

2024 Clay County Agricultural Fair

4-H/FFA YOUTH STEER SHOW & SALE RULES

SUPERINTENDENT: Matt Hickey

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT:

Carley Feagle & Damian Stewart

ALL STEERS MUST GO TO SLAUGHTER AFTER EXHIBITION

MANDATORY WEIGH-IN & PARENT/EXHIBITOR MEETING:

Date: Sunday December 3, 2023 2:00 PM

Location: Clay County Fair Association – Corbin Building
enter main entrance and follow signs

We will be issuing ear tags to all steer. If found removing or tampering with fair issued ear tag, the animal and exhibitor will be disqualified.

CLINICS:

Dates: December 3, 2023

Location: After Weigh In

It is recommended that each participant attend educational workshops & clinics.

ARRIVAL & FINAL WEIGH IN:

Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 12:00 PM- 2:00 PM

Location: Clay County Fairgrounds Livestock Pavilion

ENTRY FEE:

\$25.00 DUE April 8, 2024 WHEN YOU WEIGH-IN YOUR ANIMAL. CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO THE “CLAY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION”. Exhibitor’s animals not qualifying do not have to pay.

SHOW:

Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 7:00 PM

Location: Livestock Pavilion

SALE:

Date: Friday, April 12, 2024 TBD

Location: Livestock Pavilion

Please contact the fair office @ 904-284-1615 if you have any question

ELIGIBILITY:

1. All exhibitors must have completed an application and meet the entry/drawing rules to be eligible for participation.
2. Exhibitors must be 10 years old by September 1, 2023.
3. Exhibitors must reside in Clay County or attend a Clay County School. High School graduates are ineligible. Exhibitors must be in good standing in school.
4. School FFA Chapters are allowed only 1 swine or 1 steer unless the school has 2 FFA Chapters.
5. All 4-H/FFA members who wish to exhibit a Steer in the 2024 Fair must attend the Mandatory Steer Meeting on Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 2:00 PM. Rules, Regulations and Requirements will be discussed at this meeting. Exhibitors must be a bonafide member of a Clay County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter and must have met all the requirements of 4-H or FFA and be member in good standing the Fair cross-references the list of applicants who have submitted applications to exhibit steer. 4-H or FFA members must have been a verified member in good standing to earn eligibility to show a steer in the Clay County Fair. Individuals who are not verified members in good standing are not eligible to exhibit. 4-H Members at Large do not qualify.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Exhibitors and FFA Chapters may only show and sell one market animal.
2. **Each 4-H and FFA participant must have the ability to control their animal independently or will be disqualified.** Each participant must assume all liability in case of injury or damage to, or caused by exhibitor's animal, relieving Clay County Fair Association, Inc. from all liability.
3. Exhibitors must wear official 4-H or FFA attire at the show, and sale. No caps or cowboy hats are to be worn during the show or sale. **Closed toed leather boots shall be worn at all times. (no Hey Dude or Crocs), when exhibitors are working around or with their project animals. (including feeding, grooming, tie out for night, etc.)** FAILURE TO ADHERE TO DRESS CODES DETERMINED BY THE STEER SUPERINTENDENT WILL RESULT IN NOT SHOWING AND/OR SELLING THE ANIMAL.
4. In the event of a legitimate medical or family emergency, (as determined by the livestock directors) a market swine or market steer may be shown in competition for its placing in class by another swine or steer participant in the fair. The animal will compete in its class for placement in class only and will not be allowed for competition for the showmanship categories. *Exhibitor must participate in the market show to be eligible for sale in the livestock auction.* **Exhibitor must have their animal properly trained so that it may be managed and led into the show ring by the EXHIBITOR. A non-controllable animal will be disqualified.**(Disqualification will result in no participation in show or sale, exhibitor will be responsible for safe removal of animal from fairgrounds)
5. Any tampering with animals entered during the Fair, (such as filling with a foreign substance, etc.) is prohibited. The use of tranquilizers on show animals or the possession of same after arrival at the Fair will be construed as a form of tampering. The Livestock Committee and authorized agents shall have the right to handle and examine animals at any time during the Fair. If evidence of tampering is found, the animal shall be removed from the Fairgrounds and disqualified. If after the sale, all proceeds will be forfeited and the exhibitor is prohibited from showing the following year.

6. **GIFTS: Mandatory for livestock swine / steer participants:** All livestock participants are required to provide one (1) buyer gift per participant to include a thank you card for the main buyer of their animal on auction night. (This thank you card does not take the place of the buyer thank you letter due after the fair; see page 8 of the rules “After the Fair” #1 for clarification). The gift must be checked in at the sale arena prior to the sale. (a table will be setup at the arena for checking in the gifts)
Participate must provide a 3x5 card with the participants name, sale # and animal tag #.
Gift prices range from \$25.00 - \$75.00.

Gift ideas:

- a. Basket filled with local products
- b. Fruit basket
- c. Gift cards with a thank you card:
 1. Restaurant
 2. Store
 3. Visa card (to be used anywhere)

Participants not providing gifts for their buyers the night of the sale, will be penalized a \$50.00 fee from their sale check.

STEER ORIGIN:

1. May be purchased anywhere.
2. Must be polled or dehorned thirty (30) days before the show; however, scurs and secondary growth of horns two (2) inches or less will be accepted. Final acceptance will be by the Livestock Committee.
3. An official tag number that clearly identifies the animal will be assigned on December 3, 2023 at the mandatory weigh-in.

HOMEGROWN DIVISION:

To participate in the Homegrown Division animal must have been born within the boundaries of Clay County Florida.

MANDATORY WEIGHT-IN:

Animal must be of beef type and not less than 75% BEEF BREEDING.

This will be determined by the Steer Superintendent.

Mandatory Weigh-In & December 3, 2023 @ 2:00 PM

1. All steers must be unloaded and weighed on foot, on certified scales at the Clay County Fairgrounds on December 3, 2023 at 2:00 PM in the presence of the Steer Superintendent/Fair Livestock Director. Steers must weigh a minimum of 700 pounds to be qualified and must be a quality animal. Parents may not assist in weighing their own child's steer.
2. This weigh-in also qualifies all exhibitors to participate in the Weight Gain Contest.
3. Participants are required to write letters to three (3) new potential buyers and include unsealed, addressed, stamped envelopes. The Livestock Buyer Director will be responsible for mailing the letters and must receive them by December 3, 2023

4. All 4-H/FFA members who wish to exhibit a Steer in the 2024 Fair must attend the Mandatory Weigh-In. Rules, Regulations and Requirements will be discussed at this meeting

FINAL WEIGH-IN:

Exhibitors must turn in a completed Market Livestock Record Book (to that point of the project.)

\$25.00 DUE April 10, 2024 WHEN YOU WEIGH-IN YOUR ANIMAL. CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO THE "CLAY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION".

Exhibitor's animals not qualifying do not have to pay.

LIABILITY:

The exhibitor assumes all liability in the case of death, or injury to his/her animal until the close of the Fair. No show official or member of the Fair Association may be held liable for the loss of any animal or damage caused by exhibitor's animal.

SALE:

1. **All steers qualifying will participate in the sale and must go to slaughter.**
2. Maximum steer weight is 1275 pounds. Any steer weighing over 1275 lbs. will be sold as weighing 1275 lbs.
3. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to find a buyer for their animal. The Clay County Fair Association is not responsible for providing buyers. **Exhibitors should not solicit fair vendors as potential buyers.** No buyer gifts from exhibitors are allowed at the auction. It is your responsibility to keep track of your livestock buyers information. It is not the responsibility of the fair office to provide this information.
4. Three percent (3%) will be deducted from the total sale of the animal. This will be used to bring any sale animal up to minimum sale price or to buy a sale animal that has received no bids. The minimum sale price will be determined prior to the sale by the Clay County Agricultural Fair Livestock Committee. If the expense does not exceed the 3% income for that year, the remaining 3% balance will remain in the livestock account. Excess money will be put into a fund to be used for the same purposes in future Clay County Agricultural Fairs.

SHOW & JUDGING:

1. All steers must gain a minimum of 254 pounds total following the weigh-in, and must weigh at least 954 pounds at the Fair weigh-in on April 10, 2024. Steers not meeting the weight or grading requirements will be disqualified from the show, showmanship & sale. Owners of these steers may participate in record book competition only.
2. Exhibitors must be present for both the show and sale. If you do not show your animal, you do not sell.
3. Steers may be divided into separate weight divisions for the show depending on the number of entries.
4. Show and Sale Grooming area before and during the show will be open to exhibitors working on animals. Juniors and Intermediates may have one (1) parent to provide **VERBAL HELP ONLY.** Seniors may not have any help. Advisors and 4-H leaders may

enter, (for safety reasons only). **Exhibitors will be charged a cleanup fee if their work area is left unkept.**

5. All exhibitors will abide by State of Florida Livestock Health Regulations and Requirements listed on the Clay County Fair website. **A health certificate is required to accompany the animal to the fairgrounds. Must be issued by a vet.**
6. Junior, Intermediate and Senior exhibitors may participate in Showmanship competition. Juniors are 11 years of age and under as of September 1, 2023. Intermediates are 12-13 years of ages of September 1, 2023. Seniors are 14-18 years of age as of September 1, 2023.
7. Sale receipts will be handled by the Clay County Fair office.

GENERAL BARN RULES:

1. All exhibitors must use bedding provided by the Clay County Fair.
2. Feed and water pails must be provided by the exhibitor. **No animals are to be moved through the barn for any reason during fair hours unless authorized and accompanied by the Steer Superintendent or designee.**
3. All exhibitors of livestock will be required to maintain their stall, walkway, and space in a clean and sanitary condition, and to remove any filth or litter and place it in a designated pick-up area. The sanitation department of the Fair will remove refuse from designated pick-up areas only. Non-compliance of this rule will result in hiring of personnel to clean exhibitor's area, and labor costs will be deducted from exhibitor's proceeds.
4. Each steer must be securely tied at all times with at least a 3/8 inch rope halter and neck rope. All steers will have a neck rope on at all times while tied at the Fair. The neck rope and lead rope shall be no more than 18" from knot to animal at any one time that they are tied. Failure to do so could result in a \$5.00 fine deducted from sale price of steer. (This is to keep animals from getting tangled in their ropes or their neighbor's ropes due to not keeping ropes tied properly). Same rule for untied, loose animals.
5. Exhibitors not properly feeding, caring for and/or managing their steers will be charged \$25.00 and forfeit right to all awarded premiums. Further violation will result in removal of animal and disqualification.
6. Each exhibitor is responsible for his animal arriving on time at the place designated by show officials.
Any questions or problems will be handled in the order of the Steer Superintendent, or the Livestock Directors.
7. Awards will be presented at the Barn, Saturday, April 13, 2024 @ 6:00 PM.
8. **Closed toed leather boots shall be worn at all times. (no Hey Dude or Crocs), when exhibitors are working around or with their project animals. (including feeding, grooming, tie out for night, etc.)** FAILURE TO ADHERE TO DRESS CODES DETERMINED BY THE STEER SUPERINTENDENT WILL RESULT IN NOT SHOWING AND/OR SELLING THE ANIMAL.

AFTER THE FAIR:

1. The exhibitor must turn in their completed **Record Book** to the **Clay County Agricultural Fair Office** no later than (4:00 PM) **Friday, May 3, 2024**. Any Record Books received after this date or not complete will result in the 4-H/FFA Exhibitor being fined a \$100.00 penalty from their final check that will be put into the 3% Livestock fund. The exhibitor will sign in at the fair office acknowledging their book is at the fair office. After all books are received, the swine and steer superintendents will turn all 4-H books over to the 4-H office which will complete the fair project. FFA books are returned to each FFA participant. **Write thank you letters to your buyer(s) and turn them in with your project book in an addressed, stamped, sealed envelope. The Fair Association will mail the letters. It is your responsibility to keep track of your livestock buyers information. It is not the responsibility of the fair office to provide this information.** An exhibitor who met all requirements on time and meet all current Clay County Fair requirements will be eligible for the same animal project. (Participant can have the option to switch programs one time only)
2. **BUYER PLAQUES:** Plaques must be picked up from the Fair Office after May 27, 2024 by the exhibitor and delivered to their buyer. An email will be sent out to notify you that the Buyer Plaques are ready for pick-up. Checks will not be issued until proof is returned that the buyer received the plaque and after June 17th. Forms for a signature from the buyer stating they received the plaque will be provided by the Fair office.
3. **Checks:** **Checks will not be issued until after June 17, 2024 providing "ALL" Livestock Buyer payments have been received. If anyone of your buyers do not pay their bid amount it will deducted from your check.** An email will be sent out to notify you that the checks are ready for pick-up. No checks will be disbursed until all requirements have been completed. Checks will only be given to exhibitors with proper identification, such as photo ID, Fair ID Badge or 4-H/FFA card. Parents listed on application may pick up checks with proper ID.**** **The steer project requires that all checks must be deposited within 30 days of receipt. If a check is not deposited within this timeframe the checks will be voided and your slot in the next year's show & sale will be jeopardized.**

PREMIUMS & AWARDS:

The Modified Danish System of Judging will be used.

Blue Ribbon	\$25.00	Red Ribbon	\$20.00	White Ribbon	\$15.00
-------------	---------	------------	---------	--------------	---------

Cash Awards, Rosettes and Trophies will be awarded as follows:

Grand Champion:

\$50.00 and Banner and Buckle

Reserve Champion:

\$25.00 and Banner and Buckle

SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST:

Open to Juniors, Intermediates & Seniors showing steers. Participants will be judged on how well they show their animals. Including FFA Chapter steers.

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST:

First Place:	\$ 75.00	Buckle, Banner, Rosette
Second Place:	\$ 40.00	Buckle, Banner, Rosette
Third Place:	\$ 20.00	Banner, Rosette
Fourth Place:	\$ 10.00	Banner, Rosette

INTERMEDIATE SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST:

First Place:	\$ 75.00	Buckle, Banner, Rosette
Second Place:	\$ 40.00	Buckle, Banner, Rosette
Third Place:	\$ 20.00	Banner, Rosette
Fourth Place:	\$ 10.00	Banner, Rosette

SENIOR SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST:

First Place:	\$100.00	Buckle, Banner, Rosette
Second Place:	\$ 75.00	Buckle, Banner, Rosette
Third Place:	\$ 50.00	Banner, Rosette
Fourth Place:	\$ 25.00	Banner, Rosette

WEIGHT GAIN CONTEST:

The contest starts with the weigh-in, December 3, 2023 at the Clay County Agricultural

Fairgrounds and ends at the weigh-in and grading, Monday, April 8, 2024. The winner will be based on the highest average daily rate of weight gained. (average pounds per day gained)

First Place:	\$100.00
Second Place:	\$ 75.00
Third Place:	\$ 50.00
Fourth Place:	\$ 25.00

HERDSMAN AWARD:

The following scorecard will serve as a basis in making decisions in this award program

1. Condition and cleanliness of animal	25 POINTS
2. Attractiveness of exhibit	20 POINTS
3. Neatness and cleanliness of herdsman	15 POINTS
4. Courtesy of herdsman	10 POINTS
5. Cleanliness of stalls	10 POINTS
6. Cleanliness of aisles	10 POINTS
7. General Cooperation	10 POINTS

TOTAL	100 POINTS
First Place:	\$100.00
Second Place:	\$ 75.00
Third Place:	\$ 50.00
Fourth Place:	\$ 25.00

Exhibitors will be judged at the following times:

Wednesday	April 10th	5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Thursday	April 11th	5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Friday	April 12th	5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday	April 13th	10:00AM - 12:00 PM

RECORD BOOKS:

- Blue Ribbon - \$25.00
- Red Ribbon - \$20.00
- White Ribbon – Ribbon Only

All premium award money will be forfeited if not collected by the end of the Fair.

THE CLAY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION AND THE LIVESTOCK DIRECTORS

Will have the final judgment in regard to the interpretation of all rules and regulations. During the creating/typing/printing of these rules, changes, errors, deletions, or omissions may occur, in which case the “Clay County Fair Association” reserves the right to construe its own rules and regulations, and to decide all matters and differences in regards thereto including amendments. The Clay County Fair Association also reserves the right to refuse exhibitors.

