2027 GALVESTON COUNTY FAIR & RODEO, INC.

JUNIOR COMMERCIAL HEIFER RULES

CHAIRPERSON: Kody Kahla 409-682-5423

TAG-IN:	**Saturday, October 31, 2026, 8:00 a.m. - 11 a.m.**
ENTRIES DUE:	**All entries, fees and required paperwork will be due to the fair office no later than 6:00 p.m. January 28, 2027 and must be submitted by 4-H Leader or Ag Teacher, ONLY NO REFUNDS FOR ANY REASON**
ENTRY FEE:	**$35.00 per animal or $70.00 per pen of two (2)**
CHECK-IN, SIFTING & CLASSIFICATION:	**Thursday, April 15, 2027, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**
JUDGING:	**Friday, April 16, 2027, 5:00 p.m. Pen of 2 class will start and Single Heifers will follow.**
CHECK-OUT:	***Sunday, April 18, 2027, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.***

1. **All entries for this division will be subject to the General Livestock Rules of the Galveston County Fair & Rodeo, Inc. except where they conflict with the requirements of this division in which case the division rules will prevail. In the event of special circumstances that may arise, or a conflict between rules, decisions of the Show Chairperson and the Livestock Superintendent will be final.**
2. All heifers must be at least **four (4) months old and must be Brucellosis vaccinated prior to Tag-in**. ***All non-vaccinated heifers are not eligible to be tagged and therefore are not eligible to show in April. There Will Be No Exceptions.***
3. All Commercial Heifers must be owned by Exhibitor by the date of Tag-in, Saturday, October 31, 2026, 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Exhibitors must bring their cattle to the fairgrounds for Tag-in. Signature of exhibitor and parent/guardian, or representative is required at Tag-in. Only the GCF&R or TX validation tag numbers will be used for identification. All ear tags except the GCF&R and TX validation tag must be removed prior to or during tag-in and these should be the only tags present at check-in. Alterations to the GCF&R or TX validation tags – change to size, shape, form or color – will void the tag. (See General Rule #9)
4. All commercial heifers must be haltered (exception: Pen of Two (2).
5. The Tag-in process will consist of: sifting based on toothing, physical soundness, nose-printing, and ear tagging for identification on Saturday, October 31, 2026.
6. Each exhibitor is entitled to enter and show one (1) heifer per class with no bump-ups. Pens of Two (2) will be limited to one pen per exhibitor. The maximum number of calves for check in is 5 (five) head per exhibitor for the Pen of Two (2).
7. For safety reasons, all heifers must be de-horned prior to Check-in date. All heifers found to have grow backs and/or loose horns will be subject to review and possible disqualification by the Heifer Chairperson/Livestock Superintendent at check-in.
8. **All heifers 12 months of age and older must be palpated by a veterinarian and designated as open or bred**. **This should be done within 30 days of check-in**. A Palpation Certificate must be furnished and turned in at check-in. Any heifer calving prior to show time, April 16, 2027, will be ineligible to show in the Junior Commercial Heifer Show.
9. All exhibitors must lead their heifer from trailer to Check-in Area. Any heifer which cannot be handled by Exhibitor during check-in will be sifted.
10. The Junior Commercial Heifer Committee reserves the right to expel unruly animals from the Fairgrounds. Any Junior Commercial Heifer which cannot be handled by the exhibitor during judging will be removed from the show ring and disqualified. Animals expelled before, during or after the show will not be eligible for the sale.
11. All heifers must have both baby teeth present at tag in. Heifers will be toothed by any licensed veterinarian or associate. **All heifers are subject to age classification as of October 31, 2026**. The decision of the veterinarian at check-in will be final. Valid registration papers from recognized association will override the toothing rule.
12. Single heifers must be halter broken for the Fair and cross-tied with one rope around the neck and one rope from the halter. Only the exhibitor and animal will be allowed in the designated holding area prior/during the show.
13. **All Commercial Heifers will be classified at check-in.** The classifier will be a non-Galveston County Cattleman chosen and approved by the Commercial Heifer Committee. **The decision of the Classifier at Check-in will be final.**
14. Only Scissors or cordless clippers may be used for cosmetic clipping hair touch up prior to entering the show staging area. All animal grooming of your cattle before the show must be done in the designated grooming/power plant

area only. Blow dryers will be allowed to be used only at the designated grooming/power plant area. No generators will be allowed under the livestock barn.

15. NO hay, flake shavings and/or cedar fiber for bedding will be allowed. Only Pellet Bedding will be permitted at exhibitors' expense, but not provided by GCF&R. Exhibitors' bedding cannot be stored on fairgrounds. All stalls, alleyways and Pen of 2 pens must be cleaned of all bedding, hay, manure and trash must be cleaned up at time of release. Please leave the area in the condition that you found it.
16. Heifer classes may be split based on the number of heifers in a class.
17. The Pen of 2 Class will also be judged on Showmanship during the judging of that class.
18. Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, Class Champion (1st) and second (2nd) place heifers and Grand Champion *and* Reserve Champion Pen of Two (2) heifers ***must*** sell in the Junior Commercial Heifer Auction. All other Exhibitors who choose not to sell are excused from the Auction. Two lots per exhibitor will be allowed in the Junior Commercial Heifer Auction. (See Junior Commercial Heifer Auction Rules.)
19. Drench guns may be used. Stomach pumping, drenching tubes or any other method (by esophagus) is prohibited.
20. A Proof of Delivery Form (when applicable) and thank you card (see General Rule #43) will be required before Exhibitor's check can be released. All exhibitors must come to the Fair Office, with these items, to sign for their check.

Fair officials reserve the right to change the rules, dates, times and places due to unforeseen circumstances.

CLASSES

1.	Pen of Two	
2.	Scramble Class *	
3.	Less than 1/2 Brahman	10 – 12 months of age
4.	Less than 1/2 Brahman	12 – 16 months of age
5.	Less than 1/2 Brahman	16 – 20 months of age
6.	Less than 1/2 Brahman	20 – 24 months of age
7.	Less than 1/2 Brahman	24 – 30 months of age
8.	1/2 or More Brahman	10 – 12 months of age
9.	1/2 or More Brahman	12 – 16 months of age
10.	1/2 or More Brahman	16 – 20 months of age
11.	1/2 or More Brahman	20 – 24 months of age
12.	1/2 or More Brahman	24 – 30 months of age
13.	Non Brahman	10 – 12 months of age
14.	Non Brahman	12 – 16 months of age
15.	Non Brahman	16 – 20 months of age
16.	Non Brahman	20 – 24 months of age
17.	Non Brahman	24 – 30 months of age

BIRTH DATES FOR AGE DIVISIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

10 – 12 months of age	April 15, 2026 – June 16, 2026
12 – 16 months of age	December 15, 2026 – April 16, 2026
16 – 20 months of age	August 15, 2025 – December 16, 2025
20 – 24 months of age	April 15, 2025– August 16, 2025
24 – 30 months of age	October 31, 2024 – April 16, 2025

*** SPECIAL SCRAMBLE HEIFER SHOW RULES**

1. Scramble Class is open only to 2027 Galveston County Fair & Rodeo Calf Scramble Heifers.
2. Must be entered in the Junior Commercial Heifer Show are required to show in the Scramble Class.
3. Placing in the Scramble Class does not make heifer eligible for Auction.
4. To be eligible for Championship Placings and/or Auction, heifer must also be shown in one of the other Classes 3-14.
5. Exhibitors with Scramble Heifers are excused from participating in the Junior Commercial Heifer Show (Classes 3-14), if they so desire.