

Open Sheep 2025 State Fair of Virginia

Martha Phillips, Keezletown, VA — Superintendent
Lisa Kanney, McGaheysville, VA — Assistant Superintendent

Judge: Kyle Fleener, Gettysburg, PA

Entries Due September 6, 2025

2025 Official Schedule

Arrival/Check in:..... Friday, September 26th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
(All Open Sheep must be checked in during this time, even if showing in the VA Jr. Sheep Breeders show on Saturday.)

Show Order:

Hampshire, Southdown, Suffolk, Dorset, Hair Sheep,

AOB Meat Breeds, AOB Wool Breeds & Commercial Sunday, September 28th at 10:00 a.m.

Release:..... Sunday, September 28 — following the last show OR 6:00 p.m., whichever is later

Open Sheep Department Rules

State Fair General Rules, Livestock Rules and the Show Ring Code of Ethics apply to this department. By making an entry, you agree to read and abide by these rules

1. Entry fee is \$10.00 per class and includes first bedding. The registration number of each animal must be included on entry form. In the case of unregistered younger animals, the names of sires and dams must accompany entry. Please enter online at www.statefairva.org, under 'State Fair' and then 'Competitions'.
2. All sheep in purebred classes must be registered in the flock books of their respective breeds. Ear tags must match registration papers.
3. Lambs may compete in lamb classes as long as they show their lamb's teeth. Ages of other sheep must be verified by registration certificate.
4. Senior lambs are to be born Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2024. Intermediate lambs are to be born Jan. 1 - Feb. 15, 2025. Junior lambs are to be born after Feb. 16, 2025.
5. Exhibitor may only show two animals in any one class.
6. Sheep must be tended to and kept clean while they are on exhibit.
7. Bedding - A limited supply of shavings or straw (depending on availability) will be provided. If you have a preference, you should provide your own.
8. **Breeds must have a minimum of 10 sheep from at least two (2) exhibitors to qualify for a breed show. Breeds not meeting this requirement will be exhibited in the "All Other Breeds" division.**

Awards

Premiums: 1st \$20.00, 2nd, \$15.00, 3rd \$10.00 & 4th \$5.00

Rosettes will be awarded for Champion and Reserve

Premier exhibitors will receive banners

Breeds

- Section 2 — Hampshire
- Section 3 — Suffolk
- Section 4 — Dorset
- Section 5 — Southdown
- Section 6 — AOB Meat Breeds– All other Registered Breeds
- Section 7 — Commercial - Non-Registered Breeds
- Section 8 — Registered Hair Sheep
- Section 9 — AOB Wool Breeds– All Registered Wool Breeds

Classes

1. Yearling Ram — 1 year and under 2
2. Sr. Ram Lamb
3. Intermediate Ram Lamb
4. Jr. Ram Lamb
5. Pair of Ram Lambs
(Champion Ram)
(Reserve Champion Ram)
6. Yearling Ewe (born before Jan. 1; 1 year and under 2)
7. Pair of Yearling Ewes
8. Sr. Ewe Lamb
9. Intermediate Ewe Lamb
10. Jr. Ewe Lamb
11. Pair of Ewe Lambs
(Champion Ewe)
(Reserve Champion Ewe)
12. Flock Class — 1 Ram, 2 Yearling Ewes, and 2 Ewe Lambs

Supreme Champion Ewe and Ram will be selected following the show.

Open Sheep Promotion & Shepherds Award

1 st Place:	\$100 and Rosette
2 nd Place:	\$ 80 and Rosette
3 rd Place:	\$ 40 and Rosette

These will be awarded to the Open Sheep exhibitor whose pen area demonstrates outstanding cleanliness, visitor appeal and promotes the sheep industry. Educational content of the exhibit and appearance of the entire pen area and display will be judged. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about their exhibit and sheep in general and be courteous and friendly to fellow exhibitors and fair guests.