

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The rules are to govern exhibits in all departments, except when otherwise specified.

1. Junior Shows:
 - a. Entries will be accepted in all departments from any junior exhibitor regardless of county residency as defined in rule 1B-C below. However, in accordance with Act 933 of 2025 an exhibitor may only exhibit in 1 district fair of their choosing.
 - b. Exhibitors must be 5 years of age and cannot have reached their 21st birthday by September 13, 2025.
 - c. Exhibitors may not show in a Junior Show any later than the Fall after graduating from high school or receiving a GED certificate or its equivalent regardless of their age.
 - d. Exhibitors must be an Arkansas resident or a member of an Arkansas 4-H club or FFA Chapter.
2. Open Shows: Entries will be taken from any exhibitor, any age, any location of residency.
3. Registration:
 - a. All entries must be submitted ONLINE at www.northwestarkansasdistrictfair.com.
 - b. Entries will be accepted online August 12th - September 10th, 2025.
 - c. Entries will be accepted online September 11th - September 13th, 2025 with an added \$10 late fee per entry
 - d. No entries will be accepted after 11:59 pm September 13, 2025. NO EXCEPTIONS
4. Time of Entries – See Schedule of Events.
5. Entry Fees – An entry fee will be charged on all swine, beef cattle, dairy cattle, dairy goats, meat goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep, and alternative cattle. NOTE: All Junior Exhibitors who wish to show in the Open Show and the Junior Show must pay an entry fee for each section/class.
 - a. The charge will be as follows:
 - i. Cattle (Beef, Dairy)
 1. Junior Show - \$15
 2. Open Show - \$25
 - ii. Goats, Sheep & Swine
 1. Junior Show - \$10
 2. Open Show - \$15
 - iii. Rabbits & Poultry
 1. Junior Show – \$4 Single/\$6 Group
 2. Open Show - \$6 Single/\$8 Group
6. Junior Livestock entries must be in the name of the exhibitor. No pending registration will be accepted in Junior or Open Show.
7. **Only Registered animals in the Open Show.**
8. A Junior Livestock exhibitor is any bona fide 4-H or FFA member. Exhibitors may not have more than 10 entries in each department.
9. Anyone leaving without proper release will forfeit premium money. You must check out with your department superintendent. All bedding, shavings, etc. must be completely removed from stall space at the conclusion of that show and release of that species. Failure to clear stall space will result in forfeiture of premium check(s.) If you add it, you must remove it. NO STRAW WILL BE PERMITTED AS BEDDING. No exceptions.
10. See Special Health Rules and Regulations. Health papers will be checked at the livestock entrance gate by officials of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission upon arrival. Any animal affected with any disease will be rejected and will not be permitted to enter the grounds.
11. Registration Papers must accompany animals shown except swine. Papers will be checked by the department superintendent. Registration of sire and dam will be accepted in the Swine Dept.
12. Any corrections to the posted classes should be brought to the attention of the department superintendent, livestock superintendent or fair manager within one hour of posting.
13. The exhibitors of livestock exhibits are responsible for the feed, water and bedding of their respective exhibits. All stalls and pens must be cleaned before 8 AM each day and refused to be disposed of. No straw available for purchase.
14. Stalling (Updated):

- a. Upon completion of each check-in, the livestock superintendent will note all stalling space used for each exhibitor.
- b. The livestock or department superintendent has the right to assign stall space at anytime during the Northwest Arkansas District Fair.

15. Parking

- a. NO parking will be allowed along the roadways of the midway or on the midway beginning at 6am September 15th, 2025 through 11pm Saturday September 21st, 2025. This is to ensure the safety of all visitors to the fairgrounds.
 - b. No parking will be allowed along, near or on the roads inside the fairgrounds except in designated parking. Exhibitors, parents & spectators are not to move any caution tape or barriers without approval from fair staff or board members. This is to ensure the safety of all visitors to the fairgrounds.
 - c. Truck and trailers will park in the baseball fields or the lower lots after all animals and equipment are in place. This is to ensure the safety of all visitors to the fairgrounds.
 - d. No parking will be allowed along any buildings or barns except in designated parking areas.
 - e. Parking guidelines will be strictly enforced and all violators will be towed at owner's expense.
16. Every precaution will be taken against loss or damage to any article or animal on exhibit and in no case shall the Northwest Arkansas District Fair, board members, staff, volunteers, or management be liable for any loss or damage that may occur to such articles or animals or for any accident that may occur to any exhibitor or spectator at the fair.
17. In case of no competition in any class, the judges will award first, second or third according to the merits of the articles or animals.
18. Premiums will be paid strictly upon the report as rendered by competent judges. This record shall stand as official.
19. No premiums will be awarded on articles or livestock not listed in catalog unless approved by the Livestock Superintendent, Creative Arts Superintendent & Fair Manager
20. IAFE National Code of Show Ring ethics will be followed and enforced.
21. Anyone found in the possession of stomach pumping equipment will be forced to leave the grounds. Treatment of severely sick or dehydrated animals must be pre-approved by Fair personnel and administered by a Fair approved veterinarian. Drenching of animals using appropriate methods is allowed in designated areas including wash racks, tie-outs, and in grooming chutes/stands.

DEFINITIONS OF CLASSIFICATIONS

- 22. An exhibitor and breeder is defined as follows: "Where a herd is registered in the names of different members of a family, residing on one farm and where the herd is one unit, all entries may be considered as a single exhibitor."
- 23. Any questions of the rules will be enforced by a minimum of 3 fair board members.
- 24. SHOWMANSHIP AGES: PEEWEE – 8 AND UNDER; JUNIOR – 9-13; SENIOR – 14-19 (AGE AS OF OPENING DAY OF FAIR) NO BULLS IN SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

STATEMENT FROM STATE

- 25. The fair board of any county, district, or the state fair reserves the right to have a blood and urine laboratory analysis made for any animal at their fair. Any exhibitor administering a drug to an animal which would render the carcass unfit for human consumption or any exhibitor of an animal producing an analysis indicating the presence of an unapproved drug that can result in a quantitative or qualitative change in the characteristic of the animal will be required to return all premium money and could be banned from further competition. Their name and the lab analysis will be submitted to the USDA and FDA for further investigation and possible prosecution.

DISCLOSURE

- 26. Any animal receiving medication for any life-threatening disease or illness must be registered at the time they are entered in the fair.

CONDUCT

27. All exhibitors, parents, advisers, leaders, fitters, trainers, and responsible persons must at all times conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. Persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the Northwest Arkansas District Fair Board of Directors.

COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES/PROTESTS

28. All protests must be in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00, cash or certified check, which will be forfeited if protest is not sustained. Such protest must state plainly the cause of the complaint or appeal and must be delivered to the Fair Office to show management within two hours after the occasion for such protest. Any protest as to the eligibility on account of age of breeding of animals must be filed with the fair management prior to the day on which they are to be judged. Protests must be submitted either prior to judging or immediately after the conclusion of class judging. Judging procedures will NOT be interrupted for protest investigation; and depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a thorough investigation is completed. In addition to the right to protest herein granted to exhibitors, the Northwest Arkansas District Fair reserves the right to take cognizance of fraud consummated or attempted in connection with an exhibit and take such action as may be deemed just and proper, and as may be warranted in these premises. No protest or appeal based upon the statement that the judge or judges are incompetent will be considered by the fair management or livestock committee. All questions in dispute or difference not covered by these rules will be referred to the livestock committee, whose decision shall be final. Livestock committee will be composed of no less than 3 voting members of the Northwest Arkansas District Fair.

FIRE MARSHALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

29. The following rules apply to all livestock barns:
- a. All streets must be cleared on move-in days. Any unattended vehicle will be towed immediately without notice at the owner's expense.
30. The following items are prohibited in all barns:
- a. Tents inside barns, tarps or covered stalls
 - i. Hot plates, microwaves, slow cookers, televisions, refrigerators, crockpots, coffeemakers, etc.
 - ii. Generators (inside barns or breezeways).
 - b. There is to be NO SMOKING in or around any structure or barn. Smoking is allowed in the designated smoking areas.

THERE IS TO BE NO COOKING AND/OR SERVING/GIVING AWAY OF ANY FOOD OR FOOD ITEMS WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ESPECIALLY INSIDE THE BARNES AND BUILDINGS. YOU CAN TAILGATE AT YOUR TRAILER IN THE DESIGNATED PARKING LOT, BUT NOT INSIDE ANY STRUCTURE.

