NEA District Fair
General Livestock Rules

Applies to All Animal Divisions

Entry & Pre-Entry Requirements

1. **Pre-Entries Due:** Friday, September 4th, 2026
2. **Online Entry:** www.neadistrictfair.com (beginning August 20th, 2026)
3. **Entry Fees:**
    - Cattle, Swine, Goats, Sheep: $10.00
    - Poultry & Rabbits: $5.00
4. **Prize Money:** $5.00 of each entry fee is returned as prize money for exhibits that are shown. This is included with the premiums received.
5. **Check-In:**
    - Bring an online receipt to the gate.
    - Present receipt at show registration to pick up passes in the Livestock Office, located at the west end of the Cattle Barn.
6. **Pen & Tack Rules:**
    - No reserving or re-marking of pens.
    - No tack pens until all animals are in place.
    - Pen assignments are made by species superintendents at check-in.

Ownership & Eligibility

1. Exhibitors (Junior, Senior, or Open) must have owned and taken care of animals for 60 consecutive days prior to the fair.
2. **Junior Division Eligibility:**
    - Open to Bonafide 4-H members currently enrolled in a club.
    - Open to Bonafide FFA members currently paid members of a chapter.
    - Junior exhibitors may enter different animals in both Junior & Open divisions but must pay separate entry fees for each show and must exhibit a different animal than is entered in the junior show.

Breed Shows

1. **Applies to all livestock divisions**
2. **Minimum Requirements:**
    - At least 3 head and 2 exhibitors per breed must be present to constitute a breed show.
    - Breeds not meeting minimum are placed in “All Other Breeds” (AOB)

Rules & Restrictions

1. No non-registered intact males may be shown.
2. The Fair Association or any of its board members, employees, or volunteers are not liable for loss, damage, or injury to any exhibit or animal.
3. Night watchman provided by the Fair Association.
4. Exhibitors must provide bedding.
5. Smoking is prohibited in barns or stall areas.
6. No dogs are allowed in barns or stall areas.
7. Exhibitor pens must be cleaned out before leaving, or prize money may be forfeited.
8. NEA District Fair may remove any animal with sickness or health issues at any time.
9. Prize checks are void after 90 days.
10. All exhibitors must sign the Exhibitor Code of Conduct during online registration, failure results in automatic disqualification.

Belt Buckle Awards-Junior Division

Species	Award Description
Swine	**Market Hog, Commercial Gilt, Breeding Gilt**
Beef Cattle	**Market Steer, Commercial Heifer, Supreme Bull, Supreme Heifer, Mini Beef Heifer, Mini Beef Bull**
Goats	**Market Goat, Commercial Doe, Overall Breeding Doe, Overall Breeding Buck**
Sheep	**Market Lamb, Commercial Ewe, Overall Breeding Ewe, Overall Breeding Ram**
Dairy Goat	**Junior Doe, Senior Doe**
Dairy Cattle	**Standard Bull, Standard Female, Mini Bull, Mini Female**
Poultry	**Best of Show**
Rabbits	**Single Fryer, Meat Pen, Best of Show**
Waterfowl	**Best of Show**
Llama	**Best of Show**

Herdsman Award

1. Awarded to Junior Exhibitors keeping livestock and exhibits in all species neat, clean, and well-arranged throughout the fair.
2. Judged by the Livestock Manager.

Livestock Judging Contest

1. Open to Bonafide 4-H and FFA Members
2. Banners awarded to 1st Place-Junior & Senior Teams
    - Junior: under 14 years of age by September 1st, 2026.
    - Senior: 14 years of age or older by September 1st, 2026.

Showmanship Awards

1. Divisions: Novice, Junior, Senior
2. Species: Goat, Market Sheep, Breeding Sheep, Beef Cattle, Dairy Goat & Cattle, Swine, Poultry, Rabbit
3. Banners will be awarded for showmanship.
    - Note: Department superintendent advises contestants on rules and regulations for all awards in showmanship.

Additional Notes

1. All animals on fairgrounds-including pet zoos, children's barnyard animals, Old McDonald Farms, etc.-are subject to all rules and regulations.

New Protest Rule

1. **Deadline:** Submit in writing within 30 minutes of class completion.
2. **Protest Fee:** $100.00 cash (refunded if sustained)
3. Must clearly state rule violation and provide supporting evidence.
4. Only exhibitors, parents/guardians, or advisors in the class may file.
5. Protests cannot be based on judges' placement or opinion.
6. The Superintendent & Executive Committee will review; the decision is final.
7. Animals involved may be held in place during protest investigation.
8. Malicious or frivolous protests may result in disciplinary action or removal from grounds.

Beef Cattle Division

Junior & Open Competition

Superintendent: Jade Crossen
Assistant Superintendent: Connor Balentine

Ownership & Possession Requirements

1. All animals must be in the physical possession and daily care of the exhibitor for 60 consecutive days prior to the opening day of the fair.

Schedule & Check-In

1. **Check-In:** Sunday, September 27th, 2026 - 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM
2. **Must Be in Place By:** Sunday, September 27th, 2026 – 7:00 PM
3. **Weigh-In (Market Steers & Commercial Heifers):** Sunday, September 27th, 2026 – 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
4. **Judging:** Monday, September 28th, 2026 – 1:00 PM
5. **Release:** Tuesday, September 29th, 2026 – 9:30 PM
    - Leaving earlier will result in a forfeit of prize money

Note: No reserving/re-marking of pens. Cattle superintendents will assign pens at check-in

Breed Categories

1. **Registered Breeds:** Angus, Beefmaster, Brahman, Brangus, Charolais, Chianina, Hereford, Limousin, Maine Anjou, Red Angus, Santa Gertrudis, Shorthorn, Simmental, Gelbvieh, Balancers
2. **Registered Composite Breeds:** Charolais Plus, Lim-Flex, Maintainer, Shorthorn Plus, SimSolution
3. **All Other Breeds (AOB):** Any registered breed not listed above or has enough to make a breed.
4. **Mini Beef Cattle:** Follow same rules and regulations as large beef cattle.

Note: We no longer have recognized breeds that automatically fall into a class. To constitute a breed, each breed will have to have at least 3 head of cattle and at least 2 exhibitors. Failure to meet that criteria will result in the animal being put into the AOB category. Please see General Rules for Breed Show Requirements.

Any breed that has 3 head of cattle and 2 exhibitors will have a breed show.

Pre-Entry & Bedding

1. **Pre-Entries Due:** Friday, September 5th, 2026
2. **Online Entry:** www.neadistrictfair.com (beginning August 20th, 2026)
3. **Bedding:** Wood shavings only; exhibitors must provide their own. No straw or hulls.

Registration & Show Rules

1. Breeding classes must be registered in the exhibitor's name with original papers at check-in (copies not accepted).
2. Non-registered heifers must be shown as Commercial Heifers.
3. Bulls older than a year must have a nose ring or clip and lead.
4. Exhibitors must clean exhibits daily by noon & dispose of waste properly.
5. The Judge's decision is final.
6. Animals must be shown in the ring to receive premium money.
7. A maximum of 3 entries per class, per exhibitor will be enforced.
8. The same animal cannot be exhibited in both the open and the junior show. They are not allowed to exhibit in multiple shows.
9. Junior Showmanship will be open to any junior and any beef cattle including Mini Beef.
10. Steers are only allowed in the Market Beef classes.
11. Health inspections will be required for all steers-including 840 tag present.
12. Exhibitor pens must be cleaned before leaving, or prize money may be forfeited.

Beef Cattle Breed Class Premiums

Entry Fee Included in Premiums

Class	Calving Dates	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Late Jr. Bull Calves	3/1-4/30, 2026	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Early Jr. Bull Calves	1/1-2/28, 2026	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Late Sr. Bull Calves	11/1-12/31, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Early Sr. Bull Calves	9/1-10/31, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Late Summer Yr. Bulls	7/1-8/31, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Early Summer Yr. Bulls	5/1-6/30, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Jr. Yearling Bulls	1/1-4/30, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Sr. Yearling Bulls	9/1-12/31, 2024	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Summer Sr. Yr. Bulls	5/1-8/31, 2024	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Two-Yr-Old Bulls	1/1-4/30, 2024	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Grand Champion Bull	Banner, Rosette, Buckle (Jr.)	$50				
Res. Champion Bull	Banner, Rosette	$25				
Three Bulls Owned	By Exhibitor	$40	$32	$24	$16	$8
Two Bulls Owned	& Bred By Exhibitor	$40	$32	$24	$16	$8
Late Jr. Heifer Calves	3/1-4/30, 2026	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Early Jr. Heifer Calves	1/1-2/28, 2026	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Late Sr. Heifer Calves	11/1-12/31, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Early Sr. Heifer Calves	9/1-10/31, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Late Summer Yr. Heifer	7/1-8/31, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Early Summer Yr. Heifer	5/1-6/30, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Jr. Yearling Heifer	1/1-4/30, 2025	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Sr. Yearling Heifer	9/1-12/31, 2024	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Late Summer Two Year Old Female	7/1-8/31, 2024	$45	$37	$29	$21	$13
Cow/Calf Pair	Both Registered	$40	$32	$29	$21	$13
Grand Champion C/C	Rosette	$50				

Res. Champion C/C	**Rosette**	**$25**				
Get of Sire	**Rosette**	**$40**	**$32**	**$24**	**$16**	**$8**
Jr. Get of Sire	**Rosette**	**$40**	**$32**	**$24**	**$16**	**$8**
Supreme Heifer	**Banner, Rosette, Buckle (Jr.)**	**$50**				
Res. Supreme Heifer	**Banner, Rosette**	**$25**				

Commercial Heifers

1. **Classes will be offered in three division:** American, English, & Exotic
2. Heifers will be weighed to determine classes.
3. A Champion & Reserve will be chosen in each section.
4. Exhibitors should enter their heifers in one of the specified divisions based upon their classification of the heifer.
5. The judge will be instructed to place the class with emphasis on breed character as well as overall quality.
6. Champions from each section will show for Grand Champion Commercial Heifer.
7. Commercial Heifer Class Breaks will follow Market Beef Class Breaks

Market Steers

1. Steers will be weighed to determine classes.

Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Feeder Calf (Up to 600 pounds)	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Prospect Steer Class 1 (601-700 lbs)	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Prospect Steer Class 2(701-800 lbs)	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Grand Champion Prospect Steer – BANNER, ROSETTE	**$50**					
Res. Champion Prospect Steer – BANNER, ROSETTE	**$25**					
Class 1: 801-900 lbs	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Class 2: 901-1000 lbs	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Class 3: 1001-1100 lbs	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Class 4: 1101-1200 lbs	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Class 5: 1201-1300 lbs	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Class 6: 1301-1400 lbs	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Class 7: 1401-1500 lbs	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**

Class 8: 1501 lbs & Up	**$45**	**$41**	**$37**	**$33**	**$29**	**$25**
Grand Champion Market Steer – BANNER, ROSETTE, BUCKLE	**$50**					
Res. Champion Market Steer – BANNER, ROSETTE	**$25**					
Grand Champion Comm. Heifer - BANNER, ROSETTE, BUCKLE	**$50**					
Res. Champion Comm. Heifer – BANNER, ROSETTE	**$25**					