



2026 OPEN CLASS BEEF CATTLE

Agriculture Office: 716-649-3900 Ext. 6499 or Entries@ecfair.org

Join us in celebrating 2026 4H, FFA, & Youth Livestock Expo Champions at the Breakfast with Champions at 9 a.m., Sunday, August 23 in the Clubhouse - Tickets are \$25 tickets each and can be purchased at www.ecfair.org

SHOW INFORMATION

Superintendent:	Mr. Keltan Tanguay
Early Entry Deadline:	Monday, July 13, 2026 - Entries made on or after August 1 must be placed by calling the agriculture office
Entry Fees:	Early Entry \$5 per head/Late Entry \$15 per head (Including group classes)
Arrival:	Thursday, August 20, 6–10 a.m.
Check-in:	Thursday, August 20, 10 a.m.–noon. Exhibitors must be by their animals, with animal registration papers.
Showmanship:	Friday, August 21 11:30 a.m., Showplex
Breeding/Market Show:	Sunday, August 23, 11:30 a.m., Livestock Arena
Judge:	Mr. Easton Ray, OK
Release:	Sunday, August 23, 6 p.m.
Tack Vendor:	Twist Of Fate (860) 759-9335

EXHIBITORS: PLEASE READ ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS, IAFE NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS, AND ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.

RULES

1. All exhibitors must purchase either a **\$20 Exhibitor wristband** or a **\$100 Erie County Agricultural Society Membership**. If your animals do not arrive to the fair, you will not receive your Exhibitor wristband.
2. One-day passes for additional worker help can be purchased online for \$12 each during Exhibitor sign-up. Quantity may be limited.
3. All New York State Veterinarian decisions are final and supported by Erie County Fair Staff inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated and can result in forfeit of premiums and removal from fair.
4. Rules of the **New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Standards for the Conduct of Agriculture and Markets for Fairs and Summary of Livestock Health Requirements apply.**
5. Exhibitors will be responsible to weigh their own cattle but the superintendent will be present at scale Thursday, August 20 10 a.m.-12 p.m. if exhibitor wishes to weigh then. All weights must be submitted to the superintendent no later than 12 p.m. on Thursday, August 20.
6. Exhibitors must be at least 4 years of age to exhibit livestock.
7. An official Registration Certificate must be shown on each animal (except crossbred). These will be checked for identification, ownership, and birth date.
8. Youth exhibitors may enter any animal in the Open Class department. Exhibitors must pay all appropriate fees, including Exhibitor wristband fees, entry fees, and late fees.
9. Entry fees do not guarantee tack space or pens. In divisions where entries do not exceed available space, tack pens will be assigned by the Superintendent.
10. Showmanship will be a no fit competition.
11. The management assumes no responsibility in case of loss or damage of stock or other exhibits from any cause; and upon this condition only, are entries accepted.
12. Any animal that does not have a legible tattoo is ineligible to compete and will be barred from showing.
13. Any calf under 4 months of age may not be entered in any class for competition (except Class 14 in All Beef Breeds).
14. Initial sawdust bedding will be supplied to exhibitors. However, if exhibitors wish to have shavings, straw or bark they must bring it or buy it from a purveyor on the grounds. The Fair will not be providing straw, bark or shavings, after initial supply.

15. Showmanship will be offered. Sign up will take place at check in with the superintendent.
16. No changes to barn layouts unless approved by Show Management. Late entries will be accommodated in the best way possible.
17. Show Management will grant permission only for late arrival of animals being shown at a competing show which conflicts with above times. Early removal will result in forfeiture of premiums unless Fair management has granted permission to release animals.
18. Exhibitors may begin tying out their animals at 8 pm. Animals must be back in the barn by 10:30am.
19. Exhibitors wishing to camp may purchase a spot for desired nights online during Exhibitor sign-up. please note that payment does not guarantee a spot. You will be notified & refunded if camper lot is full.

PROTEST RULE

1. The judge's decision will be final in all cases, except where error, mistake, fraud, misrepresentation, or collusion, not discovered at the time of the award, is proven. In such cases, the decision of Show Management or an appointed referee will be final.
2. All New York State Veterinarian decisions are final and supported by Erie County Fair Staff.
3. Protests regarding any livestock competitions and events held by the Erie County Agricultural Society during the Erie County Fair (Youth Livestock Expo & Open Class Livestock Shows) must be made in writing using a form found in the Livestock Office. Submit the form and a \$300 cash deposit to the Erie County Agricultural Society CEO. Deposit is refundable **only** if the protest is upheld; otherwise, it will be donated to the Erie County Agricultural Society Scholarship Fund.
4. **Classification and the judge's opinion are not eligible for protest.**
5. Protests against the exhibition of animals must be filed at least three hours before the start of the show in question.
6. The CEO of the Erie County Agricultural Society may hold a meeting regarding the protest, at which time the protesting party may present evidence or argument in support of the protest.
7. A written decision will be issued within five days and will be served via certified mail.
8. Exhibitors must always demonstrate honesty, sportsmanship, and professionalism. This code applies to both Junior and Open Class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition in all livestock events.

RELEASE SCHEDULE

To ensure everyone's safety and reduce congestion, each exhibitor will receive a 30-minute loading time slot, during which their truck and trailer may enter the Fairgrounds. Exhibitors traveling the farthest will receive the earliest time slots. Multiple trips also will be considered. Exhibitors are encouraged to assist one another with loading. Arrangements must be made with the show management prior to show day. Early release form must be given to Superintendent at the Exhibitors meeting.

SPECIAL AWARDS

Endowment Fund Award: Presented to a Holstein, Color Breed, or Beef Exhibitor who best promotes the industry, through educational displays and communication with the public. The Endowment Fund Award will be judged by an anonymous person chosen by Show Management. *Please note: This Award is separate from the Herdsman Award.*

Premier Exhibitor Banner: Awarded to Exhibitor accumulating the most points on animals exhibited and shown in the Individual Classes. (Up to, but not to exceed 8 animals, no minimum number of head). Exhibitors will tally their own points on forms provided by Show Management. Results will be verified by Show Management.

Premier Breeder Banner: Awarded to Exhibitor accumulating the most points on animals bred by him/her and shown in the Individual Classes. (Up to, but not to exceed 8 animals, no minimum number of head). Exhibitors will tally their own points on forms provided by Show Management. Results will be verified by Show Management.

Points for Premier Exhibitor and Premier Breeder will be calculated as follows: 3 points for 1st place, 2 points for 2nd place, 1 point for 3rd place. Also 3 points will be awarded for Grand Champion and 2 points will be awarded for Reserve Grand Champion. No points will be awarded for Divisional Champions or Reserve Champions. In the event of a tie, the exhibitor with the points won by animals bred & owned in Individual Classes will be the winner.

Points for Premier Exhibitor and Premier Breeder (Herefords) will be calculated as follows: 5 points for 1st place, 4 points for 2nd place, 3 points for 3rd place, 2 points for 4th place, 1 point for 5th place. No points will be awarded for champions. Points will be awarded for the Get of Sire and Breeder's Special for Premier Breeder. The same scoring system as above will be used for awarding points for the Group Classes.

Points for Premier Exhibitor and Premier Breeder (Simmentals) will be calculated as follows: One point shall be given for each animal an individual placed above up to a maximum of 9 points to 1st place, 8 points to 2nd place, and 7 points to 3rd place. (For example, a first place winner in a class of six animals shall receive 5 points.) Points shall be awarded to only the first three places in the Class. Grand Champion shall receive 5 pts., Reserve Grand Champion, 4 pts., Division Champions, 3 pts., and Reserve Divisional Champions,

Erie County Fair Dates: August 12-23, 2026

2 pts. In the event of a tie, the number of points shall be divided by the number of animals the points were derived from and the exhibitor/breeder having the higher point average will be presented the award.

BEEF CATTLE PREMIUM BREAKDOWN

# Of Entries in Class	Placings														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	\$43.75														
2	\$46.25	38.75													
3	\$48.75	41.25	33.75												
4	\$50.00	42.50	25.00	27.50											
5	\$55.00	47.50	40.00	32.50	25.00										
6	\$60.00	52.50	45.00	37.50	30.00	22.50									
7	\$65.00	57.50	50.00	42.50	35.00	27.50	20.00								
8	\$66.25	62.50	55.00	47.50	40.00	32.50	25.00	17.50							
9	\$75.00	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	37.50	30.00	22.50	17.50						
10	\$77.50	69.50	62.50	55.00	47.50	40.00	32.50	23.75	20.00	17.50					
11	\$80.00	72.50	65.00	57.50	50.00	42.50	35.00	25.00	22.50	20.00	17.50				
12	\$82.50	75.00	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	37.50	30.00	25.00	21.25	20.00	17.50			
13	\$85.00	77.50	69.50	62.50	55.00	47.50	40.00	32.50	25.00	22.50	21.25	20.00	17.50		
14	\$86.25	78.75	71.25	63.75	56.25	48.75	41.25	33.75	26.25	25.00	22.50	21.25	20.00	17.50	
15	\$87.50	80.00	72.50	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	37.50	30.00	25.00	22.50	21.25	20.00	18.75	17.50

BREEDING SHOW DIVISIONS

ANGUS
 HEREFORD
 LIMOUSIN
 MAINE ANJOU

SHORTHORN & SHORTHORN PLUS (Will Show Together)
 SIMMENTAL
 ANY OTHER REGISTERED BREEDS
 CROSSBREDS

- Heifers and Bulls will show in alphabetical order based on breed with AOB and Crossbreds at the end.
- All breeds in Any Other Registered Breeds Division will show together. However, in the event there is enough of a particular breed to warrant a breed show, breed classes will be created at that time.
- Animals must be registered with their National Breed Association, see rule #7 (except section Crossbreds & Steers).
- ALL Breeds MUST have a *minimum* of 6 head to have a breed show, otherwise they will show in the Any Other Registered Breeds Division.

Class #

1. Junior Heifer Calves – born after January 1, 2026 and over 4 months of age
2. Senior Heifer Calves – born between September 1 and December 31, 2025

Erie County Fair Dates: August 12-23, 2026

Champion and Reserve Champion Heifer Calf

5. Late Summer Yearling Heifers: born between July 1 and August 31, 2025
6. Summer Yearling Heifers: born between May 1 and June 30, 2025
7. Spring Yearling Heifers: born between March 1 and April 30, 2025
8. Junior Yearling Heifers: born between January 1 and February 28, 2025
9. Senior Yearling Heifers: born between September 1 and December 31, 2024
- 9a. Two Year Old Heifer: born before September 1, 2024 (*registered Highlands only*)

Champion and Reserve Champion Yearling Heifer

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Female

14. Cow and Calf: calf born in 2026

Champion and Reserve Champion Cow & Calf

17. Junior Bull Calves: born after January 1, 2026 and over 4 months of age
18. Senior Bull Calves: born between September 1 and December 31, 2025

Champion and Reserve Champion Bull Calf

21. Late Summer Yearling Bull: born between July 1 and August 31, 2025
22. Summer Yearling Bull: born between May 1 and June 30, 2025
23. Spring Yearling Bull: born between March 1 and April 30, 2025
24. Junior Yearling Bull: born between January 1 and February 28, 2025
25. Senior Yearling Bull: born between September 1 and December 31, 2024

Champion and Reserve Champion Yearling Bull

28. 2-Year-Old Bull: born between January 1 and August 31, 2024

Champion & Reserve Champion 2-Year-Old Bull

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Bull

33. Breeder's Special - 2 head, any age, either sex, shown in above classes, bred and owned or co-owned by exhibitor (all same breed)
34. Erie County Fair Special – 3 head, any age, either sex, shown in above classes, all bred, 1 owned (all same breed)
35. Get-of-Sire - 3 animals by one sire, both sexes represented, shown in above classes
36. Produce of Dam – 2 head, any age, either sex, progeny of one dam
(Group Class Premiums will be paid to the Exhibitor who enters the Class)

Supreme Champion Female: \$50 & Banner

Reserve Supreme Champion Female: Banner

Supreme Champion Bull: \$50 & Banner

Reserve Supreme Champion Bull: Banner

Supreme Champion Cow & Calf Pair: \$50 & Banner

Reserve Supreme Champion Cow Calf Pair: Banner

The Clayton C. Taylor Memorial Award will be awarded to the 1st place Senior or Junior Get-of-Sire in the Angus breed. In the event that there is no competition in the class, the Award will be given to the Champion Bull or Champion Female in the Angus breed.

MARKET SHOW DIVISIONS

CLASS PREMIUMS \$21.25, \$17.50, \$15, \$12.50, \$10, \$7.50

Market Steer/ Market Heifer Show:

Shown by weight. Animals must weigh over 1,000 lbs. to be eligible for the Market Show.

Champion Market Steer/ Market Heifer: \$150

Reserve Champion Market Steer/Market Heifer: \$75

Prospect Steer/ Prospect Heifer Show:

Must be over 4 months of age.

Shown by weight. Animals must *not* weigh over 1,000 lbs. to be eligible for the Prospect Show.

Erie County Fair Dates: August 12-23, 2026

All Prospect Steers must be already cut/ banded.

Champion Prospect Steer/ Heifer: \$150 & Banner

Reserve Champion Prospect Steer/Heifer: \$75 & Banner

SHOWMANSHIP DIVISIONS

There will be no entry fee and no premiums awarded. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be chosen and given awards. Sign-up will take place at check-in with the Superintendent. The class breakdown is as follows:

Classes (shown in order):

- **Novice Showman:** first-time Showman; ages 4-21
- **Pee Wee Showman:** ages 4-8 years old
- **Junior Showman:** ages 9-12
- **Intermediate Showman:** ages 13-16
- **Senior Showman:** 17-21 years old
- **Adult Showman:** ages 22 and older

HERDSMANSHIP AWARDS

Three Herdsmanship Awards will be presented to Beef Cattle Exhibitors. Exhibitors will be judged daily by Show Management and awards will be announced at the end of the Beef Cattle Exhibitors stay.

1st place: \$62.50 & Banner

2nd place: \$37.50

3rd place: \$18.75

Judging Criteria:

1. Stall decorations tied to the 2026 theme: **“Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights.”**
2. Cleanliness and neatness of aisles, pens, bedding, and animals.
3. Promptness in getting animals into the show ring and competence in show ring.
4. Courtesy to fellow breeders, spectators, and others.
5. Personal appearance, cleanliness, and neatness in and out of the ring.
6. Organized and tidy feed, bedding, tack, and equipment.