Set-up/Take Down:** Participants are expected to help with auction set-up or take down. Details will be announced at the Fair
- **Commission:** The fair will deduct a maximum of 5% off the commission which will be figured off the gavel price.
 - Covers the costs of postage, bidder entrance tickets, hospitality tent/lunch, etc. The commission is calculated once sponsorships and expenses have been calculated to only collect the needed percentage for costs.

Deadlines/Important Dates:

1. **Submit Auction Participation Card: Thursday July 10th by 5 pm**

- Youth intending to participate in the Auction must submit to the Auction Office an **Auction Participation Card** by **5 pm on Thursday, July 10th** to confirm participation. This card will provide auction information such as type of sale participation, specific animal being sold, future show right request, etc. Cards received late may result in being removed from Auction completely.
- **Request Future Show Rights: No animal will sell with Future Show Rights guaranteed.** Exhibitors may express interest in requesting future show rights, but it **will always be the auction buyer's decision to grant the Future Show Rights.** Future show rights that are requested via the participation card will be printed in the catalog.
- **The auction check will be processed based on the 2025 Jefferson County fair auction results.**

Exhibitor Initial: _____ (Please initial to acknowledge you read and understand Deadlines/Important Dates Info)

- **Auction Catalog: Friday July 11th**

- An initial draft of the catalog will be posted **no later than 9 am on Friday, July 11th**. Errors should be brought to the attention of the Auction Office staff **no later than 11 am on Friday July 11th**. Fair management will determine if any corrections will be made after this time or noted/announced during the auction. Youth not ready to sell their lot in catalog order will be moved to the end of the live animal portion of the auction.

Exhibitor Initial: _____ (Please initial to acknowledge you read and understand the Auction Catalog)

- **Withdraw From Auction Participation: Saturday July 12th by 9 am**
 - Youth may officially withdraw from participating in the auction by submitting an **Auction Withdrawal Form** to the Auction Office by **10 am on Saturday, July 12th**. Failure to submit this form may result in future auction eligibility restrictions.

Exhibitor Initial: _____ (Please initial to acknowledge you read and understand the Auction Withdraw Process)

Auction Schedule: Saturday July 12th

All youth must be present to participate in the Auction unless prior approval has been granted from Fair management. Fair management reserves the right to adjust the sale order if the exhibitor is not present to participate. Youth will be needed to hand out water during the auction.

10:00 am – Poultry & Rabbits

Youth selling 2 poultry/rabbit entry lots will sell both animals independently back to back. Species rotations will continue until all animals are sold.

Potential Sale Order will be as follows:

- Supreme Market Poultry
- Supreme Market Rabbit
- Reserve Supreme Market Poultry
- Reserve Supreme Market Rabbit
- Other Market Champions (CH & RCH) Poultry
- Other Market Champions (C & RCH) Rabbit
- Poultry Showperson Winning Exhibitor Animals (If market exhibitor)
- Rabbit Showperson Winning Exhibitor Animals (If market exhibitor)
- Last year of Eligibility Market Animal Participants
 - Remaining animals by ribbon ** (Exhibitor will sell top ribbon lot first followed by their next lot back-to-back)

11:00 am – Hospitality tent is open

Noon – Jefferson County Fair Special Recognition

12:45 pm – Dairy Pledge Drive

1:00 pm – Goat, Beef, Swine, Sheep

Species rotations will continue until all animals are sold.

Order will be as follows:

- Grand Champion Market Animal
- Reserve Grand Champion Market Animal
- Other Market Animal Champions (i.e. weight or Breed)
- Showperson Champion Exhibitors (If market)
- Bred & Owned Champions (G & RG – if market)
- Rate of Gain Champions (G&RG)
- Ultrasound Champions (G&RG)
- Last Year of Eligibility Market Animal Youth
 - Remaining animals by ribbon ** (Exhibitor will sell top ribbon lot first followed by their next lot back-to-back)

2:30 pm – Food in hospitality tent will close – snacks and beverages will be available until conclusion of auction.

Post Auction:

- **Supporter/Buyer Recognition Card: Saturday, July 12th**
 - All auction lots are to be identified by a SUPPORTER/BUYER RECOGNITION CARD (provided by the Fair) which must be properly displayed in the exhibitor's pen/stall area within **one** hour after the completion of the

auction. Failing to display a SUPPORTER/BUYER RECOGNITION CARD provided by the Fair may result in a \$100.00 fine off the exhibitor auction check.

• **Auction Animal Load Out:**

- Auction animal load out information will be posted as soon as possible after the auction.
 - i. The Fair will arrange for Auction animal transportation to the designated harvest location.
 - ii. The Fair is not responsible for the loading, transporting, or disposal/removal of animals not being sent to a designated harvest location on behalf of an auction buyer.
 - iii. Auction participants are recommended to be present to load their animals and confirm animal identification. If not present, Fair management will have authority to load the animal and will be held harmless.
 - iv. The buyers are responsible for picking up their auction purchases from the designated harvesting facility they identified.
 - v. Poultry will have a designated processor which will be communicated by the Poultry superintendent

- **Animal Residue/Carcass Inspections or Identification Verification:** The Fair reserves the authority to conduct residue testing, carcass inspections, or any other recognized process available to verify USDA, Fair or IAFE rule compliance. Evidence of ethics violations, tampering or testing violations as identified and determined by Fair management may result in sale proceeds being held, retained, or forfeited, in which case any additional expenses involved with animal harvest, testing, and/or carcass disposal will be the sole responsibility of the youth participant. The Jefferson County Fair has the discretion to determine appropriate penalty in all situations for deemed rule violations which may include forfeiture of sale proceeds, penalties, future restrictions and/or expulsion from future Fair and/or Auction participation.

Exhibitor Initial: _____ *(Please initial to acknowledge you read and understand the Post Auction Process)*

Independently Processing Animal Post-Fair:

- Exhibitors are responsible for communicating and collecting any processing fees and market value costs directly from the buyer. The fair will pay based on the activity of the auction only.

The Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration is a program of the Jefferson County Fair. The Fair and Fair Park is a quasi-municipal corporation of Jefferson County and is governed by its rules and regulations. The Jefferson County Fair logo, letterhead and bidder/buyer list is for the exclusive use of conducting business for the Jefferson County Fair Animal Auction & Youth Celebration. Any unapproved use is prohibited and may result in disciplinary actions, which may include auction privileges. Auction participants agree to assume the risk of property damage, personal injury or bodily harm and release the Jefferson County Fair/Fair Park and Jefferson County from all liability for personal injury and loss of property.

Exhibitor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____