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.

Market Sheep Division

Junior & Open Competition

Superintendent: Cade McKee
Assistant Superintendent: Bailey Ann Skelton

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 Lambs & Commercial Ewes):** Monday, September 28th, 2026, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM
4. **Judging:** Tuesday, September 29th, 2026 - 1:00 PM
5. **Release:** Tuesday, September 29th, 2026 – 9:30 PM
    a. Leaving earlier will result in a forfeit of prize money

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

Pre-Entry & Bedding

1. **Pre-Entries Due:** Friday, September 5th, 2026
2. **Online Entry:** www.neadistrictfair.com (beginning August 14th, 2026)
3. **Bedding:** Wood shavings only; exhibitors must provide their own. No straw or hulls.

Registration & Show Rules

1. Exhibitors must clean exhibits daily by noon & dispose of waste properly.
2. The Judge's decision is final.
3. Animals must be shown in the ring to receive premium money.
4. A maximum of 2 entries per class, per exhibitor will be enforced.
5. The same animal cannot be exhibited in both the open and the junior show. They are not allowed to exhibit in multiple shows.
6. Junior Showmanship will be open to any junior and lambs.

7. Exhibitor pens must be cleaned before leaving, or prize money may be forfeited.
8. Commercial Ewes and Market Lambs will be slickshorn (no britches will be allowed.)

Commercial Ewe Show

1. Ewes will be weighed to determine classes and separated into Light Weight, Medium Weight, and Heavy Weight Divisions.
2. A Champion & Reserve will be chosen in each division.
3. Champions from each division will show for Overall Champion Commercial Ewe.
4. Commercial Doe Class Breaks will follow Market Goat Class Breaks.

Market Lamb Show

1. Lambs will be weighed to determine classes and separated into Light Weight, Medium Weight, and Heavy Weight Divisions.
2. A Champion & Reserve will be chosen in each division.
3. Champions from each division will show for Overall Champion Market Lamb.

Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Payout	$35	$32	$29	$26	$23	$20
Division Champion- Rosette	$30					
Res. Division Champion -Rosette	$15					
Grand Champion Market Lamb -Buckle, Banner, Rosette	$30					
Res. Champion Market Lamb -Banner, Rosette	$15					
Grand Champion Comm. Ewe-Buckle, Banner, Rosette	$30					
Res. Champion Comm. Ewe -Banner, Rosette	$15					

Arkansas Bred Lamb Show

1. All Arkansas Bred Lambs (ABL Wethers & Ewes) are eligible for the ABL Market Show.
2. All lambs will be weighed to determine classes.
3. ABL tag number as well as ABL information must be marked on registration for the NEA District Fair Show.
4. ABL will recognize Top 5 winners.
5. ABL show will take place at the conclusion of the Market Lamb Show.
6. There will also be a ABL Commercial Ewe Show that will show at the conclusion of the ABL Market Lamb Show.

For more information on the ABL portion of the show, please see Joe Bob Washburn as well as the Arkansas State Sheep Council website for further details.