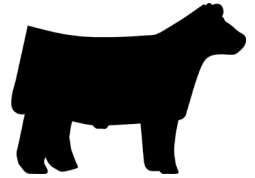


ROCKINGHAM COUNTY 4-H & FFA MARKET LIVESTOCK SHOW & SALE

2024-2025 STEER REGULATIONS

(Revised December 2024)

RockinghamMas.org



****The General Rules and Regulations provided by the Rockingham County Fair Association apply to the Market Livestock Show and Sale. All exhibitors, parents and volunteers are expected to be familiar and follow the rules and regulations provided here and by the Association. The pricing and exhibit check-in dates and times are subject to change and will be finalized at a later time. General Rules and Regulations are available on our website at RockinghamMas.org, Fair Office or on the Fair's website (rockinghamcountyfair.com).****

Anything highlighted in Blue is an addition or change from last year's rules & regulations!

Exhibitor and Animal Eligibility

- 1) All exhibitors must be bona fide Rockingham 4-H Club and/or FFA members meeting the following criteria:
 - a) Steers, lambs, hogs, goats, and dairy feeder steers may be exhibited by all bonafide 4-H & FFA members who are 9 years old by September 30th of 2025.
 - b) **4-H & FFA membership**
 - i) **4-H Membership:** 4-H members must be enrolled via <http://v2.4honline.com/> by **January 3rd**.
 - ii) **FFA Membership:** FFA members must have an agriculture class scheduled for the current school year and be a member in good standing with their FFA chapter. Members must be listed on the state roster by the spring membership roster deadline.
 - iii) Note: A seven calendar day grace period will be allowed for late 4-H/FFA memberships; however, exhibitors must register through the Extension Office during this grace period and will be assessed a monetary penalty of \$75 per exhibitor. Therefore, all LATE 4-H/FFA membership entries and fees must be received in the Extension Office (by 5:00 PM) **Monday, January 10, 2025**. There will be no protests regarding late entries and NO membership forms will be accepted after this seven-day grace period.
 - c) Final participation in the show and sale is the show immediately following graduation from High School or the year they turn age 19 whichever comes first.
 - d) **4-H & FFA exhibitors who weighed in a Market Steer(s) at the 2024 initial weigh-in must have turned in a project book for a Steer(s) in Fall of 2024 in order to be eligible to show and sell a Steer in the 2025 Fair.**
 - i) *Project books are due on the following dates for the corresponding organization*
 - (1) 4-H: At your September club meeting unless otherwise specified by your club leader.
 - (2) FFA: To your advisor by the last Monday in September.
 - ii) *Only one project book per species exhibited is required.*
 - iii) **Members MUST use:**
 - (1) *4-H Member Record Books*
 - (a) Experienced Senior (publication 4H-691NP)
 - (b) Experienced Junior (publication 4H-690NP)
 - (c) Novice (publication 4H-689NP)
 - (2) *Agricultural Experience Tracker (AET) Record Book (FFA Only)*
 - e) If a youth is a member of 4-H and/or FFA in one or more of the following counties (Rockingham, Augusta, Page and Shenandoah), then the 4-H/FFA members must choose to participate in only one county's 4-H/FFA Market Livestock Show and Sale for that project year.
- 2) In order to be eligible to show and sell at the 2025 Rockingham County 4-H/FFA Livestock Show and Sale all **FIRST YEAR** 4-H and FFA Youth **MUST attend** a Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (**YQCA**) Training. YQCA is a quality assurance training for youth raising and producing production livestock for consumers. This training will also give youth the chance to learn and demonstrate additional showing, exhibition and livestock production skills.
- 3) Only bona fide Rockingham 4-H and FFA members as qualifying in general regulation No. 1 may be selected to show or sell in place of another exhibitor. If there is a conflict with students attending college, notification must be

presented in writing by August 1, 2025 to the Extension Office for exhibitors to be allowed to sell by proxy. Approval will be determined on a case by case basis.

- 4) All steers must have been born after January 1, 2024. Animals are subject to age verification by a certified veterinarian.
- 5) **All steers must be entered through FairEntry by Friday, January 17th, 2025 at 11:59PM.** Note: A seven calendar day grace period will be allowed for late entries; however, exhibitors must register via paper form during this grace period and will be assessed a monetary penalty of \$50 per animal. Therefore, all LATE steer entries and fees must be received in the Extension Office (by 5:00 PM) or postmarked by **Friday, January 24th**. There will be no protests regarding late entries and NO entry forms will be accepted after this seven day grace period. Steers must be the property of the 4-H & FFA member and fed and cared for by the member exhibiting, with no change of ownership after the date of January 17, 2025.
 - a) **There will be a fee of \$5/entry charged.** This is to help cover the costs of RFID tags, payment processing, etc. The fee needs to be sent to the Rockingham Extension Office with the check payable to 4-H/FFA Livestock Show & Sale Committee.
- 6) Youth exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals for the entire duration of the project. While 4-H leaders and volunteers, FFA advisors, siblings, and other family members are encouraged to offer support and guidance, the majority of the care, maintenance, and fitting of project animals should be left to the exhibitor with the goal of providing a hands-on, educational experience.
- 7) We prefer that all exhibitors register for showmanship via FairEntry.com to participate in Showmanship Classes but will accept entries until Final Weigh-In. These classes are judged strictly on showmanship. Fitting is not considered in the judging of showmanship classes.
- 8) **Showmanship Divisions:**
 - a) Novice: for exhibitors showing for the first time at the Rockingham County 4-H/FFA Steer Show, and who are 12 years of age or younger on September 30, 2025.
 - b) Junior: for exhibitors 12 years of age and younger on September 30, 2025.
 - c) Intermediate: for exhibitors 13 to 15 years of age on September 30, 2025.
 - d) Senior: for exhibitors 16 years of age and older on September 30, 2025.
- 9) All market species are subject to visitations by specie chairmen.
- 10) *Any violation of any rule may result in a fine, probation, and/or banning from future livestock show and sales.*

Weigh-Ins

- 11) Initial weigh-in will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2025 at Rockingham Livestock Sales (Snow Date: March 1st). All steers are to be brought to this location to be weighed and identified. Steers not tagged and weighed that day are ineligible for the show and sale.
- 12) **All steers will be required to have a halter on them before being unloaded at initial weigh-in. It is recommended that all steers be broke to lead at initial weigh-in.**
- 13) **At the initial weigh-in, a DNA sample may be collected from all steers. The committee reserves the right to test any or all steers at any time.**
- 14) It is required that all calves be dehorned and fully castrated before initial weigh-in to be eligible to show and sell. If banding method is used, banding must have occurred at least two weeks prior to the weigh-in and have evidence of scrotal atrophy at the initial weigh-in. There shall be no visible or palpable evidence of testicles. If not, that steer will be ineligible to show and sell at the Rockingham County Fair.
- 15) Each exhibitor shall be allowed to nominate and weigh in a maximum of three steers at the initial weigh in.

- 16) A family may designate one steer of those weighed-in as a family spare, which may be used by any immediate sibling of that family.
- a) Family must identify the one steer as the "family spare" at initial weigh-in.
 - b) Family must notify the Extension Office in writing by final weigh-in if the steer is going to be used and which family member will be using it.
 - c) This option can be used as an alternative to weighing in three animals per exhibitor.
 - i) Example:
 - (1) Not using the spare option- which means you may not interchange the steers. A family with three children would weigh-in a maximum of nine steers.
 - (2) Using the spare option for a family of three, you would weigh-in a maximum of seven steers with one being designated the family spare that could be interchangeable.
- 17) Substitutions with other exhibitor's animals will not be allowed, unless they are using the family spare option.
- 18) **All Bred and Owned animals must be designated at the initial weigh-in by filling out the B&O Part 1 Paperwork.** Rockingham Bred and Owned animals must meet the following description, "The immediate family must own the dam at time of service and conception and the exhibitor must have continuously cared for the market animal since birth". **Part 2-B&O Pictorial story is due by Friday, July 11, 2025.**
- 19) Final weigh-in time is by appointment.
- 20) Each exhibitor is allowed to bring no more than two steers to the final weigh-in.
- 21) Each exhibitor may only bring three total market animals to the final weigh-in (maximum of two per specie) unless they are a graduating senior. Graduating seniors may bring four total market animals to final weigh-in (maximum of two per specie). Animals presented at final weigh-in will be considered exhibitor's official selections.
- 22) No re-weigh will be allowed.
- 23) Those steers that are determined by the Steer Chairmen as not being broke to lead by exhibitor at FINAL weigh-in will not be allowed to be shown or sold. Any steer that constitutes a safety hazard at any time as deemed by steer chair(s) will be sent home immediately and will not be eligible for show or sale.
- 24) All steers will be weighed prior to showing and selling. **The final weigh-in will be Sunday, August 10, 2025,** at Location will be at Shenandoah Livestock sales. *Steers must weigh between 1050-1600 pounds and Grade "Select +" or better by officials of the Virginia Division of Markets Grading Service in order to show and sell. Steers not meeting the qualifications will be disqualified from the show and sale and will not unload at fairgrounds and must return home the day of weigh-in.*
- 25) Animal Accident Protocol at Weigh-In
- a) Initial Weigh-In Animal Injury/Death
 - i) Physical Injury/Death occurring at the weigh-in site must be reported to the Extension Office (540-564-3080) on the weigh-in date and include vet confirmation.
 - ii) Vaccine death needs to be reported to Extension Office (540-564-3080) or the appropriate specie chair within 24 hours of initial weigh-in and include vet confirmation.
 - iii) A replacement animal needs to be nominated to Extension Office (540-564-3080) within 7 days from vet confirmation.
 - iv) Replacement animal needs to be verified by an Extension Office (540-564-3080) and/or specie chairman
 - v) Replacement animal is not eligible for Rate of Gain awards.
 - b) Final Weigh-In Animal Injury/Death
 - i) Physical Injury/Death occurring at the weigh-in site must be reported to the Extension Office (540-564-3080) on the weigh-in date and include vet confirmation.
 - ii) If physical injury/death occurs at final weigh-in site, exhibitor can substitute a spare animal if it was previously nominated in individual's name.

Show and Sale

- 26) Each exhibitor can show and sell no more than three market animals total and not more than two animals of each species. Graduating seniors may show and sell four market animals total and not more than two animals of each species.
- 27) Each exhibitor must show and sell his or her own animal(s) unless the exhibitor has more than one animal in the same class or is unable to attend the show and sale because of sickness or death in the immediate family. Other cases will be evaluated by the Executive Committee on a case by case basis. For these reasons only will an exhibitor be exempt. Exhibitors that cannot show or sell due to an injury or illness, must be present at the show and sale if physically possible. Exhibitors must submit a written request to the Specie Chairperson at least 24 hours before the show if they will not be showing their own animal. Non-compliance with this ruling will disqualify the animal from the show and sale.
- 28) If you show you must sell or you will forfeit participation in the next year's show.
- 29) Prior to entering the ring, parents/guardian are to inform the Steer Co-Chairmen if they feel their child may have a problem in handling the steer - Parents are not to enter the show ring.
- 30) 4-H & FFA steer exhibitors must enter the show ring leading their steer on their own.
- 31) Steer Co-Chairmen will be attentive to the exhibitors and if handling problems occur will assist exhibitor in tying the steer to the rail of the show ring.
- 32) In all showmanship classes, the exhibitor must be showing his or her own steer.
- 33) Steer classes will be based on Weight Division (not breed) with a maximum of 10 steers/class.
- 34) The Steer Judge will be instructed to place all steers according to quality traits and not on handling ability.
- 35) All exhibitors are required to wear appropriate dress in both the show ring and sale ring. Inappropriate dress and appearance are:
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| a) Clothing with negative, indecent language or symbols. | g) Skirts or dresses that do not reach mid-thigh (below fingertips) or do not cover appropriate body parts. |
| b) Excessively tight or short garments. | h) Belly shirts that expose excessive midriff. |
| c) Exposed undergarments. | i) See through blouses, skirts, or pants. |
| d) Clothing with holes, tears, or slashes. | j) Any adornment that can be perceived as or used as a weapon. |
| e) Halter tops/tube tops. | k) Headgear of any type should not be worn. |
| f) Tank tops with straps of less than 2 inches in width and/or cut low enough to show bosom. | |
- L.) Leather Shoes**
- 36) If you do not show in a market class, you must sell at floor price.**
- 37) All species must be washed and clean to participate in the show *and sale*.
- 38) *All eligible animals must show and sell. Any animal unable to participate in a market class due to health reasons but has participated in the showmanship class, will place last in their respective market class and sell accordingly.*
- 39) The sale order for the 2025 4-H/FFA Livestock Show and Sale will be STEERS, LAMBS, DAIRY STEERS, GOATS, & HOGS.
- 40) All livestock will be sold by the pound.
- 41) It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to have his or her livestock lined up in the proper specie sale order when time to sell. If not in proper sale order then livestock will be sold at the end of the specie sale order. If an exhibitor does not show up to sell their livestock then the livestock will be sold at floor.

- 42) A Sale Commission & Advertising Fee/animal + check off (if applicable) will be collected on each head of livestock sold at the 4-H & FFA Livestock Sale as follows:

	Commission & Advertising	Check-Off
Steers	2.0%	\$1 per head = (\$.50 State, \$.50 National)
Lambs	2.0%	\$1.25 per head (State and National)
Goats	2.0%	No Check-Off
Hogs	2.0%	(.004 * total dollars realized per head)
Dairy Steers	2.0%	\$1 per head = (\$.50 State, \$.50 National)

All commission, fees, etc. are subject to change

- 43) Bye bidding is discouraged. This means if parents or siblings bid on livestock of their child or sibling then, they must purchase it. Buyers should bid with the intention to purchase.

Fair Week

- 44) Fitting of market steers is permitted but must be performed by the Exhibitor and up to two additional people, with a maximum of three individuals per steer: the Exhibitor and two assistants. Fitting must be in an ethical manner following the guidelines set forth below.

- a) The Rockingham County 4-H/FFA Livestock Committee reserves the right to disqualify any animal that has been fitted in an unethical manner. Unethical fitting shall include (but not limited) the following:
 - i) The addition of any hair or hair like substances, including false tail heads and false polls.
 - ii) The cutting, tearing or gluing of the hide or underneath the hide or removal of tissue in an attempt to alter the shape of the animal.
 - iii) The injection of any gas, solid, or liquid under the hide to alter the normal conformation.
 - iv) Any product/solutions/liquids administered internally or externally to alter the conformation of the animal is prohibited. This includes the use of steroids, illegal or unapproved growth promotants, and the act of artificially filling animals internally, which would include stomach pumping, drench tubes, or any other method.
 - v) Aerosol cans used for grooming are not permitted in show ring or make-up areas.
- b) EXCEPTIONS: In the case of severely sick or severely dehydrated animals, the exhibitor may have fluids or electrolytes administered by the licensed official show veterinarian with the approval of the show superintendent. This exception is not applicable on show day or weigh in/check-in day.

- 45) DNA samples will be collected from the Grand and Reserve Champion steers immediately after the steer show. The samples of the Grand & Reserve Champions that were taken at the initial weigh-in and those collected at the fair will be sent for testing.

- 46) The Market Steer Show will immediately begin at the conclusion of steer showmanship.

- 47) Exhibitors assume the responsibility for feeding, loss, injury, or damage of animals in transit to weigh-in and through the end of the sale when steers must be properly tied with halter and neck tie. Steers must be provided water thru Saturday morning 10:00 a.m. If exhibitor does not care for animal, after fair warning, livestock committee will take action.
- a. **Entire contents of steer tack space and pen set up must remain in place until 6:00 a.m. Saturday, August 16, 2025.** A \$50.00 fine will be deducted from sale checks if this requirement is not met as deemed by appropriate personnel.
 - b. Tie spaces, pen spaces, and tack spaces will be assigned by designated species chair persons. Any alterations or changes of designated spaces must be cleared with the designated persons making the assignments by **TBD**.

- I. Tack space, if available will be assigned by each department chair. Violations will result in removal of tack and/or animals from fairgrounds.
 - II. ALL pen space must be paid/postmarked **by TBD to the Rockingham County Fair Office**. A \$5 per head fee will be charged for every animal registered by the July 12th deadline. A seven calendar day grace period will be allowed for late entries however exhibitors registering during this grace period will be assessed a monetary penalty of \$50.00 per head. After the seven day grace period entries will not be accepted and animals will be ineligible.
- c. Steers cannot be in the show ring prior to 10 p.m. the night prior to the steer show.
 - d. For public safety:
 - i. No steers are to be out of their stalls between 5:00pm and 10:00pm
 - ii. Short Leg Animals and stands are **NOT** allowed in the Steer barn at any time.
 - e. Exercise time for steers will be set and posted by steer co-chairman. Designated exercise areas will be located on the west side of the barn.
 - f. No steer blocking or clipping chutes are allowed in the wash rack area. Chutes should be placed and used in the designated area west of the steer barn.
 - g. If an animal and/or exhibitor has a medical emergency, the Extension Office (540-564-3080), FFA advisor, or species chair should be notified immediately.
 - h. Mistreatment or abuse of livestock project animals will not be tolerated. No animal is to be beaten, underfed, underwatered or misused in any fashion. No icing will be tolerated. No forced drenching of livestock will be permitted during fair week unless administered by a licensed veterinarian or with permission and in the presence of species chair.
 - i. All exhibitors must abide by prescribed withdrawal periods on antibiotics and drugs. Animals may be subject to testing by licensed vet or appointed official.
 - j. All animals are subject to a veterinary inspection at the final weigh-in and during fair week and if found to have an active case of an infectious or contagious disease or condition, they will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the fairgrounds immediately.
 - k. If an animal's condition is deemed unfit for exhibition during fair week by designated species chairperson, the animal may be sent home at any time.
 - l. Fair Week Protest Procedure
 - I. Protest must be in writing, plainly stating the complaint and with accompanying substantial evidence of the infraction. The person submitting the protest must print and sign their name to the protest or it will not be reviewed.
 - II. A \$50.00 fee is to accompany the protest.
 - III. Both the protest and fee must be delivered to the 4-H and FFA Livestock Committee Chairperson within *twelve* hours after the cause of the protest.
 - IV. If the protest impacts the show and/or sale then Livestock Committee Chairperson will call a meeting of the Livestock Committee within twenty-four hours of receiving the protest and presenting it, and all substantial evidence, to the Livestock Committee members that are present. If the protest does not impact the show and/or sale the Livestock committee Chairperson will make the decision of when the committee will meet and review the protest and evidence.
 - V. The Livestock Committee members present at the meeting will review the protest and accompanying evidence and shall make a decision as to sustain or reject the protest.
 - VI. If the protest is not sustained, the \$50.00 fee shall be forfeited to the 4-H and FFA Livestock Show Treasury.
 - VII. The Livestock Committee Chairperson shall inform those involved in the protest of its decision.

Important Dates to Remember

- January 3rd-Must be enrolled as a 4-H/FFA member
- January 17th-Steer entries due online using FairEntry
- January 17th- Steer Entry Fees Due to the Rockingham Extension Office \$5/head
- February 15th-Initial Steer Weigh In @Rockingham Livestock (*Snow Date March 1st*)
- February 15th-B&O Part 1 Paperwork due at initial weigh-in
- TBD -B&O Part 2 Pictorial Story due to Rockingham Extension Office
- TBD -Pen space fees and forms due to **Rockingham County Fair**
- August 10th-Final Steer Weigh-In