

2026

ADULT LIVESTOCK BOOK RULES AND GUIDELINES



thefair.org

THE  2026
FAIR
SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

The 2026 Santa Clara County Fair Presented By:

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors

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A special thank you to our team leaders who dedicate time to the Fair year round

Bob Towle, Large Animals
Cheryl Beckwith and Sawyer Tankersley, Beef Committee Chair and Teen Lead
Ashley Jordan, Kyle Jordan, Swine Committee Chair and Teen Lead
Anna LaBarbera, Sheep Committee Chair and Teen Lead
Nadine Duarte, Sawyer Tankersley, Market Goat Committee Chair and Teen Leads
Rob Causey, Rachel Shaikh, Dairy Goat Committee Chairs and Teen Lead
Megan Baird, Dairy Cattle Committee Chair
Regina Matthews, Horse Committee Chair

Linda Teagle, Aaron Teagle, Lauren Fiore and Kiley Sheaffer, Small Animals
Jason Bombardier, Rabbit Committee Chair
Teri Sheaffer, Cavy Committee Chair and Teen Lead
Ashley Fiore, Poultry Committee Chair and Teen Lead
Jackie Bretschnider, Dog Committee Chair
Tara Gomez, Pygmy Goats Committee Chair and Teen Lead

Colleen Haggerty, Competitive Exhibits
Salene Duarte, Awards and Appreciation
OPEN, Auction
And Many Other Volunteers!!

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Important Information and Dates

1. RV spaces will be available for exhibitors and their families who wish to stay on the SCC Fairgrounds from Saturday, August 15th, 2026 to Monday, August 24, 2026. If you would like an RV space during SCC Fair, please check the online entry system or contact the SCC Fair Office for more details. We will have RV forms available online at www.thefair.org by June 19th, 2026. All completed RV forms to be emailed to mbeckwith@thefair.org. **The first submitted forms will have priority as we are limited to 50 RV spots this year.** One (1) vehicle parking pass is included with the price of the RV pass, but exhibitors and other guests staying on the SCC Fairgrounds in the RV area are still required to purchase admission to the SCC Fair and parking passes for any additional vehicles. *Please note only one (1) vehicle per RV can be parked in the RV area.* Due to limited spaces all RV forms submitted to the fair office after July 23, 2026 may not be accommodated.
2. It is required that each animal have a stall card (should include animal's name, exhibitor's name, tag/tattoo). Decorations are not required for open exhibitors. Farm or Breeder signage is strongly encouraged but there shall be no selling of livestock on the fairgrounds.

Breeding Animals (Ownership Date)	July 16, 2026
Pre-tagging Due	April 17, 2026
Code of Conduct Due	Upload signed copy with entries.
Entries Due	July 16, 2026 LATE ENTRIES: July 23, 2026 (Additional \$10 Late Fee Per Class)
Pre-Fair Meeting	Thursday, July 30 th at 6:30 at Fairgrounds
Pen Set-Up	Tentatively, Saturday, August 8, 2026 and Sunday, August 9, 2026
Livestock Vet Check	Saturday, August 15 th , 8:00AM – 10:00AM
Open Carcass Beef Load In	Friday, August 14 th , 7:00PM – 9:00PM OR Saturday, August 15 th , 10:00AM – 12:00PM
Open Carcass Beef Weigh In	Saturday, August 15 th , 4:30PM – 5:00PM
Open Dairy Goat Release	Sunday, August 16 th , directly following the conclusion of the Open Dairy Goat Show
Public Days	Wednesday, August 19 th – Sunday, August 23 rd

2026 Santa Clara County Fair Livestock Show Schedule

***=Following Previous Event

Prior to Fair			Monday, August 17, 2026 – Continued			
Horse Ownership/Lease Date – April 21, 2026			SWINE cont.	4-H Jumbo	***	
Beef Pre-Tagging Due – April 17, 2026				FFA Showmanship	***	
Swine, Sheep, and Goat Pre-Tagging Due – June 16, 2026				Supreme Showmanship	***	
Breeding & Small Animal Ownership Date – July 16, 2026				FFA Market	***	
Pre-Fair Meeting – July 30, 2026 @6:30PM				Supreme Champion	***	
Stills Receiving and Set-Up August 8, 2026 & August 9, 2026				FFA Pen of 3, Feeder & Jumbo	***	
Pen Set-Up – TBD				4-H/FFA Bred & Fed and Bred & Owned	***	
Friday, August 14, 2026 – Barn Closes- TBD			4-H/FFA Reg. & Grade Breeding		***	
Junior Livestock Early Pens Setup & Tack In	3PM-6PM		Large Animal Skillathon			6PM
Optional Early Load In Pigs/Cattle	7PM-9PM					
Saturday, August 15, 2026 – Barn Closes -TBD			BEEF PENS MUST BE STRIPPED OUT FROM 4PM-9PM			
Junior Livestock Pens Setup & Tack In	8AM-10AM		Tuesday, August 18, 2026 - Barn Closes- TBD			
Vet Check: Sheep & All Goats	8AM-10AM		DOGS	Dogs Received	4PM-5PM	
Load In Pigs/Cattle	10AM-12PM			Obedience	5PM	
WEIGH IN: Sheep & All Goats	3PM-4:30PM			4-H Showmanship	***	
WEIGH IN: Beef	4:30PM-5PM			FFA Showmanship	***	
WEIGH IN: Hogs	5PM-7PM		Costume Contest	***		
Sunday, August 16, 2026 - Barn Closes- TBD			Released	After Show		
PYGMY GOATS	4-H Showmanship	8AM	BEEF	Independent Market	5PM	
	FFA Showmanship	***		4-H Showmanship	***	
	4-H/ FFA Breed Classes	***		4-H Market, Pen of 3, Feeder, & Jumbo	***	
	4-H/FFA Costume & Carts	***		FFA Showmanship	***	
	Knowledge Bowl	***		Supreme Showmanship	***	
DAIRY CATTLE	4-H Showmanship	9AM		FFA Market	***	
	FFA Showmanship	***		Supreme Champion	***	
	Supreme Showmanship	***		FFA Pen of 3, Feeder, & Jumbo	***	
	4-H/FFA Reg. & Grade Breeding	***		4-H/ FFA Reg. & Grade Breeding	***	
	Group Classes	***		4-H/ FFA Bred & Fed	***	
4-H/FFA Pen of 3	***	4-H/ FFA Bred & Owned	***			
POULTRY	Animal Receiving & Health Insp	7AM-9AM	Open Carcass Beef	***		
	4-H Showmanship	10AM	ALL OTHER LIVESTOCK PENS MUST BE STRIPPED OUT BY 9PM			
	FFA Showmanship	***	Wednesday, August 19, 2026 – Barn Closes- TBD			
	Market Classes	***	SHEEP	Independent Market	4PM	
	Breed Classes	***		4-H Showmanship	***	
	4-H/FFA Eggs	***		4-H Market, Pen of 3, Feeder & Jumbo	***	
	4-H/FFA Costume Contest	***		FFA Showmanship	***	
Avian Bowl	***	Supreme Showmanship		***		
DAIRY GOATS	Open Show	10AM		FFA Market	***	
	4-H Showmanship	***		Supreme Champion	***	
	FFA Showmanship	***	FFA Pen of 3, Feeder, & Jumbo	***		
	Supreme Showmanship	***	4-H/FFA Bred & Fed & Bred & Owned	***		
	4-H/ FFA Breed Classes	***	4-H/FFA Reg.& Grade Breeding	***		
4-H/FFA Pen of 3 & Group Classes	***	Dairy Goat Fitting Contest			6PM	
Monday, August 17, 2026 – Barn Closes- TBD						
SWINE	Independent Market	4PM	RABBITS	Animal Receiving	4PM-5PM	
	4-H Showmanship	***		4-H Showmanship	5PM	
	4-H Market, Pen of 3, Feeder &	***		FFA Showmanship	***	

2026 Santa Clara County Fair Livestock Show Schedule

Wednesday, August 19, 2026 – Continued			Saturday, August 22, 2026 – Barn Closes- TBD	
RABBIT cont.	Market Classes	***	Dairy Goat Milking Contest – Part 2	8AM
	Breed Classes	***	Buyers Breakfast	8AM
	4-H/FFA Costume Contest	***	Auction	10AM
	Knowledge Bowl	***	Buyers Lunch/Dinner	***
CAVY	Animal Receiving	4PM-5PM	Dairy Goat Milking Contest – Part 3	8PM
	4-H Showmanship	5PM	Sunday, August 23, 2026 – Barn Closes – 10PM	
	FFA Showmanship	***	Large Animal Master Showmanship	9AM
	Breed Classes	***	Small Animal Master Showmanship	2PM
	4-H/FFA Costume Contest	***	Awards Ceremony	5PM
Knowledge Bowl	***	BARN CLOSED TO EXHIBITORS		
Thursday, August 20, 2026 – Barn Closes- TBD			BARN OPEN FOR TACK OUT AND LIVESTOCK RELEASE	
MARKET GOATS	Independent Market	***	TENTATIVELY- Thursday, September 10, 2026	
	4-H Showmanship	4PM	Beef and Sheep Carcass Contest Dinner	
	4-H Market, Pen of 3, Feeder & Jumbo	***	6PM	
	FFA Showmanship	***		
	Supreme Showmanship	***		
	FFA Market	***		
	Supreme Champion	***		
	FFA Pen of 3, Feeder, & Jumbo	***		
	4-H/FFA Bred & Fed and Bred & Owned	***		
	4-H/FFA Reg. & Grade Breeding	***		
Livestock Judging		7PM		
AUCTION FORMS DUE THURSDAY, AUGUST 20th BY 9PM				
Friday, August 21, 2026 – Barn Closes - TBD				
HORSES	Check In	4PM-5PM		
	4-H Showmanship	5PM		
	FFA Showmanship	***		
	Halter Classes	***		
ALL LIVESTOCK PENS MUST BE STRIPPED OUT BY 6PM				
Pee Wee Showmanship		6PM		
Over the Hill Showmanship		***		
Dairy Goat Milking Contest- Part 1		8PM		

RULES AND GUIDELINES

Code of Conduct for All Exhibitors

This Code of Conduct was developed in cooperation with the California State 4-H, California FFA Association, California State Grange, Western Fairs Association and other Agricultural organizations. The purpose of this code and rules are to help ensure that animals are treated safely and humanely, food safety is ensured, and that all exhibitors are given a fair chance to compete in a positive environment. **This Code of Conduct and Rules of Guidelines apply to all exhibitors showing animals in competition at the Santa Clara County Fair, including Junior and Open Class Exhibitors in all classes offered.** This Code and Rules may be revised or updated as new standards require.

ETHICAL SHOWING - PROHIBITED ACTIONS

Any of the following actions are grounds for immediate disqualification, forfeiture of all awards and immediate removal of animal(s) from the Fairgrounds. This applies to ALL EXHIBITORS, LEADERS, ADVISORS, and PARENTS.

1. The use of any illegal drugs on animals.
2. The use of any substances to alter the physical appearance of an animal entered in livestock events including, but not limited to, dyes, colored products on legs or body, hair builders, using banned fitting products or using them in inappropriate places, drenching or having a drenching gun on grounds.
3. Abuse (including cursing/inappropriate language/behavior or fighting) of any type toward any animal or person including exhibitors, their families, Leaders/Advisors, judges, volunteers, or Fair Staff.
4. Use or possession of any smoking materials, alcohol or prohibited substances of any kind.
5. Interference with any judge, show staff, volunteers or management carrying out their duties, either before, during or after any class. Interference may be (but is not limited to) arguing, loud, disruptive, or abusive language or commentary toward officials, management, or judge.
6. Addressing ANY dispute to a judge. **JUDGES' DECISIONS ARE FINAL** and not subject to Protests. By signing the Entry Form and this Code of Conduct, all Exhibitors and their families agree that they understand and agree to this rule. Harassment in any form towards a judge, volunteers, Fair Staff or impugning the reputation of the Fair, a judge, volunteers or Fair Staff on **ANY** social media or any other platform by any Exhibitor (or Exhibitor's, friend, family, or leader) because of any dispute will not be tolerated.
7. Form matters that can be disputed the correct procedure for any dispute is to file an Official Protest and allow an adjudication process to examine the issue and make a finding. Any form of continued harassment without having followed the Official Protest procedure may result in disqualification of the exhibitor in question. In such a case, any pending Official Protests will also become immediately void.
8. Harassment of or interference with competing exhibitors or their leaders/advisors in the course of preparing for, showing in, or after a class.
9. Failure to follow any other applicable Santa Clara County Fair or State Rules for California Fair rules.

See State Rules for Fairs and Expositions for additional specific details at:

2026 STATE RULES

Any exhibitor who has been found to have engaged in any prohibited practice shall be immediately disqualified from competition at the Santa Clara County Fair and shall forfeit premiums and awards in accordance with the Santa Clara County Fair rules.

GENERAL PROCEDURAL RULES

1. All livestock exhibitors must have proof of ownership of their animals which may be made available to Fair Management at their request. All animals must be owned by and under the exhibitor's daily care in accordance with the rules of the Santa Clara County Fair.
2. The date shown on the Bill of Sale is the official ownership date. Registered breeding livestock must show the exhibitor as owner of the animal on the breed association papers or certificate. See Ownership and Bill of Sale Requirement section of this book for ownership requirements for non-market animals.
3. Any animal that has been previously sold as a market animal through another fair or livestock show via auction or sale, whether or not there has been an actual change of ownership (progress level shows excluded), is prohibited

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- from being entered at the Santa Clara County Fair. Misrepresenting ownership or any method used to misrepresent the age of an animal in a class in which it will be shown is prohibited. Falsely claiming to be the owner of an animal for the purpose of showing the animal for another party is prohibited.
4. Misrepresenting ownership or any method used to misrepresent the age of an animal in a class in which it will be shown is prohibited. Falsely claiming to be the owner of an animal for the purpose of showing the animal for another party is prohibited.
 5. All exhibitors are required to care for and groom their own animals while at the Santa Clara County Fair. For the animals' safety and well-being, daily access to fresh, clean water and appropriate feed as well as daily exercise must be provided.
 6. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain, free of prohibited drug residues. By entering the animal in the Santa Clara County Fair, the owner exhibitor or responsible person expressly gives their voluntary consent to allow Show Management to collect/obtain any specimens of DNA, tissue, urine, saliva, blood, or any other substances from the animal entered to be used for testing. Such specimens may be collected at random, whether the owner of the animal is present or not. If the laboratory report on the analysis of DNA, tissue, saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of DNA, tissue, urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the laboratory, to which it is sent, is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, leader, advisor, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.
 7. Animals entered in classes other than market classes, where they will NOT enter the food chain, may only be given drugs in accordance with applicable federal, state, and provincial statutes, regulations, and rules, however livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state, and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.
 8. Allowable and acceptable practices of physical preparation of the animal for show include clipping of hair, trimming of hooves, and dehorning. Any surgical procedure, injections or insertion of foreign material, substance or drug, or the external application of any substance (irritant, counter-irritant or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation or appearance of an animal's body is prohibited and ground for disqualification. This includes vegetable oil, silicone, air, or any other substance used to alter the shape of the animal.
 9. Any artificial or abnormal means used to balance the udder, including use of mechanical contrivance, the injection of fluid or drugs, setting the teats and/or occluding (sealing the ends) with a mechanical contrivance or use of a chemical preparation is prohibited. Treating or massaging the udder or its attachment with an irritant or counter irritant is also prohibited.
 10. Inhumane handling or showing practices are strictly prohibited. This includes but is not limited to devices used to strike animals to induce swelling, using electrical devices for electrical stimulation, liquid diets for goats, excessive shrinking, excessive exercise or tying animals with their feet off the ground. Use of any of these or other cruel and abusive practices is grounds for immediate disqualification.
 11. Correct show ring decorum is always to be maintained. All judges, fair and livestock show management, show officials, contestants and onlookers are to be treated with courtesy, respect, and cooperation. Interference of any kind with the judge, fair, or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, breed classifiers, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. Any violation of this rule may result in disqualification and/or removal of offender from the Fairgrounds.
 12. Any owner, exhibitor, trainer or responsible person who knowingly cooperates or assists another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this Code of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action by Fair Management.
 13. Under this Code of Conduct, the owner/exhibitor has the sole responsibility for their exhibit animal's condition and are responsible for any and all illegal/ disqualifying substances that may have been administered to said animal, whether or not he/she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in question.
 14. Animal health inspections or diagnostic tests may be required before or after animals arrive on the showgrounds for exhibitor and animal safety, or to inaugurate disease control procedures which may become necessary in emergencies as determined by animal health officials. In such cases, show management reserves the right to require animal health certificates from a licensed veterinarian. Exhibitors are responsible for any associated costs for said testing/examination.

If you have any questions please call (408)494-3159 or email mbeckwith@thefair.org

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15. Any violation of the "Santa Clara County Fair Code of Conduct", State Rules, Santa Clara County Fair Rules, or Residue Avoidance Program, may result in forfeiture of premiums, awards, disqualification, and may result in probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future participation in organized livestock competition. Based on evidence provided by the livestock show, possible civil penalties may be imposed by the proper authorities on exhibitors in violation of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act or the Animal Mistreatment, Neglect, and Abandonment Laws that apply on the local, state, and national levels. Other cooperating shows will be notified of the action taken by show management, which may affect the eligibility of the individual, group, or sponsoring organization for participation at other shows.
16. Exhibitors shall conduct themselves in a professional manner on the Fairgrounds. This includes, but is not limited to appropriate dress, physical contact, and courteous language. The following activities/behaviors are inappropriate and in the interest of safety and a positive environment are strictly prohibited. Exhibitors engaging in said behaviors/activities may be disqualified and/or become subject to the penalties outlined in Paragraph 14 above:
 - a. Obscene, bullying, threatening language, roughhousing, abusive behavior toward people or animals.
 - b. Smoking is prohibited at all times on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. This includes smoking of any and all materials, including but not limited to tobacco and non-tobacco substances, vape pens or electronic cigarettes.
 - c. Consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors is strictly prohibited at any time.
 - d. Use of any illegal substances.
 - e. Possession and/or use of firearms or firecrackers will result in immediate removal from the Fairgrounds.
 - f. Damage caused to any facilities or equipment.
 - g. The inappropriate use of riding crops or whips, lariats, etc. used to control animals.
 - h. No bull rings.
17. Sale by Exhibitors of any items except for auction animals, fur, and feather entries, requires express permission of Fair Management. This includes all fundraising activities (food, drink, newspaper/periodical subscriptions, etc.). Permission may be requested from Santa Clara County Fair Management PRIOR to the sale of any items. A Vendor fee may be required.
18. Exhibitors are responsible for the proper and humane care of their animals and any other exhibit which may require care (i.e., a garden installation). Santa Clara County Fair is not responsible for providing food, water, or supervision for said animals/exhibits. Exhibitors are further responsible for keeping animal pens and areas clean and to abide by all fire codes. Exhibitors who may be reported to management for neglect or abuse of their animal will be subject to penalties as outlined in Paragraph 5 and 14 above.
19. Barns will close prior to the closing of the fair and will reopen at 6:00am the following morning. If livestock shows are still in progress in the barn past above set barn closure times, the barns shall close one (1) hour after the completion of that show.
20. Unless expressly authorized by Santa Clara County Fair Management staff, exhibitors are not permitted to be in the barns during the hours of closure.

OFFICIAL PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. Protests will be considered only if there has been a violation of State or Local Rules that have not been enforced. Decisions of judges, veterinarians, weighmasters, breed callers, tail dock officials, timers, and other fair officials cannot be protested and are final.
2. All Protests must be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.00 (cash, money order or certified check made payable to the fair). NOTE: The deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld. If the protest is upheld, the violator may be held liable for any portion of the direct costs incurred by the fair in the course of the protest resolution. Failure to reimburse the fair shall be cause for disallowing future entries in any of the network of California fairs.
3. Protests can only be filed by an exhibitor being affected by a violation of State or Local Rules, their parent/guardian, or leader/advisor.
4. Time to File a Protest:
 - a. All protests must be filed in a timely manner, within 24 hours of the alleged rule violation. A protest can be filed prior to the fair and prior to the conclusion of the fair. Protests will not be accepted after the fair has ended.
 - b. The fair will make every effort to resolve protests as quickly as possible. All exhibitors by entering an exhibit and all persons by filing a protest, agree to cooperate with Fair Management to resolve protests in a timely manner.
 - c. Protests shall be adjudicated by Fair Management.
 - d. Fair Management decisions may only be appealed at the next regularly scheduled board meetings, if:

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- i. The decision upholds a Local Rule that circumvents or is not in the spirit of a State Rule(s);
 - ii. The individual can substantiate new and credible information that was not available at the time of the local decision; or
 - iii. There was inappropriate adjudication at the Fair Management level that may have included conflict of interest, lack of due process, or a significant misinterpretation of rules.
5. Any exhibit involved in a filed protest before or during judging is eligible to compete until the protest is resolved.
 6. Classes that involve a protested exhibit will not become official until the protest is resolved.
 - a. In championship or special award classes that involve the protested exhibit the judge shall also select 1st and 2nd runners-up in case of disqualification.
 - b. In the case of protest, the unofficial judging results may be used to prepare the sale list and other necessary information.
 7. At the discretion of the CEO, judging can be delayed to allow time for the fair to resolve the protest if to do so does not unreasonably delay or disrupt the operations of the remainder of the fair judging and auction events.
 8. Prior to judging the affected class, fairs may announce that an entry has been protested.
 9. All questions concerning competition or non-protestable disputes or differences with staff or the exhibition not provided for under the State or Local Rules shall be referred to the CEO or their designee, whose decision shall be final.
 10. Violations of State Rules may be appealed to F&E in writing.
 11. An individual may appeal to F&E only after adjudication at the local level and only if:
 - a. The decision upholds a Local Rule that circumvents or is not in the spirit of a State Rule(s);
 - b. The individual can substantiate new and credible information that was not available at the time of the local decision; or
 - c. There was inappropriate adjudication at the local level that may have included conflict of interest, lack of due process, or a significant misinterpretation of rules.
 12. A fair or state, national or international organization or subdivision thereof which has a significant stake in the interpretation of rules affecting the network of California fairs may make an appeal directly to F&E concerning multiple-fair issues, industry-wide issues, unavoidable conflict of interest or assistance in enforcing its own organization rules.
 13. No protest will be accepted unless it:
 - a. Is filed or received, in writing, with a signed original and a signed duplicate copy;
 - b. Clearly states which rule has been violated;
 - c. States when the protestor first became aware of the facts and rule violation;
 - d. States the facts relied upon for the basis of the protest;
 - e. States that the protestor will cooperate with the investigation of the protest and that the protestor will be available and agrees to attend any hearing held to resolve the protest at the time and place directed by F&E;
 - f. Includes the names of supporting witnesses, with accessible phone numbers; and
 - g. Describes or attaches any documents relating to the protest, which must include the written decision issued by the local arbitrating body.
 14. Fairs & Expositions Branch (F&E) must receive the appeal in writing within 24 hours from receipt of notice of local decision.
 15. A hearing may be conducted at the discretion of F&E. The F&E Branch Chief may consult with and/or request that members of the State Rules Advisory Committee participate in any hearing.
 16. Once the Branch Chief has ruled on an appeal to F&E, no additional protest or appeal will be considered relating to that incident.

[2025 State Rules for California Fairs ADA.pdf](#)

Entry Memo of Understanding

In compliance with the USDA Wholesome Meat Act, it is the policy of the Santa Clara County Fair that all animals entered in competition are free and clear of drug residue upon arrival at the fairgrounds and remain so during the entire run of the Fair. The Santa Clara County Fair requires exhibitors of market animals to sign a Medication Declaration Form. It is also required that breeding animals on medication also declare such treatment on a Medication Declaration Form. Administration of any drugs/substances not approved by the FDA and/or USDA is strictly prohibited. Animals under the care of a licensed veterinarian and/or taking any type of performance enhancing medication to include, but not limited to steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatory, tranquilizers, and painkillers, are ineligible for competition. Exhibitors with questions regarding medications and/or eligibility should consult with the Veterinarian prior to competition.

Santa Clara County Fair Management may arrange to have a show veterinarian on call for the exhibitors' convenience and the safety and protection of the animals. All calls and/or treatments, emergency or otherwise, will be charged to the exhibitor/owner of the treated animal, not to the Santa Clara County Fair. Any fees are to be discussed directly with the veterinarian before treatment. All medication administered during the livestock show must be administered by the Show Veterinarian and a written medication record must be filed. Animals receiving performance enhancing drugs for any reason (e.g., steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatories, tranquilizers, and painkillers, etc.) are ineligible for competition.

The undersigned Exhibitor agrees to submit the animal entered, breeding and/or market, to inspection by any veterinarian or testing agency appointed by Santa Clara County Fair Management and to have such animal tested as may be deemed necessary by Fair Management at any time. Santa Clara County Fair Management also reserves the right to have ultrasound, DNA, tissue, urine, saliva, blood, or any other substances laboratory analysis done on any animal entered for competition. Breeding entries do not enter the food chain and are therefore not subject to the USDA Wholesome Meat Act, however both market and breeding entries will be closely screened for any performance enhancing compounds. This includes, but is not limited to, steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatories, tranquilizers, and painkillers. The analysis and conclusions reached by the veterinarian and/or testing agency shall be final and conclusive without recourse through protest.

In the event any animal tests positive for such substances and is declared by the veterinarian or testing agency to be in violation of any drug regulations, or in the event that any DNA test is required, and the DNA Analysis test does not match, the animal and the exhibitor of said animal becomes immediately ineligible for this year's competition and/or auction, and all other entries by said exhibitor will be immediately disqualified and all titles, awards, prizes, auction proceeds, premiums, scholarships and market/floor money shall be forfeit. If there is interference from family members or leaders/advisors, they may also be required to leave the premises for the remainder of the Fair at the discretion of Fair Management. Fair Management's decision on drugging/DNA issues shall be final, without recourse by appeal.

The Santa Clara County Fair or any officer, director, employee, independent contractor, or agent thereof, including, without limitation, any veterinarian or testing agency appointed by the Management (collectively referred to as the Released Parties) shall be held harmless from any action as a result of decisions rendered as a result of this rule. The undersigned Exhibitor further releases the Released Parties from any and all claims or demands whatsoever in connection with the inspection or testing of any such animal or any ruling or action taken by reason of the conclusions of such veterinarian or testing agency.

The undersigned hereby certify that each has read, understands, and will abide by the Code of Conduct, Memo of Understanding above and all rules and regulations of the Santa Clara County Fair as delineated in the current 2025 Santa Clara County Fair Book. The undersigned further certify that they have not administered any substance not approved by the FDA and/or USDA to any animal entered in this Livestock Show. Further, they confirm that they are aware that if they have administered a drug that is FDA approved for the species entered, the time it takes for a drug to dissipate and leave no drug residue in the system may be longer than the labeled withdrawal time for most drugs. The undersigned certifies that any approved drugs will be administered in a time frame to ensure compliance with the requirement that no drug residue would be present at the time of the arrival on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds.

Exhibitor/Owner understands and agrees that, once animals arrive on the fairgrounds, they must remain free and clear of all drug and chemical residue. Drug tests that are positive for residue are grounds for immediate disqualification.

Exhibitor Code of Conduct and Entry Memo of Understanding

THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIR **OPEN**
LIVESTOCK AND **HOME ARTS COMPETITORS**

OPEN EXHIBITORS:

Exhibitor (printed name)

My signature below confirms that I have read and agree to abide by the Santa Clara County Code of Conduct, Memo of Understanding, and 2026 Entry Guides governing the animal(s) and Home Art entries entered by the exhibitor.

Exhibitor (signature)

Date

RECEIPT OF THIS FULLY SIGNED FORM IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AN ENTRY PACKAGE. NO ENTRY SHALL BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE NOR WILL IT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT THIS FULLY SIGNED FORM.

Rules and Guidelines

Rules Preface

The purposes of these rules are to:

- a. Ensure educational and equitable competition.
- b. Provide competition consistency; and
- c. Maximize exhibitor and public safety.

The Santa Clara County Fair follows the State Rules for California Fairs. Those rules allow that the local Fairs' rules may be more restrictive in their implementation but may not have any rules in direct conflict with State Rules. As a result, some Santa Clara County Fair rules may be worded slightly differently or be more restrictive. This is permitted under the State Rules for California Fairs. View State Rules for California Fairs at:

[2026 State Rules \(Final\).pdf](#)

Compliance with all rules of the Santa Clara County Fair is delineated in this Fair Book and all State Rules for California Fairs are mandatory and a condition for entry for all Adult Exhibitors. By submitting your entry, you confirm your agreement to comply with all stated rules.

****PLEASE REMEMBER** Exhibitors are responsible for entering their animals/items in the correct Divisions and for checking their entry information prior to submitting each form. Any discrepancies or errors in the Exhibitors' entries are the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor. All entry corrections must be made prior to the start of Judging for the class entered, and awards may not be made for exhibits which have not been corrected. Santa Clara County Fair Management and/or Department Supervisors/Chairs are not responsible for finding errors on any Exhibitor entries.

General Rules:

Interpretation of Rules:

1. Management of the Santa Clara County Fair (including the Executive Director, the Fair Manager, Team Leaders, Chairs, and any others as designated by the Executive Director or Fair Manager) reserves the right to interpret the following Rules and Regulations and to settle and determine all questions/differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the Santa Clara County Fair, along with all rules as shown in the "2026 State Rules for California Fairs" as delineated by the Divisions of Fairs and Expositions apply to this Fair.
2. **Adult/Open Exhibitors**
 - a. Open dairy goat show is open to exhibitors of all ages.
 - b. Open beef super steer competition is open to exhibitors over the age of 19 that are not eligible for a youth organization. If the exhibitor remains within the age specification to be eligible for either 4-H or FFA, the exhibitor is not eligible to compete in adult/open competitions.
 - c. Adult/open super steer competition is open to exhibitors of Santa Clara County ONLY.

Ownership and Bill of Sale Requirements:

3. All large animals must be owned by the Exhibitor by the dates as specified in the respective species sections.
4. Each individual animal MUST have its own individual bill of sale which clearly names the exhibitor as sole owner. No co-ownership of market animals is permitted.
5. A bill of sale or a lease (ownership papers) must contain the following information:
 - a. Name and address of BOTH the buyer/lessee and the seller/lessor.
 - b. Animal identification (description, ear tags, ear notches, tattoos etc.).
 - c. Registered animals may be identified with a registration tattoo instead of a tag, as long as the animal is accompanied by the registration certificate listing the current owner
 - d. The bill of sale for all cattle privately purchased must be on California State form, commonly known as the "yellow sheet" and a brand inspection.
6. Original ownership paperwork for cattle must be surrendered at weigh-in. All other ownership papers must be available upon request for the entire run of the Fair.
7. A photocopy of the original proof of ownership (bill of sale, brand inspection certificate, etc.) must be attached to the pre-tagging paperwork for all market animals. Failure to provide said proof of ownership will constitute an incomplete entry and that entry will not be processed, thereby causing the entry to be excluded from the Santa Clara County Fair. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Rules and Guidelines

8. All breeding animal exhibitors must check in their ownership papers at vet check.
9. All market beef entries must be owned at least 120 days prior to the first day of the Santa Clara County Fair. See important dates section for ownership date.
10. All breeding and dairy animals entered must be owned at least 30 days prior to first day of the Santa Clara County Fair. See important dates section for ownership date.
11. State Rules for California Fairs regarding breeding partnerships apply.

Pre-Fair Tagging

1. All species pre-tagging is the responsibility of the exhibitors. The exhibitor is to completely fill out the pre-tagging request form when emailed by the Exhibits office. If you do not receive an email, contact the Santa Clara County Fair office for tagging materials and procedures. Completed pre-tagging kits must be dropped off at the fairground's front office. Refer to the important dates page for when beef pre-tagging kits are due. DNA and all applicable paperwork **MUST BE IN THE FAIR OFFICE BY THE DEADLINE**. Failure to have your market animal pre-tagged will prohibit your animal from being entered in the 2026 Santa Clara County Fair – **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE**.
2. DNA samples for all market species are required to be submitted with pre-tagging. DNA samples must be submitted in the provided pre-tagging envelope with the label on the front of the envelope completely filled out. The envelope should be sealed with the exhibitor's signature across the seal.
3. If the fair tag falls out before Fair vet check/check-in, please contact the Fair Office immediately for instructions for a missing fair tag and to obtain a new tag. Every effort should be made to attach tags securely so that they last through the Fair.

Entering and Fee Payments:

4. An online entry is **REQUIRED** for all areas of competition unless the entry notes otherwise. All entries for the Santa Clara County Fair can be found online **ONLY** and must be submitted by the entry deadline as delineated for the department entered. No entries will be accepted after the late entry deadline. Please call the Santa Clara County Fair exhibits office with any questions.
5. Check department rules and guidelines for additional entry information and fees. A synopsis of important dates may be found on the Livestock Show Schedule.
6. All fee payments will be online at checkout during the online entry process. We accept Visa, MasterCard or Discover for fee payments. Late entries require an additional \$10.00 late fee per class at checkout.
7. Online entries must be completely filled out with all information necessary to determine that the entry and exhibitor are eligible for the classes entered. Exhibitor's signatures on the Exhibitor Code of Conduct and Entry Memo of Understanding form confirms their acceptance of all rules and regulations of the Santa Clara County Fair and the Exhibitor Memorandum of Understanding and Code of Conduct as shown in the Santa Clara County Fair book. Until this is received the entry will not be considered complete and the entry will not be processed. **NO EXCEPTIONS**.
8. A complete entry consists of the following:
 - a. Fully completed online entries.
 - b. Entry fees paid in full.
 - c. Fully signed Memorandum of Understanding and Code of Conduct uploaded to entry system.
 - d. Market Animals Exhibitors must complete and upload a drug statement.
 - e. Any and all required pre-tagging, DNA and/or check-in paperwork as per species requirements.
9. All RV payments must be made online.

Weigh-In and Vet Check

10. All trailers or vehicles arriving on the Santa Clara Fairgrounds may be inspected at Management's discretion. Any trailer hauling goats **MUST** go through the vet check **BEFORE** proceeding to the barns. Failure to do so may result in disqualification. Any exhibitor refusing to have their animal examined shall be disqualified without refund and such violation will be reported to the State Fairs and Exhibition Department.
11. On receiving day, exhibitors will enter the fairgrounds and proceed to the designated Vet Check location. Animals should remain in the trailer until otherwise instructed and the vet has inspected and cleared them. Once cleared, animals may be taken into their designated areas.
12. There shall be no feeding, tagging, or clipping of animal(s) once in the vet check or weigh-in lines.
13. All goats must pass a vet check upon arrival at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds before they are allowed into

Rules and Guidelines

the barns and their assigned pens.

- a. Dairy goats are allowed a readable ear tattoo or microchip for scrapie (tail tattoo for Lamancha) in lieu of a tag. This includes nursing kids.
 - b. No tattooing is to be done on Santa Clara County Fairgrounds property.
 - c. The ownership papers or in the case of dairy goats a stamped duplicate from ADGA must reference the animal's registration number.
 - d. This vet check process is a federally mandated requirement; no exceptions will be allowed. The decision of the appointed veterinarian and/or approved Santa Clara County Fair designee on the health of the animal is final without recourse through appeal.
14. Exhibitors showing market and/or feeder animals shall be solely responsible for having their animals weighed at the Santa Clara County Fair. Only one (1) official and final weigh-in is allowed, and only one (1) re-weigh will be allowed if requested. Any question of weight must be resolved while the animal is on the scale. All market animal classes are to be determined after weigh-in, as classes will be determined by weight ONLY.
15. If exhibitor elects to re-weigh their animal, the following procedure MUST be followed:
- a. Exhibitors must request a re-weigh while animal is still on the scale for original weigh-in.
 - b. Remove the animal so scale may be re-balanced.
 - c. Re-weigh the animal.
 - d. The re-weigh will be the final weight recorded by the weighmaster whether it is more or less than the original weigh-in weight.

Attire Standards:

16. Dairy exhibitors:

- a. White shirt (any length of sleeves is acceptable, no tank tops or sleeveless tops allowed) and white pants, blue jeans are also accepted.
- b. Closed toed shoes or boots.
- c. Should not include any 4-H, FFA, or Grange insignia.

17. Beef Exhibitors:

- a. Blue or black jeans, button down shirt or blouse (any length of sleeves is acceptable, no tank tops or sleeveless tops allowed).
- b. Close toed shoes or boots.
- c. Should not include any 4-H, FFA, or Grange insignia.

2025 Judging and Awards:

18. Classes of four (4) entries or fewer entries may be combined for meaningful competition at the discretion of the Santa Clara County Fair Management.
19. Payment of "special" premiums and awards offered in this book by any merchant or breeders association are not guaranteed by The Santa Clara County Fair. The aforementioned prizes are secured by Santa Clara County Fair Management with a promissory statement in good faith from said merchants or associations and must be contested as such with those organizations.

Safety:

20. Any person who does not comply with these rules, guidelines and/or instructions may be removed from the Santa Clara County Fair.
21. Running in the barns is prohibited.
22. Except for service animals or show entries on a leash, dogs are prohibited on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds proper. Dogs staying in the RV area MUST be confined to that area ONLY. DOGS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED IN ANIMAL AREAS.
23. Santa Clara County Fair Management Corporation, the County of Santa Clara or their agents will use every precaution for the safe preservation of all articles and stock on exhibition, however they are not liable for any loss or damage to said items, whatever may be the cause or extent of the damage.
24. Wheelchairs, or other necessary mobility assist devices, golf carts and mules operated by Santa Clara County Fair Management designees are permitted on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. Bikes, skateboards, scooters, hover boards etc. (powered or otherwise) are prohibited on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds.
25. For the safety and health benefit of all, the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds is a smoke-free environment.

If you have any questions please call (408)494-3159 or email mbeckwith@thefair.org

Rules and Guidelines

Smoking is prohibited at all times on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. This includes smoking of any and all materials, including but not limited to tobacco, non-tobacco substances, vape pens or electronic cigarettes. Those who do not comply after being asked to stop smoking will be required to leave the premises and may be denied re-entry for the run of Fair.

26. All animals entered in the Santa Clara County Fair must be kept on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds in their designated species area and are to remain in their designated Livestock area until their release times. Large animals are not permitted in the RV area at any time. An approved release form must be presented to the designated supervisor in order to remove an animal from the premises.
27. All animals are to be properly secured and attended to at all times while they are not in their stalls/pens, including but not limited to in the wash racks, blocking chutes and fitting/milking stands, and/or on the way to and from those locations. Exhibitors whose animals are left unattended outside of designated pen are subject to disciplinary actions.

General Information and Responsibilities:

28. A Pre-Fair Informational Meeting is offered to all exhibitors on Thursday, July 30, 2026 at 6:30 at the fairgrounds. All are encouraged to attend to get the latest fair updates.
29. We will be hosting quarterly Zoom Leader/Advisor, Exhibitor/Parent meetings to go over new rules, and topics of confusion, dates and times for these meetings to be determined.
30. All animal exhibitors are solely responsible for the care and feeding of their animal(s) during the entirety of their stay on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. All pens/cages used by the exhibitor's animal(s) must be fully cleaned by 9:00am daily. Any exhibitor not in compliance with this rule may be denied premiums or auction money and may be denied return to future Santa Clara County Fairs. Santa Clara County Fair Management and staff members are not responsible for the care and supervision of said animals.
31. All pens/cages used by the exhibitor's animal(s) must be fully cleaned by 7:00pm daily. Any exhibitor not in compliance with this rule may be denied premiums or auction money and may be denied return to future Santa Clara County Fairs. Santa Clara County Fair Management and staff members are not responsible for the care and supervision of said animals.
32. It is required that each animal have a stall card (should include animal's name, exhibitor's name, tag/tattoo). Decorations are not required for open exhibitors. Farm or Breeder signage is strongly encouraged but there shall be no selling of livestock on the fairgrounds. Any variation must be approved by Santa Clara County Fair Management.
33. In compliance with the State Rules for California Fairs, any animal that shows any evidence of active, communicable disease or any other unsightly disease or other condition, or from a premise under quarantine for disease shall NOT be admitted to or remain on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. Santa Clara County Fair Management reserves the right to require health inspections and/or diagnostic tests before, during and after animals arrive on the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds and to implement disease control procedures as they solely may deem necessary. The veterinarian (and/or approved Santa Clara County Fair Staff Member) designated by the Santa Clara County Fair will have the final word on the health of all animals entered. This includes, but is not limited to, determining whether an animal or animal(s) travelling in the same trailer can be admitted to the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. The health determination made by the Fair's designated veterinarian or approved Santa Clara County Fair staff designee is final without recourse through protest. Any Exhibitor refusing to have their animal examined shall be disqualified without refund and such violation will be reported to the State Fairs and Exhibition Department.
34. Reasonable accommodations for ADA exhibitors will be made on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the Livestock Office **PRIOR** to the start of the fair for more information.

Conduct:

35. All exhibitors, their immediate families and agents thereof are required to follow the rules of the Santa Clara County Fair as delineated herein. Further, they are required to cooperate with fair officials, staff and security personnel in all matters of policy including, but not limited to parking, stall/pen/space assignments, class procedures, judging and good animal welfare practices as determined by the Santa Clara County Fair Management or designees. Any exhibitors, their families and/or agents who do not comply with cooperation as delineated above are subject to censure as determined by Management. Censure measures may include disqualification, forfeiture of awards, premiums or sales proceeds, removal from the Fairgrounds or participation in future Fairs.

Rules and Guidelines

During the Fair:

36. In compliance with the USDA Wholesome Meat Act reporting requirements all exhibitors are required to report the administration of ANY SUBSTANCE (including, but not limited to, herbs, "calming" substances, aspirin, and over-the-counter medications) by the veterinarian, owner, or individual to the Livestock Office PRIOR to administration of said substance(s). This ensures the market animal is given substances that will be acceptable by the processor.
37. Animals entered in classes other than market classes, where they will NOT enter the food chain, may only be given drugs in accordance with applicable federal, state, and provincial statutes, regulations, and rules, however livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state, and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.
38. Exhibitors will be responsible for spot cleaning and ensuring there is adequate bedding in their pens daily. At their discretion, Santa Clara County Fair Management or designee reserves the right to require exhibitor(s) to clean their pens or add bedding on any day.
39. Pelleted bedding will now be required for all beef cattle. No flaked shavings will be used. Two mats per animal will also be required for beef exhibitors, to help prevent cattle stiffness and ensure the safety of all exhibitors animals.
40. The use of any substances to alter the physical appearance of an animal entered in livestock events including, but not limited to, dyes, colored products on legs or body, hair builders, using banned fitting products on any part of the animal is prohibited. Adhesive may be used on the legs and tail heads and paint may be used no other places than horns or hooves, Santa Clara County Fair Management or designees may approach an exhibitor if violation of this Rule is reported. Repeated instances of violation of this rule may cause exhibitor to be subject the disciplinary action of Fair Management as per rule #14 of the Code of Conduct.
41. All beef cattle must always have a neck rope and a rope halter on while in their stalls.
42. No collars, halters, costumes, décor or props may be left on sheep or goats while in the barn.
43. No exhibitor will be allowed to sleep in a pen with their animals.
44. Shavings are required as bedding for all large market animals. Dairy goats are allowed to be bedded on straw and shavings. Exhibitors are responsible for providing their own bedding. The Santa Clara County Fairgrounds does NOT provide bedding of any kind.
45. No pictures are to be taken in the arena after any class. A 5-minute opportunity to take pictures will be provided at the conclusion of each Champion Drive.

Parking and Entrance Passes

46. All individuals attending the annual county fair must pay for admission and parking.
47. All exhibitors will be required to purchase tickets and parking for each day they attend the Santa Clara County Fair. Tickets will be available through the online entry system. The final day to purchase Admission Tickets and Parking Passes at a discounted rate online is Thursday, July 23, 2026 by 11:59PM. After this time, the cost will have a late fee applied.
 - Run of Fair General Admission (Ages 5 and under): Free
 - Run of Fair General Admission- includes a carnival wristband for WEDNESDAY(Ages 6 and up): \$60
 - Run of Fair Parking: \$50
 - Carnival: Exhibitors will have free access to the carnival on Wednesday. Should exhibitors want to purchase run of fair carnival admission passes for Thursday-Sunday it is \$80

Tack Space

48. Tack space will be VERY limited. Because of this we are requesting that ONLY necessary tack is brought on the grounds. If space becomes an issue Fair Management may request that some tack items be removed.
49. Generators are not allowed in the Livestock area/barn.

Clean Stalls

50. At least once each day, a volunteer will walk through to check the livestock areas and inspect pens, tack areas and the livestock surrounding areas. They will be looking for cleanliness and the general appearance of assigned pen areas. If necessary, they will ask exhibitors to clean pens, add bedding, sweep areas, or perform needed tasks to ensure areas are clean and safe for animals, exhibitors, and the public alike.

Rules and Guidelines

51. All pens, including tack areas, must be cleaned by 7:00 PM daily.
52. Inspections may take place any time between 7:00 PM and 9:00 PM daily and by noon on Saturday.
53. Inspections will be done daily including show days.
54. Each pen is required to have a stall card for each animal with: Exhibitors Name, Animals Name, Ear Tag Number, and Breed info.
55. Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning the front aisle and all around their pens and are responsible for keeping tack areas and aisles clean and neat.
56. Communal walkways/areas should be cleaned by all. If your animal makes a mess, you are responsible to clean up after them.
57. Animals are expected to be kept clean and free of manure.
58. Dairy goats are expected to have clean water available to them at all times.
59. The cattle drinking area is expected to remain neat and clear of manure.
60. Failure of exhibitors to correct any requested tasks may result in further action being taken as described in the Code of Conduct and Rules and Guidelines in the front of this book at discretion of Fair Management.

Animal Release:

61. ALL EXHIBITS (animals, products, or articles on exhibition) may NOT be removed from the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds prior to the release time published/announced herein. All exhibits of any kind must remain intact until the said release time.
62. Large animal release times are noted herein in the Livestock Show Schedule section. A written release is required for removal of all livestock. Releases will be issued by designated Fair Staff after thorough cleaning of pens/stalls is complete.
63. Removal of any livestock, decoration, or bedding prior to designated release time, (unless previously arranged with Fair Management) will result in censure, including remedies as delineated in Rule #14 of the Code of Conduct/ General Procedural Rules.
64. The Santa Clara County Fairgrounds is not responsible for any animals, tack or exhibits left on the Fairgrounds after 11:59PM on Sunday, August 23, 2026.

Open Livestock Entries

Dairy Goats

Entry Due	July 16, 2026
Late Entries Due	July 23, 2026 (\$10 late fee/class)
Entry Fee	\$15.00/breed class \$10.00/group class
Vet Check/Receiving	August 15, 2026 @ 8AM -10AM
Judged	August 16, 2026, @10AM
Team Leader	Bob Towle
Committee Chair	Rob Causey & Rachel Shaikh

Please note: Prior to penning all goats participating in the Santa Clara County Fair will be inspected by a Santa Clara County Fair approved individual, in a designated area. Any animals deemed to have any unethical or unwanted condition (disease or pests, etc.) will be excused from participating and must leave the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds immediately.

Dairy Goat Rules & Guidelines:

1. All Local, State Rules for California Fairs and health rules apply and must be adhered to at all times.
2. Breed entries require animals registered name as it appears on the animal's official pedigree. Barn name will not be accepted.
3. All dairy goats will be bedded on straw or pine shavings and are to remain as such through the run of the Santa Clara County Fair. All pens must be stripped prior to load-out.
4. Milk will be dumped in a place designated just for that purpose, not anywhere else on the Fairgrounds.
5. Any animal that cannot be safely controlled by the exhibitor or presents danger to any person whatsoever may be removed from the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds and disqualified from the show. This determination is to be made at the sole discretion of Santa Clara County Fair Management. This applies to Santa Clara County Fair shows, and any other fair activities. There will be no appeal for this decision.
6. This is an ADGA sanctioned show and ADGA rules govern.
7. ADGA Sr. and Jr. shows, also known as a combined show, are not separately sanctioned.
8. Does must be owned by the Exhibitor and under the Exhibitor's care for a minimum of 30 consecutive days prior to check-in day of Fair.
9. Be sure the tattoo, DOB, registration number, name, dam, and sire information on entries matches the registration papers of your animal prior to arriving at the Fairgrounds for check-in. No tattooing on Santa Clara County Fairgrounds property. All animals must have a readable tattoo ID and be entered in the show to pass vet check and check-in.
10. Original ADGA certificates (no photocopies) or stamped duplicates with the name of the Exhibitor printed as Owner will be verified at check-in. Signed transfers are not acceptable. For does under 6 months a stamped duplicate is acceptable.
11. Nursing kids allowed and need to have a readable tattoo ID and be marked as "Non-Show" on comments section of the dam's online entry. Only bucklings under 7 weeks of age at start of Fair, August 15th, will be allowed to pen with doe.
12. No collars, halters, costumes, décor or props may be left on sheep or goats while in their pens
13. Breeds show in the following order. Juniors, Seniors then Groups:
 - a. Nigerian Dwarf
 - b. Recorded Grade
 - c. AOP (All Other Purebred; Saanen, Sable, Oberhasli, Nubian, LaMancha, Guernsey, Alpine, Toggenburg)
 - d. Show order is subject to change.
14. All Fair Livestock shows are run by volunteers – without them we wouldn't be able to hold these shows. We rely on the participation of friends and family members of Exhibitors to be able to offer our wonderful Livestock program, so please be SURE to contact the Santa Clara County Fair Livestock Superintendent, Maddie Beckwith at mbeckwith@thefair.org to schedule some time when you or a family member will be able to volunteer

Dairy Goats

during the Fair Shows. Even if you aren't available during your show, we can sure use the help during other events, so just let us know what your availability may be. Thank you in advance for your help!!

Registered Dairy Goats

DIVISION 3902: Nigerian Dwarf

DIVISION 3906: Recorded Grade

DIVISION 3905: A.O.P (All Other Purebreds: Saanen, Guernsey, LaMancha, Sable, Nubian, Oberhasli, Alpine, Toggenburg)

CLASS:

1. **Junior Kid:** 4-16-26 to 6-15-26
2. **Intermediate Kid:** 3-1-26 to 4-15-26
3. **Senior Kid:** 1-1-26 to 2-28-26
4. **Yearling not in milk:** 1-1-25 to 12-31-25
 - Junior Champion & Reserve Junior Champion - (No pre-entry required)
5. **Year Old Milker:** 1-1-25 to 12-31-25
6. **2 Years-under 3 years:** 1-1-24 to 12-31-24
7. **3 Years-under 4 years:** 1-1-23 to 12-31-23
8. **4 Years-under 5 years:** 1-1-22 to 12-31-22
9. **5 Years and Over:** Prior to 12-31-2021
 - Senior Champion & Reserve Senior Champion – (No pre-entry required)
 - Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion – (No pre-entry required)
 - Best Doe in Show & Reserve Best Doe in Show – (No pre-entry required)

Dairy Goat Group classes - Pre-entry required.

- All entries must have been entered and shown in their regular class.
- When entering classes 10-12, you should be entering the Dam's information in the online entry system. When entering classes 15-17, you should be entering the Sire's information in the online entry system. This includes name, registration number, DOB, etc. for the sire.

CLASS:

10. **Junior Produce of Dam:** Two (2) does, produce of same doe, include dam registration number, one entry allowed per dam. Animals can be owned by multiple exhibitors.
11. **Senior Produce of Dam:** Two (2) does, produce of same doe, at least one doe "in milk", include dam registration number, one entry allowed per dam. Animals can be owned by multiple exhibitors.
12. **Dam and Daughter:** Dam and daughter pair, include dam's registration number, one entry allowed per dam. Animals can be owned by multiple exhibitors.
13. **Junior Breeding Trio:** Three (3) does not in milk under the age of 2, all owned by the same exhibitor, one entry per exhibitor.
14. **Senior Dairy Herd:** Three (3) does in milk all owned by the same exhibitor, one entry per exhibitor.
15. **Junior Get of Sire:** Three (3) does not in milk under the age of 2 sired by the same buck, include buck's registration number, one entry allowed per sire. Animals can be owned by multiple exhibitors.
16. **Get of Sire:** Three (3) does "in milk" sired by the same buck, include registration number, one entry allowed per sire. Animals can be owned by multiple exhibitors.

Santa Clara County Open Carcass Beef

Entry Due	July 16, 2026
Late Entries Due	July 23, 2026 (\$10 late fee/class)
Entry Fee & Processing Fee	\$345.00 per class
Receiving	Friday, August 14, 2026 @ 7PM – 9PM OR Saturday, August 15, 2026 @ 10AM – 12PM Cattle MUST be weighed in @4:30PM – 5PM
Judged	August 18, 2026, following the youth show
Market Weight	1000 to 1400 pounds
Team Leader	Bob Towle
Committee Chairs	Cheryl Beckwith & Sawyer Tankserley

Sponsored by the Santa Clara County Cattlewomens Association to promote and showcase local, quality beef production.

Santa Clara County Open Carcass Contest Rules and Guidelines:

1. American system of judging for market order. For judging scorecard see the State Rules.
 - a. Rosettes for 1st and 2nd places.
2. Flat ribbons for animals judged as market ready.
3. Any animal that cannot be safely controlled by the exhibitor or presents danger to any person whatsoever may be removed from the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds and disqualified from the show. This determination is to be made at the sole discretion of Santa Clara County Fair Management. This applies to Santa Clara County Fair shows, and any other fair activities. There will be no appeal for this decision.
4. All Local, State Rules for California Fairs and health rules apply and must be adhered to at all times.
5. After weigh-in, open carcass beef will be divided into weight classes within the market weight range for convenience of judging and uniformity. All open carcass beef must be within the market weight range.
6. All beef must be bedded on pelleted shavings and are to remain as such throughout the run of the Santa Clara County Fair. Two mats per animal will also be required, to help prevent cattle stiffness and ensure the safety of all exhibitors animals. All pens must be stripped prior to load-out.
7. Open carcass beef classes will be split if there are enough entries to warrant.
8. Beef entered in open carcass classes may NOT be entered in breeding classes or in any junior beef divisions and vice versa.
9. Brand inspection slips must be presented at the time of weigh-in.
10. Awards will be presented at the Jr. Beef Carcass Contest Awards Dinner.
11. No Monetary awards by the Santa Clara County Fair.
12. Overall Open Carcass Beef Buckle sponsored by Santa Clara County Cattlewomens.
13. Open to Santa Clara County adult residents (an adult cannot be eligible to show in Jr. division).
14. To qualify as Santa Clara County open carcass beef, the beef animals must be from a Santa Clara County producer who bred the animal in Santa Clara County and not raised by a 4-H or FFA youth in Santa Clara County.
15. Limited to one (1) entry per exhibitor or organization.
16. All open carcass beef must be pre-tagged and have paperwork in by the Jr. division tagging date. Please refer to the Important Dates page for deadline.
17. All open carcass beef in competition must be processed with auction animals at owners' expense.
18. Any open carcass beef weighing outside the market weight range at weigh-in will be ineligible to compete. There is NO JUMBO CLASS for open carcass beef. Beef may remain on grounds and go to

If you have any questions please call (408)494-3159 or email mbeckwith@thefair.org

Santa Clara County Open Carcass Beef

processing at the owner's expense.

19. All beef will be stalled in the open carcass beef area. All open carcass beef must be cared for and shown by the exhibitor. Open carcass beef will be bedded with pine shavings and are to remain as such throughout the Santa Clara County Fair. Pens must be cleaned and maintained appropriately as a display for the public. Fair staff may request exhibitors strip pens at any time. Failure to do so can result in removal from the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds and forfeiture of all fees paid. No Jr. division exhibitors are to care for or show an Open Carcass Beef. All pens must be stripped prior to load-out.
20. All ear tags must be clean and legible before animal crosses the scale.
21. Ear tags and hardware from previous shows must be removed prior to weigh-in to be eligible to be shown at the Santa Clara County Fair.
22. All animals must have their lead ropes and neck ropes tied securely at all times, while in their stalls.
23. Beef cattle are NOT to be left unattended in chutes or when tied in other areas besides their pens.
24. Exhibitors will retain ownership of beef through processing and are responsible for fees including cut and wrap.
25. Beef will be judged and placed in the live class which will count for 40% of the final score.
26. Carcasses will be evaluated and placed at the processing facility which will count for 60% of the final score. Carcasses must meet the CBCIA Carcass of Merit standard to remain in competition:

Hot carcass weight:	600-1000 lbs.
Quality Grade:	Choice minus or Higher
Final Yield Grade:	Lower than 4.0
27. All Fair Livestock shows are run by volunteers – without them we wouldn't be able to hold these shows. We rely on the participation of Friends and Family members of Exhibitors to be able to offer our wonderful Livestock program, so please be SURE to contact the Santa Clara County Livestock Superintendent, Maddie Beckwith at mbeckwith@thefair.org to schedule some time when you or a family member will be able to volunteer during the Fair Shows. Even if you aren't available during your show, we can sure use the help during other events, so just let us know what your availability may be. Thank you in advance for your help!!

DIVISION 3901: Open Carcass Beef

CLASS:

1. **Open Carcass Beef**



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