

MARKET POULTRY DIVISION

JUDGE – Ray Pieniazek (Adkins, TX)

ORDER/ENTRY DEADLINE – December 8, 2023

ENTRY FEE - \$85 per exhibitor – includes order of chicks.

DELIVERY TO SHOWGROUNDS & SIFTING – 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 13, 2024

JUDGING – 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 13, 2024

SPECIAL RULES FOR MARKET POULTRY

1. Each exhibitor must be a bona fide member of a Texas 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, enrolled in elementary, secondary, or home school and reside in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, or Willacy counties.
2. 4-H and FFA exhibitors must be in the third grade or 9 years old, but under 20, as of January 1, 2024.
3. All orders for chicks must be placed no later than December 8, 2023. Birds must be ordered through the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show Office. Each exhibitor must order a box of 50 birds. Ordering birds constitutes a show entry.
4. No requests for refund of money received for payment of chicks or cancelations of orders will be considered. Checks will be deposited upon receipt.
5. Chicks may be either straight run or sexed (if sexed birds become available). All exhibitors will be provided with the number of birds from the same hatchery order and will be distributed to exhibitors randomly. Birds of either sex may be shown.
6. All birds will be wing banded. Wing band numbers will be assigned when exhibitors pick up newly hatched birds. All birds brought to the Show must bear the wing band numbers assigned to that exhibitor.
7. Each exhibitor will be allowed one entry in each of two classes: Pen of Broilers Class and Best Single Bird Class. The Pen of Broilers entry will consist of three birds. The Best Single Bird class will consist of a single bird and may not come from the pen of broilers class.
8. All birds brought to the showgrounds must be consigned by the exhibitor to the processing plant, individual, etc. assigned by the Show Management. Violation of this rule will result in exhibitors being barred from future shows.
9. The winner of the Best Single Bird class will be awarded a belt buckle and will NOT be eligible for premiums or the Sale of Champions.
10. Each exhibitor may bring no more than 5 birds to sift: Pen of 3, Best Single Bird and one alternate or pen of three and 2 alternates. All birds brought to the showgrounds become the property of the Show and will not be allowed to leave the grounds.
11. Birds will be inspected by the judge at sifting to eliminate entries not in proper show condition.
12. Birds found to have bruises, broken wings, or other disqualifying defects during sift may be replaced by an alternate bird or best single bird brought by the exhibitor. Sick and/or diseased birds will be sifted and, if discovered at any time during the Show, will be subject to removal by show officials as directed by the judge and/or show veterinarian. Birds with reduced comb growth or other secondary sex characteristics which indicate the presence of a hormone will be sifted.
13. Birds losing their wing band for whatever reason are ineligible to show. Birds with wing bands showing signs of intentional tampering are subject to being sifted. Birds bearing a wing band other than one assigned to the exhibitor will be sifted.

14. There is no maximum or minimum weight per bird. Birds will not be weighed at the Show. Visibly underweight birds will be subject to being sifted at the discretion of the judge.
15. During sifting and check-in, each exhibitor will be required to sign up for housekeeping duty as organized by the poultry committee. Housekeeping duty will be assigned to individual exhibitors so that all exhibitors will take turns providing feed, clean water and fresh shavings to all birds for the duration of the Show. All birds must have clean feed and water at all times. It will be the responsibility of all exhibitors to perform their housekeeping duties as assigned. Failure to fulfill these responsibilities may result in the disqualification of the exhibitor from future shows. The Show will provide feed and shavings. Exhibitors may also bring their own feed.
16. Birds must not be removed from the assigned cage after they are cooped, except by permission from the Poultry Committee Chairman. On the day of the show, birds may be handled inside the cage only by the owner of the birds.
17. Exhibitors must be present at the time of sifting and judging to show their birds to the judge. Each exhibitor should arrange for two additional 4-H or FFA members to help them exhibit their birds during judging.
18. Only exhibitors and show officials will be allowed in the holding areas, judging arena, or on the arena director's stand during sifting and judging.
19. The Official Broiler Order Form will serve to meet the requirements of the Texas Pullorum Disease Fowl Typhoid Act of 1977 and no other broiler health papers need to be submitted to the Show.
20. All exhibitors are required to display an exhibitor card on their pens at all times.
21. If a bird expires between the time of sift and the time prior to the exhibitor entering the show arena, their alternate bird or best single bird will be allowed to replace the expired bird, but only if an alternate bird and/or best single bird was taken through the sift by that exhibitor. If a bird expires after entering the show arena, no substitution will be allowed, and the final placing will be left to the discretion of the judge. All substitutions must be approved by the chairman of the poultry committee.
22. Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion and places 3rd through 8th will be eligible for the Sale of Champions on Saturday, March 16, 2024.

General Rules, Regulations and Procedures on page 23 also apply.

AWARDS

Grand Champion – \$500 Scholarship, Buckle & Banner

Reserve Grand Champion – Buckle & Banner

Best Single Bird – Buckle

3rd – 5th place – Rosette

6th – 10th place - Ribbon

SCHEDULE OF PREMIUMS

- 9th place - \$26
- 10th place - \$25
- 11th place - \$24