

## MANATEE COUNTY FAIR 2025 Poultry

**FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR: Jim Parks & Danielle Carothers**  
**AREA SUPERINTENDENT: Vanessa Santos**

**Failure to complete the check-in and on-line registration, will result in disqualification.**

### SCHEDULE

#### Mandatory Check In

**Saturday, October 26, 2024, 9am to 1pm, Cook/Powell Arena**

- Exhibitor and parent or legal guardian must be present even if the exhibitor is 18
- FFA advisors & 4-H club leaders, with chapter animals, must attend the mandatory check in.
- Birds for entry into the 2025 Manatee County Fair must be present

All exhibitors must turn in or complete the following:

- NPIP blood testing (unless from a NPIP certified flock) To have your flock NPIP Certified call the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs (1-800-HELP-FLA)
- Bird inspection and class identification for registration
- Notarized MCF Exhibitor Liability/Photo Release
- MCF Code of Conduct form
- Proof of Ownership/Proof of Foster Care
- Sign up for meat pens
- Sales contract (if applicable) signed by the exhibitor and parent or legal guardian (even if exhibitor is 18 years old)

#### On-line registration

**October 26<sup>th</sup>, 9am - October 27, 2024, midnight**

- Go to [Youth Ag Exhibits \(manateecountyfair.com\)](https://manateecountyfair.com) then click on ShoWorks to complete on-line registration/purchase passes.
- Entry Fee \$5.00 per bird and \$10.00 for meat pen entry due at time of online registration.
- Exhibitor Pass \$30.00 due at time of initial registration. Extra family member passes (limit 4) may be purchased for \$25 each on or before October 27<sup>th</sup>, midnight.

#### FFA/4-H Clubs:

**Animal Exhibitors must be named/assigned by December 1, 2024, on the Club/Chapter Declaration for and emailed to [vquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com](mailto:vquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com)**


<b>Youth Steer Judging</b>	<b>Saturday, January 18, 2025, Registration 7:30am, Start 8am, Mosaic Arena</b> Breakfast afterwards for participants
<b>FNGLA Horticulture Challenge</b>	<b>Saturday, January 18, 2025, 9:30-11am in front of the Mosaic Arena</b>
<b>Check-In Purebred/Commercial</b>	<b>Sunday, January 19, 2025, 11am-2pm, carry into Powell Building</b>
<b>Poultry Judging</b>	<b>Monday, January 20, 2025, 10am, (Barn Closed)</b>
<b>Poultry Showmanship:</b>	<b>Monday, January 20, 2025, 5pm, Cook Arena</b>
<b>Check –In Meat pens:</b>	<b>Thursday, January 23, 2025, 3-6pm, Powell Building</b>
<b>Layer Pen Silent Auction</b>	<b>Monday, January 20-25, 2025, 7pm, Powell Building</b>
<b>Meat Pen Auction:</b>	<b>Saturday, January 25, 2025, Mosaic Arena following swine sale</b>
<b>Swine &amp; Goat Judging</b>	<b>Saturday, January 25, 2025, Registration 7:30am, Starts 8am, Mosaic Arena</b> Breakfast afterwards for participants
<b>Awards Ceremony</b>	<b>Saturday, January 25, 2025, 7:30pm Mosaic Arena</b>
<b>Poultry Check-out</b>	<b>Sunday, January 26, 2025, 5-6 pm</b>

## POULTRY RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All exhibitors must be a *bona fide* member of a Manatee County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, which is related to your project. No one who has graduated from High School will be eligible to show.
2. All Exhibitors must be in good standing with their respective clubs to exhibit at the Manatee County Fair. All exhibitors will show in the 4-H Club or FFA Chapter in which they registered their animals.
3. All All Exhibitors at the Manatee County Fair must have completed **one class of ethics training** to exhibit at the Manatee County Fair. **The exhibitor is responsible for keeping their ethics number.** If the exhibitor loses their number, they will need to retake the class. Exhibitors are not required to take the class in Manatee County, as the training is sponsored by the Florida State Fair. Classes are offered throughout the state. **Manatee County will offer an Ethics Training on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at 8:00am.** Exhibitors will be required to sign up for the class at <https://floridastatefairag.com/ethics/> All ethics numbers must be submitted to [vquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com](mailto:vquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com) no later than December 1st to be eligible to show.
4. All exhibitors must be 8 years of age as of September 1, 2024. Exhibitor age as of September 1, 2024, will determine the class of showmanship in which the exhibitor will show. (Juniors ages 8-10, Intermediates ages 11-13, Seniors ages 14 and up.) 4-H Clover Buds may register 1 Poultry animal. The entry will be an exhibit only. Clover Buds can participate in showmanship class and receive a participation ribbon.
5. At Final check-in, Exhibitor and animal must be together for animal to be checked in. **A parent or legal guardian must be present to complete all required documentation.** The Manatee River Fair Board encourages parents to be involved in their child’s 4-H and FFA Projects.
6. **\*\* Exhibitors are not allowed to change animals after the initial check-in.\*\***
7. Liability: Each exhibitor must assume all liability in case of death or injury to his or her animal until removed from the Fairgrounds property. In the case of sale pens, it becomes the liability of the buyer once it leaves the Fairground property.
8. Food and Drink are not allowed in the barn.

- 9 FFA members must show in Official Dress. 4-H members are required to wear white long sleeve button down dress shirts, black pants (No Denim Blue Jeans!) during the shows and sale. No hats allowed during the show and sale.
- 10 No Substitute exhibitors are allowed unless there are extreme reasons and granted permission by the Manatee County Fair Livestock Committee.
- 11 All Exhibitors participating in their respective showmanship areas must utilize only the animal that was registered under their name. Only the exhibitor may handle their birds to and from the cages.
- 12 All record books must be up to date and checked in to the designated committee at time of final check-in to be eligible to show in the Manatee County Fair. If you have a sale animal or pen, your record book needs to include a copy of three (3) of the letters that were written to prospective buyers with their names and addresses, to be eligible to show in the Manatee County Fair. 4-H club or FFA chapters must also submit an up-to-date record book
- 13 All livestock must follow Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) State Health Guidelines and must be transported to the Manatee County Fair in accordance with those guidelines.
- 14 On-site inspections of any livestock may be made by authorized agents of the Manatee River Fair Association at any time, after registration, until Fair check-in.
- 15 All poultry must be housed in Manatee County from the time of registration until fair. Any exceptions must be approved by the MRFA Livestock Committee prior to registration by filling out an Animal Housing Appeal Form and submitted to the fair office for the Livestock Committee to review for an approval, once approved Exhibitor will be notified. Any animal found not to be housed in Manatee County will be disqualified.
- 16 Use of drugs not in compliance with manufacturer's label as to dosage, time limitations and show regulations is prohibited. The use of any calming agent on animals during the Fair or the possession of same by an Exhibitor (4-H or FFA member) or anyone assisting said member with his or her animal is prohibited. Violation of this provision shall disqualify the animal from competition and any awards or premiums, including sale price of animal, shall be forfeited. If medical treatment is deemed necessary, the exhibitor or parent must notify the Poultry Livestock Director and/or Barn Superintendent, prior to administering treatment to the animal in any way. See rule #18
- 17 All animals are subject to being examined and urine or blood tested for any drug usage at any time. Refusal by the Exhibitor (4-H or FFA member) to submit their animal to such examination or test will result in immediate disqualification and forfeiture of all premiums, awards and including sale proceeds. See rule #18
- 18 Upon disqualification, pursuant to Paragraphs No. 16 and 17 the affected animal shall immediately be removed from the Fairgrounds. Disqualification will result in forfeiture of premiums, awards, add-on's, and sale premiums.
- 19 **Any graphics or wording** in the barn or displayed on the panels deemed inappropriate by the Livestock Committee will be removed.
- 20 All entries must be the bona fide property of the Exhibitor or have been in foster care of the exhibitor for at least 90 days prior to day of showing, proven by certificate showing Proof of Ownership, or Proof of Foster Care by Exhibitor affidavit, with appropriate signatures releasing the care of the animal and

continuing supervision for the duration of the project by both owner of animal and 4H/FFA Club leader.

- 21 Purebred and Commercial Entries: The exhibitor must own all animals on or before October 26, 2024, except for Meat pen birds.  
**Purebred** birds must be 6 months or older by Oct. 26, 2024.  
**Layer pens** see Laying & Meat pen section.  
**Meat pens** see Laying & Meat pen section.
- 22 Each exhibitor will be limited to 8 exhibits TOTAL with Meat and Layer pens counting as 1 each for the Purebred Poultry Exhibition for judging. Eligible exhibits include the following: exhibition chickens, meat pens, layer pens, ducks, geese, and turkeys. However, if after registration, it is determined **\*\* Due to limited space and pen availability, some adjustments may be made at the Area Superintendent or designee's discretion\*\***
- 23 All purebreds will be judged based on the American Poultry Association Standards. Should a bird that  was approved at the initial check-in be unable to be judged based on the American Poultry Association Standards, they will be judged by a committee as a non-standard bird.
- 24 One entry is one cock, one cockerel, one hen, or one pullet of any breed. The following description will apply for all classes:  
\*\*\*\*Cock - a male bird over 12 months of age.  
\*\*\*\*Cockerel - a male bird less than 12 months of age.  
\*\*\*\*Hen - a female bird over 12 months of age.  
\*\*\*\*Pullet - a female bird less than 12 months of age.  
\*\*\*Layer Pens, see **LAYING PENS & MEAT PENS SALE**  
\*\*\*Meat Pens, see **LAYING PENS & MEAT PENS SALE**
- The following classes will apply to the Commercial Poultry Show:**  
CLASS 1 - Hens  
CLASS 2 - Laying Pullet
- 25 Any individual purebred poultry that is obviously a crossbreed which does not conform to a breed standard American Standard of Perfection will not be accepted at initial check-in.
- 26 **All poultry must be Blood tested or NPIP Certified before being permitted to enter the Fair.**
- 27 At check-in, and during the fair, any animal found to be ill, diseased, or insect infested will be removed and sent home immediately. The Area Superintendent or designee has the authority to remove such bird and place in a quarantined area. The owner will be notified and allowed to pick up the animal.
- 28 JUDGING: The decision of the judges will be final. Judging will be done by the Danish System.
- 29 Fair premium money must be picked up within 90 days of the end of the fair or it will be forfeited.
- 30 RESPONSIBILITY: The Manatee County Fair Association assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage of any exhibit. All reasonable effort will be made to protect properties and exhibits.
- 31 CARE OF ANIMALS: Animals are to be fed and watered by exhibitor upon arrival. Each exhibitor will be responsible for feeding his or her own birds and cleaning out the birds' cages daily. Failure to feed & water your bird(s) daily will result in the loss of premium monies and awards.

- 32 HANDLING OF EXHIBITS: Only those persons authorized by show officials or the exhibitor may handle birds. All eggs are the property of the poultry committee and will be removed daily. Those exhibitors keeping track of egg production, please see barn superintendent for egg count.
- 33 RELEASE OF ANIMALS: All birds must leave fairgrounds by 6:00 PM on date of release or will be in the possession of the poultry Barn Superintendent. All birds will need to be signed out by the exhibitor with the poultry Barn Superintendent prior to leaving the barn to ensure that clean-up has taken place and the correct exhibitor has possession.
- 34 **MANDATORY CLEAN-UP:** Any exhibitor failing to help with the clean-up will forfeit all prize and premium monies.
- 35 Poultry Showmanship is not mandatory. At Poultry Check-In, a sign-up sheet will be available to reserve your approximate time to make your Showmanship presentation. Showmanship questions will be based on the showmanship birds' class and type. Reference *The American Standard of Perfection* book as a study guide. Commercial breeds will be based on commercial breed specific information.
- 36 The Livestock Committee and Area Superintendent reserves the right to refuse entry for health or appearance reasons if the entry does not comply with the rules and regulations of the Poultry Show. No game birds may be exhibited. All poultry will be judged on soundness, evidence of care, freedom from dirt, disease and parasites.
- 37 Failure to follow the above rules or the general rules of the Manatee River Fair Association Youth Livestock Show will result in disciplinary action up to expulsion from the barn, disqualification from the show, removal from the sale and possible loss of premiums or awards.
- 38 *Final Interpretation and intent of these rules will be vested in the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee. This includes, but is not limited to, violating the code of conduct and all previous rules. The Manatee River Fair Association has the right to "No Trespass" and disqualify any individual or exhibitor.*

### LAYING PENS & MEAT PENS RULES

If any exhibitor wishes to sell a steer or swine, they may also sell ONE meat pen of EITHER poultry, rabbits, or laying hen. If any exhibitor does not have a steer or swine to raise and sell, they may sell a maximum of two (2) pens but not the same group one (1) Poultry meat pen, one (1) Poultry laying pen or one (1) Rabbit meat pen.

#### Laying Hens

- a. Hens for Laying Pens must be **8 months** old at the time of County Fair and may not be over 2 years of age by sale time.
- b. The following laying breeds are encouraged: White Leghorn, Rhode Island Red, Barred Rock, Sex Link, and California Whites.
- c. Each exhibitor is solely responsible for caring for their hens, both at home and at the fair.

#### Laying Pens:

- a. A Laying Pen will consist of three (3) laying pullets/hens of the same breed and variety (this will be considered as One (1) Exhibit)
- b. Completed egg record is to be provided at fair check-in. **(copy of egg record form will be on fair website [www.manateecountyfair.com](http://www.manateecountyfair.com))**

## **Meat Birds is a Terminal project: THIS A 7 WEEK PROJECT**

- a. After Registration Exhibitor will pay for 6 birds through the poultry committee
- b. Meat pens will be Cornish/Rock crosses
- c. All meat birds will be acquired by poultry committee and distributed.
- d. The date of distribution will be determined by the committee as well as the order/delivery dates.
- e. All the exhibitors must provide reliable contact information with their paperwork and on meat pen registration in order to receive notice of chick availability.
- f. Exhibitors must take possession of their chicks on the delivery day, or their meat pen entry will be eliminated, and registration fee forfeited.
- g. A Meat Pen will consist of three (3) birds (this will be considered as One (1) Entry)
- h. \$10.00 entry fee will be required on the day of on-line registration and non-refundable. This will not cover the cost of six (one-day old) chicks ordered and dispersed by the poultry committee.
- i. Meat Pen entries will be subject to a weigh-in at the fair and each individual bird must weigh at least 5 pounds. (Any birds deemed unhealthy by the poultry sifting committee will not be accepted.)
- j. Completed weight gain record is to be provided at fair check-in. **(a copy of the weight gain form will be on fair website [www.manateecountyfair.com](http://www.manateecountyfair.com))**
- k. Meat Pen entries must be at least 30 days free of any antibiotics or other medications.
- l. No sick, diseased or parasite infested birds will be allowed into the barn. All birds will be inspected for general health, condition, and signs of parasites.

## **SALE FOR LAYER & MEAT PENS**

- a. All Meat Pen Exhibitors must be present at the poultry barn to move your animal to Mosaic Arena for the auction and to be present during the sale. A sale order will be determined prior to the sale. Anyone who is late for their entry's sale will be moved to the end of the sale. Failure to show up will result in a no sale and the participant will be required to take the birds back. A signed sales agreement provided by the Manatee River Fair Association, Inc. will be required, or the entry will not be presented for auction. Pictures of buyers and sellers will be taken at the auction.
- b. All Exhibitors are responsible for recruiting their own buyers. Exhibitors must complete a Record Book and three (3) buyer's letters.
- c. Exhibitors must ensure meat is delivered to their buyer.
- d. Exhibitors with saleable animals must present buyer with a thank you card and plaque if applicable. It is strongly suggested as a thank you that you give a gift or a gift basket when you get your Buyer's verification card signed **by the Buyer or Buyers representative**. The signed verification card must be turned into the Fair office to pick up their sales check prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>, to be eligible to exhibit a project at the next Manatee County Fair. Sales proceeds will not be distributed until payment is received from Buyer(s). If a Buyers card is found to be forged the Exhibitor will be banned from participating in the Manatee County Fair Livestock programs.
- e. The Manatee River Fair Association will only handle add-ons totaling \$25.00 or more. Add-On forms can be printed from Manatee County Fair's website ([manateecountyfair.com](http://manateecountyfair.com)) under Livestock Records. Add-ons must be received by February 15, 2024.
- f. Saleable animals including Steers, Swine, Beef Breeding, Rabbit and Poultry meat pens, and Layer pens will have six percent (6%) of each exhibitor's sale price and any add-ons deducted by the Fair Association to help defray expenses.



### **Exhibitor and Parent Security Passes**

Exhibitors will be required to make a one-time purchase of a \$30 Exhibitor Security Entrance Pass that will give unlimited access for the ten days of the fair. Families will be allowed to purchase (4) additional Security Entrance Passes at \$25 each which also gives unlimited access to the fair.

Only one gate 8 parking pass per family will be issued for the time their animals are on exhibit, NO EXCEPTIONS. Parking is on a first come basis.

Passes can be purchased when you register your animal on-line through ShoWorks  
If not purchased by October 27, 2024, additional family member passes will be \$30 each with same limits as above at the Livestock Office starting on Saturday, January 11, 2025 at 9:00am.

**\*\*THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS ON PASSES\*\***

### **Animal Pick-up/Drop-off & Parking**

**Fair Check-in:** Enter the fairgrounds at Gate 1 on the corner of 17th St. and 14th Ave. to drop off and then proceed to parking area OR you may also walk in through gate 9 with your carry pens. Essentials may be dropped off and then vehicles will proceed to the livestock parking area. The show superintendent or designee at check-in will perform a health and parasite check. Please make sure your birds are clean and healthy or they will not be allowed in.

Any Vehicle without proper parking pass or in an unauthorized area will be towed at owners' expense.

1. **Vehicles blocking Gate 1 or 9** will be towed at the owner's expense.
2. Exhibitors may use Gate 9 in the morning before 9AM when coming to feed and water animals.
3. **There will be no parking around Powell and Cook Arena at any time!**
4. Essentials may be dropped off and then vehicles will proceed to the livestock parking area.

### **Manatee County Fair Website**

Rule books and record books are posted and may be printed from ([manateecountyfair.com](http://manateecountyfair.com)) Please check the web page periodically to see if there are any updates that pertain to your livestock area. Registration paperwork for all animal areas is located on the Fair website.

### **QUESTIONS**

If you have a question about your entry into the Manatee County Fair, please follow the chain-of- command as listed below:

**1st** – Contact your CLUB LEADER; if they are unable to answer your question, then

**2nd** – contact your AREA SUPERINTENDENT – Poultry, **Vanessa Santos** (941) 536-3760

**3rd** – contact the FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR – Poultry, **Jim Parks** (941) 713-2858

**Danielle Carothers** (941) 592-5525