

CALF SCRAMBLE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Superintendent: JT Naron

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, 5:00 pm

Scramble Time: September 12, 2026, 7:30 pm, Taylor Telecom Arena

1. The EXPO CENTER OF TAYLOR COUNTY and the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO of Abilene, Texas will not be responsible for any accidents connected to this contest.
2. QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONTESTANTS:
 - Of age thirteen (13) and older on or before September 30th of the year the student scrambles. Must be attending a public or private primary or secondary school when they return to show their animal at the following WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO.
 - 4-H and FFA members must reside in the following counties: Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Eastland, Fisher, Jones, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Sterling, and Taylor.
 - Must have been actively participating in 4-H club activities for one year OR enrolled in Vocational Agriculture prior to scrambling.
- OR BE THE FOLLOWING:
 - Senior aged students who plan to attend technical school, junior college, or a four (4) year university.
 - 4-H and FFA members must reside in the following counties: Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Eastland, Fisher, Jones, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Sterling, and Taylor.
 - Must have been actively participating in 4-H club activities for one year OR enrolled in Vocational Agriculture prior to scrambling.
3. The Calf Scramble will take place during the performance of the PRCA Pro Rodeo on Saturday, September 12, 2026.
4. Twenty-five (25) contestants will compete. One contestant will be selected from each FFA chapter or 4H club which submits entries. If twenty five scramblers have not been selected, an additional contestant will be selected from each FFA chapter or 4H club in the order in which entries were received. In the event that there are more than 25 FFA Chapters and 4H Clubs who submit entries, contestants will be selected lottery style.
5. Alternates: ONLY alternates that are present during roll-call will be considered for the scramble.
6. Ten (10) calves will be turned out into the arena.
7. Contestants and calves will be placed in the arena as determined by management.
8. Contestants will carry into the arena a halter with an attached ten (10) foot rope. Neither the halter or the rope will be used as a lariat. The halter must be placed on the calf in the usual way. The WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO will supply the halter and rope.
9. No shoes with spikes, cleats, or knobs on soles will be worn. No open-toed shoes will be worn. No slip-on shoes will be worn. Shoes must be cowboy boots or shoes with laces.
10. No jewelry, earrings, rings, necklaces, or large belt buckles will be worn. No large holes in pants or jeans will be allowed.
11. Contestants will not be allowed to work as a team. Each contestant will attempt to catch and halter one of the calves themselves. Each contestant catching a calf will be required to lead that calf across the finish line without aid. After catching a calf and placing a halter on the calf, the contestant will not be allowed to fasten the rope to themselves in any manner to aid in leading the calf across the finish line.
12. If a contestant has a hold on a calf, no other contestant will be allowed to touch the calf until it breaks away.
13. If a contestant has caught and haltered a calf and the calf gets away, the contestant can re-catch the calf by the halter. However, once the calf gets free, it is available for anyone to catch – but not by the halter. The new contestant must catch the calf – not by the halter, take the old halter off, and re-halter the calf with their own halter.
14. If a calf is caught by the tail, the contestant catching the calf shall be allowed a reasonable amount of time to place the halter; however, at the discretion of the referee, the contestant will let the calf go.
15. If two or more contestants catch the same calf, they will be ordered by the referee to release the calf.
16. Poor sportsmanship will disqualify any contestant automatically and the referee will not tolerate undue roughness. Any mistreatment of an animal will not be tolerated and is grounds for disqualification.
17. This scramble will be refereed by a group of no less than four (4) referees.

18. The CEA/AST must submit applications to scramble at the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO CALF SCRAMBLE no later than 5:00 pm on August 28, 2026. Only entries that have all paperwork (Entry Form and Release Form) submitted by the deadline will be considered to scramble. Entries can be submitted three ways:
- MAIL to: WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO
Attn: Livestock Department
1700 HWY 36
Abilene, TX 79602
 - HAND-DELIVERED to: Expo Center of Taylor County General Office
 - Or EMAILED to: asullivan@expoctc.com (**PDFs are the ONLY ACCEPTABLE attachment**)
19. Each contestant must submit a Minor's Release to the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO through their CEA/AST. After all releases are checked and accepted by the FAIR Office, contestants will be notified of their acceptance as a contestant and the date and time of participation.
20. Winners are ineligible to compete again.
21. A purchase certificate or scholarship will be issued to the first ten (10) contestants to catch a calf in the following amounts:
- | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 st - \$1,000 | 3 rd - \$900 | 5 th - \$800 | 7 th - \$700 | 9 th - \$600 |
| 2 nd - \$950 | 4 th - \$850 | 6 th - \$750 | 8 th - \$650 | 10 th - \$550 |
22. A purchase certificate must be used for the purchase of livestock, which will be the contestant's 4-H or FFA project. The breed and sex of livestock is to be determined by the contestant and their CEA/AST. All projects purchased must be shown the following year at the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO. Contestants may use the purchase certificate for breeding or market beef cattle, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits, or poultry. Animals need to be of a breed that is exhibited at the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO. Certificates MUST be completed and received by the Fair office no later than September 1 the following year after the certificate is awarded.
23. Scholarships will be paid in full within the first year to the institution in which the scrambler is enrolled. The institution must be a technical school, junior college, or a four (4) year university.
24. Participants will not be allowed to purchase animals from themselves, immediate family members or their ranches (family ranches or partnerships), or any CEA/AST. If livestock is purchased for less than the amount of the certificate, the remaining amount can be used for the purchase of ANOTHER animal to be shown at the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO. A check will be issued to the seller from the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO for the amount outlined in the purchase certificate. Checks will not be issued to 4-H Clubs or FFA Chapters.
25. Steers and heifers must be purchased by July 1, 2026 all other livestock (sheep, goats, swine, and poultry) must be purchased by August 1, 2026. Rabbits must be purchased forty-five (45) days prior to show. At purchase time, the seller will notify the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO of the purchase by sending the purchase certificate and a billing invoice to the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO. A check will be cut when a purchase certificate is received by the seller.
26. The entire program, including the selection of animal, the care and management, and the purchase process will be under the supervision of the CEA/AST. That supervisor will be the CEA/AST of the county/school currently resides under.
27. Scramblers may not transfer their scramble project from their original 4-H Club or FFA Chapter without written approval by the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO.

Participants who fail to fulfil their obligations as stated in these rules, will result in revocation of the Purchase Certificate and the participant will be required to repay the certificate amount value to the WEST TEXAS FAIR & RODEO.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 CALF SCRAMBLE SPONSORS

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