



# 2026 Aksarben Stock Show

## Livestock Rules & Regulations

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**WELCOME:** The Nebraska State Fair Board welcomes you to the 99<sup>th</sup> Aksarben Stock Show, held on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds at Fonner Park. We encourage your participation in the 2026 competitions. The Aksarben Stock Show Management, here and after referred to as Show Management, is pleased to host you and your exhibits at the Aksarben Stock Show while you enjoy your stay in Grand Island.

**ADMINISTRATION OF RULES & REGULATIONS:** The Nebraska State Fair Board has delegated the authority to Show Management (Agriculture Director, Executive Director, Chair of the Ag Committee, and Superintendents) for the final and absolute right to interpret, amend or add to these Rules & Regulations as its judgment may determine, and to settle all disputes and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard hereto or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incident to the Aksarben Stock Show.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** The following General Rules & Regulations apply to all departments. Please refer to each department for specific rules and requirements. Exhibitors are required to read ALL rules and regulations which pertain to the division they are entering. In the event of conflict of general and specific rules, the latter will govern. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to be familiar with all applicable Rules & Regulations.

**SHOW LIABILITY:** The Board, Show Management, and their agents and employees shall not, under any circumstances, be responsible for personal injury, and assume no liability for loss or damage of any nature to any property of concessionaires, exhibitors or patrons while on the grounds or at any time or place due to theft, fire, tornado, weather conditions, or other causes, nor be liable for or make any payment for the value thereof.

**EXHIBITOR LIABILITY:** Exhibitors of livestock must exercise due discretion in regard to the animals they are exhibiting, whether in the ring, stall or pen and exhibitor must assume responsibility for any damages caused by or to their animals. The exhibitor will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to, or occasioned by, or arising from any animal or article exhibited by him/her and for its description as given in the Premium Book. Exhibitor shall indemnify the Board, its agents and employees against all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto, as well as any damage or injury to any other person or property, caused by the exhibitor or any of the animals exhibited with the Aksarben Stock Show.

**AGREEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY:** At no time will the Nebraska State Fair Board assume care, custody, or control of any animals and/or personal property of any exhibitor, except following the selection of the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market animals. Furthermore, the official Show Veterinarian, in agreement with show management, reserves the right to treat any animal, if in the opinion of the Aksarben Stock Show Veterinarian, it is in the best interest of the animal's health and well-being to be treated. The Nebraska State Fair Board will assume control of these animals using security guards once they are placed in the designated pens. Otherwise, exhibitors will have full custody and control, and will care for, feed and keep safe their animals, livestock and personal property, all in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Aksarben Stock Show as implemented by Show Management.

**COURTESY STATEMENT:** In any barn where different species are present at the same time, the Aksarben Stock Show expects that all exhibitors will extend courtesy to other exhibitors and their animal exhibits. This includes respect for designated areas, informational signage, and division barriers. Any questions regarding this should be referred to the Superintendent of your show.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:** Subject to the limitations set forth in these Rules and Regulations, the Aksarben Stock Show provides to all persons the opportunity to exhibit at the Aksarben Stock Show without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or other factors protected by applicable law.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:** The Aksarben Stock Show reserves the right to cancel events or change scheduling should Show Management deem such necessary in its sole discretion.

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS (IAFE) NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS:** As a member of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE), the Aksarben Stock Show follows the National Code of Show Ring Ethics and uses that code as a governing philosophy for all shows hosted during the Aksarben Stock Show. For more information, please refer to the IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics available on [fairsandexpos.com](http://fairsandexpos.com), which are incorporated into these Rules and Regulations by reference.

**NALS&RMA:** The Aksarben Stock Show is a member of the North American Livestock Show and Rodeo Managers' Association, whose membership has approved the adoption of The IAFE National Show Ring Code of Ethics. Exhibitors are bound to abide by this Code.

**FORCE MAJURE & GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION:** The Aksarben Stock Show is not liable for delays or failures to perform due to force majeure (e.g., equipment failure, strikes, acts of God, animal disease, wars, economic downturn) or compliance with governmental regulations (e.g., public health, animal disease prevention, environmental protection).

**ATTENTION!! USE OF DRUGS:** The use by non-veterinarians of animal drugs or substances in any manner other than in accord with the label approved by the FDA is a violation of federal law. Exhibitor and exhibitor's parents/guardians agree (1) they are absolutely and completely responsible persons for the care and custody of their animals, (2) the Aksarben Stock Show shall be entitled to disqualify an exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug, even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents or guardians are innocent of any wrongdoing and did not administer the drug, (3) the drug test results of Aksarben Stock Show's chosen testing laboratory, here and after known as Laboratory are final and binding upon the exhibitor and exhibitor's parents and/or guardians. Even if the source of the drug is unknown, the Aksarben Stock Show shall be entitled to disqualify the exhibitor. **Abuse of extra-label privilege by veterinarians is unethical and subject to serious consequences, such as license revocation.**

## RULES & REGULATIONS

1. **EXHIBITOR COMPLIANCE:** Exhibitors and their associates must cooperate with all officials including office clerks, security, and volunteers in all matters of policy. The Aksarben Stock Show General Livestock Information, Rules & Regulations, Health Requirements, the IAFE National Show Ring Code of Ethics, and the North American Livestock Show & Rodeo Managers Association (NALS&RMA) Rule Infraction Database (RID) will govern. By submitting an application for entry, exhibitors agree to comply with all Rules & Regulations governing the Aksarben Stock Show.
2. **VOLUNTARY WAIVER:** The exhibitor agrees that the interpretation and enforcement of the Rules & Regulations by Show Management shall be final, without further complaint, appeal, claim, lawsuit or other recourse against the Nebraska State Fair Board. By submitting application for entry, all exhibitors waive any right to challenge the Aksarben Stock Show's determinations in that regard.
3. **ELIGIBLE TO ENTER:**
  - a. **Competition:** To be eligible to exhibit at the Aksarben Stock Show the youth must be at least 9 years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup>, of the current year. The youth cannot exceed 19 years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup>, of the current year. Youth must reside at a permanent residence address in one of the following states: Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.
    - i. An exhibitor shall have only one permanent residence address, which is generally defined as that place where a person has his or her true, fixed and permanent home and the principal establishment to which, whenever absent, he or she has the intention of returning. Show Management shall, in its sole discretion, determine an exhibitor's "permanent residence address" for purposes of these General Rules and Regulations.
    - ii. No exhibitor shall be eligible to compete, or having competed, be eligible to win a premium, if he/she has been disqualified from competition in a show belonging to the North American Livestock Show & Rodeo Managers' Association or has had a premium withheld or withdrawn on the grounds of rule violation involving misrepresentation, fraud or deception, practiced or attempted.
  - b. **DNA Nominations:** Every exhibitor must submit nomination information online by 5 pm (central time) on July 1st and mail DNA envelopes postmarked by July 1st for all animals to be eligible to exhibit. Only official envelopes from the Aksarben Stock Show will be accepted. There is no limit to the number of animals an exhibitor may nominate.

- i. A minimum of 40 hairs with follicles intact are needed. Hair must be pulled from the legs or tail of the animal. Do not cut or clip the hair. Do not contaminate the sample with hairs of another animal. Place the hair inside the envelope and seal it.
  - ii. DNA envelopes must arrive sealed in the official Aksarben Stock Show DNA envelope with all required information and signatures.
  - iii. The information listed on the envelope must exactly match the animal(s) entered online.
  - iv. Should it be necessary to return your nomination for any reason (lack of signatures, etc.), a reprocessing fee can be charged to the exhibitor.
  - v. Nomination is a proof of ownership required by the Aksarben Stock Show. DNA nomination does not constitute an entry to the Aksarben Stock Show. Only animals with DNA on file and nominated online with the Aksarben Stock Show are eligible to enter.
  - vi. For nomination of females for both breeding and market, only one DNA envelope is needed for each animal. This must be done by the nomination deadline to be eligible for both.
  - vii. The Aksarben Stock Show reserves the right to refuse any nomination.
  - viii. Exhibitors and parents/guardians are responsible for making sure all information submitted online and DNA envelopes are correct.
  - ix. Upon arrival, all DNA is owned by the Aksarben Stock Show
  - x. DNA can be shared, if available, with breed associations to confirm validity of registration at the discretion of Aksarben Stock Show, within 30 days of the completion of the Aksarben Stock Show.
  - xi. **Family Nominations:** Accepted at time of nomination only.
    - 1. The exhibitors must all legally reside in the same household and are siblings, step siblings, or legally adopted.
    - 2. To be accepted as a family nomination all exhibitors in the family must have nominated online and be listed on and have signed the DNA envelope.
- c. Eligibility of Animals:** DNA and online nominations are the initial entry to the Aksarben Stock Show. Official online entry, including paying the entry fee, will need to be completed for livestock being exhibited at the Aksarben Stock Show following the nomination deadline.
- i. Any animal that has been sold through a terminal sale is ineligible to show at the Aksarben Stock Show. Any animal that has been offered up for auction where the intent of the auction is the change of ownership, is ineligible to show at the Aksarben Stock Show.
- d. Official Identification:** Additional identification required along with DNA for all animals.
- i. Swine: All swine must have been identified with an EID tag.
  - ii. Sheep: Official USDA scrapie identification tag.
  - iii. Goats: Official USDA scrapie identification tag.
  - iv. Beef: Visual tag, ear tattoo, or EID tag.
    - 1. All registered animals MUST have a legible ear tattoo that matches its registration papers exactly. Show management reserves the right to check all tattoos.
- e. Certificate Of Registry:** Original registration papers or electronic document presented using a tablet or smart phone will be accepted if pulled up or downloaded from their respective breed website. NO PRINTED PAPER COPIES OR SCREENSHOTS ACCEPTED. In case of dispute as to the age of an animal exhibited, its certificate of registry shall be required for evidence of its age, and its owner shall be required to file an affidavit that it is the identical animal therein described. Tattoos, ear tags or other identification marks must match registration certificates.
- f. Quality Assurance:** All exhibitors are required to have completed and hold a current Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Certification. Exhibitors must enter their certification number as well as upload their valid certificate at the time of entry. Entries submitted without a valid, current YQCA certification will be considered incomplete and be ineligible to show.

#### 4. ENTRY PROCEDURE:

- a. **Entry Submission:** All applications for entry must be made online at [aksarbenstockshow.com](http://aksarbenstockshow.com) utilizing the Aksarben Stock Show entry management software. Entries must be accompanied by all fees and other sums due to the Aksarben Stock Show or entry will not be accepted.
  - b. **Entry Limitations:**
    - i. Beef: Participants are permitted to submit up to 8 beef entries but allowed to bring and show no more than 5. You must pay for all 8 entries and there will be no refunds.
    - ii. Swine: Participants are permitted to submit up to 8 goat entries but allowed to bring and show no more than 4. You must pay for all 8 entries and there will be no refunds.
    - iii. Sheep: Participants are permitted to submit up to 8 sheep entries but allowed to bring and show no more than 4. You must pay for all 8 entries and there will be no refunds.
    - iv. Goat: Participants are permitted to submit up to 8 goat entries but allowed to bring and show no more than 4. You must pay for all 8 entries and there will be no refunds.
    - v. Broiler: Participants are permitted to enter a maximum of 2 broiler pens (3 chickens per pen). You must pay for both pens and there will be refunds.
  - c. **Multiple Entries of Same Animal:** No animal will be allowed to show in two separate shows, e.g., a gilt shown as a market gilt is not eligible for the breeding gilt show.
  - d. **Acceptance Of Entry:** Show Management reserves the right to reject, accept, or accept conditionally an application for entry. Any rejected entries will be returned to the exhibitor with an explanation regarding reasons for rejection.
5. **PLACEMENT:** No animal or article will be entitled to a place on the grounds until proper entry has been made. The Aksarben Stock Show shall reserve the right to vacate or order the removal of any entry which has been found to be entered in violation of the entry requirements.
  6. **NON-ENTERED ANIMALS:** Only animals that are properly entered and pass the health inspection can enter and remain on grounds. No buddy or partner animals will be allowed on grounds or be eligible for harvest. Anyone found with a buddy animal on grounds may be disqualified.
  7. **SUBSTITUTE SHOWMEN:** Substitute showmen are permitted. Exhibitors requiring a substitution will need to complete the Substitute Showman Form (found in the Livestock Office) and the Aksarben Stock Show superintendent must be notified of the substitute showman by the conclusion of check-in. The substitute showman must wear the coordinating exhibitor number with the exhibit being shown. The substitute showman must be an exhibitor at the current year's show. An exhibitor who has more than one animal in a class does not need to secure approval for another properly entered exhibitor, eligible to exhibit livestock, to show the additional animal in the class.
  8. **SUBSTITUTIONS:** Animal and exhibitor substitution will NOT be permitted after entry submission.
    - a. Siblings may nominate the same animal but may NOT enter the same animal.
  9. **ENTRY CHANGES:**
    - a. At the official species check-in, an animal may be moved between breeds and divisions at the discretion of the superintendent.
      - i. In order to be eligible to move a female from breeding to market or vice versa, they must have been dual nominated for both breeding and market divisions.
    - b. Any changes in nomination information, such as identification changes, will be flagged and may result in a DNA sample be collected at the show for comparison.
  10. **ERRONEOUS ENTRY:** Participants are responsible for their own entries, and those of their representatives, in preparation of entries. Animals that have been erroneously entered may be transferred, at the discretion of the Superintendent of the department, to their proper class, prior to judging, upon application to the Aksarben Stock Show, who will determine the matter upon its merits. If such classes have been judged, they shall not be reopened.
  11. **ENTRY DEADLINE:** All entries must be made electronically through the Aksarben Stock Show website by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Late entries will NOT be accepted.
  12. **ENTRY FEES:** Correct entry and miscellaneous fees must accompany entries.
    - a. Showmanship: \$15 per exhibitor, per species **MUST PRE-ENTER**
    - b. Beef: \$125 per head (includes tie out space and bedding)

- c. Goats, Swine, and Sheep: \$60 per head
- d. Broilers: \$50 per pen (maximum of 2 pens per exhibitor)
- e. Rabbits: \$50 per pen (maximum of 5 pens per exhibitor)

**13. MISCELLANEOUS FEES:**

- a. Chute Permit: \$50
- b. Stand Permit: \$30

**14. EXTRA LATE FEE:** Show entries are due by September 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m. Late entries may exist ONLY if there is space available in the respective area, the animal has a valid nomination on file, and at the approval of Show Management. LATE ENTRIES ARE NOT GUARANTEED. Extra late fee will be set at \$500/head, and will be collected after the approval has been granted in the livestock check-in trailer. Extra Late Fee can only be paid via valid credit card. Checks and cash will NOT be accepted. Denied late entries will not be assessed the Extra Late Fee and will be dismissed from the Livestock Trailer Lot. Abuse of the Extra Late Fee (use of Extra Late Fee two (2) years consecutively) will result in permanent barring from exhibiting at the Aksarben Stock Show.

**15. CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS:** All entry, DNA envelopes, and miscellaneous fees are non-refundable.

**16. SECURITY PERSONNEL:** Exhibitors not cooperating with security personnel or Aksarben Stock Show personnel in all matters of policy, including parking, will have their entries canceled and will be ordered to remove themselves and their exhibit from the grounds immediately for the duration of the Aksarben Stock Show, and future stock shows.

**17. PROTESTS:** The Aksarben Stock Show will retain exclusive jurisdiction over ALL protests. Verbal protests will be directed to the proper specie superintendent and if necessary, brought to the Livestock Manager. All formal protests must be submitted in writing to the Livestock Manager. All forms must be signed and be accompanied by a monetary fee of \$300.00, cash or certified check. Such written protests must state plainly the cause of complaint or appeal and must be filed with the Livestock Manager immediately upon the occasion of the protest. No complaint or appeal based solely upon the statement that a judge is incompetent will be considered. This complaint, along with supporting documents, will be submitted to the Agriculture Director and Executive Director. The report of wrongdoing will then be presented to the Nebraska State Fair Board Agriculture Committee for review. The panel shall review the form, the allegations, and the supporting documents or evidence and report its findings and proposed decision to the Agriculture Director and the Executive Director. At no time will any exhibition, judging event, or any other ongoing event be delayed, stopped, or interrupted as a result of any allegation of wrongdoing. Any decision rendered by the Agriculture Director and Executive Director shall be the final decision. Protests must be filed within 24 hours of the conclusion of the Aksarben Stock Show.

**18. PHOTOGRAPHS:** The Aksarben Stock Show will hire a photographer who will take the official livestock photographs for the Show. Exhibitors wishing to purchase photographs must contact the Official Livestock Photographer. As an Aksarben Stock Show exhibitor, you acknowledge that your photograph may be taken by the official Aksarben Stock Show Photographer for use by the Aksarben Stock Show and agree to release and hold harmless the Nebraska State Fair Board, their officers, employees and agents and any and all parties to whom this or any photograph may be released and may be used in any manner for any purpose whatsoever without compensation.

**19. PREMIUMS:** Premium monies will be distributed by the Nebraska State Fair. They will be paid as outlined by each department. Payment of awards will be made as soon as possible after the last day of the Aksarben Stock Show. The Nebraska State Fair Board must be notified of any discrepancies in the amounts of premium checks before December 1<sup>st</sup> in the calendar year of the Aksarben Stock Show at issue.

- a. **No award money or premiums will be sent to the exhibitor for market animals until they have cleared drug testing protocol, DNA verification, or until harvested animal carcasses have been cleared.**
- b. **Any rule violations may result in forfeiture of all livestock premiums for that exhibitor.**
- c. **No premium or distinction of any kind will be given to any exhibit deemed unworthy by the judge, or any exhibitor who has conducted herself or himself in a manner inconsistent with the goals and values of the Aksarben Stock Show. Such conduct may include, but not be limited to,**

**theft of show property, crude or crass behavior toward show personnel, exhibitors, judges or spectators, or other actions amounting to moral turpitude on the part of the exhibitor or otherwise inconsistent with the spirit of show competition as determined by Show Management in its sole discretion.**

- d. The Aksarben Stock Show is required to report payments of \$600 or more to the Internal Revenue Service. Any exhibitor receiving \$600 or more will be required to provide the Aksarben Stock Show with a completed IRS Form W-9 providing a taxpayer identification number. NO CHECK WILL BE ISSUED UNTIL A COMPLETED W-9 FORM IS IN THE LIVESTOCK OFFICE.**

**20. SHOWMANSHIP:** Showmanship for all species, excluding broilers, will take place Friday.

- a. Showmanship entry must be completed on the online entry process. Entry at show will not be permitted.
- b. All exhibitors are eligible for showmanship by entering during the online entry process.
- c. Exhibitors with multiple species can enter showmanship for each they are exhibiting with a separate entry fee per species.
- d. Exhibitors must exhibit their own animal that is properly entered in the show in showmanship.
- e. There will be two age divisions:
  - i. Junior Division: 9-13 years old as of Jan. 1st of the current year.
  - ii. Senior Division: 14-19 years old as of Jan. 1st of the current year.

**21. DRESS CODE:** An official Aksarben show t-shirt must be worn for all shows including showmanship. One t-shirt will be provided by the Aksarben Stock Show. Each exhibitor will submit their size at the time of online entry.

- a. Long sleeve shirts may be worn beneath the assigned t-shirt.
- b. Additional shirts may be purchased at time of entry.

**22. SHOW BACK NUMBERS:** Exhibitors at the Aksarben Stock Show must be wearing an official back number in the show ring. These numbers will be in the exhibitor packet. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to have the correct back number displayed on their back or in a holder attached to the waist before entering the show ring. If the back number does not correspond with the original entry on the official judge's sheet, the result may be disqualification of that animal. Show harnesses and number clips may be worn to display exhibitor numbers while in the show ring.

**23. CLASSIFICATIONS:** No new livestock breed classifications shall be considered for any species competition until such livestock classification has had a Bonafide national association in existence for at least five (5) years and a guarantee of two (2) or more exhibitors with at least five (5) entries in the division. Classifications that fail to meet the above minimum requirements for two (2) consecutive years will be placed on probation at the discretion of Show Management. Probation breeds will be posted prior to nominations. If there is less than the requirement above for the following year, that breed will lose its classification and exhibit in AOB. For re-instatement of a breed, there must be the above classification for two (2) years while showing in AOB.

**24. STALLS, TACK STALLS, AND TIE OUTS:** All "stall with" requests can **only** be made online at time of entry. **Requests for individuals to be stalled together will be considered but NOT guaranteed.** The Aksarben Stock Show Superintendents will assign stall space, as well as tack spaces, within the barns at the time entry fees are paid in full. In the event of a shortage the superintendent will have the right to reassign stalls. Any tampering with other exhibitors' stalls or tie-out stalls will not be tolerated. Tack space for equipment is not guaranteed.

- a. If the owner does not accompany the animals, someone in authority must be with animals on arrival to identify exhibits. Show management will use diligence to ensure the safety of animals or articles entered for exhibition, after their arrival and placement, but under no circumstances will they or the Aksarben Stock Show be responsible for any loss, injury or damage.
- b. Only animals entered in the Aksarben Stock Show shall be allowed to unload at the Show barns. Animals not eligible for the Aksarben Stock Show and those that have been requested to be removed from the grounds by the Show Veterinarian will be released immediately.
- c. Pens will be provided for swine, goats, sheep, broilers, and rabbits.
- d. Exhibitors are expected to cooperate with the penning and spaces provided.

- e. Stalling will be based on how many head are entered or the maximum number of head allowed to show (whichever is least).
- 25. TIE-OUTS:** Tie-out pens must be purchased during the Tent, Stall & Tie-Out Online Auction held in August. Any tie-out spaces not sold at auction will be available on a first-come, first-served basis and will be assigned in the Check-In Trailer Show Management during the arrival period. No personal panels or tents are permitted in tie-out areas. Any found will be removed at the exhibitor's expense.
- 26. TRAILER PARKING:** All trailers must be parked in the designated trailer parking lot. No animals will be allowed in the trailer parking lot.
- 27. ARRIVAL:** All animals are required to arrive within the designated arrival time. Failure to arrive within the window without prior approval, will result in withheld premiums and awards at the discretion of Show Management.
- 28. CHECK IN PROCEDURES:** All Livestock will be vet checked, and out of state health certificates examined at the Check-In location prior to any animals entering the Nebraska State Fairgrounds. All necessary paperwork must be available in order to complete the check-in process. Prior to showing, all animals must be checked in by an authorized Aksarben Stock Show representative in a designated area. Registration papers will be checked.
- 29. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:** All exhibitors must comply with the respective Livestock Health Requirements (see Livestock Health Requirements document on [aksarbenstockshow.com](http://aksarbenstockshow.com)). All livestock are subject to examination, upon arrival, for evidence of infectious or contagious diseases and if such is found, they will not be allowed entrance onto the grounds. Failure or refusal of all animals to be examined will result in grounds for immediate removal and disqualification. They will be held in quarantine and treated at owner's expense or sent home. Diseased or injured animals may be removed from the grounds upon recommendation of attending veterinarian and release signed by the Department Superintendent and the Ag Director.  
**Additionally, all market lambs and goats must be shorn sufficiently short to allow inspection for club lamb fungus at any time of the show.** Any decision by the Aksarben Stock Show inspectors is final.
- 30. REMOVAL OF ANIMALS:** The Aksarben Stock Show can remove any exhibit, animal or display that they deem unsuitable or objectional, without furnishing reasons for the action. The decision of the Aksarben Stock Show management is final and exhibitor has no recourse.
- 31. PURPLE BANNER KNIGHT (formerly the Grand Drive):** The top 5 market beef, swine, sheep, and goats will be selected. The top 3 broiler & rabbit pens will be selected. Animals selected for Purple Banner Knight cannot be withdrawn from Purple Banner Knight. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification and exhibitor may be barred from future participation at the Aksarben Stock Show.
- a. The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef, Swine, Sheep, and Goats will become the possession of the Aksarben Stock Show at the completion of the Purple Banner Knight.
    - i. Failure to comply will result in the withholding of premium monies and the exhibitor may be disqualified.
- 32. HARVEST ANIMALS:** All Calf Challenge, Goat Challenge, Lamb Challenge, and Pig Challenge animals and all Broilers will be harvested. All other market show entries can be sold and harvested at the discretion of the exhibitor and their parent/guardian provided a market/harvest option is available at the time of the Aksarben Stock Show. It is not required that any other animals be harvested at the Aksarben Stock Show.
- a. Market/harvest options will be announced to exhibitors by show management prior to the Aksarben Stock Show.
  - b. The floor price for all market animals sent to harvest will be posted at the livestock office.
  - c. All animals sold for harvest are subject to a 5% handling fee.
  - d. Exhibitors must make final declaration of animal harvest at the time of check in.
  - e. An affidavit will be to be submitted during check-in for the animals being sold and harvested at the Aksarben Stock Show. This will designate the animal as a harvest animal.
  - f. Exhibitors who sign up an animal to harvest and then leave the grounds with that animal will forfeit any premiums won at the Aksarben Stock Show and may be subject to further disciplinary action, including disqualification. (Please refer to the "Disqualification" paragraph for further explanation).

- g. Animals designated for harvest must be in the designated holding area for that species. The exhibitor is responsible for the animal's care until harvested (feed, water, etc.).
- h. The official weight recorded at check-in will be the sale weight of the animals.
- i. Payments will be mailed as soon as funds are available.

**33. OFFICIAL WEIGHT:** The weight stated on the official Show weight card, provided in your exhibitor packet, will be the official show weight. The Aksarben Stock Show will provide check scales prior to check in.

- a. The weight classes in which market animals are placed will be determined by show officials.
- b. Exhibitors of Market Beef, Market Sheep, Market Goats, Market Swine, Feeder Calves, Commercial Breeding Ewes, Commercial Breeding Does, Crossbred Breeding Gilts, and Commercial Breeding Heifers will self-declare weights using a weigh card system.
- c. Exhibitors of Calf Challenge, Lamb Challenge, Pig Challenge, and Market Broilers will be required to weigh in during their designated check in.
- d. No weigh card changes, or re-weighs will be allowed on animals after the cards have been turned in.
- e. Weigh backs on weigh card animals – Show management will weigh-back, at minimum, all first and second place animals in each class. Additional animals will be weighed at the discretion of the judge.

- i. Weigh-back variances allowed (above or below declared weight)-

- 1. Market beef: 5%
- 2. Market goat: 5 lbs.
- 3. Market sheep: 5 lbs.
- 4. Market swine: 10 lbs.
- 5. Commercial breeding heifers: 5%
- 6. Commercial breeding does: 5 lbs.
- 7. Commercial breeding ewes: 5 lbs.
- 8. Crossbred breeding gilts: 10 lbs.

**34. ANIMAL WELFARE:** The Aksarben Stock Show is committed to the humane treatment of all animals exhibited at the Aksarben Stock Show. Every possible precaution is taken to ensure the animals' safety and well-being. The production practices in the livestock industry are based on good principles of animal husbandry. It is the responsibility of all exhibitors to provide proper care and treatment to animals. Abuse of animals in any form will not be tolerated. No electric prods will be allowed to be used on any animal at any time. Muzzles may be allowed for sheep or goats only for the safety and well-being of the animal. There will be no needles or acupuncture allowed anywhere on grounds. Any medication must be approved and administered by the Show Veterinarian. Anyone found in violation will be disqualified and forfeit any awards and premiums. Show Management reserves the right to disqualify and remove any exhibitor deemed in violation of the basic principles of animal husbandry, with no recourse. Animal care procedures are outlined in our "Animal Welfare Policy".

**35. GROOMING RULES:** No change of the major color pattern of animals by painting will be allowed. Inappropriate management practices of livestock, as determined by Show Management, by exhibitors, family members or others will result in disciplinary action, up to and including disqualification of entries and/or exhibitors.

- a. Fitting goats, sheep, swine, and cattle with adhesive or like substances is permitted.

**36. ANIMAL/EXHIBITOR DISQUALIFICATION:** To foster fair competition, to provide a level playing field and to protect the safety of food, the following will be prohibited: the showing of unethically fitted animals, animals in violation of rules on prohibited substances, and/or falsification of records. Additionally, any animal that has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species is subject to disqualification if that animal tests positive for that drug upon arrival at the Aksarben Stock Show. All animals must remain free and clear of all drug and chemical residues while on the grounds.

- a. **Unethical Fitting:**

- i. **Description:** Unethical fitting means any attempt to alter the natural appearance, conformation, musculature or weight of an animal by any unnatural means, as well as changing the normal conformation of any part of an animal's body or using drugs,

medications, chemicals, or other substances (including over the counter and extra-label substances and uses), or mechanical devices to alter the physical makeup or performance of the animal. Unethical fitting includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Treating or massaging any part of the animal's body, internally or externally, with an irritant, counterirritant, or other substance to temporarily improve conformation. This includes the application of any substance per rectum.
2. Balancing the udder by any other means than natural milk left in any or all quarters.
3. Blocking the nerves to prevent limping or switching of the tail.
4. Bruising or blemishes to the animal, especially those that negatively impact food safety or marketability of an animal's carcass.
5. Surgery or other practices performed to change the natural contour or appearance of an animal's body, hide, hair or feet (this includes materials added to the feet of an animal) except the removal of warts or horns and the permitted clipping of hair and trimming of hooves.
6. Insertion of foreign material under the skin, whether gas, solid or liquid.
7. The act of artificially filling animals internally, which would include stomach pumping, drench tubes or any other method per esophagus.
8. The use of diuretics.
9. Administration of an illegal, unapproved or performance enhancing drug internally or externally.

- ii. **Verification:** All exhibitors must submit a signed ethics affidavit and statement of disclosure to the Aksarben Stock Show superintendent for each species they are exhibiting at the time of check in. This form shall serve as an acknowledgement of having read the show/premium book and a willingness to abide by it. By submitting and signing the Aksarben Stock Show Livestock Ethics Form and Statement of Disclosure, the exhibitor and parent/guardian certify that the entry has not been administered or that the exhibitor and/or parent/guardian do not have knowledge that this entry has received any substance not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for food animals. Furthermore, by signing these forms, the exhibitor and parent/guardian certify that this entry is free and clear of drug and chemical residue that exceeds allowable limits set by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for class and species of animals. If an exhibitor discloses use of a substance that does not meet the withdrawal time per the determination of the Aksarben Stock Show Veterinarian, then that animal is subject to disqualification.
- iii. **Approved Medication Prior to the Aksarben Stock Show:** In instances where an animal has been administered a drug that is FDA-approved for its species, the exhibitor must be aware that the time it takes for all drug residue to completely clear the system is **generally longer than labeled withdrawal time** for most drugs and varies from animal to animal. Adequate time must have passed so that an exhibitor's animal is outside the withdrawal time of the medication. Once the animals arrive on grounds, they must remain free and clear of all residues of medications, drugs, chemicals, and other substances. It will be considered a violation if a test result indicates the presence of an approved drug, additive or contaminant that exceeds a residue limit (tolerance) set by the FDA and applied by the FSIS.
- iv. **Unapproved Medication:** Those animals that have consumed or been given, even under the care of a licensed veterinarian, any type of unapproved drug, chemical or medication are prohibited from showing. Such drugs include, but are not limited to any diuretic, unapproved growth stimulant, steroids, caffeine, and other unapproved medication. Unapproved means not approved by the Food and Drug Administration and/or US Department of Agriculture for animals. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to be aware that federal law prohibits the use of certain drugs, families of drugs, and substances for extra label use. It will be an increased penalty if a market animal tests positive for any of these prohibited drugs or drug families.
- v. **Medication during the Aksarben Stock Show:** The Aksarben Stock Show Veterinarian Office is located on the east side of the Sheep Barn. For the convenience of our exhibitors, the Aksarben Stock Show arranges to have veterinarians available; however, they do not donate their services or medications. Fees should be discussed before treatment.

Additionally, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to communicate if the animal is eligible for further competition. **All medication and treatment administered during the livestock show must be administered by the official Aksarben Stock Show Veterinarian** and a written medication record filed. Animals which are administered treatments with a withdrawal period beyond the time of show will be disqualified from competition. Furthermore, the official Aksarben Stock Show Veterinarian, in agreement with show management, reserves the right to treat any animal, if in the opinion of the Aksarben Stock Show Veterinarian, it is in the best interest of the animal's health and well-being to be treated.

- vi. **Beta-Agonists:** The Aksarben Stock Show will not tolerate the presence of ractopamine hydrochloride (i.e. Optaflexx, Paylean) in market entries other than market beef or market swine, respectively. The Aksarben Stock Show will not tolerate the presence of any other beta-agonist.
- vii. **Inspection/Testing:**
  1. Each exhibitor, by entering or exhibiting an animal at the Aksarben Stock Show, agrees that any animal entered by him or her may be subjected to inspection or examination by any veterinarian appointed by the Aksarben Stock Show. The Aksarben Stock Show may subject any animal to tests, sample-takings, or inspections that the Aksarben Stock Show deems necessary and appropriate, including but not limited to testing for drugs or other substances at any time. The Aksarben Stock Show reserves the right to conduct or have conducted for all its tests, inspections, or analyses it deems appropriate, including blood, urine, hair, fiber, tissue, milk, saliva and/or fecal. Any samples taken for testing become property of the Aksarben Stock Show. Positive test results may be made public. The Aksarben Stock Show may impound any animal for testing. Refusing such tests shall be cause for disqualification.
    - a. All Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef, Market Lambs, Market Swine & Market Goats will be tested under the terms of the Aksarben Stock Show Market Animal Drug Testing Policies and Procedures immediately following the final selection of that species. During the collection procedure, the exhibitor and a designated responsible adult must always present, unless a substitute exhibitor is approved by the Superintendent. Following the collection, the exhibitor and a parent/guardian **MUST** complete and sign the Aksarben Stock Show Drug Use Notification and Test Sample Collection form.
    - b. All other market animals will be subject to random testing. Random tested animals will not be harvested but will be subject to all sanctions including but not limited to disqualification, forfeiture of monies, and may be banned from future participation at the Aksarben Stock Show.
  2. The animal owner, exhibitor, fitter and associated participants bear absolute responsibility for an animal's condition, whether he or she was actually instrumental or had actual knowledge of the administration of drugs or medication or treatment of the animals.
- viii. **Wholesome Meat Act:** The United States Department of Agriculture Wholesome Meat Act applies to ALL market livestock exhibited at the Aksarben Stock Show.
  1. Animals must be in good health and carcasses free of drug or chemical residues.
  2. Antibiotics and sulfonamides have required withdrawal periods.
  3. Drug label directions for use and withdrawal periods must be followed. Please note that elimination time (the time it takes for no drug residue to be found in the system) is generally longer than the labeled withdrawal period for most approved drugs.
  4. If drug or other chemical residues are found in tissue of carcasses, the entire carcass may be condemned.
  5. **The Nebraska State Fair Board shall not be liable or responsible for the condition of the carcass or the sale price of the animal.**
  6. Wholesome Assurance Statement:
    - a. The use by non-veterinarians\* of any animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accord with labeling approved by FDA is a violation of federal law.

- i. \* Note: Abuse of the extra label privilege by veterinarians is unethical and is subject to serious consequences such as license revocation.
  - b. Any food animal must not exceed FDA/EPA/USDA established tolerances for any foreign substance including drugs, pesticides, feed additives, or other chemicals.
  - c. Violative results of residue testing are subject to investigation by USDA and FDA for prosecution.
  - d. Any misrepresentation of a food animal that can potentially affect the acceptability of the carcass or milk will be considered fraud.
- b. DNA:** The Aksarben Stock Show may test any animal DNA sample collected at the Aksarben Stock Show against the DNA submitted by the exhibitor as part of the animal nomination process. It is a violation if a DNA sample collected at the Aksarben Stock Show does not match the DNA sample submitted by the exhibitor as part of the animal nomination process. Contaminated samples or hair samples without the follicle attached will result in disqualification of the animal.
- c. Falsification of Records:** It is a violation to falsify or alter official entries, records, or registration on animals, including age.
- d. Unmanageable Animals:** The Aksarben Stock Show may disqualify an animal deemed unmanageable.
- e. Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** It is a violation for an owner, exhibitor, fitter, and associated participant to act in any way that is outright discourteous or disrespectful to other exhibitors, judges, show personnel or show visitors, or to deliberately place or cause to be placed any animals or other person in a potentially harmful or disadvantageous position.
- f. Non-adherence to the Rules:** Any person found guilty of misrepresentation or not abiding by the Aksarben Stock Show rules will be disqualified and denied the privilege of showing.
- g. Consequences:** Exhibitor compliance with all applicable rules and regulations is essential to the integrity of the Aksarben Stock Show and its shows, programs, and exhibitions. Violation of any applicable rule or regulation may result in exhibitor sanctions. Sanctions may include, but not be limited to disqualification of animal, withholding of premium money, withholding of payment for animal carcass, required payment of carcass disposal fees, return of all trophies and non-monetary awards, forfeiture of all titles, and potential exclusion from future participation in the Aksarben Stock Show. These sanctions will be determined by the Nebraska State Fair Board Agriculture Committee. The conclusions reached by the Laboratory shall be final and binding without recourse against the Aksarben Stock Show. Rule violations may be reported to law enforcement agencies when appropriate. The Aksarben Stock Show reserves the right to report any exhibitor found in violation of the Aksarben Stock Show rules to the Rule Infraction Database (RID) administered by the NALS/RMA.
- h. The Process of Sanctioning:** The Nebraska State Fair, in its sole discretion and judgement, shall evaluate and assess appropriate sanctions for any such violations on a case-by-case basis. The following process will be used to determine sanctioning:
  - i. Agriculture Director & Executive Director makes initial determination and proposed sanctions. Notification will be sent to the exhibitor and the right to appeal to the Nebraska State Fair Board Agriculture Committee.
  - ii. Nebraska State Fair Agriculture Committee hears appeals (public meeting), and makes recommendation to the full Nebraska State Fair Board for vote.
  - iii. Nebraska State Fair Board makes final decision.
- 37. CARE OF PROPERTY:** Owners and those in charge of property or livestock shall care for, guard, protect and preserve the same. The Aksarben Stock Show will not be responsible for any loss or damage.
- 38. STATE FIRE MARSHAL:** Any and all lighting used by exhibitors must be securely fastened. The electrical boxes in the barns MUST be kept clear at all times. Also, the aisles must be maintained free and at all times in the Cattle Barn. Yellow lines are painted on the floor designating these boundaries. **ALL show equipment, blocking chutes, chairs, etc., MUST be kept within these boundaries at all times. In addition, any use of refrigerators, freezers, microwaves, ovens, grills, open flame cookers, turkey fryers and electric roasters is strictly prohibited inside barns, under pavilions, building overhangs, and arenas.**
- 39. EXHIBITOR SAFETY:** All animals must remain West of the front of the Sheep Barn, Five Points Bank Arena, Grand Island Motor Company Cattle Barn, and Aurora Co-Operative Pavillion. Animals found outside this area will be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of Show Management.

- 40. SMOKING/VAPING:** To safeguard exhibitors and livestock, smoking and vaping is prohibited in all barns. Smoking/vaping is only allowed outside the buildings and barns. All exhibitors and guests are asked to cooperate with us in enforcing this rule.
- 41. ALCOHOL USE:** To safeguard exhibitors, livestock and the public, the Nebraska State Liquor Control Commission Laws will be enforced. ONLY alcohol procured at an Aksarben Stock Show licensed location is permitted. NO outside alcohol is allowed to be brought onto the Fairgrounds. No one under the age of 21 is permitted to consume or possess alcoholic beverages. Excessive use of alcohol will not be tolerated. State Fair Authority including Staff, Security, and the Nebraska State Patrol may be called if necessary.
- 42. AUXILIARY VEHICLES:** Auxiliary vehicles, including but not limited to, golf carts, service carts, utility vehicles, Cushman's, and other four-wheeled vehicles are not allowed on state fairgrounds.
- 43. FEED AND BEDDING: All Feed and Bedding needs will be handled by Aurora Cooperative.** Hay, bedding, and feed will be available to purchase at the Feed Store. Bulk bedding will be provided in the cattle barn and tie-out area. Additional bedding may be purchased on the grounds. Carpet is allowed in sheep and goat pens. Exhibitors will be permitted to bring onto the grounds a limited amount of feed or hay. NO straw is allowed in barns. You can **pre-order** feed and additional bedding by **contacting Aurora Cooperative at 308-830-0532. You can also visit their feed store during the Aksarben Stock Show.**
- 44. WATER:** A water container, with water, must be visible and available for watering on a regular basis in each penned/stalled area at all times. Show Management reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to contact an Aksarben Stock Show Veterinarian to determine if water should be given.
- 45. DOGS:** Due to requirements of the Aksarben Stock Show's liability insurance carrier and policy of all major livestock shows, NO dogs are allowed on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds, in parking lots or in buildings other than those for direct competition or service animals. There shall be no loose or unattended dogs on the fairgrounds.
- 46. EQUIPMENT:**
- a. Generators, Blocking Chutes, Trim Chutes, Trim Tables, Portable Scales:** No generators will be allowed in the barns or tie out area at any time. Generators will only be allowed outside the barns. All blocking chutes will require a Blocking Chute permit, which can be purchased for \$50.00 when entering and must be affixed to the Chute. Fitter Guards or any similar equipment does not require a Chute Permit. All trim stands will require a Trim Stand permit, which can be purchased for \$30.00 when entering and must be affixed to the Stand. **Trim tables and blocking/trimming chutes for exhibitors will be restricted to each individual exhibitor's assigned stalling and tack area, not to interfere with other exhibitor's stalling areas or aisle ways. Permits should be purchased at the time of entry but may also be purchased at the Livestock Office.** No outside portable scales will be allowed in any of the livestock barns. All portable scales in the Beef, Sheep or Swine Barns will be provided by the Aksarben Stock Show.
  - b. FANS, EXTENSION CORDS AND ELECTRICAL DEVICES:** All fans, extension cords and electrical appliances used in the livestock barns must have a ground, must have safe wiring, and must be in safe working condition. All fans used in the barns must have a protective screen (front and back). **Free standing fans (butt fans) or portacools will not be allowed. Refer to rule# 33 for clarification.** Hanging fans will only be allowed when attached to the tie rails or to supports attached to the tie rails. Only 1 fan per animal! No fans will be allowed to blow from behind an animal regardless of attachment or location. This is applicable to all species. The superintendent has the express authority to determine if any fan, extension cord or other electrical device is allowed.
- 47. AEROSOLS, PRESSURIZED CANS: No aerosol cans of any sort will be allowed inside the Five Points Arena under any circumstances.**
- 48. ADDITIONAL SPECIE INFORMATION:** All livestock that are exhibited at the Aksarben Stock Show are subject to allowing their animals to be used for the Livestock Judging Contest.
- 49. FUNDRAISER:** No lottery or raffle shall be conducted at the Aksarben Stock Show without the written authority of the Executive Director, as coordinated by the Sales Department.
- 50. SELLING:** The selling and advertising of any service or good within the Fairgrounds is strictly prohibited unless a contract has been issued by the Sales Department. Please call the Sales Director at 308-385-3926 for more information. No roving solicitation is allowed on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds. All exhibitors are bound by the most current editions of Aksarben Stock Show's Space Rental Rules & Regulations. Any violation of these Rules & Regulations will subject exhibitor to any penalties as Aksarben Stock Show may order and/or penalties prescribed by law.
- 51. CONCESSIONS AND ADVERTISING PRIVILEGES:** All exhibits, concessions and/or commercial privileges are at the sole discretion of Show Management. Under no circumstances will any advertising material be

allowed to be placed upon buildings, trees or other places on the grounds or otherwise distributed without Management permission.

52. **CAMPGROUND:** Campground reservations are handled by the Set Your Sites. For more information, visit [www.setyoursites.com](http://www.setyoursites.com).