

## Open Class Livestock Rules

1. An exhibitor who violates any of the following rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums and is subject to such penalty as the management may order. Superintendents have the right to excuse any exhibitor.
2. Management reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions, or differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out of or in connection with, or incident to, the Fair, except as otherwise specified herein.
3. All open class animals must have a veterinary check on entering. No animal shall be admitted or allowed to remain on the grounds that show evidence of any infectious or contagious disease or any unsightly condition.
4. No livestock may be removed from the Fairgrounds before specified deadline in each department. If removed early without prior approval from the Exhibit Coordinator, the exhibitor will forfeit all premiums and prizes.
5. All exhibitors will be under the general control and direction of the Fair. Each exhibitor will be responsible for any loss, injury, or damage done to, or occasioned by or arising from, any animal or article exhibited or owned by the exhibitor, and shall hold harmless Benton County, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all liability, claims for damages or loss, either to person or property, arising from any connection with the exhibit. Each exhibitor shall waive any right of subrogation against Benton County.
6. Open class entries are limited to residents of Benton, Lincoln, Lane, Linn, Marion, and Polk counties.
7. All livestock shall be the property of the exhibitor and shall so appear on the record of their respective breed associations. **A certificate of registration must accompany the animal, except poultry, and may be checked by the Superintendent and must be available for checking at any time during the Fair.** On livestock that has been transferred, the transfer must have been completed by the association and be in the name of the person that exhibits the animal at the time of the show. Where the certificate indicates more than one owner, the animal must be shown in the name of all owners or partnership by name. If asked, the exhibitor must provide appropriate documentation or will forfeit the show. The registration papers must show an address within the qualifying counties to show.
8. No person having entered anything for competition will be allowed to withdraw or change the entry after opening day of the show. However, substitutions will be accepted in the event of injury, sickness, or death of any animal which has been properly entered and accepted. Such substitutions must be made prior to check-in and cleared through the Superintendent. There will be no refunds of entry fees.
9. Exhibitors shall furnish necessary feed for their animals and arrange for care of them, except poultry, rabbits, & cavies.
10. Bedding will be furnished by the Benton County Fair & Rodeo for all livestock exhibits. Shavings are available for Meat Goats, Ponies, Poultry, & Rabbits/Cavies. Shavings or straw will be available for Dairy Goats and Sheep only.
11. All manure and soiled bedding must be cleaned out of the pens/stalls and placed in designated areas.
12. No vehicles will be allowed on the grounds after 10:30 a.m. each day of the Fair, except during exhibit entry or release.
13. Exhibitors are encouraged to decorate their exhibit area.
14. Livestock exhibitors are permitted to display a sign over each exhibit advertising their own herd or showing livestock for sale. All advertising must be approved by the Fair, which reserves the right to have objectionable signs removed.
15. Commercial signs, such as feeds, minerals, stock, medicines, etc., will not be permitted anywhere in the livestock exhibits. Superintendents will see that this rule is enforced.
16. All judging will be done on the American System. Upon the request of the exhibitor, judges will be required to give their reasons for the decision rendered.
17. Animals must be shown in such a manner as the judges require, or they will not be allowed to compete.
18. In Meat Goats, Dairy Goats, Ponies, and Sheep, an exhibitor may enter as many animals as desired per class; however, only the top two placing animals may be awarded premium money.

19. Exhibitors refusing to or unable to lead out their animals for competition when called will forfeit all prizes won.
20. No person other than those holding the animals being exhibited, the Superintendent, the judge, and the clerks will be allowed in the show ring during the time of judging.
21. It is prohibited for exhibitors to talk to the judge during judging, except when answering a question of the judge.
22. Those who wish to explain in regard to their exhibit must do so through the Superintendent or clerk and must not interfere with the judge. The decision of the judges will be final in all cases.
23. In classes in which one exhibitor is represented, the judge will indicate an appropriate award eligible in the class according to the quality of the animal.
24. 4-H animals entered only in Dairy Goats, Meat Goats , or Sheep may also be entered in Open Class.
25. All passes will be available at the will-call window before and during Fair. Please see each department for a list of passes given to each exhibitor. Each Superintendent will have a limited number of passes that may be distributed to exhibitors who have a large number of animals that need extra handlers on show days only.
26. ***4-H exhibitors, or animals that are being shown in 4-H, will not receive any passes for Open class entries.***

**Competitive Exhibit Coordinator will get final say on any of the above rules.**

**Oregon Fairs Association  
Animal Welfare Policy**

Considering the importance of animals to Oregon Fairs, it shall be the policy of members of the Oregon Fairs Association to treat all animals at the Fair in a humane manner. Animals shall be provided clean bedding, adequate food and water, and Fair exhibitors shall be keep their animals from harm. It shall further be the policy of OFA members to protect animals from mistreatment by the general public and to assure the safety of the Fair patrons.

**Benton County Fair Animal Welfare Policy**

The following applies to all animals at the Benton County Fair and Rodeo:

- Animals in a cage, stalls, or pen will be kept in a manner that allows them to turn around freely, lie down, stand up, and fully extend their limbs
  - All animals will have adequate access to water and feed daily
  - All animals will be disease and injury free. Injured animals shall receive immediate care
    - It is the responsibility of the animals owner to meet the above criterion

The Fair Manager or designee may remove animals from or not allow access to the Fairgrounds if any of the