

THE REAL COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW ASSOCIATION RULE BOOK



**All rule
updates are
highlighted**

R_C

Revised April 2026

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

Table of Contents

General Rules	Page 3-5
Sale Rules	Page 6
Angora Goat	Page 7
Market Angora Wether	Page 8
Breeder Sheep	Page 9
Market Lamb	Page 10
Cattle	Page 11
Market Swine	Page 12
Breeder Swine	Page 13
Horse	Page 14
Market Broilers	Page 15
Meat Pen Rabbits	Page 16
Fryer Rabbits	Page 17
Breeder Rabbits	Page 18
Market Meat Goat	Page 19
Breeder Meat Goat	Page 20

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

GENERAL RULES

1. Exhibitors in the Real County Junior Livestock Show must live in Real County and/or attend a school within the county, and be a member in good standing within a Real County 4-H club, the Nueces Canyon FFA, or Leakey FFA. Exhibitors competing in the Real County Junior Livestock Show may not compete in any other county show.

2. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the first grade in the above-mentioned programs and not over 21 years of age by December 31, the year preceding the show.

3. Family validation is permitted "Family validation" means validating livestock with related family members in the same household, or separate, in the case of split family divorce situations. To be eligible for family validation, the youth participants must be related family members. "Related family members" for the purpose of validation means nuclear family, stepfamily, or siblings via guardianship. Failure to utilize the student's legal name on any validation form or livestock show entry form is a violation of the Ethics Policy and may result in disqualification. Documentation, including official government-issued documents, may be requested in order to certify the identity and/or custody status of the youth participant. (Texas 4H/FFA Livestock Program Ethics Policy must be signed by each exhibitor.)

4. A sifting committee appointed by the Real County Junior Livestock Show Executive Committee shall pass on all animals entered in the show, as it is intended that only animals that are creditable from stand points of type, quality, and finish shall be entered and shown. The sifting committee shall also pass on breeding stock.

5. All animals shall be brought to the show barn by the times published by the association the first day of the show, provided accommodations are available. All animals will be weighed and sifted the first day of the show. All sifted animals will be removed from the barn immediately. Designated area will be assigned by the Barn Superintendent. This does not include cattle and horses, which may be released by the Class Superintendent or Barn Superintendent immediately after showing. The County Agent and Vocational Ag. Teachers are to supervise weighing. Animals will arrive according to schedule published by RCJLSA. Exhibitors have the option to take non-sale animals home at the conclusion of their show, or leave them on the grounds until the conclusion of the sale.

6. If an exhibitor has an animal that is under the minimum or over the maximum weight limit the exhibitor may request an immediate reweigh without leaving the weigh-in area. The second weigh-in will be final.

7. Each exhibitor shall be allowed to show two animals per class. A weight division within a class is not considered a class.

8. Any contestant molesting or damaging any other exhibitor's animal or animals shall be disqualified from showing and their animals struck from the sale.

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

9. No late entries will be allowed after the validation date.

10. Breeder Rabbits will be entered and validated prior to October 1. All other animals must be entered by the last scheduled validation date prior to November 1 of the year preceding the show. All animals except horses and chickens must be brought to their respective validation date.

11. An Executive Committee comprised of the Board of Directors, County Agent, and Ag teachers will be responsible for interpreting the rules, choosing judges, and passing on unforeseen situations. The County Agent and Ag teachers will serve in advisory capacity only and will not vote.

12. It shall be the responsibility of the secretary to see that all members of the sifting committee and judges are supplied with a copy of the show rules.

13. Weight divisions will be determined on the day of weigh-in, prior to judging of market animals, and each weight division will be determined at the discretion of the executive committee.

14. Each class shall consist of at least (3) exhibitors and five (5) animals, when formed at the time of validation, and classes may be shown although some animals have become ineligible or have died, making the number in the class less than five.

15. All entries must be exhibited and sold by the owner with the following exceptions: a) When an exhibitor has more than one (1) entry in a class b) Preapproved school activities or extenuating circumstances. Exhibitor must have documentation for school activities. The County Agent or Ag teacher must approve any substitutions and only another eligible exhibitor may show or sell the animal.

16. Showmanship is awarded in each species and judged after the regular judging of animal species, except rabbit showmanship which is before the show. Divisions are angora goat, sheep, cattle, swine, horse, broiler, rabbit and meat goat. PeeWee Showmanship ages 6-8 will receive an award. Junior Showmanship ages 9-13 will receive an award. Senior Showmanship ages 14 and older will receive an award. Awards to be determined by awards committee. Exhibitors must sign up for showmanship at the time of validation. Exhibitors can only show their own entry in showmanship. Age group determined by exhibitor's age as of first day of the show.

17. Enforcement of House Bill 72: If the owner of the animal is not passing his/her grades at his/her respective school, then he/she can neither show nor sell the animal(s). If the owner is not eligible to attend school for any reason, he/she may not attend the show or be on the property.

18. Only shavings or carpet will be used for bedding of all livestock. Each exhibitor is responsible for cleaning their pen(s) after conclusion of stock show. No extension cords, heat lamps, fans or electrical devices in the barn other than those provided by RCJLSA.

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

19. All exhibitors will comply with current regulations governing livestock shows and sales as established by the Texas Animal Health Commission.

20. Prize money will be awarded in each class for the first five places as follows: \$15, \$10, \$5, \$3, \$1. Points are given in each class based on the number of animals in the class up to 5. High point plaque is based on these points.

21. All protests must be in writing and be accompanied by a deposit of \$250.00 cash, which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Such protest must state plainly the cause of complaint of appeal, and must be delivered to the Livestock Show management immediately at the conclusion of judging. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation. Depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until complete investigation is done. Protests concerning ages of animals must be filed with the Livestock Show management two hours prior to the commencement of judging in the department.

22. A Thank You Note is to be written to buyers and donor(s). All thank you notes must be turned in to the Vocational Agriculture Teacher or County Agent by March 1st of the current show year. If not, all sale money will be forfeited and offered to be returned to the donor.

23. Each exhibitor will pay a \$40.00 exhibitor fee, to be paid at validation tag in or online if available.

24. Absolutely no tack, feed, supplies, or etc. will be allowed to be stored outside the animal pens. Tack, feed, and supplies will only be allowed in or above the assigned pens.

25. No unvalidated animals are permitted on the Real County Jr. Livestock Show barn premises.

26. All exhibitors must register their pen numbers at check-in. All pens must be cleaned by 5:30 pm on the Sunday following the show. Any exhibitor not doing so will be charged a \$250 cleaning fee. (Executive Board Rule)

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

SALE RULES

1. The Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Sale is a Premium Sale; the seller retains ownership of their animal. Each exhibitor may sell one (1) unit in the sale, provided it qualifies and is exhibited. All animals will be sold by the unit, not by the pound.
2. Each exhibitor is responsible for his or her animal being in the auction ring in the proper sales order. Otherwise, there will be no sale on that animal.
3. All exhibitors will sell according to placing (i.e.: Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Breed/Division Champions, Reserve Breed/Division Champions, first place, second place, third place, etc.). All Grand & Reserve Grand Champion animals will automatically advance to the head of the sales order. In the event that an exhibitor has more than one Grand or Reserve Grand Champion animal, they may choose which one to sale and notify the Secretary by the end of the final species show.
4. All market animals are eligible for the sale.
5. Up to 5% maybe taken out of the total of every exhibitor check to cover the cost of the show, depending on the financial needs to maintain and operate the association.
6. There will be no sale on horses.
7. Only Grand and Reserve Grand Champion breeder animals will be eligible for the sale.
8. Premium prize money may be raised for breeder animals and dispersed as the breeder committees see fit provided that the money is accounted for in accordance with the bylaws.
9. Should a family member (parent, guardian, uncle, aunt, or sibling), representative of said family, or family member acting as representative for a sponsoring business purchase a lot or lots at the RCJLSA auction, the check will not be issued until payment is received by the Association for the lot in question.

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

ANGORA GOAT

1. All goats will be shorn to correspond with the Grandstand show.
2. All registered goats entered in the show must be registered in the exhibitors name by November 1, of the year preceding the show. Registration papers must accompany registered goats at 12 NOON the day of sifting for examination and sifting.
3. All goats entered in the show will not be blanketed at any time.

CLASSES:

1. Registered Buck Kid
2. Registered Yearling Buck
3. Registered Aged Buck
4. Registered Doe Kid
5. Registered Yearling Doe
6. Registered Aged Doe
7. Breeders Flock - Registered Goats Only (2 doe kids, 1 older doe & 1 buck any age)
8. Commercial Doe Kid
9. Commercial 2-4 Tooth Doe
10. Commercial Aged Doe
11. GRAND CHAMPION GOAT - All 1st place winners competing.
12. RESERVE CHAMPION GOAT - Remaining 1st place winners and 2nd place winner from class of Champion.

(NOTE: Reserve Champions in all divisions will be chosen in this manner.)

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

MARKET ANGORA WETHER

1. The objective is to exhibit a wether that can place high in both body and fleece.
2. Each exhibitor may show up to 2 goats. However, the one animal auction rule applies.
3. All goats entered must be wethers; must retain milk teeth at time of being tagged at validation.
4. Wether must have been shorn on or after July 15, 2024, and the animal must be owned by the exhibitor on or before validation. Angoras with hair equal to or longer than 7 inches will be disqualified from the show.
5. Foreign material including (but not limited to) painting, powdering, oiling, artificial coloring, or adhesives is prohibited. Any fleeces found with foreign material are subject to disqualification.
6. The show will consist of separate weight classes; if more than 10 in the class.
7. Each class will be shown with the animal in full fleece. The judge will select on overall hair and body of the animals.
8. The judge will use a 50/ 50 scoring for the overall judging of the wether. (50% Hair/ 50% Body)

CLASSES:

-GRAND CHAMPION ANGORA WETHER

-RESERVE CHAMPION ANGORA WETHER

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

BREEDER SHEEP

All Registered sheep must be registered in the name of the exhibitor prior to November 1, of the year preceding the show.

CLASSES:

1. Purebred Ram Lamb
2. Registered Ewe Lamb
3. Finewool Commercial Ewe Lamb
4. "Two Tooth" Ram Lamb
5. "Two Tooth" Ewe Lamb
6. GRAND CHAMPION BREEDING SHEEP
7. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BREEDING SHEEP

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

MARKET LAMB

1. Finewool market lambs will be Rambouillet, Dalaine, or a typical cross between Rambouillet and Dalaine, with wool 64s fineness or finer.
2. A crossbred lamb will be a typical first cross of a finewool with a Suffolk, Hampshire Corridale, or Columbia.
3. Market lambs may be of either sex. The same ewe cannot be shown in both the market and breeding classes.
4. All lambs must be slick shorn from the hock and knee up prior to weigh-in.
5. All lambs not classified by the classifiers as finewool market lambs, crossbred market lambs southdown market lambs, or dorper market lambs shall be placed in a class known as medium wool market lambs.
6. All lambs will be classified as they are weighed in. Lambs weighing less than 100 pounds will be sifted. Minimum weight for Southdowns will be 85 pounds. Minimum weight for Dorpers will be 80 pounds.

CLASSES:

1. Finewool Market Lambs
2. Crossbred Market Lambs
3. Southdown Market Lambs
4. Mediumwool Market Lambs
5. Dorper Market Lamb
6. GRAND CHAMPION MARKET LAMB
7. RESERVE CHAMPION MARKET LAMB

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

CATTLE

1. All registered cattle must be registered in the name of the exhibitor by November 1, of the year preceding the show.
2. Market steers may be divided into two classes provided the weight range justifies.

CLASSES:

1. Registered Beef Bull
2. Registered Beef Heifer
3. Jr. Purebred Beef Heifer (Sept. 1 - Apr. 1)
4. Sr. Purebred Beef Heifer (Sept. 1 - Sept. 1)
5. Crossbred Beef Heifer (Sept. 1 - Apr. 1)
6. Market Steer
7. GRAND CHAMPION BEEF ANIMAL
8. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BEEF ANIMAL

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

Market Swine

1. Market swine weighing less than 185 and more than 280 will be sifted
2. Barrows & unbred gilts only may be shown as market swine. However, no double entries allowed. If an animal is entered in a breeding class and the class does not make, it cannot be moved to the market class.
3. Ear notching is allowed if done by the State Validation deadline.
4. 5 animals can make a breed
5. All animals not classified by the classifiers as a Berkshire, Duroc, Hampshire, Yorkshire shall be placed in the Cross or Other Class
6. OPB shall consist of the Berkshire, Duroc, Poland, Spot, Chester breeds and others.

CLASSES:

1. Berkshire
2. Duroc
3. Hampshire
4. Poland
5. Spotted
6. Yorkshire
7. Chester
8. Cross
9. Other/OPB
10. GRAND CHAMPION MARKET SWINE
11. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MARKET SWINE

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

BREEDER SWINE

1. Gilts under one (1) year will be shown as breeding animals.
2. All registered gilts must be registered in the name of the exhibitor/family prior to December 1, of the year preceding the show.
3. Gilts that are not registered and did not show in the market show may be shown in the breeding show as an unregistered gilt.

Classes

1. Registered Gilts
2. Unregistered/Crossbred Gilts
3. GRAND CHAMPION BREEDING SWINE
4. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BREEDING SWINE

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

HORSE

1. Horses must be at least two years old as shown by their teeth.
2. No stallions will be shown, regardless of age.
3. Horses must be owned by 4-H or FFA member, his/her parents, brother, sister, or guardian.
4. Horses shown must be properly groomed, (i.e., hoofs, etc.)
5. Member must be able to handle his or her own project.
6. The horse show is an exhibition show only. There will be no sale on horses.
7. All horses must have a valid Coggins certificate on the day of the show.

CLASSES:

1. Mares
2. Champion Mare
3. Reserve Champion Mare
4. Geldings
5. Champion Gelding
6. Reserve Champion Gelding
7. GRAND CHAMPION HORSE
8. RESERVE CHAMPION HORSE

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

MARKET BROILERS

1. All birds will be sifted before entering the barn.
2. All birds, since date of hatching must have been owned and fed by the exhibitor.
3. All broilers must be purchased from hatchery designated by the Association as day old chicks.
4. Broiler entries are limited to two (2) pens (s) per exhibitor. Each entry shall consist of three (3) birds weighing a minimum of twelve (12) pounds per pen. Wide variations in weight of individual birds will cause the entry to be sifted.
5. All birds will be in show condition. Sick or diseased birds will be refused entry. Sifted entries will be marked and removed from show grounds.
6. Exhibitors should bring only the number of birds to be entered in the class. Each exhibitor should bring their own containers for feed and water.
7. Birds will be sold through the auction on the live basis.
8. All birds must have a tag in order to check-in on the day of the show.

CLASSES:

1. Broilers, Pen of Three
2. CHAMPION BROILERS
3. RESERVE CHAMPION BROILERS

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

MEAT PEN RABBITS (MARKET)

1. Entries will be limited to meat pens. A meat pen shall consist of three (3) rabbits, either sex.
2. Weight of each rabbit shall be not less than 3 lbs. and not over 5 ½ lbs. and shall be from 8 to 10 weeks old. Rabbits that do not meet these qualifications will be sifted.
3. The classes will be Californian and New Zealand Meat Pens. Any animals classified as another ARBA 6 Class breed will be allowed to compete in the New Zealand class.
4. Each exhibitor shall be limited to two pens per class.
5. The creation of the meat pen classes for each year will be determined by at least 3 exhibitors who attend General Validation Dates and sign up for a total of at least 5 meat pens. These dates are set by RCJLS prior to October 1st.
 - a. Primary classification will occur at the December Tattoo Verification Day by the designated rabbit committee to determine the number of Meat Pen Classes. Final classification will be conducted by the sifter on the day of the show. Failure of either class to make with 3 exhibitors and 5 animals on the day of the December Tattoo Verification Day will mean classes will be combined.
 - b. Eligible meat pen exhibitors may raise or purchase their pen as long as and they have validated the pen at a General Validation Day before the December 15th Tattoo Verification Day at the designated location and date set by the RCJLS Association. (See General Rule #10)
 - c. The exhibitor is responsible for having a unique legible tattoo of letters and/or numbers in the left ear of the meat pen rabbits prior to arriving at the December Tattoo Verification Day.
 - d. At the December Tattoo Verification Day, Meat Pen rabbits will be tattooed in the right ear with the official RCJLS tattoo.
6. All rabbits will be examined at the time of check-in at the show by an approved sifter provided by the Livestock Association. Any rabbits showing any sign of disease will be sifted. Example: ear canker, sore hocks, malocclusion.
7. Exhibitors will feed and water their rabbits & keep pens clean.

CLASSES:

1. Rabbits, Californian Pen of Three
2. Rabbits, New Zealand Pen of Three
3. GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF 3 RABBITS
4. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF 3 RABBITS

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

FRYER RABBITS (MARKET)

1. Each exhibitor must present a pen of 3 at the tattoo verification date for a pen of 3 to be eligible for the single fryer class. a. Each exhibitor shall be limited to two (2) entries in each fryer class. Each entry shall be one rabbit, of either sex, and of any ARBA 6 Class Breed.
2. The classes will be Californian and New Zealand Single Fryers. Any animals classified as another ARBA 6 Class breed will be allowed to compete in the New Zealand class.
3. Each fryer cannot be a member of a meat pen that has been checked in the day of the show.
4. Weight of each rabbit shall be not less than 3 lbs., and not over 5 ½ lbs. and shall be from 8 to 10 weeks old. Rabbits that do not meet these qualifications will be sifted.
5. The creation of the fryer class for each year will be determined by at least 3 exhibitors who sign up for a total of at least 5 meat pens (fryers) at a General Validation Day or Breeding Rabbit Validation Day. These dates are set by RCJLSA, prior to October 1.
 - a. Primary classification will occur at the December Tattoo Verification Day by the designated rabbit committee to determine the number of Meat Pen Classes. Final classification will be conducted by the sifter on the day of the show. Failure of either class to make with 3 exhibitors and 5 animals on the day of the December Tattoo Verification Day will mean classes will be combined.
 - b. Eligible meat pen / fryer exhibitors may raise or purchase their own pens as long as they have validated the pen before the December 15th Tattoo Verification Day at the designated location and date set by RCJLS Association (See General Rule #10)
 - c. The exhibitor is responsible for having a unique legible tattoo of letters and/or numbers in the left ear of the meat pen/fryer rabbits prior to arriving at the December Tattoo Verification Day.
 - d. At the December Tattoo Verification Day, each meat pen/fryer rabbit will be tattooed in the right ear with the official RCJLSA tattoo.
6. All rabbits will be examined at the time of check-in at the show by an approved sifter provided by RCJLSA. Any rabbits showing any sign of disease will be sifted. Example: ear canker, sore hocks, malocclusion.
7. Exhibitors will feed and water their rabbits and keep pens clean.

CLASSES:

1. Fryer Rabbit, Californian
2. Fryer Rabbit, New Zealand
3. GRAND CHAMPION, FRYER RABBIT
4. RES. GRAND CHAMP, FRYER RABBIT

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

BREEDER RABBITS

1. Entries will be limited to two entries per class, per exhibitor, any ARBA 6 Class breed and be judged on their meat qualities.
2. The classes will be: Californian Breeder Buck Rabbits, New Zealand Breeder Buck Rabbits, Californian Breeder Doe Rabbits, and Californian Breeder Doe Rabbits. Any breeder rabbits not classified as a Californian will compete in the New Zealand Class.
3. There will be no weight limit. Rabbits must be in good condition, disease free, and be a minimum of 6 months of age.
4. Rabbits must be validated at the Breeding Rabbit Validation Day prior to October 1st of the year preceding the show. This will be a date and location set by the RCJLS Association.
5. The exhibitor is responsible for having a unique, legible tattoo of letters and/or numbers in the left ear of the breeding rabbit prior to arriving at the Breeding Rabbit Validation Day.
6. The creation of the Breeding Rabbit classes for each year will be determined by at least 3 exhibitors who attend the Breeding Rabbit Validation Day and sign up a total of 5 animals per class.
7. Primary classification will occur at the Breeder Rabbit Validation Day by the designated rabbit committee to determine the number of Breeder Rabbit classes. Final classification will be conducted by the sifter on the day of the show. Failure of either class to make with 3 exhibitors and 5 animals on Breeder rabbit Validation Day will mean classes will be combined into only Bucks and does.
8. All rabbits will be examined at the time of check-in at the show by an approved sifter provided by the Livestock Association. Any rabbits showing any sign of disease will be sifted. Example: ear canker, sore hocks, malocclusion.
9. Exhibitors will feed and water their rabbits and keep pens clean.

CLASSES:

1. Californian Breeder Buck Rabbit
2. New Zealand Breeder Buck Rabbit
3. CHAMPION BREEDER BUCK RABBIT
4. RESERVE CHAMPION BREEDER BUCK RABBIT
5. Californian Breeder Doe Rabbit
6. New Zealand Breeder Doe Rabbit
7. CHAMPION BREEDER DOE RABBIT
8. RESERVE CHAMPION BREEDER DOE RABBIT
9. GRAND CHAMPION BREEDER RABBIT
10. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BREEDER RABBIT

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

MARKET MEAT GOAT

1. Each exhibitor may show up to two goats. However, the one animal auction rule applies.
2. Goats must retain milk teeth at the time of validation.
3. Only wether goats may be shown. Goats weighing less than 60 pounds or more than 120 pounds will be sifted.
4. Goats must be validated by the conclusion of the last scheduled tagging date, preceding the show date.
5. Goats will be tipped.
6. All goats must be evenly slick shorn from the knees and hocks up prior to arrival on the grounds. Goats with hair over 3/8" will be sifted.

CLASSES:

1. Meat Goat
2. GRAND CHAMPION MEAT GOAT
3. RESERVE CHAMPION MEAT GOAT

2025-26 Real County Junior Livestock Show Association Rulebook

BREEDER MEAT GOAT

1. Goats will be validated by ear tag unless they have tattoo or registered number to use. Goats must be validated by the conclusion of the last scheduled tagging date, preceding the show date.
2. Bucks will be kept in their trailers and brought in the barn for classifying, showing and selling only.
3. All breeding meat goats will be checked in from 12 NOON to 1:00 PM on the first day of the show. Classifying will be held at the scales in the barn.

CLASSES:

1. Doe Kid
2. Aged Doe
3. GRAND CHAMPION BREEDER DOE
4. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BREEDER DOE
5. Buck Kid
6. Aged Buck
7. GRAND CHAMPION BREEDER BUCK
8. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BREEDER DOE