

2025 – 2026

Houston County Fair & Youth
Livestock Association
Official Rule Book



March 28 – April 5, 2026
Porth Ag Arena & Crockett Civic Center

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

No Other Validation Dates Available

****Locations subject to change****

Market Steer & Replacement Heifer Validation

- October 25th @ 1 pm – 3pm
- Houston County Vet Hospital (Hwy 19N)

Market Hog, Market Lamb, Market Goat Validation

- December 4, 2025 @ 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- Porth Ag Arena

Broiler Pick Up

- February 13, 2026 @ Time TBD
- County Extension Office

Fryer Rabbit Validation

- March 2, 2026 @ 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- Porth Ag Arena

Replacement Heifer Validation – 2nd Validation

- March 21, 2025 @ 1:00– 2:00pm
 - (Must be on grounds by 2pm)
- Houston County Vet Hospital (Hwy 19N)

See your 4-H Club Leader or FFA Advisor for THEIR entry deadline.



**2025-2026
Fair Association Officers**

President	Clayton Smith
Vice President	Lee Standley
Secretary	Beverly Moore
Treasurer	Katy Riemenschneider
Assistant Secretary	Becca Reed

Division Chairs

Queen & Princess	Lynne Erickson, Carol Lovett
Shop Projects	Richard C Smith, Todd Stone
Breeding & Fryer Rabbit	Kathy Reynolds / Ashley Curry
Breeding & Market Lamb & Goat	Richard Waits, Justin Currie
Broilers	Scott Moore
Replacement Heifers	Tyler Mackey, Vic Stafford
Market Steer & In-County Heifer	Brandon Whitten / Brad Riemenschneider
Market Swine & Breeding Swine	Richard G Smith / Curtis Waits
Horse Show	Jennifer Allen, Shana LeBlanc
Home & Garden	Rebecca Bear
Fair Ambassadors	Julie Tucker
Pet Show	Joann Warner

Welcome to the 2025-26 Houston County Fair & Youth Livestock Show!

The Houston County Fair is THE PREMIER EVENT each year to showcase the animals and home and garden entries that represent so many generations of our county families. In fact, the 2025 Houston County Fair Sale of Champions brought in over \$900,000 for the students involved in FFA and 4-H, believed to be a record amount.

The Houston County Fair supports these young people and their families, and fortunately our businesses and industries have supported us – both local businesses and surrounding county business. This allows us to make strides in improving things for the next generations.

As you walk around the fair, you will notice we have made several improvements. Thanks to local business contributions, last year we were able to update our swine wash area. This year we are working to improve the cattle barn and build a wash area for them. And we have plans to continue for years to come, making this a great facility to help our youth.

On behalf of the entire Fair Association Board, I want to encourage all fair attendees to practice hospitality, showing courtesy and respect to other fairgoers, workers, and visitors to our great county. Let's make the 2026 fair a safe and enjoyable environment, and show off the hard work that we have so diligently put in.

See you at the Fair!

Clayton Smith

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★ *Notes Changes in Rules*

General Rules of the Houston County Fair Association (HCFA)

DEFINITIONS

- For the purposes of these rules the term **Exhibitor** means any person/ student in whose name the animal is entered and primarily responsible for the feeding, caring, training, and grooming/ fitting of the animal.
- For the purposes of these rules the term **immediate family** means brother, sister, step sibling or half sibling.
- For the purpose of the rules the term **validation** means ownership of animal.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Competition in all divisions will be limited to members in good standing of Houston County 4-H and FFA Chapters.
 - Certified proof of attendance of FFA/Jr. FFA and 4-H members is required by the HCFA.
 - 4-H, FFA/Jr. FFA members are required to attend at least half (1/2) of all regularly scheduled meetings.
 - 4-H Leaders, FFA/Jr. FFA Advisors are required to submit their attendance records to the fair secretary indicating which 4-H, FFA/Jr. FFA members are eligible to show.
 - Exhibitors must LIVE IN HOUSTON COUNTY OR ATTEND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL IN HOUSTON COUNTY to be eligible to enter the Houston County Fair.
2. If an exhibitor is deemed ineligible from “NO PASS, NO PLAY”, House Bill # 72, both the exhibitor and the project will not be eligible to show, nor would a substitute be permitted to show or sell the project entered. **Each ISD or Home School Teacher must certify that the student will remain eligible throughout the entire week of the Fair.**
 - If a student transfers, there is a standard 3-week academic waiting period. All exhibitors must be passing by respective 9 weeks or 6 weeks report card prior to county fair.
3. Any exhibitor using or having in their possession alcoholic beverages or drugs or having in their possession a prohibited weapon will be removed from the premises. Same exhibitor will not be eligible to show, sell, or receive premiums.
4. Any exhibitor, or a member of the exhibitor’s immediate family, who in the opinion of the Executive Committee, abuses an animal or

property of the Fairgrounds may be permanently barred from participating in any future Houston County Fairs.

5. Any exhibitor, parent/guardian, supervisor, or other spectator that knowingly violates a fair rule may be permanently barred from participating in any future Houston County Fair. All decisions of the Executive Committee will be final.
6. Any exhibitor that places in the Sale or Best of Show that chooses not to show up and/or sell will not be allowed to show in the next year's Houston County Fair.
7. Exhibitors will be required to submit all thank you cards, buyer's pictures, animals due to buyers, etc by August 31st following that year's county fair. Anyone who does not comply will be ineligible to show in next year's Houston County Fair.
8. All projects must remain in the facilities provided by the fair from the time they are checked in until released. Any exhibitor found to have removed an animal from the grounds prior to release by the division chairperson will be suspended from showing any project in the Houston County Fair for (1) year.



SUBSTITUTIONS

1. A substitute exhibitor will be permitted if an exhibitor has:
 - a. more than one entry being judged at the same time
 - b. 2 or more entries in the same class
 - c. if an exhibitor is under a doctor's care
 - d. if an exhibitor has a death in their immediate family
 - e. if an exhibitor is involved in a 4-H or school activity.
2. Any substitute exhibitor must be approved by the general fair chairman and recorded in the show office.
3. Substitute exhibitors **MAY NOT COMPETE IN SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES.**

ENTRIES

1. All livestock entry forms and fees must be submitted by the FFA Advisor or County Extension Agent to the fair secretary **BY 4:00 p.m. November 15.**
 - Entries must be signed by an Ag Science Teacher or County Extension Agent, Exhibitor and Parent or Legal Guardian.
 - No refunds will be made on entry fees and an entry will only be accepted for the person the original entry was entered for.

- Late entries will only be accepted up until the day of Market Lamb/Goat/Hog Validation
 - \$50 late entry fee in addition to the regular entry fee must be paid before 7 pm on above stated validation night.
2. The fair secretary will tally all entries submitted by the proper due date and time.
 - a. After the fair secretary inputs the entry data, reports will be returned to each Ag Science teacher and the County Agent.
 - b. The Ag Science teachers and County Agent will have 5 days to check entry reports given to them by the fair secretary, and provide notice of errors, if any.
 - c. After this time, NO CHANGES will be made, and these reports will be used for validations.
 3. Exhibitors may enter as many market/sale entries as they wish; however:
 - i. Exhibitor may show only one per division AND sell only 2 market/sale entries. *See Section VII. Sale – Premium & Freezer sale for details on selling.*
 4. Entry fees for market animals will be charged per exhibitor species. If additional market animals are entered for that exhibitor in that species, the exhibitor will be charged \$10 per additional head. (Family validated market animals will have 1 entry fee per exhibitor and \$10 per head each animal for each child.)
 5. Entry fee for breeding animals will be charged per head exhibited.
 6. The HCFA reserves the right to reject, accept, or accept conditionally, any and/or all entry applications.
 7. **All animals entered in Houston County Fair are eligible to be used in the Livestock Judging contest only if their show is completed prior to the start of the contest.**



VALIDATION

1. Validation dates will be set by the President.
2. The exhibitor of any market animal that loses an ear tag or has a problem with an ear tag must contact the division chair or officer of the Houston County Fair as soon as the problem occurs. A representative of the HCFA will come and replace or remove and replace the ear tag.

3. Major Show validation tags will be accepted as county validation numbers. A state major validation replacement tag will be submitted if lost during major show season. After completion of major shows, a major tag that is lost will be replaced with a county tag.
4. If an exhibitor transfers to Houston County after the validation date for that animal's species, the animal may be eligible if:
 - The animal was state validated in the exhibitor or family's name.
 - The animal was validated at a county validation in the exhibitor or family's name and that county validation met or exceeded the validation requirements of the Houston County Fair for that species
 - All entry rules, fees and requirements remain the same

JUDGES/SIFTING

1. Decision of the judges will be final in the placing of entries in each class.
2. All judges will be selected through the Judges Committee.
3. A confirmed judge selling a market animal in which he has an interest, financial or otherwise, will be disqualified from judging that division. Notice of protest must be given to the General Chairman no later than 30 days before the show.
4. All exhibits must be of show quality and all cattle, with the exception of replacement heifers, must be halter broke. The General Chairman and judge shall remove an unruly animal when, in their opinion, the animal interferes with the proper showing of the class or poses a danger. Any such animal shall not be eligible for premiums.
5. A Sifting Committee, made up of competent persons to be paid by the Houston County Fair Association, may be selected to pass judgment on all entries prior to time of judging. Sifted entries will be removed immediately from the show grounds. The decision of the Sifting Committee will be final.
6. No market animal of inferior quality as designated by the judge will sell in either the Premium / Freezer Sale.
7.  **The judge has the authority to remove any animal that doesn't meet show quality. Once dismissed as an inferior show project for any reason, the exhibitor no longer qualifies for participation in being judged or participation in the sale.**

SHOWMANSHIP

1. Showmanship/Interview in any division will be broken into Junior (ages 9-13) and Senior (ages 14-18). Age as of show date
2. Pee Wee Showmanship in any division shall consist of exhibitors if they are between the ages of 5 and 8 years old (not in the Third (3rd) grade) at the time of show.

SALE – PREMIUM/FREEZER

1. Exhibitors may enter as many market/sale entries as they wish; however:
 - Exhibitors may show only one per division AND sell only 2 market/sale entries.
 - The Houston County Fair Home & Garden Division Best of Show sale items will count as one (1) of the two (2) projects sold in the Sale.
 - If an exhibitor has more than two (2) eligible sale entries, the exhibitor has until 30 minutes after the end of the market hog show to notify the fair office which entry in the Sale they wish to drop. If the exhibitor does not notify the office within this time frame, the office will decide which project to drop from the Sale to meet the requirements that exhibitors may not sell more than two (2) items in the Sale. (Sale consists of both Premium & Freezer Sale.)
2. All exhibitors must be present to sell their projects. The only exceptions being:
 - The case of severe illness,
 - Death in the immediate family, or
 - Exhibitor involvement in a 4-H or school activity. Any exceptions must be given in writing seven (7) days prior to livestock sale.
 - If an exhibitor is called to sell their animal and they are not present, the auctioneer will call for that exhibitor three (3) times.
 - After the third time that exhibitor will not be allowed to sell their animal.
3. No exhibitor or member of his/her family may attempt to buy back an animal from a buyer.
4. All Premium sales will go through the Livestock Show HCFA
5. The Premium Sale will consist of up to the top:
 - 15 Market Steers
 - 15 Market Hogs,
 - 15 Pens of 3 Broilers,

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- 15 Pens of 3 Fryer Rabbits,
 - 15 Market Lambs,
 - 15 Pens of 2 Replacement Heifers,
 - 15 Market Goats and
 - 15 Foals.
- All included in the above numbers **must** sell in the Premium Sale.
 - The exhibitor of the Grand and Reserve Champion shop projects will have the option to sell their project in the “Sale of Champions.”
 - Freezer Sale will consist of 10 lots each species or 50% of remaining entries, after premium sale, whichever is greater.
 - If division has 25 or less entries that weigh in/check in, then ALL entries will sell.
6. Verbal add-ons will be taken on ALL Premium Sale lots.
 7. No market animal of inferior quality as designated by the judge will sell in either the Premium or Second Sale/Freezer Sale.
 8. **All Sale exhibitors will be assessed an 5% commission fee for the sale of their project.**
 9. Any exhibitor of a market animal that chooses NOT TO SELL in the Freezer Sale **must sign up not to sell within 60 minutes (1 hour) after each division has been judged** or that animal will be entered into the Sale Order. Once the Sale Order has been set, an exhibitor or entry may not ‘scratch’ from the sale or reject an offer/bid in the sale ring.
 10. Any exhibitor that places in the Sale or Best of Show that chooses not to show up and/or sell will not be allowed to show in the next year’s Houston County Fair.
 11. If a parent purchases their child’s project through a business or otherwise, that exhibitor will not receive their premium until all monies have been collected on their project.
 12. Exhibitors placing in the Premium Sale shall provide buyers a photo in a frame of the exhibitor’s choice. Photos will be provided by the fair.

GENERAL

1. The show will be held in Crockett, Texas and will run **March 28 – April 5, 2026**. Facilities will be approved by the Fair committee. Weigh-in, placement, and judging dates and times will be published later.
2. The Houston County Fair and Youth Livestock Show, Inc., its officers, directors, and any other person connected therewith,

both individually and collectively, shall not be held responsible or liable for bodily injury or any other damage or loss suffered to spectators, participants, livestock, and/or exhibits in the Houston County Fair.

3. All entries must be owned and shown by the exhibitor in whose name the project is entered.
4. All animals must be given proper care (feed & water) up until the time the animal(s) is delivered to the buyer or until the animal leaves the fairgrounds.
5. All Houston County livestock exhibits will be displayed or stalled in the facilities provided by the Show Committee. Exceptions may be permitted by the Division Chairman.
6. The Division Chairman and Executive Committee reserve the right to deny entry to showgrounds any exhibit for health reasons upon the advice of a veterinarian.
7. Animals not being exhibited will not be permitted on the grounds during the show days.
8. Each exhibitor will receive a show number, which must be attached to the exhibitor at the time of showing to be eligible to compete.
9. All breeding animals and non-sale items will be released by the General Chairman or designee prior to the beginning of the Premium Sale.
10. The Show Committee reserves the right to make adjustments of premiums necessary for the well-being of the show, sponsors, and exhibitors.
11. All entries must be washed at the wash rack provided by the Show Committee.
12. Any exhibitor using or having in their possession alcoholic beverages or drugs or having in their possession a prohibited weapon will be removed from the premises. Same exhibitor will not be eligible to show, sell, or receive premiums.
13. Any exhibitor, parent/guardian, supervisor, or other spectator that knowingly violates a fair rule may be permanently barred from participating in any future Houston County Fair. All decisions of the Executive Committee will be final.
14. Any exhibitor, or a member of the exhibitor's immediate family, who in the opinion of the Executive Committee, abuses an animal or property of the Fairgrounds may be permanently barred from participating in any future Houston County Fairs.
15. All protests, before and during the show, must be made in writing and have a \$50 cash deposit included.
 - a. After review of the protest, the \$50 will be refunded if the protest is valid.

- b. If the protest is found to NOT BE VALID by the Executive Committee of the Fair Association, the money will be forfeited.
16. Ag Teachers and County Agent are to help set the schedule for exhibitors to work in the concession stand Sale night.
17. **Goats, lambs, hogs, broilers, rabbits will be stalled upon arrival. Animals that wish to be stalled together must arrive together. No early marking of pens will be allowed.**
18. All projects must remain in the facilities provided by the fair from the time they are checked in until released. Any exhibitor found to have removed an animal from the grounds prior to release by division chairperson will be suspended from showing any project in the Houston County Fair for (1) year.
19. The Fair President, Vice President, Secretary, Asst. Secretary, and Treasurer as a collective group may make adjustments “housekeeping rule” changes to any general or division rule that contradicts itself, duplicates or is repetitive, or makes clarification for better understanding to any general rule or division rule. **Once any revision is made, the revision must go back to the President and Vice President for final approval.**

OTHER

1. The Executive Committee will have the authority to rule on matters not covered by the Houston County Fair Rules
2. Exhibitors may show as many breeding animals as desired.
3. Only dues paying members and eligible voters of the Fair Association shall be allowed to submit rule changes. Proposed rules must be signed by the eligible member. A person must complete four (4) meetings to be eligible to vote at the fifth (5th) meeting
4. All proposed rule changes are to be mailed to the HCFA- Proposed Rule Changes at the fair’s mailing address or returned to any fair officer or the rules chairperson by the designated date. All submitted rules changes are to be opened/presented during the rules meeting.

DIVISION RULES

PET SHOW

1. Each exhibitor will pay an entry fee of \$1.00
2. Exhibitors must be at least 2 years old and not more than 12 years old at the time of the show.
3. Pets must belong to the exhibitor and reside at the exhibitor's home.
4. Dogs and cats four months of age and older **MUST** have a **certificate** of rabies vaccination (not just tags on the pet's collar) including Parvo virus for dogs.
5. Animals must appear clean and be in healthy condition.
6. No pets will be allowed on the Fairgrounds if they are unruly or endanger other people or pets.
7. Pets for which there are classes in the Livestock Show will not be eligible (i.e., chickens, rabbits, lambs, pigs, cows, and horses).
8. Pets must be on a leash – no longer than 6 feet long, in a cage, or in a bowl at all times and are not to be left unattended at any time.
9. Pets should be removed from the show area immediately after the show.
10. The judge's decision will be final.
11. Category Classes are:
 - Pure Breed Dogs under 25 pounds
 - Pure Breed Dogs over 25 pounds
 - Mixed Breed Dogs under 25 pounds
 - Mixed Breed Dogs over 25 pounds
 - Cats
 - Miscellaneous
12. Pets will be judged on grooming, condition, and walking on a leash.
 - Trophies will be given to the winner in each of the above categories. Participation ribbons will be given to all exhibitors.
13. Trophies will be awarded to:
 - Best of Show
 - Best Mannered
 - Best Groomed
 - Best Team (Exhibitor & Pet)
 - Showmanship

QUEEN AND PRINCESS CONTEST

1. Each contestant must be a resident of Texas and a member of a Houston County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter.
2. Each contestant must have participated in the Houston County Fair a minimum of one year. Princess contestants must be between the grades of 4th – 8th. Queen contestants must be between the grades of 9th – 12th. Each contestant must be between the ages of 9 and 19 years of age. The age of a contestant shall be as of September 1st of entry year.
3. Each contestant may not be married, not have been married, have borne a child, or become pregnant during her reign.
-  4. Applications will be made available from the Houston County Fair Association to 4-H Leaders, Ag teachers and the County Extension office by either paper or an electronic link.
5. A current photo of reproducible quality is required; photocopies are not acceptable.
6. Contest interviews will take place during a scheduled interview time.
7. Applicants failing to report to their scheduled interview time will be removed from the competition. **NO INTERVIEWS WILL TAKE PLACE ANY OTHER TIME THAN THE SCHEDULED INTERVIEW DAY OR LOCATION.** An applicant going on vacation, attending another function, or working will not be accepted.
8. Application requires a short essay of no less than 150 words telling why candidate would make a good Houston County Fair Queen or Princess. Tell us what you know about the fair and what you've accomplished as a fair participant.
-  9. Queen and Princess contestants should dress appropriately for the interview process.
10. Contest winners will be required to give a short speech to the fair board members during a fair board meeting.
11. Winners will be crowned the first night of the Fair. Dress appropriately.
12. Each Queen and Princess will receive a crown, sash, and flowers.
13. If the current reigning Queen and/or Princess are unable to complete her reign, the title WILL NOT be passed on to the runner-up.
14. The current Queen and Princess are expected to wear their crowns and sashes during the week of the fair, except when showing livestock. They are expected to make appearances at all shows and help with handing out awards, especially sale night. They will remain highly visible during the week of the Fair. This means that you will always dress properly. No bare midriffs or low-

cut tops; no ragged, ripped, or torn clothing; no clothing with alcoholic beverage logos or foul language.

15. All functions attended by the Queen and Princess must be approved in advance.
16. Each contestant is expected to furnish your own transportation to events unless otherwise provided for by the advisors.
17. The Queen and/or Princess from the prior year will be permitted to apply for the title again. However, entrants will not be eligible to hold the title for more than two years in the same division.
- ★ 18. Entry deadline will be set by the Queen and Princess Division Chair and approved during a regular monthly fair meeting. This includes paper entries and entries submitted online.

SHOP PROJECTS

1. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and Regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
2. Exhibitors' names will be on project AFTER judging.
3. 'For Sale' signs may be placed on projects after the placing of all projects.
4. Premium money will be paid to the FFA Chapter or Extension Office only.
5. Projects must have been built since last show date. Equipment previously exhibited at the Houston County Fair will not be eligible.
6. Projects must be in place by the designated time as announced, at a later date.
7. There will be a \$50.00 entry fee per Ag Chapter or 4-H Club.
8. Project entries must have been constructed, by (as an) a FFA and/or 4-H Club project.
9. A modified Danish system will be used in judging:
 - Workmanship..... 30
 - Design..... 20
 - Practicality 20
 - Degree of Difficulty 15
 - Finish 10
 - Student Interview..... 5
 - Total:.....100 points
10. Ribbon placing will be as follows:
 - Blue..... 100 - 90
 - Red 89 - 80

- White..... 79 - 70
11. The Sweepstakes Award will consist of all.
 12. The Shop Projects Division Classes will be as follows:
 1. Hay handling equipment – (hay forks, hay buggies, etc.)
 2. Mounted and pull type tractor equipment and accessories
 3. Shop equipment
 4. Truck, tractor, and agricultural equipment accessories
 5. Electric equipment – show and livestock equipment
 6. Livestock feeders, self-feeders, and creep feeders
 7. Other livestock equipment (headgates, chutes, etc.)
 8. Small bumper pull utility trailers under 10 ft
 9. Bumper pull utility trailers 10 – 16 ft
 10. Bumper pull utility trailers over 16 ft
 11. Bumper pull stock trailers
 12. Bumper pull trailers other use – (dump, welding, cargo, hay, etc.)
 13. Gooseneck stock trailers
 14. Gooseneck lowboy trailers
 15. Gooseneck deck over trailers
 16. Gooseneck other trailers (hay, dump, etc.)
 17. Bar-B-Que pits/ grills/ fire pits
 18. Indoor home convenience
 19. Outdoor home convenience
 20. Wildlife equipment and/or recreational equipment (feeders, deer stands, etc.)
 21. Gates and livestock panels (pasture gates, entrance gates, portable cattle panels, etc.)
 22. Sale Class
 - which will consist of a single project constructed and entered by one individual. The Grand and Reserve in this class will sell in the premium sale. These projects will also be counted towards the sweepstakes award for the chapter the individual is entered under. Each entry will have to pay a \$25 entry fee at the time that all other projects that are eligible for the premium sale are entered.
 13. Projects exhibited by each FFA Chapter or 4-H Club will be added up.
 - Blue – 3 pts., Red – 2 pts., White – 1 pt.
 - Plus, one (1) divided by totals equal points awarded to each entry for sweepstakes.
 - Premium money will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

- Prize money will be \$100.00 for first, \$75.00 for second, and \$50.00 for third.
- The Division Chairman will make the final decision in case of a tie.

JUNIOR BREEDER RABBIT SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Breeder Rabbit division is \$5.00 per entry.
2. Entry deadline will be February 12th of the current fair year.
3. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
4. Registration should be after the possession has begun or be in possession as of an entry date and make entry date in February, in conjunction with home and garden.
5. Breeder rabbits will be broken into classes if there are 5 or more pens of the same breed and sex entered.
6. Exhibitors must show same breed and sex as entered – Substitutions may be made according to the ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) rules, Section 6(B) – Substitutions shall be allowed only in the same sex, class, variety, group, and breed.
7. Any rabbit having external parasites, ear canker, buckteeth, bleeding hocks or any disqualification as per ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) rules will be **disqualified**.



JUNIOR FRYER RABBIT SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Fryer Rabbit division is \$10 per pen of 3.
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
3. All rabbits will be tattooed **AT LEAST** 25 days prior to the date of show at a designated place and time to verify ownership.
4. An exhibitor will be permitted to weigh in only 3 rabbits, which will make a pen.
5. All fryer rabbits must be officially checked in at designated time.
6. NO SUBSTITUTIONS of rabbits will be allowed once rabbits have been weighed and sifted by the judge.
7. Extra rabbits must be removed from show area/barn before judging begins.

8. Any fryer rabbit weighing less than **3 lb. 8 oz.** or more than **5 lb. 8 oz.** will be sifted.
9. Any rabbit having external parasites, ear canker, buckteeth, bleeding hocks or any disqualification as per ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) rules will be sifted.
10. If requested, the exhibitor must dress and deliver 3 rabbits to buyer.
11. All market rabbits will be weighed in prior to the arrival of the judge.

JUNIOR BREEDING EWE SHOW



1. Breeding ewe entry fee is \$25 per ewe.
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the general rules and regulations of the Houston County Youth Livestock Association.
3. Breeding ewes may be shown in the market lamb division. Separate entry fees are required for both divisions.
4. Entry cards and fees are due in accordance with all other breeding entries.
5. For an exhibitor to qualify to show, he/she must have owned the animal for at least 90 days prior to show date.
6. This breeding ewe show will be CLOSED to Houston County entries only.
7. Breeding ewes may begin arriving according to the show schedule.
8. All breeding ewes will be sifted for disease at check-in, prior to the show.
9. Any breeding ewe lamb may be permitted to show in the breeding class.
10. Breeding ewes will be shown slick from the knee up.
11. Classes with less than 3 entries may be combined at the discretion of the Division Chairperson.
12. Classes:
 - Ewe lambs less than 12 months
 - Ewe lambs 12-24 months
 - Ewe lambs 25-36 months
 - Grand Champion Breeding Ewe per breed (banner awarded)
 - Reserve Champion Breeding Ewe per breed (banner awarded)
 - Overall Grand Champion Breeding Ewe (buckle awarded)
 - Overall Reserve Champion Breeding Ewe (buckle awarded)

13. All breeders **MUST** be removed from the show grounds at the conclusion of the show or by noon the next day. The Division Chairperson must be notified of departure date and time. No Exceptions.

JUNIOR MARKET LAMB SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Lamb division is \$25.00 per entry.
 - a. Entry fees for market animals will be charged per exhibitor species. If additional market animals are entered for that exhibitor in that species, the exhibitor will be charged \$10 per additional head. (Family validated market animals will have 1 entry fee per exhibitor and \$10 per head each animal for each child.)
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
3. All lambs weighing in for the show must weigh in nothing more than a halter or chain.
4. All lambs must be slick shorn from the knee and hock up prior to check-in at the county fair.
5. Lambs will be divided into three (3) or more classes by weight at the discretion of the division chair. If any two (2) or more lambs weigh where the classes are broken, they will be shown in the lighter weight class.

JUNIOR MARKET MEAT GOAT SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Market Meat Goat division is \$25.00 per entry.
 - a. Entry fees for market animals will be charged per exhibitor species. If additional market animals are entered for that exhibitor in that species, the exhibitor will be charged \$10 per additional head. (Family validated market animals will have 1 entry fee per exhibitor and \$10 per head each animal for each child.)
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and Regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
3. All Meat Goats must weigh between 65 and 135 pounds.
4. All meat goats must be slick shorn above the knee and hock joints, 3/8-inch hair or shorter, castrated, and horns must be

tipped back no smaller than a dime with no sharp tips prior to check-in at the county fair.

5. Meat goats will be divided into three (3) or more classes by weight at the discretion of the division chairman. If two (2) or more meat goats weigh where the classes are broken, they will be shown in the lighter weight class.
6. Wethers and Does can be shown. No Billy Goats.
7. Exhibitors will be allowed to use halter or collars to show their animals.
8. Goats must be owned and cared for by the exhibitor.

JUNIOR BREEDING DOE (GOAT) SHOW

1. Breeding doe entry fee is \$10 per doe.
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the general rules and regulations of the Houston County Youth Livestock association.
3. Breeding Does may be shown in the Market Goat division. Separate entry fees are required for both divisions.
4. Entry cards and fees are due in accordance with all other breeding entries.
5. For an exhibitor to qualify to show, he/she must have owned the animal for at least 90 days prior to show date.
6. This Breeding Doe show will be CLOSED to Houston County entries only.
7. Breeding Does will be sifted for disease at check-in, prior to the show.
8. Any Breeding Doe Goat may be permitted to show in the breeding class.
9. All Breeding Does must be shorn slick (with no indication of blocking) to the skin above knee and hock joints, excluding the tail switch.
10. Classes with less than 3 entries may be combined at the discretion of the Division Chairperson.
11. Classes:
 1. Does less than 12 months
 2. Does 12 – 24 months
 3. Does 25 – 36 months
12. Grand Champion Breeding Doe per breed (banner awarded).
13. Reserve Champion Breeding Doe per breed (banner awarded).
14. Overall Grand Champion Breeding Doe (buckle awarded).
15. Overall Reserve Champion Breeding Doe (buckle awarded).

16. All breeders **MUST** be removed from the show grounds at the conclusion of the show or by noon the next day. The Division Chairperson must be notified of departure date and time. **NO** exceptions.

JUNIOR BROILER SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Broiler division is **\$25.00** per entry plus an additional cost for a pen of 25 chicks. (Cost of the pen of 25 chicks will be determined by the hatchery at current market value.)
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
3. Each exhibitor must order **MINIMUM OF 25** chicks through the Livestock Show Committee. Entry forms and money for chicks must be turned in at the time of entry to the Livestock Show secretary. Chicks must be picked up at designated time.
4. A pen will consist of three (3) broilers.
5. All broilers must be checked in at the designated time.
6. Exhibitors will be allowed to have two (2) alternate broilers.
7. Judge will sift and inspect broilers for injuries and bruising before judging. At this time, the exhibitor will be allowed to substitute their alternates, one time only.
8. An exhibitor may have one or two holders to help them exhibit their broilers during the show.
9. Exhibitors must dress and deliver 3 broilers to the Buyer.

JUNIOR REPLACEMENT BEEF HEIFER SHOW

1. Entry fee for Junior Replacement Beef Heifer division is \$25.00 per pen.
2. A Beef Check-Off Fee of \$2 per head will be collected by deduction of exhibitor's check or premium money on all Steer and Replacement Heifers sold in the Premium and Freezer Sale.
3. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and Regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
4. All pens must contain 2 heifers.

- An exhibitor will be allowed to begin the project and keep records on 2 or 3 heifers but will be judged only on 2 heifers during the fair.
5. Exhibitors will be required to keep a record book using forms provided by the fair.
 - Record books will reflect ALL expenses from first validation until the second validation, including the purchase cost of the heifers.
 - Replacement heifer record books will be judged by the judges recruited by the Judges Committee to judge replacement heifers with the top scoring book awarded \$75.00 and the second-place book being awarded \$50.00.
 - The record book can be handwritten or typed. This will not affect the order of final placing.
 - ★ 6. **Beds/Pens can be made after committee chair has marked pens with proper pen number before 12pm day of check-in.**
 7. Exhibitors MUST use hay bags for feeding hay while heifers are on display during the Fair.
 8. Each heifer must be “year” branded with the last digit of the year in which they were born. Heat or freeze brand is acceptable.
 9. A second mandatory validation will be held for Replacement Heifers with the date to be set as close to show time as possible by the Replacement Heifer Chairman.
 - ★ 10. Exhibitors will have the option of heifers being open or bred.
 - Cattle can only be exposed after December 1st and not before.
 - During the second validation, weigh-in/palpation, the division chairman will have the option to cut any cattle bred over four (4) months.
 11. All quality commercial breeds and cross breeds will be eligible for the show.
 12. At the first validation, each heifer must weigh between **550 lbs.** and 900 lbs., with a 30 lb. variance allowed on (1) head only.
 13. The pen of heifers must have gained at least 1 pound per day from the 1st validation to the 2nd validation to be eligible to show.
 14. All replacement heifers must be suitable for replacement, well maintained and on proper growing rations.
 15. **Any horned cattle being show must be tipped no smaller than a quarter size prior to second validation.**
 16. All heifers must be reasonably gentle, but do not need to be halter broken. Any animals ruled wild or unruly by the Sifting Committee will not be allowed to show.

17. Each pen of Replacement Heifers and the exhibitor will be given a final placing based on a point scale.
 - A possible score of 100 points can be given with 1 being the lowest and 100 the highest.
 - The judging of the cattle – up to 100 points.
18. Each heifer in the replacement heifer division will be ear-tagged with breeding info on the tag.
19. Top scoring interview exhibitor for the junior exhibitor and the top scoring interview for the senior exhibitor will receive a belt buckle. There can be no substitute exhibitor for the interview.
- ★ 20. In case the HCF is unable to secure a suitable location and veterinarian for validations, each exhibitor will be responsible for having validation forms approved by the HCF signed and turned into the HCF by each validation deadline.

JUNIOR IN - COUNTY BREEDING BEEF HEIFER SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior In-County Beef Heifer division is \$25 per entry. Entries may be accepted up to the division weigh-in/check-in date and time set by the general membership and published in the fair schedule.
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and Regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
3. Heifers must be owned and in the possession of the exhibitor as of the entry deadline.
4. Each heifer must be halter-broken, taught to lead, dehorned, controllable, clean, and trimmed; as determined by the In-County Heifer division chair or co-chair; to participate in the show.
5. Heifers may be commercial or registered.
 - Registered heifers will be broken into breeds according to their registry and guided by State FFA and 4-H guidelines.
 - Registered Breeds will be:
 - American or American cross
 - British or British cross
 - Exotics or Exotics cross
 - Commercial heifers will be classified at check-in by 3 classifiers appointed by the In-County Heifer division chair and/or co-chair.
 - Commercial heifers determined to be of:

- Bos Indicus influence will show in the American or American cross breed
 - Bos Taurus influence will be shown in the Exotic or Exotic cross breed.
6. Classes will be decided by the Division Chair and Co-Chair based on entries checked in. Classes will be determined based on the heifer breed and birth date and guided by State FFA & 4-H major show age divisions. No heifers over 30 months will be allowed to enter.

JUNIOR MARKET STEER SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Steer division is \$25.00 per entry.
 - a. Entry fees for market animals will be charged per exhibitor species. If additional market animals are entered for that exhibitor in that species, the exhibitor will be charged \$10 per additional head. (Family validated market animals will have 1 entry fee per exhibitor and \$10 per head each animal for each child.)
2. A Beef Check-Off Fee of \$2 per head will be collected by deduction of exhibitor's check or premium money on all Steer and Replacement Heifers sold in the Premium and Freezer Sale.
3. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
4. All steers must weigh a minimum of 1000 pounds at check-in weigh-in day.
5. All calves must be dehorned and castrated prior to the day of validation.
6. Validation will be conducted on the same day as the initial replacement heifer validation. The place of validation will be determined at a later date.
7. All calves will be ear-tagged and weighed on the day of validation.
8. All steers must be weighed in at the fair and be on exhibit no later than the scheduled time.
9. No change of color pattern of the animal by painting or dyeing will be allowed.
10. Any grooming materials that allow color to come off the animal will not be allowed at show time.
11. Each steer must be halter broke, taught to lead, dehorned, controllable, clean, and trimmed; as determined by the steer division chair or co-chair; to participate in the show.



12. Any steer found in violation of the official livestock rules will be disqualified from the show.
13. The division chairman may use his/her discretion when dividing class weights into 2 or 3 classes.
14. Exhibitors must clean up their own tie up area. (Removal of manure, hay, and level shavings etc.). A \$50.00 fine will be deducted from the exhibitor's check if space is not cleaned.
15. Prior to arrival at the show, steers will be pre-clipped to no more than ¼ inch of hair on any part of the body, except the tail switch which may be ratted and balled or bobbed off. Steers will be checked for hair length at time of check-in.
16. Steers found in violation of the hair length rule will be given (1) chance to fix the areas in question and must be re-evaluated prior to the end of check-in. Steers found in violation after re-evaluation will be eliminated from all competition for that year.
17. Steers will be broken at the discretion of the chairperson into breed and weight classes as follows:
 - Brahman Influenced.
 - light, middle, and heavy weight classes
 - English/Exotic.
 - light, middle, and heavy weight classes
18. Breed classification will be determined by a committee of 3 non-Houston County resident classifiers, appointed by the steer division chair and/or co-chair, at the time of check-in at the Houston County Fair.
19. American Influenced cattle must show at least 3/8 Brahman characteristics. All other breeds will be in English/Exotic division.



JUNIOR BREEDING SWINE SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Breeding Swine division is **\$25.00** per entry.
 - Market gilts who would like to show in the breeding show may pay the \$25 entry fee no later than 1 hour after the close of the weigh-in/check-in of the market hogs. This animal must already be entered and validated for the market show to be eligible to show in the breeding show.
 - Breeding gilts not showing in the market show must be entered by the November deadline or late entry Hog/Goat/ Lamb validation.
 - Breeding gilts not showing in market show do not have to be validated.
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they

conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.

3. Gilts must be in possession of the exhibitor and on feed no later than 90 days before the show.
4. The breeding swine show will be before the market hog show and all gilts will be eligible for the market hog show. To show in each division, exhibitors must pay an entry fee for both the breeding and market division.

JUNIOR MARKET HOG SHOW

1. Entry fee for the Junior Market Hog division is \$25.00 per entry.
 - a. Entry fees for market animals will be charged per exhibitor species. If additional market animals are entered for that exhibitor in that species, the exhibitor will be charged \$10 per additional head. (Family validated market animals will have 1 entry fee per exhibitor and \$10 per head each animal for each child.)
2. All entries in this division will be subject to the General Rules and regulations of the Junior Livestock Show except where they conflict, in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
3. Market hogs must weigh a minimum of 220 pounds and a maximum of 300 pounds at the time of weigh-in.
4. Hogs will be divided after weigh-in into classes of NO MORE THAN 15. The only exception being, if 2 or more hogs weigh where the classes are broken, they will be shown in the lighter class.
5. If a “crypt cut” hog shows up in the slaughterhouse, it will be the student’s responsibility to satisfy the buyer with another hog or refund his money.
6. No grooming of hogs will be allowed in the holding pens or show arena.

FAIR AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Houston County Fair Ambassador Program strives to provide students with the opportunity to develop and practice advanced leadership skills and become advocates for their county fair.

1. **Responsibilities:**
 - a. To provide at least one (1) educational presentation prior to the fair or during the fair.
 - b. To assist with weigh in and/or check in of divisions.
 - c. Assist division superintendents as needed.
 - d. Be an available resource to novice fair participants in your division.
2. **Eligibility requirements:**
 - a. You must be in 8th grade or higher.
 - b. If selected for this position, you must attend the monthly ambassador meetings. (Dec, Jan, Feb, March x2)
 - c. If selected for this position, it is requested that you attend Fair Board Meetings.
 - d. You must have participated in the Houston County Fair a minimum of one (1) year and participate in the upcoming Houston County Fair.
 - e. It is preferred that students be prepared to commit more than one year to the Ambassador Program.
 - f. Participants must meet UIL eligibility requirements.
3. **Code of Ethics**
 - a. Ambassadors must always wear designated attire when representing the Houston County Fair. Please keep in mind that Ambassadors are always in the public eye, even when not in official attire.
 - b. Ambassadors will be held accountable for their behavior. They are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner to adults and peers around them and must always use wholesome and appropriate language.
 - c. Ambassadors will conduct themselves appropriately on social media. Make sure that all content associated with you is consistent with your position as an ambassador.
 - d. Ambassadors will be asked to attend the twice-a-month meeting, one for training and one for planning. There will be mandatory meetings, failure to attend will result in disciplinary actions.
4. Applications will be available online via a link or paper application provided by a 4-H Leader, County Extension office or Ag teacher.
5. Application must be completed in full.
6. Ambassador interviews will take place during a scheduled interview time.

7. Applicants failing to report to their scheduled interview time will be removed from the competition. No interviews will take place any other time than the scheduled interview day or location. An applicant going on vacation, attending another function, or working will not be accepted.
8. **Paper applications are due SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 to houstoncountyfair@yahoo.com or via mail to: HCFA PO Box 442, Crockett, TX 75835. Online entry system closes at 5pm September 27, 2025.**

PEE WEE SHOWMANSHIP SHOW

1. PEE WEE SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES: All participants excluded from the show by Eligibility Rules because of age are eligible to enter the Pee Wee Showmanship Classes if they are between the **ages of 5 and 8 years old (not in the Third (3rd) grade)** at the time of show. Age is determined as of date of species show. The current 4- H members (excluding Clover Kids) and Jr. FFA members are deemed ineligible.
2. Pee Wee exhibitors must be a current resident of Houston County, attend a school district within Houston County, or attend a Houston County Home School Program. *Out of county residents will not be allowed to participate.*
3. Pee Wee Showmanship shows will be conducted in the species of: Beef Cattle, Lamb and Goats, and Swine only. There will be no Pee Wee Showmanship classes in Replacement Heifers, Rabbits or Broilers.
 - All haltered Steers and Heifers will be shown together at the same time.
 - All Lambs and Goats will be shown together at the same time.
 - All Breeding and Market Swine will be shown together at the same time.
4. Showmanship Only. Pee Wee Exhibitors that meet the age requirement above will compete in showmanship only.
5. Pee Wee classes will be held at the completion of the above species regular showmanship show.
6. Pee Wee Showmanship Judge, if they are agreeable, will be same judge used for the species classes. Substitute judge will be secured if necessary. No fees or additional fees will be paid to Pee Wee Showmanship judge.

7. No entry fee required to participate in Pee Wee Showmanship Classes.
8. Participants will be presented with ribbons only unless otherwise sponsored.
9. Animals shown must have been validated and weighed in or checked in at the proper times and be on show grounds the week of the fair. No outside animals allowed.
10. Show halters, neck chains, poly halters and other show equipment are to be used at the discretion of parent(s) or guardians of Pee Wee exhibitor.
11. Supervision by adult or owner of animal is **REQUIRED** in the show ring at time of Pee Wee Showmanship show.
12. Owner of the animal used may be present in the show ring if needed.
13. Pee Wee exhibitor and family are responsible for obtaining animal for showing.

SCHOLARSHIP



1. The Houston County Fair will offer (6) six scholarships of \$2,000 **to a graduating student attending public, private or home school in Houston County** to be used for tuition, fees, and books for up to four years. Scholarships will be awarded as follows: Houston County 4-H, Crockett ISD, Grapeland ISD, Kennard ISD, Latexo ISD, Lovelady ISD. In addition (1) one scholarship of \$1,000 – The Michelle Lynn Holsey Memorial Scholarship.
2. All applicants are subject to the General Rules of the Houston County Fair Association.
3. Applicant must declare 4-H or FFA.
4. Applicant must be graduating senior.
5. Applicant must declare they will be attending college or trade school on application.
6. Applicant must be a member in good standing in 4-H, FFA, or be enrolled in Agriculture/Natural Resources or Family & Consumer Science Classes.
7. Applicant must have competed in the current year Houston County Fair as well as two previous Houston County Fairs.
8. Applicant must complete the “Houston County Fair Scholarship Application” of the Houston County Fair.
9. Applicant must submit on official high school transcript including rank, total number in class, and SAT or ACT scores **(if required by colleges or universities)**.

10. Applicant must submit three letters of reference. One of the three should be from your 4-H Leader, Family Consumer Science, or FFA Advisor.
11. Applicant must submit an essay of at least five hundred (500) typed words on the topic: *The Advantage I Received from Participating in the Houston County Fair*.
12. Applicant must provide a head and shoulder photo: (school picture). Do not send a Polaroid or instant photo. Photo should be identified with applicant's name affixed on the back of photo. Absolutely nothing larger than 2 ½ x 3 ½.
13. Scholarship recipients must be enrolled as a full-time student in the fall semester immediately following graduation in an accredited institute of higher learning during the regular school year (Fall-Spring). There can be no decline in full time status during the regular school year. However, under extenuating circumstances – each case will be reviewed – additional time may be allowed. This decision will be left up to the scholarship committee. If there is a decline in full time status any funds remaining will be forfeited. If an educational facility considers less than (12) twelve hours a full load the scholarship committee must have written documentation from that institute.
14. It is the responsibility of the scholarship recipient to notify the scholarship committee of the name and address of the Financial Aid Office, Cashier's Office, or the Scholarship Office, whichever is applicable, of the institute they will be attending. Payment will be made directly to the institution they will be attending. Funds can be used up to \$1,000 per semester upon receipt of proof of full-time status and grades.
15. In order to receive payment for the upcoming semester the recipient must provide proof of registration. Thereafter, recipient must provide proof of registration as well as official grades from the previous semester. A GPA of 2.0 is necessary for registering for the second semester. Afterward, a 2.5 GPA will be required.
16. If there are no applications received from a school and/or the 4H, then that scholarship will be awarded to another qualified applicant based on the scholarship committee's decision.

HORSE SHOW

1. All AQHA rules apply unless otherwise written.
2. Exhibitors will show in one of the following age groups:
 - 8 & under
 - 9 – 13
 - 14-18
 - 19 & over
3. Age will be determined as of show date. Proof of age may be requested at show.
4. The six-point system will be used the entire show.
5. Points may be accumulated on a one-horse/one rider basis for High Point awards.
6. High Point in all age groups will be determined by counting points accumulated for all classes.
7. Proof of a Negative Coggins test and shot records (specifically indicated vaccination for Strangles and Flu-Rhino) within 12 months of show date will be required at time of show.
8. Protests must be filed in writing, during or immediately upon conclusion of this event accompanied by a \$50.00 cash fee. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be refunded to the protester. If the protest is overruled, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Houston County Fair Association.
9. High point awards will be awarded in the 8 & under age group to the individual with the most points from the following classes:
 - Showmanship
 - Halter
 - Walk & Trot
 - Western Horsemanship
 - Cloverleaf Barrels
 - Pole Bending
 - Straight-A-Way Barrels
 - Flag Race

And to the individual with the most points in age groups: 8 & under, 9-13, 14-18, 19 & over, with the following classes:

- Showmanship
 - Halter
 - Western Pleasure
 - Western Horsemanship
 - Trail
 - Cloverleaf Barrels
 - Poles
 - Straight-a-Way Barrels
10. Entry Fee is \$10/class

2025- 2026 Home & Garden Fair RULES

Chairperson:
Rebecca Bear

DIVISIONS

Art (Adult, Youth & Elementary)
Canning
Crafts
Foods
Horticulture
Photography
Quilts (Adults Only)
Woodworking
Young at Hearts

***ENTRIES WILL BE RELEASED BETWEEN
5pm-6pm Thursday of Fair Week***

ENTRY DEADLINES:

**Jr & Sr Sale Entries
February 12, 2026**

**Adult & Youth Entries
March 28, 2026**

Entry forms & fees **MUST** be submitted by:



○ FFA and 4-H Leaders **ONLY**

ELIGIBILITY

1. The Home & Garden Fair (HGF) is open to all residents of Houston County.
2. All entries in the Home & Garden Fair will be subject to the General Rules and Regulations of the Houston County Fair & Youth Livestock Show except where they conflict in which case the special rules of this division will prevail.
3. All exhibits must be the work of the contestant and may not have been entered in previous Houston County Fairs. All Home & Garden Project entries must have been made in the current fair year and must be completed.
4. All youth participants will be required to write a “Thank You” note to the sponsors of Best of Class rosettes, Best of Show plaques, and buyers of their exhibited items.
 - a. Each “Thank You” note must have a stamp on it.
 - b. Notes must be checked by the person at the table before items are picked up Thursday of fair week
 - c. “Thank you” notes must be checked before Best of Show winners will be allowed to participate in the auction.
5. All Adult Best of Class and Best of Show Winners must send a “Thank You” note(s) to the sponsor of their rosettes and/or plaque.
 - These “Thank You” notes need to be given to the person at the table before items are picked up on Thursday of fair week.

VALIDATION

1. To be eligible to enter, all Home and Garden Fair entries, *with the exception of Elementary Art*, must be validated by submitting a Home and Garden Project Form to hcfahg01@gmail.com.
 - a. Foods and Canning projects must be validated online two (2) weeks prior to check in.
 - Recipes for Baked Goods and Canned goods are required for validation and will be reviewed by committee members.
 - Recipes are required to be typed or legibly hand-written on the Home and Garden Project Form. Photographs or clippings passed onto the form will not be accepted.

- Recipes will be reviewed, and you may be asked to substitute part of or an entire recipe. Exhibitors will be given one chance to revise and resubmit recipes.
 - Validation for all other classes (art, crafts, horticulture, woodworking, photography, quilts) is required at check in.
2. Any questions regarding placement of an entry within a category or rule clarifications can be directed towards the Home and Garden Committee prior to validation. Validation does not constitute entry. See general rules and regulations for entry information.

ENTRIES

1. Entry Fees per Entry:

- a. **Elementary Art: (submitted by schools only)**
- b. K through 6th - \$1.00
- c. **ALL OTHER ENTRIES:**
- d. **Junior 3rd – 8th grade - \$2.00**
- e. **Senior 9th – 12th grade - \$2.00**
- f. Adults \$3.00
- g. Young at Heart - \$1.00

2. All Junior & Senior Home & Garden entry forms and fees must be submitted by the FFA or 4-H Advisor to the Home & Garden Chairperson by 6:00 pm on February 12th.

3. Entries must be signed by an Ag Science or 4-H Advisor, Exhibitor, and Parent/Legal Guardian.

4. No refunds will be made on entry fees, and an entry will only be accepted for the person the original entry was entered for.

5. Late entries will only be accepted up until the day of the Home & Garden check-in. A \$25 late entry fee in addition to the regular entry fee must be paid before 7pm on the above check-in date.

6. Exhibitors must show in the division as original entry received – NO SUBSTITUTIONS.

7. Exhibitors may enter as many items in a class/category as desired except in Photography and Art (limited to 4 items per class), provided entry fee is paid for EACH exhibited item.

8. **All entries are to be picked up at the Civic Center between 5pm-6pm on Thursday of Fair Week.** If necessary, the division chairperson may use their discretion in scheduling a different release time under special circumstances.

DELIVERY OF GOODS/ITEMS

1. All entries **EXCEPT Baked Goods and Fresh Floral Arrangements** are to be checked in at the **Civic Center** on **MONDAY** of fair week, between the hours of **4:00-7:00 pm**.
2. **Baked Good and Fresh Floral entries** are to be brought to the **Civic Center** on **TUESDAY** of fair week between the hours of **8:00-9:00 a.m.**

AWARDS

1. Ribbons will be awarded to exhibitors on a points system. The item with the highest score in each class will become the Class Winner. Class winners will receive a Blue Rosette and will compete for Best of Show in each Division. Point system is as follows:
 - 100-90 points = Blue
 - 89-80 points = Red
 - 79-70 points = White

GENERAL

1. The Home & Garden Fair Division will exercise reasonable care of all entries but assumes no liability for loss or damage by fire, theft, or accident.
2. All entries must be clearly labeled with the **Name, Age, Grade, Phone Number, and School**. Labels for Elementary Art will be provided to schools and will be attached to the front of the art. All other division entries should be labeled on the back or underside of the item. Items should be labeled **before check-in**.
3. The Civic Center will be closed from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday of fair for judging. No one will be allowed in the building during judging.
4. Any item(s) not picked up by 6pm on Thursday of fair week will be subject to disposal at the discretion of the Home & Garden Fair Committee.
5. **All baked goods will be taken to the Fair concession stand to sell after judging is complete and given they are fit.**

- ★ 6. All eligible Youth Best of Show winners (except Elementary Art) must sell in the Premium Sale on Sale Day at 1:00 pm in the Porth Ag Arena in accordance with Sale – Premium & Freezer Sale Rule regarding section on *The Houston County Fair Home & Garden Division Best of Show sale items will count as one (1) of the two (2) projects sold in the Sale.*
- ★ 7. A silent auction may be held at the discretion of the HG committee chair for all eligible youth exhibitors that was not a Best of Show winner. The standard commission will be deducted from winnings.

DIVISION RULES HOME & GARDEN FAIR

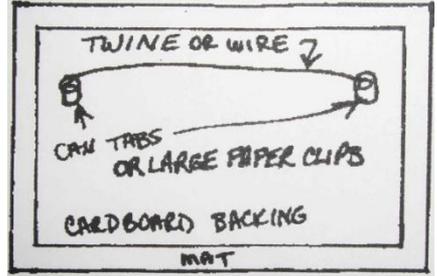
Instructions for Matting Artwork or Photographs

1. Cut your own mat or purchase a pre-cut mat. Secure your artwork in the mat.
2. Cut a backing of sturdy cardboard that is 1 inch smaller than the mat on all four sides.
 - Securely attach the backing.
 - Suggestions for backing:
 - heavy poster board
 - side of a cardboard box
 - Mat board, etc.
3. **Hot glue** two soda can tabs or jumbo paper clips securely to the backing board.
 - Tie a piece of heavy twine or light weight wire between the tabs or paper clips.
 - Be sure to space them far enough apart to allow the picture to be balanced and hung straight.
 - **DO NOT USE SCOTCH TAPE OR DUCT TAPE TO ATTACH HANGERS TO ART OR PHOTOS. IT WILL NOT HOLD.**
4. If you are concerned about protecting your artwork, you may cover the mat with acetate. It is available by the foot and on rolls from several art supply companies. **NOTE:** Pre-cut mats and acetate are available at Wal-Mart, Hobby Lobby, Michael's, and other craft stores. There are also many on-line stores that carry

these materials. Some of them are: Sax Arts and Crafts – www.saxarts.com, Mister Art Online Supply – www.misterart.com, Dick Blick Art Supply – www.dickblick.com, United Art & Education - www.unitednow.com.

5. Look at the example below for clarification on matting instructions.

**PHOTOS/ARTWORK
NOT PROPERLY
MATTED PER THESE
INSTRUCTIONS WILL
NOT BE ACCEPTED.**



ADULT ART

1. All artwork should be the original work of the artist. No copies will be accepted
2. All entries must be dry, matted and prepared for hanging.
 - You **MUST** have a hanger of some type on the artwork.
 - **No frames or glass allowed due to weight and safety concerns.**
 - **Art not properly matted per matting instructions as detailed in the *Instructions for Matting Artwork or Photographs* Section will not be accepted.**
 - **Do not use Scotch Tape or Duct Tape to attach hangers to art or photo. It will not hold!**
3. Entry fee for each entry is **\$3.00**.
 - a. Fees must be paid by the established date. No late entries will be accepted.
4. Entries must be delivered to the Civic Center by the established date and time.
5. Entries must be picked up by the established date and time.
6. Each exhibitor may enter (4) four times provided entry fee has been paid for each entry.

JUNIOR & SENIOR YOUTH ART (grades 3-12)

1. Age divisions in these classes will be:
 - Junior Youth (3rd – 8th grade)

- Senior Youth (9th –12th grade)
2. All artwork should be original. No student should enter a copied drawing/painting of the same thing.
 3. All artwork should be dry and matted with a sturdy backing
 - Stretched canvas or canvas boards are accepted without mats or frames.
 - All entries **MUST** have a hanger per the matting instructions provided.
 - **No frames or glass allowed due to weight and safety concerns.**
 - **Art not properly matted per matting instructions as detailed in the *Instructions for Matting Artwork or Photographs* Section will not be accepted.**
 - **Do not use Scotch Tape or Duct Tape to attach hangers to art or photo. It will not hold!**
 4. Each exhibitor may enter (4) four times provided entry fee has been paid for each entry
 - a. Name tags must be affixed to the bottom right corner.
 - b. Tags are available from art teachers or at the Civic Center at time of check-in.
 5. Best of Class Winners will be selected from each grade level. Best of Show winners will be selected from each division.



ELEMENTARY ART

1. A contestant in this class may submit two (2) entries provided entry fee is paid for each entry.
2. Teacher's choice must have student name and number of entries submitted.
3. Pictures should not be matted and need not be prepared for hanging. Use 9x12 Manila paper or construction paper. Do not use a poster board.
4. All entries must have a name tag affixed to the bottom right corner of the work. **Child's name, grade, and school** should be **written on back** to ensure proper return of the entries. No artwork will be hung if it does not show name, grade, and school of student.



CANNING

Adults & Youth (Junior & Senior)

1. All containers must be standard canning jars.
 - Mayonnaise jars etc. WILL NOT be accepted
 - Rings or Rims must be left on jars
 - Jars will RUSTED RINGS WILL NOT be accepted
 - Pectin may be used in Jellies
 - No decorated jars will be accepted
2. All entries must be processed in a canner or hot water bath, whichever is acceptable and labeled with the date canned.
- ★ 3. Project form must be submitted ONLINE **TWO (2) WEEKS** prior to check in to email hcfahg01@gmail.com and accompany entry at check in.
4. Each exhibitor may enter as many items as desired in a class/category provided entry fee is paid for each entry.
5. Entries must be the work of the exhibitor and have been processed in the last year
- ★ 6. All jars must be labeled with the exhibitor's name, address, telephone number, and Product name and date processed and placed on the **BOTTOM** of the jar.
7. Canning will be judged in accordance with Ball guidelines and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service guidelines
8. **Canned items exhibiting an improperly sealed lid or clear indications of spoilage will be automatically disqualified.**

- Class 1.....**Canned Fruits** (Peaches, pears berries, apples, plums, figs, tomatoes- whole, tomatoes- stewed)
- Class 2.....**Canned Vegetables** (Corn, beans, peas, squash, okra, sauerkraut, peppers, greens, vegetable soup mix, beets, and potatoes)
- Class 3.....**Jellies** (Plum, grape, berry, apple, peach, etc).
- Class 4.....**Preserves, Jams & Butters** (Peach, grape, berry, plums, fig, apple, pear, strawberry, pineapple, watermelon, tomato, marmalade)
- Class 5.....**Relishes &, Pickles** (Catsup, salsa, chow-chow, pepper relish, tomato relish, corn relish, pear relish, chili sauce, peach, pear, beets, onion, carrots, okra, beans, hot peppers, sweet) peppers, cucumber – dill, cucumber – sour
- Class 6.....**Soups & Miscellaneous** (Honey, lard, homemade soup, homemade syrup, sausage, ham, cooked cheese)

CRAFTS

Adults & Youth (Junior & Senior)

1. This division is open to Junior Youth (3rd - 8th grade), Senior Youth (9th - 12th grade), and Adults.
2. Articles can be exhibited only by the maker or producer.
3. All entries must be clearly labeled on the back with the name, address, and phone number of the exhibitor before they can be accepted.
4. Each exhibitor may enter as many items as desired in a class/category provided entry fee is paid for each entry.

Class 1.....Crocheted & Knitted Items includes Afghans

Class 2.....Decorative Painting

Class 3.....Holiday Accessories

Class 4.....Needlework (Counted cross stitch, plain cross-stitch, embroidered, punched, barjello, doilies, scarves, wall hangings, candle wicking, chicken scratch).

Class 5.....Miscellaneous & Novelties (Bedspreads, (booties, napkins, place mats, aprons, pillowcases-one pair, potholders, cup towels, bead work, string art, household accessories).

Class 6.....Wall hangings

Class 7.....Recycled/Reused/Repurposed

Class 8.....Jewelry



FOODS

Adults & Youth (Junior & Senior)

All food entries become the property of the HCFA

1. This division is open to Youth (3rd - 8th grade), Youth (9th - 12th), and Adults.
- ★ 2. **Project form must be submitted ONLINE TWO (2) WEEKS prior to check in by email to hcfahq01@gmail.com and accompany entry at check in.**
3. Class 6 – Decorated Cakes – will be judged only on appearance.
4. All entries are to be brought to the Civic Center between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., Tuesday of fair week.
5. All work must be done by the exhibitor.

6. **All entries must be on a thin board or paper plate (no glass) and in a disposable container with see-through lid. Disposable containers must be provided by the exhibitor. Large decorative cakes will be accepted on a thin board or paper plate covered with plastic wrap (no foil).**
7. Each exhibitor may enter as many items as desired in a class/category provided entry fee is paid for each entry.
8. No glass containers will be accepted.
9. Baked items exhibiting improper handling or clear indication of spoilage will be automatically disqualified.
10. No food item that requires refrigeration will be accepted. Items defined by USDA or FDA as requiring refrigeration include pumpkin, chess or pecan pies whose fillings use eggs and milk as major component; cream cheese frosting or fillings where cream cheese is a major component of the item. Items containing fresh fruits WILL be accepted however, items CAN NOT be garnished with fresh fruit. No cream or fruit pies, including cobblers, will be accepted. Note this is not a complete list. If further clarification is needed concerning this rule, please contact the FCS committee prior to validation.
11. Classes 1-9 food items must be made from scratch. Class 10 is the only class that can be made from cake, cookie, or brownie mixes. This means you must add ingredients to the recipe other than the ingredients listed on the mix package
12. Youth Auction sale participants will be expected to prepare a fresh baked food item for the **Saturday** Auction.



- Class 1 Yeast Breads/Rolls (No Bread Machines)
- Class 2 Quick Bread
- Class 3 Cookies
- Class 4 Iced or Glazed Cakes
- Class 5 Non-Iced Cakes
- Class 6 Decorated Cakes
- Class 7 Candy
- Class 8 Brownies and Bars
- Class 9 Miscellaneous
- Class 10 Creative baked goods (No Bread Machines)

HORTICULTURE

Adults and Youth (Junior & Senior)

1. All plants must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least 3 months.

2. Each exhibitor may enter as many items as desired in a class/category provided entry fee is paid for each entry.
3. Do not decorate plants or displays with ribbons, deco mesh, or craft supplies
4. Exhibitor name, grade, club and phone number must be included on the bottom of silk entries, or on a floral pick for live/fresh plant entries.
5. **Fresh Floral and Combinations of fresh and dried floral may be checked-in on Tuesday morning from 8:00 to 9:00 am.**



- Class 1 African Violets (light-dark-double-single)
 - a. Regular
 - b. Semi-Mini
 - c. Mini
- Class 2 Ferns
- Class 3 Herbs
- Class 4 Succulents & Cactus
- Class 5 Ivies
- Class 6 Miscellaneous
- Class 7 Container Garden
- Class 8 Floral Design
 - a. Fresh
 - b. silk
 - c. dried
 - d. combination of fresh and dried

PHOTOGRAPHY

Adults & Youth (Junior and Senior)

1. This division is open to Junior Youth (3rd – 8th grade), Senior Youth (9th – 12th grade), and Adults.
2. All photography must be original work done by the entrant.
3. Photography will be judged on creativity, originality, and quality of work.
4. All photographs must be matted and have a secure hanger. No frames or glass allowed due to weight and safety concerns. PHOTOS NOT PROPERLY MATTED PER THE “MATTING ARTWORK OR PHOTOGRAPHY” INSTRUCTIONS LOCATED AT THE END OF THE HOME & GARDEN RULES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. DO NOT USE SCOTCH TAPE OR DUCT TAPE TO ATTACH HANGERS. IT WILL NOT HOLD!
5. All entries must be 8 x 10-inch prints. Nothing smaller or larger than 8 x 10 will be accepted.
6. Each exhibitor may enter four (4) items per class provided entry fee is paid for each entry.

Class 1 Black and White – film or digital
*Photos may be taken with a film or digital camera.
Digital photos converted to black and white with a
computer are included in this class.*

Class 2 Color – film or digital
Photos may be taken with a film or digital camera.

QUILT DIVISION

Adults Only

- 1. Quilts may be any size but must be clean and in good condition.
- 2. Quilts will be judged on Workmanship, Overall Appearance, and Creativity.

Class 1 Hand Quilted
Class 2 Machine Quilted
Class 3 Combination of Hand and Machine
Class 4 Miniature Quilts

WOODWORKING

Adults & Youth (Junior & Senior)

- 1. This division is open to Junior Youth (3rd – 8th grade), Senior Youth (9th – 12th grade), and Adults.
- 2. Project form must accompany entry at check-in.
- 3. All entries must be original work done by the entrant during the preceding 12 months.
- 4. All entries must be clearly labeled with the name, address, and phone number of the exhibitor before they can be accepted.
- 5. No entries made from kits or pre-cut material will be accepted. No string art will be entered in this division.
- 6. All entries will be judged on creativity, construction, and appearance.
- 7. Each exhibitor may enter as many items in a class/category as desired provided entry fee is paid for each entry.

Class 1 Outdoor Furniture and Accessories
(Lawn furniture, bird houses)
Class 2 Indoor Furniture and Accessories
(Chair, gun cases, bookcases, etc.)
Class 3 Toys
**Class 4 Mixed Materials (project will be
comprised of minimum 50% wood
materials)**

Houston County Fair Association
Board Meetings:
2nd Wednesday of the Month
@ 6 PM
Houston County Sr. Citizens Center,
716 Wells St, Crockett

All parents, exhibitors, future exhibitors,
and the public are welcome to attend.

Like our Facebook Page
Houston County Fair & Youth Livestock Show INC



Scan QR Code
to visit our website

www.houstoncountyfair.org



NOTES

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the central portion of the page. It is intended for the user to write notes related to the HCFA rules mentioned in the header.