

DEL NORTE



FAIR & EVENTS

CENTER



★ 2026 ★

Del Norte County Fair

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LIVESTOCK HANDBOOK



ADMISSIONS & PARKING

Daily Admission (Gates open at 8:00 AM)

Day	Adults	Children (6–12)	Children (5 & under)	Seniors (60+)	Disabled (Wheelchair)
Thursday – Kid’s Day	\$12	FREE	FREE	\$12	FREE
Friday – Senior’s Day	\$12	\$8	FREE	FREE	FREE
Saturday – Military Day	\$12	\$8	FREE	\$12	FREE
Sunday – Family Day	\$12	\$8	FREE	\$12	FREE

- **Family Day Pack (Sunday):** 2 Adults + 3 Kids (12 & under) = **\$24**
- **Military Day (with valid I.D.):** FREE
- **Season Tickets:** \$36
- **Adult Exhibitor Pass** (must enter an exhibit): \$25
- **Junior/Senior Exhibitor Pass** (must enter an exhibit): \$15
- **Adult Livestock Pass** (livestock exhibitor family only): \$25
- **Junior Livestock Pass** (livestock exhibitor family only): \$15

Group Discount: Buy 20 season tickets at once and get **2 extra free.**

Parking

- General Parking: **FREE**
- Livestock Parking (exhibitors only – limited space): **\$20**

Grandstand Shows: Included with fair admission.

Note: All family members entering through the livestock gate need a wristband or pass.

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2026 DEL NORTE COUNTY FAIR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Kara Miller – President
- John Pritchett – Vice President
- Kim Haban, Vanessa Nunes, Rich Taylor, Jeff Molnar – Directors

STATE OFFICIALS

Gavin Newsom Governor
Karen Ross Secretary, Dept. of Food & Ag
Chris Rogers Assemblyman, 2nd District
Mike McGuire Senator, 2nd District

REC & PARKS DISTRICT DIRECTORS

- Doug Wakefield – President
- Sabina Renner – Secretary
- Donna Hopkins, Michelle Camarena, Corey Countess – Directors

MISSION STATEMENT

41ST DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

It is the mission of the Del Norte County Fairgrounds to serve the public as a place of celebration, tradition, learning, economic development, social well-being, civic responsibility, and community health in good times and in times of challenge. The Fairgrounds is where the community gathers to showcase the vibrant lifestyle talents of the people, of agriculture and of the community during the annual fair and throughout the year.

STAFF

- Kimberly Floyd – CEO
- Debbie Horner – Exhibits Programmer
- Cindy Brasier – Concession & Vendors
- Nick Wier – Maintenance
- Justin Myers – Maintenance

Del Norte County Fair Board of Directors Welcome Letter 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Welcome to the Del Norte County Fair 2026 — a shining celebration of **Liberty Lights & Carnival Nights!**

This year we proudly mark two extraordinary milestones: **250 years of nationwide fairs** that have brought Americans together in community, commerce, and camaraderie since our nation’s earliest days, and **more than 130 years of the Del Norte County Fair** right here in our beautiful corner of California.

Whether you’re a lifelong local who has walked these fairgrounds for decades, a family creating new traditions with your children, or a visitor discovering the warmth and spirit of Del Norte County for the first time — there’s something magical waiting for you. Wander through the livestock barns and admire the pride of our 4-H and FFA youth. Cheer on the excitement of the carnival rides and games. Savor the classic fair foods and the flavors that tell the story of our community. Enjoy live music, cultural displays, and the friendly competition that makes our fair so special.

At its heart, the Del Norte County Fair has always been about **us** — our shared heritage, our vibrant local culture, the simple joy of coming together, and the lasting memories we create under these lights.

As your Fair President, it is my great honor to invite you and your family to join us for this milestone year. Let's celebrate 250 years of American fair tradition and 130+ years of Del Norte pride with laughter, lights, and unforgettable nights.

See you under the Liberty Lights!

Warmly,

Kara Miller

President, Del Norte County Fair 2026

Doug Wakefield

President, Del Norte County Rec and Parks Fair Board of Directors

On behalf of the 2026 Board of Directors



January 26, 2026

On behalf of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, I am delighted to welcome you and to thank you for your involvement as we look ahead to the 2026 fair season. Each year, our fairs bring people together from every corner of our state to celebrate agriculture, community, and the dedication of those who make it all possible.

The heart of every fair lies in its people: families, volunteers, youth leaders, and countless others who share their talents and passions. Your participation as exhibitors strengthens these connections, turning each fair into a place where learning, collaboration, and pride in California agriculture come to life.

We are especially grateful for the young people who engage through 4-H, FFA, Grange, and other youth programs. Their enthusiasm and commitment represent the future of agriculture, inspiring the next generation to value hard work, stewardship, and innovation. The skills they develop through these programs, such as leadership, responsibility, and community service, extend far beyond the fairgrounds and enrich the entire state. These experiences are supported by the very spaces that make them possible, which continue to serve their communities long after the fair season ends.

Our fairgrounds are more than event spaces; they are year-round centers of community life. They host educational workshops, local markets, and cultural celebrations that bring people together and strengthen our shared sense of belonging. During emergencies, they also serve as critical response and recovery sites, underscoring their role as essential community infrastructure. These roles highlight the enduring partnership between our fairgrounds and the exhibitors, volunteers, and communities that keep them thriving.

We recognize and deeply appreciate the effort, care, and time you invest in preparing for the fair. Your commitment ensures that these traditions continue to thrive and that agriculture remains at the heart of California's identity.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support. We look forward to another successful fair season and to celebrating the incredible spirit of California's agricultural community together.

Yours truly,



Karen Ross Secretary



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

2026 California Fair Season

Fairs showcase the best of California, highlighting our spirit and creativity, and celebrating our agricultural heritage through competition and community. Through exhibitions and other fair offerings, Californians gain a deeper appreciation for the effort, skill, and care that sustain our food systems and support rural communities.

Although we celebrate the annual fair season, with events that bring Californians together in honor of agriculture, fairgrounds throughout the year serve as gathering places that strengthen our communities in both celebration and times of hardship. They bring people together to share, to learn, and to help one another when it matters most.

Fairgrounds and fairs are the landscape of so many happy memories for generations of Californians. This season, we show our gratitude for the countless people who put in the time and energy needed to keep these traditions alive and meaningful year after year. We all look forward to a safe, successful, and memorable 2026 fair season.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom

INFORMATION RULES FOR 2026

Here are the **key requirements** you need to know for the 2026 Del Norte County Fair:

Required Forms & Documents

1. **Medicines Administered Form** All market animals require this form. It must list **every medication** given to the animal during its entire life. Turn it in at **vet check on Wednesday, August 5**.
2. **Required Photos (for market animals)** Submit **2 photos** with your entry form:
 - o One photo of **you with your animal**, with the **ear tag clearly visible**.

- One full **side-view photo** of the entire animal. Write your **name and date** on the back of each photo.
- 3. **Bill of Sale** Required for **all large market animals** (beef, swine, sheep, and goats). Attach it to your entry form along with the two photos.
- 4. **Non-Market Goats** Must be **registered** with the appropriate breed association. Include a copy of the registration papers with your entry form.
- 5. **Scrapie Tags** All sheep and goats must have Scrapie tags **before** pre-fair weigh-ins. The fair does **not** provide tags.
- 6. **YQCA Certification** (all animal exhibitors must complete this.)

Deadlines & Submissions

- **Large Livestock Entries:** Due by **5:00 pm, Friday, June 5, 2026.**
- **Small Livestock Entries:** Due by **5:00 pm, Friday, July 10, 2026.**
- **Late Entries:** Accepted until **5:00 pm, Friday, July 17, 2026,** with a **\$100 late fee per entry.** **No entries accepted after July 17** — no exceptions.
- **Parent / Guardian / Leader Code of Conduct Form:** Due by **Tuesday, June 30, 2026.**
- **Each exhibitor** must submit their **own** entry form. Group entries are **not allowed** in the office.

At the Fair – Wednesday, August 5

- **Vet Check & Animal Drop-Off:** All animals arrive on Wednesday, August 5 (times TBA) and must pass vet check.
- **Exhibitor Packets:** Pick up at vet check.
- **Mandatory Rules & Information Meeting: 6:45 pm** in the Ace Building (after weigh-ins). All exhibitors, parents, and leaders **must attend.** Sign the **Intent to Sell** form here if you plan to sell in the auction.

Showmanship & Schedule

- **Showmanship Order:** Seniors first, then Intermediates, then Juniors.
- **Breaks Between Shows:** There will be a **45-minute break** between shows for exhibitors and the judge to rest. The schedule may change.

Animal Preparation Rules

- **Rabbits:** Must be **tattooed** before arriving at the fair. Tattooing is **not allowed** on fairgrounds.
- **Clipping & Shearing:** All major clipping/shearing must be done **before** bringing animals to the fair. No body clipping or shearing after **8:00 pm on Wednesday, August 5.** Only minor touch-ups with cordless clippers or scissors allowed. **Market lambs must be slick sheared** before fair. Any generator for blowers **must be closed-frame.**
- **Pig Walkers:** Each swine club may bring **only one** pig walker for the entire club.
- **Stall Cards, Food, Water & Decorations** (for auction animals): Must stay with your animal until **Monday, August 10.** Remove all decorations and clean pens between **10:00 am and 6:00 pm on Monday, August 10.** **Do not** touch anything in another exhibitor's stall. Failure to provide stall cards, food, water, or a clean pen = **20% reduction** from your auction check.

Auction & Sale Related Rules

- **Auction Raffle Tickets:** Each exhibitor must sell the equivalent of **10 tickets** (\$10 each). Failure to participate = **\$150 penalty** on your auction check.
- **Auction Checks:** Available starting **Monday, August 24, 2026**. You **must** bring a **self-addressed, stamped thank-you card** to receive your check. Bring an extra card in case of add-ons. All checks must be picked up by **September 30, 2026**. You have **90 days** to cash the check — no exceptions.

Other Important Notes

- **Round Robin:** Will only be held if there are at least **3 species** represented.
- **Rate of Gain Contest** (awards only — does **not** affect auction eligibility):
 - Beef: **1.5 lbs per day**
 - Swine: **1.3 lbs per day**
 - Sheep: **0.4 lbs per day**
 - Goats: **0.25 lbs per day**
- **Fair Staff Assistance:** Staff will gladly help with entry forms **before** deadlines, but they are **not responsible** for mistakes on your forms.

2026 FAIR ENTRY DEADLINES

- **Large Livestock** (including Parent Ethics Form & YQCA): **Friday, June 5, 2026** (5:00 PM)
- **Small Livestock:** **Friday, July 10, 2026** (5:00 PM)
- **Late Livestock Entries** (with \$100 late fee per entry): Until **Friday, July 17, 2026** – **No exceptions after this date**
- **Non-animal entries:** Saturday, July 25, 2026

Parent/Guardian & Leader Code of Conduct Form: Due **Tuesday, June 30, 2026**

Fair Rules & Information Meeting (mandatory for exhibitors, parents & leaders): **Wednesday, August 5, 2026**, at ~6:45 PM in the Ace Building (after weigh-ins).

Animal Drop-Off & Vet Check: **Wednesday, August 5, 2026** (times TBA). All animals must pass vet check.

Weigh-In Schedule (Wednesday, August 5):

- Small Animals: 3:00–4:00 PM
- Beef: 3:00 PM
- Sheep & Goats: 4:00 PM
- Swine: 4:30–5:30 PM

Exhibitors **must** be present. Conflicts require prior Fair Board approval.

HOW TO ENTER YOUR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITS

Follow these steps carefully to submit your entry for the 2026 Del Norte County Fair:

1. **Read the Handbook** Carefully review this entire Exhibitor Handbook. Choose the classes you want to enter and make sure you understand all the rules.
2. **Read the Rules**
 - Read the **Local Rules** section.
 - Pay special attention to the rules under your specific **Department** and **Division**.
 - Also read the **CDFA State Rules** (available at the Fair Office or online at www.dnfair.org/exhibitors-handbook).
3. **Get Your Entry Forms**, Pick up entry forms from the Fair Office or download them from www.dnfair.org. **You need a separate entry form for each Department** (for example: one for Beef, one for Poultry, etc.).
4. **Fill Out the Forms** Complete **all** sections on the entry form.
 - Juniors must include their **date of birth**.
 - Fair staff is happy to help you if you have questions.
 - Staff will add the Exhibitor Code and Entry Numbers for you.
 - **Sign your entry form.** *Signing means you have read and understand all the rules.*
5. **Submit Your Entry**
 - Review your form one more time, then **sign it**.
 - Bring it to the Fair Office **in person**.
 - **Mailed forms will not be accepted.**
 - **Each exhibitor must submit their own forms** — no group entries are allowed in the office.
6. **Turn In Required Photos** Every exhibitor entering a **market animal** must submit **2 photos** with their entry form:
 - Photo 1: You with your animal, clearly showing the **ear tag**.
 - Photo 2: A full side view of the entire animal. Write your name and the date on the back of each photo.
7. **Deadlines & Late Fees**
 - Submit your entry by the deadline (see Important Dates section).
 - **Late entries** will be accepted until **Friday, July 17, 2026**, but you will be charged a **\$100 late fee per entry**.
 - **No entries will be accepted after July 17, 2026** — no exceptions.

Important Note about Auction Checks Auction checks will be available starting **Monday, August 24, 2026**. To pick up your check, you **must** bring:

- A **self-addressed, stamped thank-you card** for the buyer. It's a good idea to bring an **extra thank-you card** in case you receive any add-on donations.

LOCAL RULES

Important Warnings

- Premiums and awards **may be withheld** if local or state rules are violated.
- **CDFA State Rules** always take priority unless local rules are stricter.
- Fair staff are **not responsible** for finding errors on entry forms.

Read Carefully! A copy of the CDFA State Rules is available at the Fair Office and online at www.dnfair.org/exhibitors-handbook.

1. Official Fair Dates

- **Fair Dates:** Thursday, August 6, 2026 through Sunday, August 9, 2026.
- Gates open at **8:00 am** each day.

- Commercial buildings open to the public at **11:00 am**.
- Buildings close at **10:00 pm** (Sunday at 5:00 pm).
- Barns close at **8:00 pm** each night (Sunday at 5:00 pm).

2. Sanction Shows

Sanctioned show rules do **not** override CDFA State Rules or Del Norte County Fair local rules.

3. Eligibility for 4-H, FFA, Grange & Independent Departments

These departments are open to:

- Residents of Del Norte County, **or**
- Full-time students enrolled in Del Norte Unified School District.

Exhibitors must meet all requirements of their organization and the CDFA State Rules.

Independent Exhibitors: You must pick up a registration packet from the Fair Office **before** declaring your project.

- Beef: 120 days before weigh-in
- Other large animals: 60 days before weigh-in
- Small animals: 30 days before weigh-in

4. Age Requirements

- Junior exhibitors must be **9 years old** as of January 1, 2026, to exhibit animals (including horses).
- **Exceptions:** Younger exhibitors (starting at age 5) may participate in Small Animal divisions: Pygmy Goats, Rabbits & Cavies, and Poultry.

Uniform Requirements

- **Independent Exhibitors:** Must wear the official fair uniform — long-sleeve white button-up shirt with collar (no polo shirts), dark blue or white western-style pants, leather lace-up or slip-on boots, and a western-style belt.
- **Small Animal Exhibitors:** Closed-toe shoes or boots are allowed.
- **4-H, FFA, and Grange Members:** Must wear their organization's complete uniform (hat, scarf/tie, vest or jacket).
- **Complete uniform is required.** Exhibitors not in proper uniform **will not be allowed** in the show ring.
- **Back Numbers:** Must be worn and clearly visible while in the ring. Long hair must **not** cover the number.

5. How and When to Enter

You must submit completed entry forms along with these required items:

Required Documents

- **Photos** (for market animals): Two (2) photos
 - One close-up of you with the animal clearly showing the ear tag, tattoo, or notching.
 - One full side-profile photo of the entire animal. Write your **name and date** on the back of each photo.
- **Bill of Sale:** Required for **all** market animals (even if you raised the animal from birth).
- **Medicines Administered Form**
- **YQCA Certificate** (for all exhibitors)
- **Signed Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct Form**
- **Market Beef:** Yellow transportation slip
- **Non-Market Goats:** Copy of registration papers

Entry Deadlines

- **Large Livestock:** Due by **5:00 pm, Friday, June 5, 2026**.
- **Small Livestock:** Due by **5:00 pm, Friday, July 10, 2026**.
- **Late Livestock Entries:** Accepted until **5:00 pm, Friday, July 17, 2026**, with a **\$100 late fee per entry**. **No entries accepted after July 17, 2026** — no exceptions.

- **Horse Show:** Late entries accepted.
- **Non-animal entries:** Due **Saturday, July 25, 2026.**

Important Entry Rules

- Entry forms must be **complete** (name, address, date of birth, grade, signatures, etc.). Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
- Each exhibitor must submit their **own** entry form.
- Correct entry fees must be included.
- Leaders signing the form confirm that the member has completed YQCA.
- Independent juniors may enter 4-H, FFA, or Grange classes if they meet CDFA State rules.

6. Cancellations and Refunds

- If you cancel after the entry deadline, you will **forfeit** all entry fees.
- Exception: A written veterinarian's certificate (on letterhead) stating the animal is unfit. Must be filed at least **24 hours** before the fair opens.
- No refunds of **\$5.00 or less** (including overpayments).

7. Liability

You (or your parent/guardian if you are a minor) are responsible for any injury or damage caused by your participation. The fair, county, and State of California are not liable except in cases of their sole active negligence. You agree to indemnify and hold the fair harmless from any claims or costs.

8. Liability Insurance

The fair will purchase liability insurance. Your homeowner's insurance is primary if needed.

Animals other than those entered in the fair (except service dogs) are **not allowed** on the grounds.

9. Identification – Wristbands

All 4-H, FFA, Grange, and Independent livestock exhibitors who want fair-paid ribbons and judges must have a valid **exhibitor wristband**.

- Cost: **\$15.00 each** (one per exhibitor).
- Without a wristband, you must buy a Season Pass or daily admission ticket.
- Family members entering through the livestock gate need wristbands or passes: \$25 adult / \$15 child (not showing).
- A valid parking pass is required in each vehicle.

10. Vehicles & Parking

- No vehicles (except fair-owned) may park next to livestock barns from **9:00 am to 9:00 pm** daily.
- Unauthorized vehicles must be removed by 9:00 am.
- Horse and livestock trailers must enter through the **North Back Gate** only.
- **No parking around the barns** (fire safety).
- **Livestock Parking Passes:** \$20 each (limit of 2 per family).

11. Parking, Camping & RV Hookups

- RV camping is **first-come, first-served** and only for vendors and exhibitors.
- Sites assigned starting **Monday, July 13, 2026.**
- Each 4-H, FFA, or Grange club gets **one** RV site with power (\$100 for the fair duration). Power not available at other sites.
- Electrical hookups only from proper pedestals — no cords to building outlets.
- Check in with the campground attendant or Fair Office **before** parking.
- **No vehicle parking** in the RV area (illegally parked vehicles will be towed).
- One tent allowed per site if it fits.
- **Quiet hours:** 10:00 pm to 6:00 am. No generators after 10:00 pm.
- All campers must sign the **Adult Code of Conduct**.

- No unchaperoned youth in campsites after 10:00 pm — a parent or guardian must be present.
- Dry camping: \$200.
- Prices cover Tuesday, August 4 through Monday, August 10. Extra \$50 fee if you arrive the Saturday before.
- **No switching campsites** without management approval. Unauthorized switching may result in immediate removal and loss of payment.

12. Showing Your Own Animal

Each exhibitor **must show their own animal**. Exceptions only granted by Fair Management or Livestock Superintendent. If someone else shows for you, they must be a club member, meet age rules, and wear the required uniform. **No exceptions.**

13. Additional Animals

- Large animal exhibitors may enter and raise **two market animals** of the same species.
- You may declare **only one** for the auction (plus extra lots if you win Grand Champion).
- See division limits for small animals.

14. Animal Drop-Off

All animals are dropped off on **Wednesday, August 5, 2026**, at designated times (TBA) and must pass a vet check before entering the barns.

15. Limiting Entries

The fair has the right to limit the number of entries in any division or class.

16. Weigh-In Schedule & Rules

All auction animals must be weighed on **Wednesday, August 5, 2026**:

- Beef: 3:00 pm
- Sheep & Goats: 4:00 pm
- Swine: 4:30–5:30 pm
- Small animals: 3:00–4:00 pm

Exhibitors **must be present**. If you have a conflict, request an alternate time at a Fair Board meeting (submit letter 12 days in advance).

Weigh-In Rules

- Animals not meeting minimum weight may enter feeder classes.
- No excessive water or foreign material on the animal. The weigh clerk's decision is final.
- Only **one re-weigh** allowed per animal, following strict procedure.
- Animals that do not meet weight or grade **will not** sell at auction.
- Large animals sold are tagged per CDFA rules.
- Animals must stay and show after weigh-in, or you may not show next year.

17. Official Veterinarian

The official fair veterinarian is **Town & Country**.

18. Care of Animals

You are fully responsible for feeding, watering, and caring for your animal(s) at all times. Clean your space by **8:30 am every day**. Failure to care for or clean your animals may result in the animal being sent home.

19. Declaration Meeting

Attendance is **mandatory** to sell market animals.

20. Awards & Premiums

Ribbon placement does **not** guarantee awards. Only the official placing on the judging sheet determines awards.

21. Grand Champion Animals

All Grand Champions **must** sell through the auction. Each exhibitor is limited to selling **one animal**, but Grand Champion winners may sell **one extra lot for every Grand Champion** they win (if the extra animal meets auction rules).

22. Release of Exhibits

- Barns close to the public at 5:00 pm on Sunday, August 9.
- Breeding, non-auction, and live auction animals must be removed by **7:00 pm** on Sunday, August 9.
- The fair is not responsible for animals left after 7:00 pm.

23. Stall Cards, Food, Water & Decorations

These must stay with your auction animal until **Monday, August 10**. Failure to provide them will result in a **20% reduction** from your auction check.

24. Processing Load-Out

- Auction animals going to processors released starting **6:00 am Monday, August 10**.
- Some may load out Sunday evening.
- Only the load-out team allowed in the barn Monday morning.
- Animals not picked up by **5:00 pm Monday, August 10** become property of the fair.
- **Small animals**: Live pick-up only — they do **not** go on processor trucks.

25. Adult Code of Conduct

All parents, guardians, and leaders must sign the Code of Conduct form (due by **June 26, 2026** in the Fair Office). Leaders, parents, and guardians may **not** contact judges, clerks, or the Brand Inspector before, during, or after shows.

26. Barn Conduct & Safety

- No unchaperoned youth in the barns after **8:00 pm**. Unchaperoned youth will be asked to leave.
- Any youth exhibitor drinking alcohol will forfeit all prizes, have their exhibits sent home, and be disqualified for the **next fair season**.
- **No alcohol** allowed in livestock barns.
- The fairgrounds is a **smoke-free zone** — no smoking of any kind allowed.

27. Youth Quality Care Assurance (YQCA)

All livestock exhibitors must complete the YQCA online ethics course. This is a **state requirement** — **no exceptions**.

How to Complete YQCA

- Go to: <https://yqcaprogram.org/> and create an account.
- The course takes about 60 minutes and includes knowledge builders, skills labs, and quizzes (80% pass rate required).
- Each exhibitor needs their **own account** and certificate number (\$12 per exhibitor).
- Print the certificate and bring it to the fair office (emailed copies not accepted).
- Clubs may fundraise and use coupon codes (see yqca.org/buy-coupons for details).

DEL NORTE COUNTY 4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT DEPARTMENT RULES

Who Can Participate? This department is open to:

- Residents of Del Norte County, **or**
- Students enrolled full-time in Del Norte Unified School District.

All 4-H, FFA, Grange, and Independent exhibitors must meet the requirements of their organization and the CDFA State Rules.

Important Notes:

- 4-H, FFA, Grange, and Independent exhibitors will show **together** in Market and Showmanship classes for each species. The fair may divide classes if there are many entries.
- Independent exhibitors may also enter age-appropriate classes if they meet the State Rules (available at the Fair Office or online at www.dnfair.org).
- Youth who are **not** members of 4-H, FFA, or Grange can still show in other open divisions (see Local Rules #3).

Mandatory Rules Meeting Every exhibitor, parent/guardian, **and** leader must attend the Wednesday Night Fair Rules Meeting.

- Date: **Wednesday, August 5, 2026**
- Time: Approximately **6:45 pm** (right after weigh-ins)
- Location: Ace Building

General Rules

1. **Barn Duty** Every club that has animals in a barn must provide barn duty (helping keep the area clean and organized).
2. **Your Own Work** All exhibits must be the work of the exhibitor.
3. **Minimum Age** You must be **9 years old** as of **January 1, 2026** to exhibit in these 4-H, FFA, Grange, and Independent classes.
4. **Grand Champions** All Grand Champion animals **must** be sold through the livestock auction.
5. **Auction Sale Limits**
 - Each exhibitor may sell **only one animal** at the auction.
 - If you win a Grand Champion, you may sell **one extra market lot for each Grand Champion** you win. **Example:** If you have 4 Grand Champions, you can sell your original 1 animal + 4 extra lots (such as 1 beef, 1 lamb, 1 meat goat, 1 hog, 1 pen of chickens, 1 roaster rabbit, etc.).
6. **Daily Cleaning & Feeding** All stalls, coops, and cages must be cleaned and animals fed/watered by **8:30 am** and **8:30 pm** every day. Each exhibitor or club must bring their own cleaning equipment (shovel, broom, wheelbarrow, pitchfork, etc.).
7. **Wash Racks** Wash racks are closed daily from **11:00 am to 6:00 pm**.
8. **Ownership Requirements** You must own and care for your animal for the following minimum time before the fair:
 - **Market Beef:** 120 days
 - **Market Swine, Sheep, and Goats:** 60 days
 - **All Small Market Animals** (rabbits, poultry, etc.): 30 days
 - **Breeder and Feeder Animals:** 30 daysAttendance at the official weigh-in is **mandatory**. For full details, see the CDFA State Rules.
9. **Required Paperwork for Large Livestock**
 - A **Bill of Sale** is required for **all large livestock** (steers, swine, lambs, goats). It must include ear tag and Scrapies tag numbers.
 - You must also turn in **2 photos** with your entry form:
 1. A clear photo of **you with your animal** showing the ear tag.
 2. A complete **side-view photo** of the animal.

10. **Showmanship Requirement** All exhibitors in a market class **must** compete in the Showmanship division to be eligible to sell in the auction. Showmanship is required for all 4-H, FFA, Grange, and Independent market exhibitors.
11. **Clipping & Grooming Rules**
 - All major clipping and shearing must be done **before** you bring your animal to the fair.
 - Only minor touch-ups are allowed at the fair using cordless clippers or scissors.
 - **Market lambs** must be **slick sheared** before arriving.
 - Any generator used for blowers must be a **closed-frame** type.
12. **Small Animal Exhibitors** You must be present when your small animals (rabbits, cavies, poultry, etc.) are judged.
13. **Animal Fees**
 - **\$10.00** per large animal and per goat.
 - **\$2.00** per small animal (per pen). These fees include bedding for the entire fair. Because of limited space, some animals may be placed **2 per pen**.

HERDSMANSHIP

What is Herdsmanship? Herdsmanship is a competition that judges how well each **club** keeps their animals and display area clean, neat, and welcoming throughout the entire fair (August 6–9, 2026).

It is judged for every species (beef, swine, sheep, goats, small animals, etc.). Clubs are scored every day during fair hours.

Herdsmanship Judging Criteria Judges will score each club out of **100 points** based on the following:

Scoring Criteria	Points
Pen & Stall Area (Neat and clean stalls, animals comfortable, fresh bedding, food and water available)	40
Aisles, Walkways & Borders (Clean, swept, raked, and tidy areas around the stalls)	30
Club or Chapter Representation (Club members, leaders, or parents present and helping)	5
Education & Information Displays (Nice-looking, clear, appropriate signs or posters that teach fairgoers)	20
Decorations & Club Identification (Neat and attractive decorations, visible club signs or banners)	5
Total Possible Points	100

Important Herdsmanship Rules

- **No parent help allowed for cleaning** – Only youth exhibitors and club leaders may clean the area. If parents do the cleaning, the club will **not** receive an award.
- Each club showing small animals is responsible for keeping their own area clean.
- Animals must stay in their assigned stall or pen during all fair hours to be eligible for Herdsmanship judging.

Special Award In memory of Patty Maris, the Maris Family sponsors a **Special Herdsmanship Award**. This award goes to **one outstanding individual exhibitor** who does an excellent job raising and showing their animal **and** keeping their area clean and attractive.

JUDGING SYSTEMS

The Del Norte County Fair uses two different judging systems depending on the class:

1. American System

This is a **competitive** judging system.

- Your animal or exhibit is judged against a **standard of perfection and** against the other entries in the same class.
- The judge ranks the exhibits from best to worst.
- Only **one** First Place, one Second Place, one Third Place, etc. is awarded in each class.
- Only the **First Place** winners in each class move on to compete for Best of Division or Grand Champion.

2. Danish System

This is a **non-competitive** judging system.

- Every exhibitor receives a ribbon.
- The judge groups exhibits by quality level — not by comparing them directly against each other.
- Multiple exhibitors can receive the same color ribbon if their projects are of similar quality.

Danish System Ribbon Scale:

Group	Quality Level	Score	Ribbon Color
1st Group	Superior	92–100%	Blue
2nd Group	Good	82–91%	Red
3rd Group	Average / Acceptable	70–81%	White
4th Group	Poor / Undesirable	69% or below	None

JUDGES

To ensure impartiality, the Del Norte County Fair secures judges for most categories from outside the community. The dedication and effort of these judges is to be commended as their fees, while sufficient to cover travel costs, are inadequate compensation for the hours they give to our fair. A special “THANK YOU” to these judges who will be serving us this year.

Judges should avoid any appearance of partiality and avoid unnecessary

fraternization with exhibitors.

2. No person shall act as a judge in any division in which he/she or a member of his/her immediate family is an exhibitor, is in charge of an exhibit or division, in charge of a group of exhibitors, or a member of a group of exhibitors.

3. No person shall be allowed, under any circumstances, to interfere with the judge(s) regarding their adjudications, or with the fair's staff, or to offer any audible criticism of an exhibit or exhibitor. Violators of this rule shall be excused immediately from the competition and shall be subject to such additional penalties, including cancellations of awards, as the management shall consider proper.

4. The judge has the authority to:

- a. Disqualify or transfer to the correct class any exhibit that does not meet the requirements of the division or class in which it is entered;
- b. Disqualify any exhibit not properly cleaned or fitted;
- c. Disqualify any exhibit that is in his/her opinion hazardous to public safety;
- d. Examine the animals before entering the show ring; and/or
- e. Refuse to make award to any animal that shows visible evidence of disease, deformity, or lameness.

No award will be made to exhibits eliminated under any of the above instances.

5. The judge may not waive State Rules.

6. The judge's decision is final. Fair Management may not request any changes in judges' rulings.

7. To encourage high standards, the judge shall award first, second, third place, etc. according to merit. If without merit, the judge shall make no award under any circumstances. The judge may award championships or other awards at his/her discretion for superior exhibits. This applies whether there are one or more exhibits in class.

ANIMAL DEPARTMENT

SMALL ANIMAL OPEN DIVISIONS ADULT POULTRY DEPARTMENT

DIVISION 900: EGGS **Turn into the Poultry Barn**

CLASS:

1. Large Chicken Eggs, ½ dozen

- 2. Bantam Eggs, ½ dozen
- 3. Turkey Eggs, ½ dozen
- 4. Duck Eggs, ½ dozen
- 5. Goose Eggs, ½ dozen
- 6. Quail Eggs, ½ dozen
- 7. Emu Eggs, 3 eggs

YOUTH POULTRY DIVISIONS

The State Is Requiring That All Poultry Be Inspected Prior to Exhibiting at the Fair. The Fair Will Have an Inspection Station set up in the Parking Lot. Please Allow Time for this Inspection When You Bring Your Poultry to the Fair.

- 1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA Rules
- 2. Exhibits will be received on from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. All birds must be identified by leg bands conforming to entry forms on arrival at fairgrounds. List Breed, variety, sex, and age on your entry form.
- 3. Juniors must be 5 years old prior to January 1, 2026, to show animals.
- 4. CDFA State Rules apply. Special attention should be given to Section VII (Junior Department); X (Animal Health Rules)
- 5. **Each Club with animals in the Poultry Barn must provide barn duty.**
- 6. The Junior Poultry Divisions are not sanctioned by the American Poultry Association. All breeds will be judged together. Conformity to breed type will be considered in judging standard bred meat birds.

Cage Fee: \$2.00

Entry Fee: Birds: \$2.00

Judging: American System

PREMIUM AWARDS:
 OVERALL
 BEST IN SHOW - \$25.00
 RESERVE IN SHOW - \$12.50

**DIVISION 901:
 LARGE POULTRY**

PREMIUM AWARDS:
 BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
 RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

**(ALL STANDARD BREEDS)
 Classes, All Large Breeds**

Cock	Hen	Cockerel	Pullet
1	2	3	4

**DIVISION 902:
 BANTAMS**

PREMIUM AWARDS:

BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

**(ALL STANDARD BREEDS)
Classes, All Bantam Breeds**

Cock 1 Hen 2 Cockerel 3 Pullet 4

**DIVISION 903:
TURKEYS**

PREMIUM AWARDS:
BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

CLASS:

1. Turkey, Tom (any age) 2. Turkey, Hen (any age)

**DIVISION 904:
DUCKS**

PREMIUM AWARDS:
BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

CLASS:

1. Duck, Drake (any age) 2. Duck, Hen (any age)

**DIVISION 905:
GEESE**

PREMIUM AWARDS:
BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

CLASS:

1. Geese, Gander (any age) 2. Geese, Goose (any age)

**DIVISION 906:
QUAIL**

PREMIUM AWARDS:
BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

CLASS:

1. Cock 3. Cockerel
2. Hen 4. Pullet

DIVISION 907:

EGGS –

Turn in at the Poultry Barn

CLASS:

1. Large Chicken Eggs, ½ dozen
2. Bantam Eggs, ½ dozen
3. Duck Eggs, ½ dozen
4. Turkey Eggs, ½ dozen
5. Goose Eggs, ½ dozen
6. Quail Eggs, ½ dozen
7. Emu Egg, 3 eggs

YOUTH RABBIT AND CAVY DIVISIONS

1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA State Rules.
2. Exhibits received: Wednesday August 5, 2026, during VET check.
3. Exhibits judged: Friday August 7, 2026
4. Exhibits released: Sunday August 9, 2026, at 5:00 pm. Animals not picked up by Monday August 10, 2026, by 5:00 pm will become the property of the fair.
5. This is not a Sanctioned ARBA Show.
6. All animals must be identified by permanent ear markings. Animals may not be tattooed at fair.
7. Any animal showing signs of a disease will be immediately removed from the fairgrounds.
8. Exhibitors are to furnish their own feed and water containers.
9. Exhibitors are responsible for getting their animals to the judging table.
10. Cavy exhibitors to furnish own cages.
11. List rabbit/cavy breed, variety, age, and sex on your entry form.
12. This is a cooped show. All rabbits/cavies must remain on the fairgrounds throughout the fair.
13. All animals entered in the fur class must be entered in a breed class.

Cage fees: \$2.00

Entry Fee: \$2.00 Per Entry

Fur Entries: \$1.00 Per Entry

PREMIUM AWARDS:

BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

DIVISION 910:

RABBIT

CLASS:

1. Buck
2. Doe
3. Fur
 - Must be entered and shown in the appropriate breed or market class.

PREMIUM AWARDS:

BEST IN SHOW - \$10.00
RESERVE IN SHOW - \$5.00

DIVISION 911:

CAVY

CLASS:

1. Cavy

YOUTH PYGMY GOAT DIVISIONS

MUST BE REGISTERED

1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA State Rules
2. Goats must be registered with the appropriate association prior to entry.
3. You must be 5 years old prior to January 1, 2026, to exhibit animals.
4. You must be 9 years old prior to January 1, 2026, in order to enter Showmanship class.
5. Exhibits will be received on Wednesday August 5, 2026 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.
6. Nigerian Dwarfs are to be entered in the appropriate Dairy Goat class.
7. **A SINGLE GOAT MAY ONLY BE ENTERED IN ONE DIVISION ACCORDING TO BREED.**
Entering a goat in the wrong bread class will be grounds for disqualification.

Animal Fee: \$10.00

Entry Fee: \$2.00

Judging: American System

PREMIUM AWARDS:

# OF ENTRIES IN CLASS	# OF PLACES PAID	% OF CLASS JACKPOT
1-3 entries	1	100%
4 entries	2	60%-40%
5+ entries	3	50%-30%-20%

DIVISION 920: PYGMY GOATS

DOES & WETHERS

MUST BE REGISTERED

CLASS:

1. Kids, Does, (born January 1, 2026, thru June 4, 2026)
2. Kids, Wethers, (born January 1, 2026, thru June 4, 2026)
3. Yearlings & 2 years old, Does, (born January 1, 2024, thru December 31, 2025)
4. Yearlings & 2 years old, Wethers, (born January 1, 2024, thru December 31, 2025)
5. 3 years and over, Does, (born January 1, 2023, and prior)
6. 3 years and over, Wethers, (born January 1, 2023, and prior)

LARGE ANIMAL OPEN DIVISIONS

**Open to youths ages 9 to 19, and members of 4-H, FFA, Grange or Independent Juniors,
regardless of county of residence.**

1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA Rules.
2. You must be at least 9 years old prior to January 1, 2026, to exhibit large animals.
3. Animals will be received in the Livestock Barn on Wednesday August 5, 2026. Prior to stall

- placement, all animals will be vet checked. Times will be determined.
4. CDFA State Rules apply; Junior Department, Livestock Department, Animal Species Rules, and Animal Health Rules should be reviewed.
 5. If there are a sufficient number of entries, management may divide classes.
 6. If there are not a sufficient number of entries, management may combine classes.
 7. **Yellow transportation slips issued by the Fair are mandatory when transporting cattle to and from the Fair.**
 8. Goats must be registered with the appropriate association prior to entry.

ANIMAL FEES: \$10.00
 ENTRY FEES: \$10.00
 SHOWMANSHIP - No Entry Fee
 JUDGING: American System

<u>PREMIUM AWARDS</u>		
# OF ENTRIES IN CLASS	# OF PLACES PAID	%OF CLASS JACKPOT
1-3 entries	1	100%
4 entries	2	60%-40%
5+ entries	3	50%-30%-20%

Rosettes will be awarded to Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion of each species.

**DIVISION 930:
BREEDING BEEF**

CLASS:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Junior/Senior Calf (September 1, 2025, thru April 1, 2026) | thru August 30, 2025) |
| 2. Junior/Senior Yearling (March 1, 2024, | 3. Cow/Calf Pair |

**DIVISION 931:
OWNED JERSEY DAIRY CATTLE**

- Dairy Females over 6 months of age must bear evidence of official calf-hood vaccination against brucellosis.
- All Dairy cattle except Jersey must show in the Holstein classes.

CLASS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Junior Calf (January 1, 2026 thru June 30, 2026) | December 31, 2024) |
| 2. Senior Calf (July 1, 2025, thru December 31, 2025) | 5. 2-year-old not in milk (July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024) |
| 3. Junior Yearling (January 1, 2024, thru June 30, 2025) | 6. 2-year-old in milk (July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024) * |
| 4. Senior Yearling (July 1, 2024, thru | 7. Aged Cow, (born prior to July 1, 2023) * |
| | 8. Pair of Females |

DIVISION 932:
OWNED HOLSTEIN DAIRY CATTLE

- Dairy Females over 6 months of age must bear evidence of official calf-hood vaccination against brucellosis.
- All Dairy cattle except Jersey must show in the Holstein classes.

CLASS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. 1.Junior Calf (January 1, 2026, thru June 30, 2026) | thru December 31, 2024) |
| 2. Senior Calf (July 1, 2025, thru December 31, 2025) | 5. 2-year-old not in milk (July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024) |
| 3. Junior Yearling (January 1, 2025, thru June 30, 2025) | 6. 2-year-old in milk (July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024) * |
| 4. Senior Yearling (July 1, 2024, | 7. Aged Cow, (born prior to July 1, 2023) * |
| | 8. Pair of Females |

DIVISION 933:
NON-OWNED DAIRY

Dairy Classes may be separated by breed at the show ring.

The fair has added new classes which are Not Owned by Exhibitor Class. This is to encourage participation in the Dairy Projects. The Not Owned Classes will not compete against exhibitors that own their project. The Non-Owned Exhibitors will follow the guidelines of their organization i.e.: 4H, Grange, FFA, or Independent. Non own projects classes are not open to counties outside of Del Norte.

CLASS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Junior Calf (January 1, 2026, thru June 30, 2026) | December 31, 2024) |
| 2. Senior Calf (July 1, 2025, thru December 31, 2025) | 5. 2-year-old not in milk (July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024) |
| 3. Junior Yearling (January 1, 2025, thru June 30, 2025) | 6. 2-year-old in milk (July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024) * |
| 4. Senior Yearling (July 1, 2024, thru | 7. Aged Cow, (born prior to July 1, 2023) * |
| | 8. Pair of Females |

*** Dairy cows in Milk Classes are required to be present at the fair from Thursday August 6 thru Saturday August 9 from the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm each day. They are not required to attend on Sunday August 9th. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in an automatic disqualification from the Fair and forfeiture of any awards and fees paid.**

DIVISION 934:
BREEDING SWINE

CLASS:

1. Gilt (Farrowed January thru April, current year)
2. Senior Yearling, sow (January thru December, previous year, must have raised a litter to be eligible for entry)
3. Sow (must have had a litter)

DIVISION 935:
BREEDING SHEEP - EWE

CLASS:

1. Ewe Lamb (January 1st thru April 1st of the current year)
2. Yearling Ewe (January 1st thru
3. Ewe (older than yearling) December 31st of the previous year)

DIVISION 936:
BREEDING SHEEP - RAM

CLASS:

1. Lamb - Ram (January 1st thru April 1st of the current year)
2. Yearling Ram (January 1st thru December 31st of the previous year)
3. Ram (older than yearling)

DIVISION 937:
DAIRY GOATS
MUST BE REGISTERED

CLASS:

1. Junior Senior Doe Kid, (Born January 1st thru June 4th of the current year)
2. Dry Yearling Does (Born January 1st thru December 31st the previous year)
3. Milking Yearlings Does (Born January 1st thru December 31st of the previous year)
4. Does, Two Years thru 4 years of age, in milk
5. Does, Five years and over, in milk

DIVISION 938:
BREEDING GOATS (Meat Breeds)
MUST BE REGISTERED

CLASS:

1. Does, any age

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT LARGE LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENT

4-H, FFA & GRANGE BEEF CATTLE DIVISIONS

1. Please refer to Local Rules and CDFA State Rules.
2. **Bill of Sale must accompany Exhibitor forms.**
3. Exhibitors must also include a photo of themselves with their animal, with the animal's ear tag clearly visible.
4. **Exhibitors must demonstrate safe handling of project animal. Failure to do so shall result in animal removed from the competition and or being removed from the grounds.**
5. Market animals failing to meet minimum weight will be transferred to the feeder class.
The minimum weight for beef is 1,000 pounds. Beef weighing over 1,450 lbs. may still go to auction, if they make grade. Animals will be sold at maximum weight of 1,450 lbs.

6. **Yellow transportation slips issued by the Fair are mandatory when transporting cattle to and from the Fair.**
7. Club Pen of Three: 3 best animals from your club, chosen day of show. One entry per club.
 THE CLUB LEADERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENTERING THE CLUB AT THE SHOW.
 ANIMAL FEE: \$10.00 (Per Animal)
 ENTRY FEES: Market & Feeder classes (none).
 JUDGING: Market & Feeder classes: Danish System. No premiums, Ribbons Only

DIVISION 940:
4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT MARKET BEEF
 MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2)

CLASS:

1. 1,000 to 1,450 pounds Heifer or Steer

DIVISION 941:
STOCKER & FEEDER BEEF

CLASS:

1. Heifers / Steers (301 to 999 pounds)

DIVISION 943:
BRED & FED

- Exhibitor must have owned the dam at the time of the animal's conception, and the exhibitor must have provided primary care for the animals from birth through fair.
- Proof of ownership is due when entry form is submitted.
- All clubs will be shown together.
- Animals must have been shown in a Market Class.

CLASS:

1. Market Beef

MARKET BEEF SCORECARD

Market Ready: Market steers projected to have sufficient fat deposition to meet the marbling specifications for USDA Prime, Choice or Select+ quality grades.

Not Market Ready: Market steers lacking evidence of sufficient fat deposition to produce a desirable consumer product. Steers projected to grade USDA Select- or lower.

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT SWINE DIVISIONS

1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA State Rules.
2. Each club will only be allowed to bring one pig walker to fair for use for the whole club.
3. After weighing, market hogs may be divided into weight lots within the specified limitations, as desired for convenience in judging.
4. Market animals failing to meet the minimum weight will be transferred to the single feeder class. ***The minimum weight for swine is 215 pounds. Swine weighing over 285 lbs. may still go to auction if they make grade. Animals will be sold at a maximum weight of 285 lbs.***

5. Club Pen of Three: 3 best animals from your club, chosen day of show. One entry per club. **CLUB ONLY – NOT INDIVIDUAL – PLEASE DO NOT ADD TO INDIVIDUAL ENTRY FORMS.**

ANIMAL FEE: \$10.00 (Per Animal)

ENTRY FEES: Market & Feeder classes (none).

JUDGING: Market & Feeder classes: Danish System. – No premiums, Ribbons Only

DIVISION 945:
4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT MARKET HOGS
(MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2))

CLASS:

1. Single Market Hogs (215 to 285 pounds)

DIVISION 946:
SINGLE FEEDER PIGS

CLASS:

1. Single Feeder Pigs (111 to 214 pounds)

DIVISION 948:
BRED & FED

- Exhibitor must have been owned the gilt at the time of the animal's conception, and the exhibitor must have provided primary care for the animals from birth through fair.
- Proof of ownership is due when entry form is submitted.
- All clubs will be shown together.
- Animals must have been shown in a Market Class.

CLASS:

1. Swine

MARKET HOGS SCORECARD

Market Ready: U.S. No. 1 and No. 2 hogs of average or greater conformation that are acceptable in leanness, muscularity, and production traits.

Not Market Ready: Any hog of below average conformation including U.S. no. 3 and no. 4 and utility grade hogs.

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT SHEEP DIVISIONS

1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA State Rules.
2. Lambs must show "milk teeth." All breeds will be judged as one.
3. After weighing, market lambs may be divided into weight lots for convenience in judging.
4. Market animals failing to meet minimum weight requirements will be transferred to the feeder class. ***The minimum weight for sheep is 110 pounds. Sheep weighing over 160 lbs. may still go to auction, if they make grade. Animals will be sold at maximum weight of 160 lbs.***
5. Club Pen of Three: 3 best animals from your club, chosen day of show. One entry per club. **CLUB ONLY – NOT INDIVIDUAL – PLEASE DO NOT ADD TO INDIVIDUAL ENTRY FORMS.**

ANIMAL FEE: \$10.00 (Per Animal)

ENTRY FEES: Market & Feeder classes (none).

JUDGING: Market & Feeder classes: Danish System--No premiums, Ribbons Only

DIVISION 950:
4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT MARKET LAMBS
(MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2))

CLASS:

1. Wether or Ewe Lamb (110 to 160 lbs.)

DIVISION 951:
SINGLE FEEDER LAMBS

CLASS:

1. Feeder Lamb (75 to 109 pounds)

DIVISION 953:
BRED & FED

- Exhibitor must have been owned the ewe at the time of the animal's conception, and the exhibitor must have provided primary care for the animals from birth through fair.
- Proof of ownership is due when entry form is submitted.
- All clubs will be shown together.
- Animals must have been shown in a Market Class.

CLASS:

1. Lamb

MARKET LAMB SCORECARD

Market Ready: USDA Prime or Choice quality with 12th rib back fat range .16-.35, average or greater conformation and cut ability.

Not Market Ready: Good or lower quality grade with 12th back fat range <.16 or >.35; under-finished lambs grading USDA good or lower, below-average conformation or cut ability.

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT GOAT DIVISIONS

1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA State Rules.
2. Goats must be at least 50% meat goat.
3. Goats must show milk teeth.
4. Market animals failing to meet minimum weight requirements will be transferred to the feeder class. ***Minimum weight for goats is 65 pounds. Goats weighing over 120 lbs. may still go to auction if they make grade. Animals will be sold at maximum weight of 120 lbs.***
5. Club Pen of Three: 3 best animals from your club, chosen day of show. One entry per club.
CLUB ONLY – NOT INDIVIDUAL – PLEASE DO NOT ADD TO INDIVIDUAL ENTRY FORMS.

ANIMAL FEE: \$10.00 (Per Animal)

ENTRY FEES: None

JUDGING: Market & Feeder classes: Danish System. No premiums, Ribbons Only.

DIVISION 955:

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT MARKET GOATS
(MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2))

CLASS:

1. Wether or Doe, Born after November 1, 2025 (65 to 120 lbs.)

DIVISION 956:
SINGLE FEEDER GOATS

CLASS:

1. Feeder Goat (Wether or doe) (65 pounds & under)

DIVISION 958:
BRED & FED

- Exhibitor must have been owned the doe at the time of the animal's conception, and the exhibitor must have provided primary care for the animals from birth through fair.
- Proof of ownership is due when entry form is submitted.
- All clubs will be shown together.
- Animals must have been shown in a Market Class.

CLASS:

1. Goat

MARKET GOAT SCORECARD

Market Ready: USDA Prime or Choice quality with 12th rib back range .08-12 most desirable, .13-.22 back fat acceptable, average, or greater conformation and cut ability.

Not Market Ready: Good or lower quality grade with 12th rib back fat range <.08 or >.22; under finished goats grading USDA good or lower, below average conformation or cut ability.

**4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT SMALL LIVESTOCK
DEPARTMENT**

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT POULTRY DIVISIONS

The state is requiring that all poultry be inspected prior to exhibiting at the fair. The fair will have an inspection station set up in the parking lot. Please allow time for this inspection when you bring your poultry to the fair.

1. Please refer to Local Rules and CDFA State Rules.
2. **EXHIBITOR MUST BRING IN THE BIRDS THAT ARE ON THEIR ENTRY FORMS WITH THE PROPER LEG BANDS THAT WERE ISSUED TO THE EXHIBITOR BY THE FAIR AT PRE-FAIR WEIGH-INS. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
3. All animals must be properly cleaned before inspection. Poultry will not be accepted into the fair if not clean. Failure to do so will result in the removal of the animal from fair.
4. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to carry their own animals to the judging table for judging. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
5. Small animal exhibitors must be present when animals are judged.
6. State Rules apply. Special attention should be given to Jr. Department, Health Rules, and, to 4-H, FFA & Grange Auction Rules if applicable.

7. Birds will be judged on Friday August 7th, except for Round Robin. Conformity to breed type will be considered in judging standard bred meat birds. 4-H, FFA & Grange advisers are to verify age of meat birds from record books.

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT LIVE MARKET BIRD DIVISIONS

Cage Fee: \$2.00

Judging: Danish System - Ribbons only

DIVISION 960: **MARKET CHICKENS**

(MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2) PER CLASS)

CLASS:

1. **Broiler**, pen of 3 birds less than 10 weeks old.
2. Laying **birds**, pen of 3 birds must be 5-18 months of age. (Birds must be the same breed & variety)

SCORECARD FOR JUDGING	
MEAT BIRDS	
	SCORE
SYMMETRY	10%
CONDITION	10%
WING & SHOULDER	10%
BACK & SPRINGS OF RIBS	10%
BREAST, LENGTH OF KEEL	10%
BREAST, FLESHING	20%
LEGS, FLESHING (Upper thigh 10%, drumstick 10%)	20%
SKIN (Color, texture, distribution of fat under skin)	10%
Total:	100%

COMPARISON OF GOOD AND POOR LAYERS		
BODY PART	GOOD LAYER	POOR LAYER
Carriage	active, alert	lazy, listless
Eyes	bright, sparkling	dull, sunken
Combs/Wattles	large, bright	small, pale
Shanks	thin, flat	round, full
Back	wide	narrow, tapered
Abdomen	deep, soft	shallow, hard
Pubic Bones	wide apart, Flexible	thin, tight, stiff, thick
Vent	large, moist	puckered, dry

DIVISION 961:
MARKET SINGLE TURKEYS, NVD
MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2)
Young Tom or Hen; under 1 year old
Minimum weight 15 pounds

CLASS:

1. 4-H, FFA, & Grange and Independent

DIVISION 962:

MARKET PAIR OF DUCKS, NVD
MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2)
Pair of Ducks, under 1 year old
Minimum Weight 5 pounds per duck.

CLASS:

1. 4-H, FFA, & Grange and Independent

DIVISION 963:

MARKET PAIR OF GEESE, NVD
MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2)
Young Geese or Ganders; under 1 year old
Minimum Weight 10 pounds per goose.

CLASS:

1. 4-H, FFA, Grange and Independent

DIVISION 964:

QUAIL MARKET CLASSES

1. MUST ENTER A PEN OF 10 – due to their size, any less than 10 would not produce enough eggs/meat to make it sustainable. A typical breeding set is 8 hens and no more than 2 roos (cocks).
2. Must be no less than 8 weeks old and no more than 16 weeks old.
3. No variety requirement.
4. No minimum weight. Maximum weight of less than 16 oz. each.

CLASS:

1. 4-H, FFA, Grange and Independent

DIVISION 965:

BRED & FED

- Exhibitor must have been owned the hen at the time of the animal's conception, and the exhibitor must have provided primary care for the animals from birth through fair.
- Proof of ownership is due when entry form is submitted.
- All clubs will be shown together.
- Animals must have been shown in a Market Class.

CLASS:

1. Market Chicken
2. Market Turkey
3. Market Ducks
4. Market Pair of Geese
5. Market Quail

4-H, FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT MARKET RABBITS

1. Please refer to the Local Rules and CDFA State Rules.

2. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to carry his or her own animal(s) to the judging table for judging. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
3. Small animal exhibitors must be present when animals are judged.
4. Lightweight and heavyweight compete against each other for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion.

Cage Fee: \$2.00

Judging: Danish System - Ribbons only

The four factors, in order of their importance, for judging meat rabbits/pens, are as follows: Meat Type, Condition, Uniformity, and Fur.

Meat pens shall consist of three rabbits, all of the same breed and variety. Broken group meat pens must also be of the same variety. A meat pen does not necessarily have to come from the same litter. Age limit 10 weeks. Minimum weight 3.5 lbs. each. Maximum weight 5.5lbs each. All rabbits must be weighed in the presence of the judge.

DIVISION 970:
RABBIT MARKET CLASSES
MAY ENTER AND SHOW TWO (2) PER CLASS

CLASS:

1. Pen of 3 fryer rabbits, each rabbit- weight 3.5 to 5.5 lbs., not over 10 weeks. Doe owned by the exhibitor prior to mating. Must be same breed and variety.
2. Single fryer rabbit, one rabbit, not over 10 weeks, 3.5 to 5.5 lbs. Doe owned by the exhibitor prior to mating.
3. Roaster, one rabbit, under 6 months, 5.5 lbs. to 9lbs.
4. Stewer, one rabbit, 6 months and older, 8 lbs. and over.

DIVISION 971:
BRED & FED

- Exhibitor must have been owned the doe at the time of the animal's conception, and the exhibitor must have provided primary care for the animals from birth through fair.
- Proof of ownership is due when entry form is submitted.
- All clubs will be shown together.
- Animals must have been shown in a Market Class.

CLASS:

1. Rabbit – must specify each class per entry from Division 970.

4-H, FFA GRANGE & INDEPENDENT SHOWMANSHIP

What is Showmanship?

Showmanship is a class where **you** (the exhibitor) are judged on how well you present and handle your animal in the show ring.

The judge is **not** primarily judging the animal's quality — they are judging **your skills** as a showman. It's your chance to show that you know how to care for, groom, control, and display your animal to its best advantage.

Why is Showmanship Important?

- It is **required** for all 4-H, FFA, Grange, and Independent members who want to sell their market animal in the auction.
- The top showmen (usually 1st and 2nd place in each age group) advance to the **Round Robin** competition.
- Good showmanship demonstrates responsibility, knowledge, and sportsmanship.

Showmanship Age Groups (as of January 1, 2026)

Small Animal Showmanship (Poultry, Cavy, Rabbit, Pygmy Goat):

- Junior: Ages 9–11
- Intermediate: Ages 12–14
- Senior: Ages 15 and over

Large Animal Showmanship (Beef, Dairy, Meat Goats, Dairy Goats, Sheep, Swine):

- Junior: Ages 9–11
- Intermediate: Ages 12–14
- Senior: Ages 15 and over

In each age group, the 1st and 2nd place winners return to compete for **Overall Champion and Reserve Champion Showman** of that species.

How Showmanship is Judged (American System)

Showmanship uses the **American System** — the judge compares exhibitors against each other and a standard of excellence. Only one person gets 1st place, one gets 2nd, etc. in each class.

Large Animal Showmanship Scorecard (100 points total)

Category	What the Judge Looks For	Points
Appearance of the Animal	Condition, grooming/clipping, cleanliness	50
• Condition	Healthy, well-fed look	(10)
• Grooming & Clipping	Neatly clipped or groomed	(20)
• Cleanliness	Animal is clean (no dirt or manure)	(10)
• Appearance of Exhibitor	You are neat, in proper uniform, confident	(10)
Showing in the Ring	How well you handle and present the animal	50
• Moving or Leading	Smooth control while walking	(15)
• Posing / Setting Up	Animal stands correctly for the judge	(15)
• Showing to Best Advantage	You keep the animal between you and the judge	(10)

Category	What the Judge Looks For	Points
• Poise, Alertness & Attitude	You stay calm, focused, and respectful	(10)
Total		100

Small Animal Showmanship

The judge evaluates similar skills but adjusted for the species:

- How calmly and correctly you handle the animal (bird, rabbit, cavy, or pygmy goat)
- Proper presentation and control
- Your knowledge of the animal (you may be asked questions)
- Your appearance and attitude

Important Showmanship Rules at Del Norte County Fair

- You **must show your own animal** (exceptions only by Fair Management or Livestock Superintendent).
- You must wear the **correct uniform** (official fair uniform for Independents or your 4-H/FFA/Grange uniform). No proper uniform = not allowed in the ring.
- Back numbers must be worn and clearly visible.
- Long hair must not cover your back number.
- Showmanship order: **Seniors first**, then Intermediates, then Juniors.
- Champion and Reserve Champion Showman from each species usually advance to **Round Robin**.

Tips for Doing Well in Showmanship

- Practice at home: Leading, setting up, and controlling your animal.
- Know your animal — be ready to answer basic questions about its care, breed, or feeding.
- Stay calm and focused. Watch the judge at all times.
- Keep the animal between you and the judge when possible.
- Dress neatly and professionally.

DIVISION 975:

SMALL ANIMAL SHOWMANSHIP

Small Animal Showmanship Classes are defined as follows:

AGE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2026

<p>Junior - Ages 9 - 11 Intermediate - Ages 12 - 14 Senior - Ages 15 and over</p>
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The 1st and 2nd place winners in each class will return to the ring and compete for champion and reserve champion showman. The champion and reserve champion showman will advance to round robin.

CLASS:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. One Bird, Junior | 7. One Rabbit, Junior |
| 2. One Bird, Intermediate | 8. One Rabbit, Intermediate |
| 3. One Bird, Senior | 9. One Rabbit, Senior |
| 4. One Cavy, Junior | 10. One Pygmy Goat, Junior |
| 5. One Cavy, Intermediate | 11. One Pygmy Goat, Intermediate |
| 6. One Cavy, Senior | 12. One Pygmy Goat, Senior |

LARGE ANIMAL SHOWMANSHIP SCORECARD	SCORE
Appearance of Animal:	50%
Condition	(10)
Grooming and/or clipping	(20)
Cleanliness	(10)
Appearance of Exhibitor	(10)
Showing in the Ring:	50%
Moving or Leading	(15)
Posing	(15)
Showing Animal to Best Advantage	(10)
Poise, Alertness and Attitude	(10)
Total:	100%

DIVISION 976:

LARGE ANIMAL SHOWMANSHIP

Large Animal Showmanship – Classes are defined as follows:

AGE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2026

<p>Junior - Ages 9-11 Intermediate - Ages 12-14 Senior - Ages 15 & up</p>
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The 1st and 2nd place winners in each class will return to the ring and compete for champion and reserve champion showman. The champion and reserve champion showman will advance to round robin.

CLASS:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Beef Cattle, Junior | 10. Meat Goats, Junior |
| 2. Beef Cattle, Intermediate | 11. Meat Goats, Intermediate |
| 3. Beef Cattle, Senior | 12. Meat Goats, Senior |
| 4. Dairy Cattle, Junior | 13. Sheep, Junior |
| 5. Dairy Cattle, Intermediate. | 14. Sheep, Intermediate |
| 6. Dairy Cattle, Senior | 15. Sheep, Senior |
| 7. Dairy Goats, Junior | 16. Swine, Junior |
| 8. Dairy Goats, Intermediate | 17. Swine, Intermediate |
| 9. Dairy Goats, Senior | 18. Swine, Senior |

ROUND ROBIN RULES

What is Round Robin? Round Robin is a special competition for the **top showmen** from each species. It tests your ability to show different kinds of animals — not just the one you raised. It's a fun and challenging way to show off your overall showmanship skills.

Where and When It Happens

- **Large Animal Round Robin:** Held in the regular show arenas (goats and lambs will have arenas set up in the Ace Barn).
- **Small Animal Round Robin:** Held in the Ace Pavilion and includes Cavy, Pygmy Goat, Rabbit, and Poultry.
- Horse showmanship is **not** included in Round Robin.

How to Qualify

1. You must place **1st or 2nd** in overall Showmanship for a species to qualify.
2. The Champion and Reserve Champion (1st and 2nd place) from each species **must** compete in Round Robin for that species.
3. If one exhibitor wins 1st or 2nd in multiple species, they choose which species they will show in Round Robin. The **3rd place** showman from the species they do **not** choose will then advance.

Important Requirements

4. You must **declare** which species you will compete with in Round Robin by the end of Friday's shows.
5. All Round Robin participants must sign the official Round Robin form at the end of Friday.
6. You **must** use the **same animal** you showed in Showmanship for that species.
7. You must show **your own species** (the one you won Showmanship with). You cannot show someone else's animal.
8. The official **Fair Uniform dress code** applies — you must be properly dressed.

How Round Robin Works

- Each contestant starts by showing their **own animal** (except 3rd place showmen, who start with a different animal).
- Then you rotate and show **every species** in the contest.
- Each rotation lasts **6 minutes** per species.
- Judges are chosen in advance by Fair Management and the Livestock Superintendent.
- Fair Management and the Livestock Superintendent may switch an animal for any reason.

Scoring (50 points total)

You are scored on how well you handle and show each animal:

Category	Points
Control of the animal	10
Poise and coolness of exhibitor / appearance	5

Category	Points
Skill of showing	5
Continuous attention to the animal	5
Keeping animal standing to best advantage	5
Ability to stand or move animal as judge asks	10
Response to questions	10
Total	50

- In case of a tie, the exhibitor with the **highest score on responses to questions** wins.

Final Meeting

There will be a mandatory meeting for all Round Robin participants on **Friday night at 4:00 pm** (or right after the Dairy show).

Key Reminders

- The judge's decision is **final**.
- All regular Del Norte County Fair rules still apply.

LIVESTOCK AUCTION RULES OPEN TO 4-H, FFA, GRANGE AND INDEPENDENT

The Del Norte County Livestock Auction is run by an independent Auction Committee, approved by the Fair. The Committee, Fair Management, and Livestock Superintendent have the right to limit entries or disqualify any animal that could endanger the public or is not in the best interest of the auction or the Fair.

Important: The Auction Committee and the Fair do **not** guarantee that your animal will sell or that it will sell for any specific price. They are not responsible for any problems that may happen during the sale.

Who Can Sell in the Auction?

1. You **must** compete in **Showmanship** to be eligible to sell (Poultry exhibitors may show any species of poultry).
2. Only animals that have been **shown** in a poultry, rabbit, or market class at the 2026 Del Norte County Fair may be sold.

3. Only **Market Ready** animals that meet the weight and grade requirements will be sold. These include Beef, Sheep, Meat Goats, Swine, Rabbits, and Poultry. Animals must be clean and healthy.

Sale Limits

4. Each exhibitor may sell **only one animal** at the auction. **Exception:** If you win a **Grand Champion**, you may sell **one extra market lot for every Grand Champion** you win (as long as the extra animals also meet auction requirements). **Example:** If you win 4 Grand Champions, you can sell your original 1 animal + 4 additional lots (such as beef, lamb, meat goat, hog, pen of chickens, roaster rabbit, etc.).
5. **You must show your own animal** in the sale ring.

How the Auction Works

6. **Sale Order:**
 - First: Grand Champion and Reserve Champion of each species
 - Then: All “Gold” (Market Ready) animals, followed by “Silver” animals, in order of their class placement.
7. If your family is unhappy with the highest bid, they are allowed **one bid** to try to buy the animal back. Once the animal is sold, the sale is **final**.
8. A **5% deduction** is taken from the gross sale price of each lot to help cover auction costs (such as buyer defaults, animal death, or condemnation).

Important Meetings & Deadlines

9. **Auction Declaration Meeting** (Mandatory)
 - Date: **Friday, August 7, 2026**
 - Time: **4:00 pm**
 - Location: Ace Pavilion All sellers whose animals are “Market Ready” **must attend**. You will turn in your declaration forms at this meeting. **Missing this meeting will result in a 15% reduction from your auction check.**
10. Parents and the exhibitor must sign an **Intent to Sell** form before the animal can be sold.
11. **Picture Taking** Pictures are taken 30 minutes before Showmanship and 30 minutes after the show. Retakes happen after the declaration meeting. **Anyone not present for pictures will have 10% deducted from their auction check.**

Other Important Rules

12. No animals may be sold during the fair except through the official auction. Selling animals privately can result in serious consequences.
13. Each club must provide **four (4) runners in uniform** during the auction. If your club does not provide runners, there will be a **5% deduction** from **all** auction checks for that club.
14. **Auction Ticket Sales** Every exhibitor **must** sell the equivalent of **ten (10) \$10 auction raffle tickets**. If you do not participate, you will receive a **\$150 penalty** on your auction check.
15. **Small Animals** are sold **live** — buyers take them home the same day.
16. No animal may leave the fairgrounds until after the fair ends on Sunday, August 9, 2026.
17. Sellers are responsible for giving their buyer a **gift** at the time of sale.

Receiving Your Auction Check

18. Auction checks will be available starting **Monday, August 24, 2026** at 9:00 am in the fair office.
 - Only the **exhibitor** may pick up the check.
 - You **must** bring a **self-addressed, stamped “Thank You” card** for the buyer.
 - Bring extra cards in case there are add-ons to your check.
 - Checks must be picked up by **September 30, 2026**. You have 90 days to cash them.
19. All buyer payments are made to the **41st District Agricultural Association**. The Fair then pays the exhibitors.

Final Notes

- All Del Norte County Fair rules apply to the auction.
- Exceptions to these rules can only be granted by the Auction Committee and the Fair Manager.

DEL NORTE COUNTY YOUTH HORSE SHOW

General Rules

1. The horse show follows the rules in the **USEF Rule Book** for judged classes unless they conflict with California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) fair rules. In case of conflict, CDFA rules take priority.
2. **Liability** The fair management is **not responsible** for any loss, injury, or damage to horses, equipment, or people. Each exhibitor (or their parent/guardian) is fully responsible for any injury or damage caused by their horse while on the fairgrounds.
3. **State Qualification** The **Best of Show** (1st and 2nd place) winners from this show qualify to compete in the **2026 State Best of Show Youth Horse Show** in Sacramento.
4. **High Point Award** High Point is awarded in each division based on total points earned across classes. There is no minimum or maximum number of classes you must enter.

Points per class:

- 1st place = **5 points**
 - 2nd place = **3 points**
 - 3rd place = **1 point**
5. **Helmets Certified helmets** (ASTM/SEI approved) are **mandatory** whenever you are on a horse.
 6. **Entry Limits** Only **one horse and rider combination** per entry form. You may enter multiple horses, but they cannot be in the same class.
 7. **Age Requirement** Exhibitors must be **9 to under 19 years old** as of **January 1, 2026**.

Attire (Dress Code)

- **4-H, FFA, Grange & Independent members:** For **Showmanship, Conformation, and Western classes:** Wear the fair's official uniform — white button-up shirt with collar (no polo shirts), dark blue or white western-style pants, leather boots (lace-up or slip-on), and

a western-style belt. For **English classes**: English attire (English pants and boots) is required.

- **4-H, FFA & Grange members** must also wear their organization's uniform items: hat, scarf or tie, vest, or jacket.

Showmanship & Halter Classes

- Showmanship classes are open **only** to Del Norte County 4-H, FFA, Grange, and Independent juniors.
- 1st place in each Showmanship class returns to the ring to compete for **Overall Champion Showman**.
- 1st place in each Halter class returns to compete for **Champion Halter**.
- **Walk/Jog (W/J)** classes are for beginners and **do not** count toward High Point.
- **Conformation** classes **do not** count toward High Point.

Entry Information

- **Entry Forms Due:** (Date will be listed in the fair schedule)
- **Entry Fee: None**

Final Notes

- The judge's decision is **final**.
- All participants must follow the Del Norte County Fair rules in addition to these horse show rules.

DIVISION 1: PONY

DIVISION 2: 4-H

DIVISION 3: FFA, GRANGE & INDEPENDENT JUNIOR

CLASS:

1. Showmanship, 9-13
2. Showmanship, 14 & Over
3. Showmanship, Pony
4. Halter – All ages, Gelding
5. Halter – All ages, Mares
6. Halter – Pony
7. English Equitation, W/J, open 9 & over
8. English Equitation, 9 – 13
9. English Equitation, 14 & over
10. English Equitation, Pony
11. English Pleasure W/J, open 9 & over
12. English Pleasure, 9 – 13
13. English Pleasure, 14 & over
14. English Pleasure, Pony
15. Bareback Equitation, W/J, Western or English
16. Bareback Equitation, 9 – 13
17. Bareback Equitation, 14 & Over
18. Bareback Equitation, Pony
19. Western Equitation, W/J, open
20. Western Equitation, 9 – 13
21. Western Equitation, 14 & Over
22. Western Equitation, Pony
23. Western Horsemanship, W/J, open 9 & Over
24. Western Horsemanship, 9 – 13
25. Western Horsemanship, 14 & Over
26. Western Horsemanship, Pony
27. Western Pleasure, W/J, Open 9 & Over
28. Western Pleasure, 9 – 13
29. Western Pleasure, 14 & Over
30. Western Pleasure, Pony

31. Trail, W/J, open 9 & Over
32. Trail, 9 – 13
33. Trail, 14 & Over

34. Trail, Pony