

Suwannee River Fair

Beef Division Rules & Regulations

Beef Shows Superintendent: Ashley Bellamy **Phone:** 352.494.1664 **Email:** aepayne_99@yahoo.com

Committee Members

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Website and Social Media

Website: <https://mysrf.org>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@SuwanneeRiverFair>

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/mysrf>

Mandatory Meetings Fair Grounds

Saturday, August 16	9:00a	Meat/Dairy Doe
Tuesday, August 19	6:00p	Beef
Tuesday, November 11	6:00p	
Saturday, September 6	9:00a - 11:00a	Poultry/Rabbit
Monday, November 3	6:00p	Swine
Monday, December 1	6:00p	
Sunday, November 16	6:30p	Market Goat
Tuesday, December 2	7:15p	
Saturday, December 13	9:00a	

1. At the discretion of the show superintendent or show committee mandatory meetings may be required.
2. Two dates will be provided for these show specific meetings.
3. Participants and their parent/guardian MUST attend at least 1 meeting per show.
4. Failure to attend a required meeting will result in loss of entry fees and disqualification from the show for the current year.

Entry Form/Weight/Tag Dates & Times

Tuesday, August 26	5:00p - 7:00p	Fat Steers
Tuesday, September 16	Entry Form	Meat and Dairy Doe
Tuesday, September 23	Deadlines	
Tuesday, December 2	5:00p - 7:00p	Feeder Steers
Saturday, December 6	7:00a - 9:30a	Swine
Tuesday, December 2	Entry Form Due	Goat Wether
Tuesday, December 2	Entry Form	BBQ, Bull, Cupcake Contest, Dairy Cow, Creative Life Skills , Dog, Doe Goat, Heifer, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit, Tablescaping
Tuesday, December 9	Deadlines	

Fair Schedule

2025 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 24, 2025:

4:00p – 5:00p – Dairy & Meat Doe Entry

5:00p – 7:00p – Meat Doe Sale Preview

Saturday, October 25, 2025:

9:00a – Dairy & Meat Doe Show

12:00p – Bidding Ends

2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, February 28:

7:30a – 8:00a – Horse Entry & Contest Record Book Due

8:30a – Horse Show

9:00a – Dog Entry, Show, & Contest Record Book Due

4:00p – Tablescaping Contest

6:30p – Cupcake Decorating Contest

7:30p – Tablescaping & Cupcake Awards

Wednesday, March 4:

4:30p – Scholarship Application Deadline

4:00p–8:00p – Contest Record Book MUST be turned in at Fair Grounds

Friday, March 6:

4:00p – 6:00p – Dairy Cattle & Beef Heifer/Bull Entry

4:00p – 6:00p – Dairy Cow Skill-a-thon

4:00p – 5:30p – Poultry & Rabbit Entry

5:30p – Cloverbud Rabbit Show/Showmanship

After CB – Rabbit Show

6:00p – Rabbit Showmanship

Saturday, March 7:

9:00a – Poultry Show

9:30a – Poultry Showmanship

After Show – Poultry Release

9:30a – 12:00p – Dairy Cattle Show/Showmanship – Release

11:00a – 1:00p – Ag-Life Contest

1:30p – Beef Cattle Shows

– Bull Show

30 minutes after
bulls – Heifer Show Order: American, AOB,
Homegrown

After Home – Heifer & Bull Showmanship

Grown

– Alternate Horse Show Date

Sunday, March 8:

12:30p – BBQ Contest

Friday, March 13:

4:00p – 6:00p – Wether Entry & Skill-a-thon

5:00p – 7:00p – Creative Life Skills NON-FOOD Entry

7:00p – Little Legends Pee-Wee Show

Saturday, March 14:

8:00a – 11:00a – Swine Entry

8:30a – 10:00a – Creative Life Skills Entry

9:00a – 11:00a – Wether Public Speaking/Sales Talk

1:00p – Market Wether Show

After Show – Market Goat Team Fitting Contest

6:00p – Goat Awards

4:00p – 6:00p – Steer Entry

Sunday, March 15:

Posted Time – Church Service

12:00p – 4:00p – Creative Life Skills Open For viewing

1:00p – Livestock Judging Registration

2:00p – Livestock Judging Events

Monday, March 16:

8:30a – Swine Showmanship

10:00a – 4:00p – Creative Life Skills Open For viewing

1:00p – Steer Fitting Contest

3:00p – Market Swine Show

Tuesday, March 17:

8:30a – Market Fat Steer Show

– Homegrown Market Fat Steer Show

– Market Fat Steer Showmanship

After Fat Shows – Feeder Steer Show

– Homegrown Feeder Steer Show

– Feeder Steer Showmanship

10:00a – 4:00p – Creative Life Skills Open For viewing

5:00p – All Creative Life Skills should be picked up

Wednesday, March 18:

9:30a – Sale

12:00p – Buyers Luncheon

1:30p – Sale

**Suwannee River Fair Association Inc.
Parental Permission, Release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement**

Name and Location of Fair: Suwannee River Youth Livestock Show & Sale, Fanning Springs, Florida.

ADULT AND MINOR PARTICIPANTS:

Let it be known that all those directly associated with the Suwannee River Fair Association Inc./Suwannee River Youth Livestock Show & Sale/Suwannee River Fair (hereafter "Releasee"), including but not limited to Board Members, Staff, Show Committees, Sponsors, and Volunteers are to be held harmless and not responsible in any way in case of any damage, fire or accident as to person, lost articles, livestock, etc. entered and/or exhibited or any accidents that might occur to the exhibitor or their family, and/or the general public while visiting on the grounds at any time during fair activities. It is understood that all exhibitors entering any of the Suwannee River Fair shows and/or contests agree to comply with all General Rules and Regulations, Animal Inspections Rules & Regulations and the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics, as well as the rules governing each individual show and contest.

NOTICE TO THE MINOR CHILD'S PARENT or LEGAL GUARDIAN

READ THIS FORM COMPLETELY AND CAREFULLY. YOU ARE AGREEING TO LET YOUR MINOR CHILD ENGAGE IN A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS ACTIVITY. YOU ARE AGREEING THAT, EVEN IF RELEASEE USES REASONABLE CARE IN PROVIDING THIS ACTIVITY, THERE IS A CHANCE YOUR CHILD MAY BE SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED BY PARTICIPATING IN THIS ACTIVITY BECAUSE THERE ARE CERTAIN DANGERS INHERENT IN THE ACTIVITY WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED OR ELIMINATED. BY SIGNING THIS FORM YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR CHILD'S RIGHT AND YOUR RIGHT TO RECOVER FROM RELEASEE IN A LAWSUIT FOR ANY PERSONAL INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, TO YOUR CHILD OR ANY PROPERTY DAMAGE THAT RESULTS FROM THE RISKS THAT ARE A NATURAL PART OF THE ACTIVITY. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE TO SIGN THIS FORM, AND RELEASEE HAS THE RIGHT TO REFUSE TO LET YOUR CHILD PARTICIPATE IF YOU DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM. F.S. 744.301(3)(b) PARENTAL CONSENT.

IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to enter any of the livestock areas at the Suwannee River Fair (*including, but not limited to, the show ring, competition areas, chutes, hog pens, steer barn, scales, washing/drying areas, areas reserved and intended for exhibitors or restricted to the general public*), or being permitted to compete, officiate, observe, work for, or for any purpose participate in any way in the event, by signing below, I agree as follows:

1. I am aware that there are livestock animals at the Suwannee River Fair and I understand that livestock can be unpredictable and dangerous at times.
2. If allowed to enter any livestock area, I agree to be mindful and aware of my surroundings in any areas that I may be in and will conduct myself in a safe and sensible manner.
3. I agree that if, at any time, I am in a livestock area and I feel anything to be unsafe, I will immediately notify Fair officials of such and will leave the area.
4. I agree not to sue any youth exhibitors, the Suwannee River Fair or any affiliate of the Fair, the Fair Board Members, Fair Superintendents, Fair Officers, or anyone else associated with the Fair for any loss or damage claimed by myself due to the injury or death of myself or any person under my care at this event.
5. I understand that the activities of the Fair can be very dangerous and could involve the risk of serious injury and/or death and/or property damage, and I assume this risk on behalf of myself and anyone under my care while at this Fair.
6. I understand that neither the Suwannee River Fair nor any of its affiliates are responsible for loss of or damage to any of my personal property or belongings while at the fairgrounds.
7. I understand that this release, waiver, and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the Province or State in which the event is conducted and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.
8. I agree the laws of the State of Florida shall govern the validity of this Release, the construction of its terms, and the interpretation of the rights and duties hereunder.

I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY. I UNDERSTAND IT IS A WAIVER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS. I UNDERSTAND THAT I ASSUME ALL RISK INHERENT IN THIS FAIR WHICH INVOLVES UNPREDICTABLE LIVESTOCK ANIMALS. I FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN MY NAME EVIDENCING MY ACCEPTANCE OF THE ABOVE PROVISIONS.

_____ Print Exhibitor Name	_____ Exhibitor Signature	_____ Date
_____ Print Parent/Guardian Name	_____ Parent/Guardian Signature	_____ Date

MARKET ANIMAL SALE, PAYMENTS, & DISTRIBUTION

RESALE RULES & PROCEDURE

1. The President will form a committee to evaluate resale options prior to the sale.
2. Sale weight on steers will be the official weigh-in weight less 3% shrinkage. Market swine and wether sale weight will be the official weigh-in weight.
3. All animals must be resold and delivered to the resale buyer.
4. No Individual resale, custom kill, or retained ownership purchases are allowed. Except for Fat Steers.
5. Feeders must be checked out to the holding pens on Sale Day or your sale check shall be subject to a 15% penalty fee.
6. Fat Steer Resale Procedures
 - a. Fat Steer exhibitors have first right of refusal on their own steer for processing. Please contact Wendy Bird by February 28 to reserve your steer. You may use your own processor; however ALL CATTLE must be processed within 45 days of sale day and a processing ticket given to Beef Superintendent within that time. This is a terminal show, therefore all cattle must be processed and cannot be shown after the conclusion of SRF.
 - b. Fat Steer bills must be paid in full by 5 pm on Tuesday of market week. Once payment is received, a paid-in full release ticket will be issued. Starting Wednesday after 8 am this release must be presented to Ashely or Houston before steers can be loaded out and removed from the premises.
 - c. Resale value will be determined using the Oklahoma Fat Steer Market price on the Monday of Market Week.
 - d. Remove the steer from the fairgrounds by 6:00p on Sale Day.

SALE RULES & PROCEDURES

1. The sale order will provide for a mixed animal sale. A certain number of swine, then a number of fat calves, then a number of feeder calves, then a number of wethers, will sell. The numbers in each "cycle" will be determined by calculations based on total numbers in each category.
2. Grand Champions in each category will sell first, then Reserve Champions in each group. Entries in each category (swine, feeders, fats, wethers) will sell based on this order while maintaining the mixed animal "cycle" described in #1 above.
3. To make sale day less chaotic and stressful,
 - a. Only champion animals will be taken through the ring. Exhibitors must be with their animal when it enters the sale ring or their animal will receive resale price only.
 - b. All other sale animals will stay in the barn. Exhibitors must be inline and ready to sell their animal or their animal will receive resale price only.
4. Each animal will be sold separately to the highest bidder.
5. Auctioneer will determine the highest bidder and settle all disputes.
6. A resale price will be established and announced at the beginning of the sale. **All resale credit will go to the exhibitor.**
7. Any person buying animals for another party must sign their name to the purchase contract and is legally responsible for the payment of the bill.

FAIR SALE CHECK COLLECTION & DISTRIBUTION TIMELINE

1. Fair invoices will be sent after all buyer addresses have been confirmed

EXHIBITOR SALE CHECK DISTRIBUTION RULES & PROCEDURES

1. All market animal participants are **REQUIRED** to write an appropriate thank you letter to all buyers.
2. Letters **MUST BE HANDWRITTEN** and placed in an unsealed, stamped, addressed envelope.
3. No Torn Pages, and or Frayed Edges will be excepted.
4. Letters **AT THE MINIMUM MUST** include must include 2 or 3 well written paragraphs NO FORM LETTERS. Cards are acceptable as long as all other criteria are met.
5. Return Address for all Thank You letters PO Box 252, Trenton, FL 32693
6. Thank you, letters are due May 31st, and any checks that have not been mailed due to lack of proper thank you letters shall be subject to a 15% penalty fee. All thank you letters shall be given to the 4-H Agent or FFA Advisor for mailing. 4-H Agents and FFA Advisors will notify the Fair Secretary, at least weekly, as to receipt of Thank You Letters. After the last day of school all thank you letters will be submitted to the Fair Secretary.
7. Sale check will be mailed in participants name to the legal guardian address upon receipt of an appropriate thank you letter(s) from exhibitor to their buyer(s).
8. The mailing address will be obtained from the official mailing address of the legal parent/guardian on the Market Animal Entry Form.

GENERAL FAIR RULES & REGULATIONS

FOR ALL SHOWS & CONTESTS

1. The Suwannee River Fair Association (SRF) reserves to its Board of Directors, the final and absolute right to interpret all rules and regulations.
2. The SRF reserves all rights to make changes to individual shows, events, and/or rules and regulations throughout the year as the Executive Board deem necessary for the betterment, improvement and safety of exhibitors, volunteers, and guests.
3. All animals will be the responsibility of the exhibitor and remain in their designated area during the feeding period or until released by show committee. The care and welfare of the shows animals will be checked periodically by FFA advisors, county Agents, 4-H leaders and/or board members.
4. The website <https://mysrf.org> has entry forms, record books, updates and changes to any rule.
5. Online registration is at <https://suwannee.fairwire.com>. The online portal will close 2 days prior to the mail-in entry deadline.
6. The Fair will not be responsible for any actions by the US Post Office concerning entries or thank you letters. This includes letters lost or delayed through the mail.
7. No animals, concessions or goods may be advertised for sale on the fairgrounds unless officially sanctioned by the Board of Directors.
8. Use of drugs in animals not in compliance with manufacturer's label as to dosage, time of withdrawal limitations, or other manufacturer's limitations and show regulations is prohibited. The use of tranquilizers or possession of same after arrival at the Fair will be construed as tampering.
9. **SRF Association Resale Buyer Quality Assurance & Drug Statement** This is to acknowledge that I have been advised that the presence of any drug, antibiotic or biological residue in my market animal at slaughter will result in the condemnation of the carcass and forfeiture of all sale proceeds and premiums. I certify that any drug, antibiotic or biological substance which may have been administered by myself or any other person, was done so in strict compliance with the manufacturer's label requirements or as prescribed by a veterinarian. I certify that I produced this animal, it was not fed any prohibited feedstuffs and all feeds were fed in strict compliance with the manufacturer's label instructions.
10. Show officials may refuse participation in any show, contest or sale, any exhibit or exhibitor who they feel is not a credit to the fair and/or does not adhere to all rules and regulations.
11. The decisions of Judges, Graders, FDACS Inspectors and other officials of the fair are final. There will be no arguments, verbal or written, or protest to the fair Judges or Graders. Protests are allowed under the provisions of SRF general rule #13.
12. Any disagreement or protest regarding any fair activities must be made in writing to the Fair Board President. The executive board will consider such protests and a decision rendered as soon as possible.

CODE OF CONDUCT

13. Exhibitors and exhibitor's parents are expected to adhere to the following rules of conduct at all fair sanctioned events. Failure to do so could result in forfeiture of all premiums, awards and elimination or expulsion from participation in the current or future fair events.
 - a. Abide by all SRF rules and regulations.
 - b. Consumption, possession of alcoholic beverages on fair property or being under the influence of such beverages is strictly forbidden.
 - c. The use of profanity or fighting on fair property is forbidden.
 - d. The possession of firearms by anyone under the age of 18 on fair property is forbidden. Adults must secure firearms in locked vehicles when left unattended.
 - e. No open fires are permitted on fair property.
 - f. Any intentional destruction or abuse of Fair property will be grounds for immediate expulsion from the fair grounds and/or activities.
 - g. No improper comments or conduct toward buyers, fair officials or volunteers will be tolerated.

EXHIBITOR ELIGIBILITY & RESPONSIBILITY

14. Participants in the Suwannee River Fair, MUST live or attend school in Dixie, Gilchrist or Levy Counties. Individuals not meeting this requirement must apply to the Suwannee River Fair Association for exemption to participate. Refer to Application For Participation in Suwannee River Fair.
15. Participants in SRF must be certified members in good standing of 4-H or FFA in Dixie, Gilchrist or Levy Counties. Verification of membership is the sole responsibility of the advisors or agents and implies member compliance with national, state and local membership rules and policy. Membership is certified initially by the signature of the appropriate Advisor, Agent or Leader on the appropriate entry form. Final certification from Advisor or Agent will be verified from SRF Master Entry List.
16. **Age Divisions: Junior (8-10), Intermediate (11-13), and Senior (14+)** shall be uniform throughout the Fair. **The base age date for all shows: September 1, 2025.**
 - a. Except Horse: Beginner any age, **Intermediates 11-13 can choose to compete in either the Junior or Senior division.**
 - b. Exhibitors who are not 8 years old by **9/1/2025** cannot participate in Large Animal Projects.

17. **4-H Cloverbuds** are 4-H members who are 5, but not 8 years old as of [9/1/2025](#).
 - a. Cloverbuds may not compete for any awards and/or prizes. They may enter and participate only in events specific to their age group.
 - b. Cloverbuds are eligible for participation in Exhibition Only classes in Creative Life Skills, Small Animal Shows, Dog Rally, some Showmanship classes, and record books.
 - c. Cloverbud entries will be judged and awarded green ribbons of participation. See Specific Shows for Rules and Regulations.
 - d. A Cloverbud Liability Release Sheet or record book is required.
18. **SRF Dress Code:** All exhibitors participating in Shows, Sale, and Awards Program will be required to be clean, neat and dressed in black pants or skirts, a solid white button up shirt with a white collar and dark or green tie. 4-H or FFA Jacket or 4-H Vest are required. Closed-toed shoes with backs or boots are required. No hats or caps allowed. **Show and Contest Exceptions:** Cloverbuds may wear 4-H Accessories. Contest participants refer to contest dress code requirements. Dairy Cow and Goat participants may wear white pants and shirt. Dog Show participant refer to show dress code rules. Horse Show participants are required to wear attire, boots and helmet appropriate to riding style.
19. **Buyer's Invitation:** It is the exhibitors responsibility to help get new and returning buyers to come to the livestock sales.
20. Exhibitor must be ready to enter the arena on time. Once class has started no late entries or early exits will be allowed.

EXHIBITOR ENTRIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

21. Animals must be entered at the initial and final entry time.
22. Exhibitors must own in full any animal exhibit offered for sale.
23. No individual may show and/or sell more than one **SALE** animal per year.
24. All Market exhibitors are eligible to enter or tag in two of the same market animals. Only one will be allowed at the final weigh-in in March. The exhibitor will be responsible for the sale of the second animal.
25. Chapter/Club and siblings may use the same 2nd animal as their backup. Everyone must enter with their own entry form for that animal and pay all applicable fees.
26. If a market animal dies within 30 days after tag-in or weigh-in the animal may be replaced upon verification by two committee members. However, after the 30 days under no circumstances will a replacement be allowed. A replacement animal will have to be re-tagged within 7 days of the death. Replacement steer – The steer may not be more than 100 lbs. heavier than original weight at tag-in.
27. ALL market animals must be reared at the exhibitor's home or school they attend throughout the entire project unless granted permission by the board. If not kept at the exhibitor's home or school a letter addressed to the board with the proposed location and explanation of why must be turned in at time of tag in for consideration. This relocation must be within the Levy, Dixie, or Gilchrist foot print **NO EXEPTIONS**. Exhibitors are subject to random home visits from the time of the initial tag-in to the time of the final weigh-in by an Advisor, Leader, or SRF Board/Committee Member. Anyone not abiding by this rule will **NOT** be eligible to show at the March Fair!
28. Market animals that show must sell. Exhibitor owns the animal until it goes on the trailer of the resale buyer after the sale
29. Chapter or club animals must be shown and sold by someone that does not have a market animal in the show.
30. Exhibitors must show and sell, his/her own animal unless the show committee approves an alternate.
31. All exhibits must be picked up no later than the time and date listed in the schedule of events or show barn for each show and division.
32. Early removal of exhibits may result in loss of ribbons and future showing privileges.
33. For the safety of all exhibitors, any animal that becomes loose or unruly while in the show ring due to lack of control by the exhibitor shall be penned or tied to the fence for the remainder of the class.
34. **STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING:** By signing and submitting an entry to the Suwannee River Youth Fair, the exhibitor, parents, leaders, and advisors agree that they have read and agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations as published by the Suwannee River Fair Association, and that all information on the entry form is true. By signing the entry form you release the Suwannee River Fair Association and those directly associated with it from any liability to your person or property and you consent to the use, by the Fair, of any pictures taken during the events for promotion or advertising of the Suwannee River Youth Fair.
35. **LIABILITY WAIVER:** Parent/Guardian and/or Exhibitor must sign and submit a Parental Permission, Release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement with their entry form, online must mail in.
36. **WRIST BANDS:** Colored wrist band will be issued to exhibitor and parent/guardian. Wristbands are required to enter restricted livestock areas of the fair grounds.
37. **Entry Forms:** Exhibitors must enter their animals on a completed official entry form that has been signed by the exhibitor, exhibitor's parent or guardian, and the FFA Advisor, 4-H Agent or 4-H Leader. Entry forms are due according to Registration Deadlines and with the correct fees. No refunds will be made after entry deadline.

38. **Entry Fees:** Exhibitors must enter their animals on a completed official entry form that has been signed by the exhibitor, exhibitor's parent or guardian, and the FFA Advisor, 4-H Agent or 4-H Leader. Entry forms are due according to Registration Deadlines and with the correct fees. No refunds will be made after entry deadline.
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| \$35.00 | Fat Steer, Feeder Steer, Swine & Wether |
| \$30.00 | Horse Performance, & Horse Speed |
| \$30.00 | Beef Bull & Heifer Dairy Cattle, Dog |
| \$30/\$15 | Goat Doe \$30.00/1st and \$15.00/additional |
| \$20.00 | Poultry & Rabbit |
| \$10.00 | BBQ Contest, Cupcake Decorating Contest, & Tablescaping |
| \$5.00 | Cloverbud Rabbit & Poultry. Creative Life Skill Shows per Item |
39. **Registration Deadlines:** All paperwork is the responsibility of the exhibitor and entry forms are due into the show superintendents no later than:
- Market Steer & Swine Animals:** On the day of Weight/Tag-in.
 - Market Wether Animals:** Forms must be post marked by the 1st Tuesday in December of the current fair year.
 - Breeding Goat Does:** Forms must be post marked by the 3rd Tuesday in September of the current fair year. Entries post marked after the deadline but on or before the 4th Tuesday of September will be accepted at double the entry fee.
 - Non-Sale Animals:** Forms must be post marked by the 1st Tuesday in December of the current fair year. Entries post marked after the deadline but on or before the 2nd Tuesday of December will be accepted at double the entry fee. Exhibitors are encouraged to include a self-addressed, stamped post card which will be returned upon receipt of their entry forms. A list of all received entries will be posted on the Fair website. Dropped off forms will not be accepted.
 - The Online registration is at <https://suwannee.fairwire.com>. The online portal will close 2 days prior to the mail-in entry deadline.
40. **Mandatory Drug and Quality Assurance Sheet or Record Book Receipt:**
- All animal exhibitors **MUST** complete a Drug and Quality Assurance Sheet or a Record Book for each animal project they enter.
 - The completed drug assurance sheet or record book receipt will be presented to the show committee check-in station, where they will be examined for completeness.
 - Incomplete Information:** The exhibitor and their animal **WILL BE** diverted out of line to an area where they will complete the required information.
 - The exhibitor's hand will be stamped for entry into the scale house and barns.
 - Optional Record Book Contest:** Refer to Contests and Other Events Rules.
41. **Showmanship Contests – General Rules:**
- There will be [Junior \(8-10\)](#), [Intermediate \(11-13\)](#), and [Senior \(14+\)](#) divisions.
 - [Make sure you understand the rules for your animal. Some are required, some need preregistration, and others are entered at March weigh-in.](#)
 - Refer to show division for specific criteria on participation.
 - The exhibitor must show his own animal. No one will be allowed to participate unless they have an official entry in the show and division. Exhibitors of chapter or club animal may compete in the showmanship contest, 1 per club/chapter by designated club leader or chapter advisor.
 - Awards may be given to the top three (3) showmen in each show category.

ANIMAL INSPECTION RULES & REGULATIONS

42. All animals shall enter the show grounds through the North gate, unless specified in SRF Division and Show.
43. Exhibitors will be required to maintain their exhibits in a clean and attractive manner, properly care for (feed and water) animal exhibits, for the duration of the Fair. Inspections will be performed by the Board.
44. **Proper Care:** If your animal is reported for lack of care and the grievance is found to be valid, the pen will be tagged with a date and time. Once your pen is tagged you must immediately report to the office/show superintendent. If the problem or concern is not corrected you will be withdrawn from the show.
45. State Veterinarian, USDA representative, SRF Grievance Committee or their representative reserve the right not to accept animals if they appear to be unhealthy, infected with external parasites (such as lice, mites & fleas), malnourished, or not in the best interest of the fair.
46. There will be no medicating of animals, unless approved by SRF Grievance Committee or their representative.
47. If illness appears during the course of the Fair, the SRF Grievance Committee or their representative reserve the right to remove animals from the barn that day.
48. Liability in case of death or injury to any exhibited animal remains with the exhibitor until released from Fair.
49. All health rules as outlined by the Suwannee River Fair and the Florida Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Industry must be adhered to. State inspectors will be on the grounds to verify health papers and check in all animals. No animals will be unloaded without the inspector's approval. The State Inspector has the right to test any animal on the facility without prior notice under **Florida Statutes 5C-4.0017 General Requirements & Limitations.**

CATTLE DEPARTMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

CATTLE GENERAL RULES & REQUIREMENTS

1. The SRF General Rules and Regulations apply to this Division and Shows.
2. Health Requirements:
 - a. 5C-4.0017 General Requirements & Limitations.
 - b. 5C-4.002 Cattle (Beef & Dairy): **OCVI Required** (a) Florida-origin cattle moved for exhibition must be accompanied by an OCVI dated not more than 90 days prior to exhibition. (Health Certificate)
 - c. All Market and Non-Market Cattle must have a **Registration Number** or **Official Individual Animal ID**.
3. Cattle must be polled or dehorned at the time of the initial entry, limited at the discretion of the board.
4. Nose rings are required in Bulls age 6-30 months and are not allowed in any other cattle.
5. Age is at time of Show entry in March.
6. Cattle must be halter broken in March. A screening committee appointed by the board of directors may sift out any animal that becomes unruly and dangerous at any time during the show and sale. Sifted cattle will not be sold by the Association and must be removed from the grounds.
7. Cattle (bull, heifer and/or steer) Exhibitor is required to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the directors that they are able to handle their animal safely. This will include an unassisted walk by the exhibitor. If any animal is deemed "green, unbroke, or unsafe" the exhibitor will be excused from the show and sale, regardless of division. There will be two opportunities to do this. At the March weigh-in and a time to be announced prior to the Show. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the show and sale.
8. No reserving spots or setting up cages in advance of the weigh-in. All spots will be selected in the order of weigh-in. No cages will be setup until all animals are weighed and have selected their spots.
9. Cattle must be shown with show halters only. Animals requiring a rope halter will be tied if unruly, but must enter the showing in a show halter.
10. No altering of cattle: including but not limited to improper injections.

BEEF CATTLE SHOW RULES

1. **Beef Cattle Homegrown Champions:** Homegrown means the mother of the show animal was owned by your family's (parents, grandparents or legal guardian) farm. Top 5 Homegrown animals will be awarded.
2. **Show Divisions:** (1) American, (2) Commercial & AOB Registered (3) Homegrown. Exhibitors must indicate which divisions they are entering on their entry form and select between (1) American and (2) Commercial & AOB registered animals. Beef Cattle will not be allowed entry in both of these divisions; however they are encouraged to enter the homegrown show if they are eligible. **The top 3 in each class will be pulled for champion drive.** The judge will select a top 5 from each division; American, Commercial & AOB Registered, and Homegrown.
3. **All Steer entries will be checked at initial weigh in to determine classification, AOB or American Influence.**
4. **Breeding Animals will declare classification on entry form and classifications will be determined at final weigh in. If animals do not qualify as American Influence, they will be reclassified as AOB.**
5. **American Division:**
 - a. **American Beef Cattle** will be recognized as cattle that exhibit and maintain prominent Bos Indicus breed characteristics or have registration papers that indicate a Brahman Cross breed of 50% or more – Braford, Simbrah, Santa Gertrudis, Brahman Fl, etc.
 - Prominent Bos Indicus breed characteristics are considered as follows: ¼ clip or slick coat, dewlap that extends to the underside of the neck, angular ear, hump or crest, and extended naval. The committee will confirm on show entry in March whether they maintain the American characteristics necessary to compete in that division. If they do not meet the characteristics outlined, they will be reclassified into the commercial and AOB registered division. If you are unsure of which division to enter, please contact the heifer show committee and we can confirm via photo before your entry is classed.

BULL SHOW RULES

Show Superintendent: Ashley Bellamy

Show Committee: Dalton Long, Gary McKenzie, Huston McKenzie, Wendy Bird

Mandatory Meeting Required: See Schedule of Events for Dates and Times.

Entry Fee: \$30.00/head

1. The Cattle General Rules and Regulations apply to this show.
2. Bulls must be 0-30 months of age. Age is at time of Show entry in March.
3. Participants can show up to 3 bulls.
4. Bulls will be classed by weight. No more than 8 bulls to a class.

HEIFER SHOW RULES

Show Superintendent: Ashley Bellamy

Show Committee: Dalton Long, Gary McKenzie, Huston McKenzie, Wendy Bird

Mandatory Meeting Required: See Schedule of Events for Dates and Times.

Entry Fee: \$30.00/head

1. The Cattle General Rules and Regulations apply to this show.
2. Heifers must be **6 months to 30 months** of age. Age is at time of Show entry in March.
3. Participants can show up to 5 heifers or 4 heifers and a cow/calf pair. Any females with a calf at side will show in their age class (American) or weight, combined weight of female and calf (AOB) with their calf at side and be eligible for all awards including grand and reserve.
4. **Heifer Show:** Heifers will be classed by **show committee decision**. No more than 8 heifers will be assigned to a class. All heifers will be weighed at check in.

STEER SHOW RULES

Show Superintendent: Ashley Bellamy

Show Committee: Dalton Long, Gary McKenzie, Huston McKenzie, Wendy Bird

Mandatory Meeting Required: See Schedule of Events for Dates and Times.

Entry Fee: \$35.00

1. The Cattle General Rules and Regulations apply to all shows and contests.
2. Cattle determined by the committee to be structurally unsound and therefore unmarketable may be rejected from the show & sale
3. Steer will be weighed only once. The exhibitor, at this time, may request the animal be removed from the scales, the scales rebalanced and the animal re-weighed. Any request for re-weighing must be at the time of the initial weighing. Animal must not leave scale area. No animal will be weighed more than twice.
4. If any rules are found to be violated, exhibitors will only receive resale value.
5. Exhibitors must deliver steers to the holding pen and sign delivery list after the conclusion of the sale.
6. **American class(es)** will be added for feeders and fats, depending upon American Influence Steer Show Committee Decision. Same criteria as American division females for prominent Bos indicus breeding. The top American entry will be awarded a banner, the class winner(s) will also go in for the grand drive for fat/feeder.

MARKET FEEDER STEER SHOW RULES

1. **Maximum weight at first weigh-in is 550 lbs.**
2. Calves must gain a minimum of 1.5 pound per day during the feeding period.
3. Weight in March will be a minimum of 600 and maximum of 850. The objective is to grow the calf, not to fatten the calf, producing a healthy growing steer.
4. After all steer are entered, they will be classed by ending weight.
5. A 10% sales commission, plus a \$1.00 Beef Check-off Fee as required by law, will be deducted from the exhibitor's proceeds. The exhibitor is paid on a 3% shrunk weight (97% of the ending weight).

MARKET FAT STEER SHOW RULES

1. **Maximum weight at first weigh-in is 950 lbs.**
2. Steers entered in the show and sale must have gained a minimum of 1 pound per day during the feeding period and weigh a minimum of 1000 pounds at the March weigh-in.
3. After all the steers are entered, they will be classed by weight starting at 1000 pounds with no more than 8 animals in a class.
4. A 8% sales commission, plus a \$1.00 Beef Check off fee as required by law, will be deducted from the exhibitor's proceeds. The exhibitor is paid on a 3% shrunk weight(97% of the ending weight).
5. **Gain In Weight Contest:** Designed to measure the exhibitor's ability as a herdsman to select and feed an animal for economical gain. Steer committee will be responsible for weighing and certifying these weights to the sponsor. Any certified steer entry in the SRF, which meets contest rules, will be eligible to compete. Each steer must be identified at the time of weigh-in with an ear tag and EID provided by the association. The show classification weight will be used at the end of the feeding period weight. Awards will be given for top 3 places.

MARKET STEER FITTING CONTEST RULES

Superintendent: Wendy Bird

Entry Fee: None

Sign-Up: Sunday of Market Week

Contest: Monday at 1pm- Outside by wash rack

Contest Time: 40 minutes

1. Teams consist of 3 members. One must be a Senior with Intermediate and Junior participants.
 2. Teams must provide:
 - a. Clean, Dry Calf
 - b. Grooming Chute
 - c. Power
 - d. Any other supplies necessary to present calf
 - e. Teams will have 40 minutes to fit their animal. No help from parents, any others is allowed during contest.
 - f. Teams will then choose 1 team member to present their animal to judges; the whole team should be available to answer questions.
 - g. Judges will announce results immediately following.
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RECORD BOOK CONTEST

Contest Superintendent: Ashley Cook-Gregory

Contest Committee: Jessica Cooper, Wendy Bird

Entry Fee: None

Entry Dates: Record Books **MUST** be turned in at the fair grounds and are due the first Wednesday in March between 4:00p-8:00p unless show occurs before this date. Then record books are due at time of show.

1. Exhibitors who complete a record book for an animal do not have to also complete a project summary sheet for the same animal.
 2. Record books not turned in on time may still be used to enter animal into the fair, but **WILL NOT** be judged.
 3. Individual Contest. Primary, Junior, and Senior age divisions.
 4. Age Divisions for the contest will be grouped as follows:
 - a. **Junior** division (ages 8-10)
 - b. **Intermediate** division (ages 11-13)
 - c. **Senior** division (ages 14+)
 - d. **4-H Cloverbuds** are Not eligible to participate in Record Book Contest
 5. Record Book Divisions for the contest will be grouped as follows:
 - a. **Market Animals** (Fat Steer, Feeder Steer, Swine, Wether)
 - b. **Non-Market Animals** (Beef Bull, Beef Heifer, Dairy Cow, Dairy Doe, Dog, Horse, Meat Doe, Poultry, Rabbit)
 6. Exhibitors may enter 1 record book per show they are participating in.
 7. Record book committee will appoint qualified judges, who are not immediate relatives.
 8. Rubrics will be provided in the back of each record book template for all participants. These rubrics will then be used to score individual books.
 9. Ribbon Awards: Blue 90-100 points; Red 80-89 points; White 70-79 points; Green 69 points & below.
 10. Awards: First, second and third place may be awarded.
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