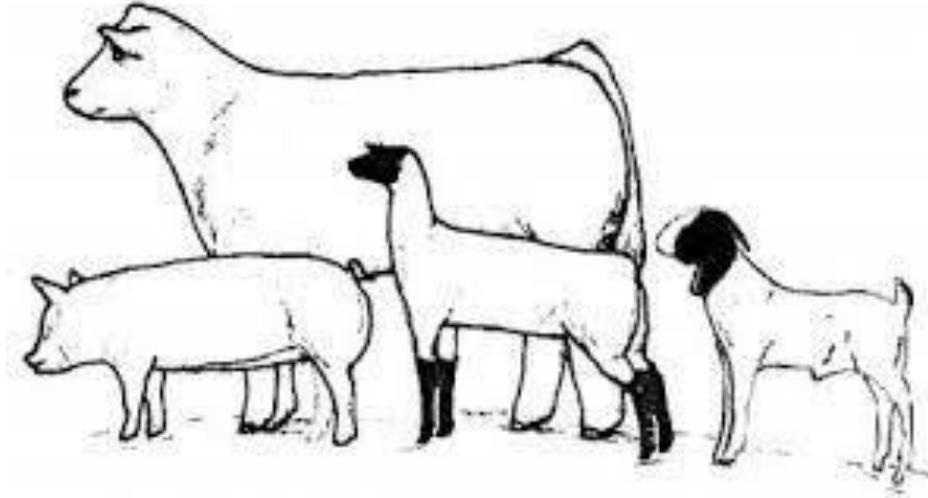


# **Freestone County Fair 2024**

## **Rule Book**



**Collin Puckett**  
**Livestock Chairman**  
**903-388-3779**

## **General Rules & Regulations**

1. This show reserves to its Livestock Committee the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out of or connected with the show and the right to amend or add to those rules as it's judgment may determine.
2. To be eligible for competition, whether single, dual (2) (by supervision of County Extension Agent or FFA Advisor), or immediate family, the animals, crops, or products must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor.
3. Exhibits that have been erroneously entered may be transferred to their proper place previous to judging upon application to the superintendent of that division. If such classes have been judged, however, they shall not be reopened.
4. No claim for injury to any person or property shall ever be asserted nor suit instituted or maintained against Freestone County Fair Association, its officers, or agents by or on behalf of any persons, firms, or corporations, or their agents, representatives, servants, or employees having license or privilege to exhibit at the Fair or occupy any space therein.
5. If any damage, loss or injury to person or property shall approximately be caused by reason or neglect or willful acts of any person, firms, or corporation having license or privilege to exhibit on said Fairgrounds, or occupying any space thereon, the Freestone County Fair Association shall in no manner be responsible here fore, and in case it is subjected to any expense or liability, all persons causing same are liable therefore, and shall indemnify the said Freestone County Fair Association at its location in Fairfield, Texas.
6. All owners of property or others having same in charge shall care for, guard, and protect and preserve the same as the Freestone County Fair Association does not undertake to do so, and it shall not be held responsible for any loss or damage to said property.
7. There will be NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES consumed on the premises of the Fairgrounds by any exhibitor. This will be grounds for elimination from the show.

## **Freestone County Sale Rules**

1. Each Individual that exhibits in the Freestone County Fair may sell only one animal or item. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS.

2. The Livestock Sale will be selling 130 animals. The sale will include **25 Steers, 35 hogs, 20 lambs, 30 goats, 10 poultry pens, and 10 rabbit pens**. If less than 130 lots, the remaining unfilled lots will be determined by placing each specie in a hat and drawing the number needed to complete 130 lots.
3. All Champions and Reserve Champions in each division must sell unless one individual exhibits two winners. If an exhibitor has multiple champions, they must sell the higher-ranking champion (ex. Champion Market Hog and Reserve Goat, Hog sells). If the exhibitor has multiple grand or reserves, it is the exhibitor's choice on which one they sell. (ex. Champion Sheep and Champion Goat or Reserve Rabbits and Reserve Chickens, then exhibitor choice.)
4. The reserve champion cannot bring within \$25.00 of champion in sell and all other placing animals cannot bring within \$25.00 of reserve champion. If a reserve champion is not sold, then no placing animal can bring within \$50.00 of the champion. If a champion is not sold, then no other placing animal can bring within \$25.00 of the reserve champion.
5. All 1st and 2nd place steers automatically make the Sale with the order to be determined by the judge. All 1st and 2nd place lambs and goats automatically make the Sale with the order to be determined by the judge. All 1st and 2nd place hogs will automatically sell as determined by the placing of the 1st place animals. The judge will select the remainder of the animals to be sold, meeting the established limit. NO EXHIBITOR is to leave his/her animal until the sale order is established. The FCFA Board of Directors will be the only one that releases the sale order, not advisors.
6. All animals that constitute a pen of three will sell for one price.
7. An exhibitor is not required to sell his/her animal unless it is Champion or Reserve Champion, except as covered in Rule #3.
8. Absolutely no contact with the buyer and/or floor buyer, either by the exhibitor, family member, guardian, or their agent, regarding the return (or swapping) of sale animal to the exhibitor prior to release of the animal by the Freestone County Fair Association and removal from the fairgrounds. Violation of this rule will result in suspension from showing in the Freestone County Fair.
9. The floor or market price will be auctioned in each of the divisions before the first animal is sold.
10. All Champions in each division will be sold first, followed by all Reserve Champions. The divisions will be sold in the following order: Cattle, Swine, Sheep, Goats, Chickens, Rabbits.
11. A sale order sheet will be provided to all potential buyers before the Sale starts.
12. The Sale will start sharply at 9:30 am
13. All individuals must be present to sell the animal and remain with the animal until released by the Superintendent of the show.

14. A rope halter will stay on the calf until it is delivered on the buyer's trailer.

## Livestock Information

### Validation Information:

**All Market Steers** are to be validated on the first Saturday in December from 7-9 am at a certified scale to be determined by the Cattle Superintendent.

**All Market & Breeding Swine, Sheep & Goats, Non-Registered Heifers** are to be validated the first Saturday in April from 7-9 am at the Fairgrounds. Livestock Superintendent has the right to change the date if there is a conflict and only the Livestock Superintendent can approve an animal not coming to validation (animal is sick).

**All Market & Fryer Rabbits** Teague/Wortham Area May 14<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7pm at Teague Ag Barn.

Fairfield/Streetman Area May 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7pm Fairfield Ag Barn.

**County Fair Market Broiler:** Broiler orders are due to the FCFA secretary, Michelle Welch by 5 pm March 23, 2024. Broiler pick up will be April 28, 2024. Cost is \$43.50 per pen of 25.

### Entry Fees (per animal/pen):

- All market animals \$25.00
- Breeding Beef \$25.00
- Breeding Swine \$25.00
- Breeding Meat Goats \$25.00
- Breeding Sheep \$25.00
- Single Fryer Rabbit \$25.00

**All Entries except Rabbits and Poultry are Due by April 15, 2024. Rabbits and Poultry entries are due by May 17<sup>th</sup>.** Late entries will be accepted for 10 business days with a \$10 late fee. **Entries will be completed in Fair Entry System [www.fairentry.com](http://www.fairentry.com)**

The exhibitor, his or her parent, or the Ag Teacher/CEA is responsible for input of the information for entering the FCFA Livestock Show into the Fair Entry software program. The advisors can only assist but the parent/exhibitor is responsible for the entry. You must pay the entry online if there is an issue please email or text Michelle Welch, [rjlmwelch@gmail.com](mailto:rjlmwelch@gmail.com), 903-390-7028

**Validation-means tag in**

**Weigh in-means final weigh in at county fair**

## General Rules for Livestock

**These rules apply to ALL animals entered in the show unless otherwise noted.**

1. Any student that is a permanent resident of Freestone County OR attends a Freestone County School AND is a member of Freestone County 4-H or FFA Chapter is eligible to show in the Freestone County Show provided they have NOT SHOWN IN ANOTHER COUNTY SHOW.

*4-H and FFA Eligibility:*

- **Meeting Requirement:**  
4-H Member: 4-H enrollment form on file in the Freestone County Extension Office by March 1 of the current fair year.
  - To be eligible for the Freestone County Fair, 4-H & Jr. FFA members must attend FOUR of their 4-H club's/FFA Chapter's scheduled monthly meetings within the current stock show calendar year (Sept 2023-May 2024) and sign the OFFICIAL attendance sheet.
  - 4-H members can substitute a "make-up" 4-H Club meeting for their regular club meeting AFTER approval is given by their regular club's manager AND a Freestone County Extension Agent.
  - All FFA and 4-H Exhibitors must complete quality counts training.  
(<https://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com/qc/qcregister.aspx>)
2. Appropriate entry fees will be required for each division.
  3. All Entries except Rabbits and Poultry are Due by April 15, 2024. Rabbit and Poultry entries are due by May 17<sup>th</sup>. Late entries will be accepted for 10 business days with a \$10 late fee. There will be no refunds for any entry and must be completed online at [www.fairentry.com](http://www.fairentry.com)
  4. All livestock must be owned by the exhibitor. Papers for registered breeding animals (if required) must also be in the exhibitor's name by validation date. All livestock projects must be in the possession of the 4-H and FFA members by the validation date. Exhibitors must have personally fed and cared for animals under the supervision of their County Extension Agent or FFA Advisor for a period stated under the ownership requirements in each division.
  5. All exhibitors must be present to show (including sale order) and sell their animal. Any exception must have advanced notice approval by the Livestock Committee.
  6. 4-H and FFA members may enter more than one livestock division BUT may not enter two animals or pens in the same market division. There is no limit to the number of breeding animals that an individual can enter. Members may sell only one (1) animal.
  7. Ribbons and premium money will be awarded through fifth place in each livestock division. Premiums will be included in the exhibitor's fair check.
  8. First and second place winners of each division will compete for Grand and Reserve Champion of the Show. An award and rosette will be given to the Grand and Reserve Champion of both breeding and market classes of each division. All champion and showmanship belt buckles will be presented to the exhibitor immediately following each show.
  9. Showmanship will be judged after the selection of the sale order of each division. Showmanship awards will be given to first place winners in a junior category 13 years of age and under, and a

senior category 14 years of age and older. All ages will be as of Monday of Fair week. These categories will be held in the market beef, swine, sheep, goat, and rabbit divisions, and in the breeding beef, swine, sheep, and goat. There is not a showmanship division for single fryer rabbits. **Once you designate an animal at check in that is the only animal you can show in showmanship.**

10. The decision of the judges will be final. Judges will be provided for the following categories: All cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits, project shows and showmanship.
11. Breeding and market animals will be placed in classes by breed and/or weights, by the superintendents of each division where they will be an asset to the Show. Classes may be added or deleted from the Show by superintendent, according to NEED.
12. All livestock will be in place by time designated by rules under appropriate division. All market animals will be weighed in under the supervision of the superintendent of their respective divisions. The Executive Livestock Committee will set dates and times of weigh in of livestock. **No animal is to be placed back on a trailer once they've been checked in to their respective show or the animal will be disqualified.**
13. No diseased or unhealthy animals will be allowed into the Livestock Show area or grounds.
14. Stalls will be assigned by the superintendent of each division. Exhibitors will be responsible for getting animals to assigned stalls after check in. Notify the superintendent of the respective species before removing the animal from the fairgrounds.
15. Market animal exhibitors will be expected to turn in a form at the conclusion of weigh in time to indicate disposition of animal if it does not make the sale. Any animal that does not make sale and ARE NOT being sold to the floor, must be loaded, and taken from fairgrounds by 6pm the day of respective show, with the exception of market steers. \*Alternates will not go home until after the sale. Market animals' ineligible to show in market shows are not eligible to be sold on the floor and must be removed from the grounds immediately. (Not making weight, disposition, etc.)
16. The use of stimulants or depressants is prohibited. Use of cattle pumps is prohibited. Drench guns will be allowed. Any surgical procedure, foreign substance or drug that could affect an animal's performance or alter its natural conformation or appearance is prohibited. All animals entered may be subject to test by a veterinarian. Parties filing for protest must pay for cost of the test. The date of withdrawal is to be the date of the show. Any "INHUMANE or ABUSIVE" treatment may result in disqualification at the discretion of the show management and/or the judge.
17. All exhibitors that sell an animal in the Freestone County Junior Market Sale must present a "thank you" letter in an addressed, stamped envelope for each buyer of their animal to the respective 4-H Club Manager or County Extension Agent of FFA Advisor before they will receive their sale check from the Freestone County Fair.
18. No "FOR SALE" signs may be posted on any exhibit.
19. No livestock will be allowed in or around campsite areas.
20. It is the superintendent's responsibility to control any situation until a decision can be made by the Livestock Committee if that situation affects the animal's eligibility to show.

21. All market and breeding animals, **except for Registered Heifers**, must be tagged with a Freestone County Fair Association tamper proof tag and a Freestone County Fair Association tamper proof tag must remain with that animal until checked in at the show. All NON-Registered Heifers must validate the first Saturday of April. If the original tag is lost, advisors (County Extension Agent or FFA Advisor) must be notified immediately. All FCFA validation tags must be kept in the animal's ear until the animal is delivered to the buyer. All validation forms will be completed and signed by exhibitors and parents. Any major show steer that wishes to validate for Freestone County Fair must attend County validation. The major show validation tag number will be recorded. If the steer does not make the sale at a major, that animal must be tagged with a Freestone County Fair Association tamper proof tag by the cattle superintendent on or before the April validation for sheep, goats & hogs. The major show tag MUST be left in the ear until removed by the cattle superintendent.
22. Exhibitor back numbers provided for each show will only include the number. Names and FFA or 4-H affiliation cannot and will not be displayed on the number side of the exhibitor back number.
23. If an emergency arises with your animal at the county fair on the county fairgrounds and the animal needs vet care or medications, you MUST notify the superintendent prior to any vet care or medications have been given. There will be licensed vet on call for precautionary measures or in the case of an animal death.
24. Blow & Go Show, no grooming materials of any kind are allowed. Grooming or fitting with foreign material that includes (but not limited to) painting, powdering, oiling, artificial coloring, or adhesives is prohibited.
25. All Animals must be clean, dry, and clipped prior to being weighed.
26. No animal is to be placed back on a trailer once they've been checked in to their respective show or the animal will be disqualified.
27. All FCFA validation tags must be kept in the animal's ear until the animal is delivered to the buyer.
28. Any major show steer that wishes to validate for Freestone County Fair must attend County validation. The major show validation tag number will be recorded. If the steer does not make the sale at a major, that animal must be tagged with a Freestone County Fair Association tamper proof tag by the cattle superintendent on or before the April validation for sheep, goats & hogs. The major show tag MUST be left in the ear until removed by the cattle superintendent.
29. A 2 pound grace on minimum weights for market goats, market lambs, 5 pound grace for market swine and 20 pound **market steers**.
30. All animals could be called back for a re-weigh at the discretion of the Superintendent until the scales CLOSE.
31. All "In County" animals are to be declared at validation.
32. **NEW – Any tag that is not an FCFA tag must be removed or covered before going into show ring.**

## Breeding Meat Goats

Superintendent: Chandler Baggerly

Asst. Superintendent: Zack Johnson

All Breeding goats must be validated to be eligible to show.

1. Only nanny goats are eligible to show in the breeding division. Nanny goats may be shown in both the breeding and market divisions.
2. Breeding goats will be classified by milk teeth for age. Registration papers supersede the checking of milk teeth in determining ages of breeding goats.
3. Goats may or may not have horns. If they have horns, they must be tipped.
4. Goats will be led in the show ring by a collar, lead, choke chain or show halter and exhibitors may use a short lead attached.
5. All Animals must be clean, dry and clipped prior to being weighed.
6. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Grand Champion           \$25.00
  - b. Reserve Champion       \$15.00
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup> Place (each class)   \$12.00
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place                 \$10.00
  - e. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place                 \$8.00
  - f. 4<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$6.00
  - g. 5<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$4.00



## Single Fryer Rabbit

Superintendent: Ross Mathison  
Asst. Superintendent: Nikki Holcomb

1. All rabbits must be brought to Rabbit Validation  
Teague/Wortham Area - Monday, May 14th 5:30-7:00pm at Teague Ag Barn.  
Fairfield/Streetman Area - Thursday, May 16th 5:30-7:00pm at Fairfield Ag Barn.
2. Single fryer rabbit check-in will be held at the same time as the market rabbit check-in on the day of the show.
3. An entry shall consist of a single fryer rabbit weighing not less than 3 and no more than 5.5 pounds with a scale tolerance of 0 ounces.
4. No rabbit entered in the single fryer show may have already been shown in the market rabbit pen of 3 show.
5. Entries must be earmarked by the superintendent when brought to the pens.
6. 4-H and FFA youth will be responsible for bringing in and handling their own rabbit.
7. The single fryer rabbit show will begin immediately following the market rabbit show.
8. You must enter the single fryer rabbit show by April 15, 2024
9. All Rabbits must be ARB- American Recognized Breed
10. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Best of Show \$25.00
  - b. Reserve Best of Show \$15.00
  - c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$12.00
  - d. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$10.00
  - e. 4<sup>th</sup> Place \$8.00
  - f. 5<sup>th</sup> Place \$6.00

## Breeding Sheep

Superintendent: Kai Lookabill  
Asst. Superintendent: Larry Chapman

1. All breeding ewes must be validated to be eligible to show.
2. Ewe lambs must retain lamb teeth to be eligible for these classes.
3. Ewe lambs are eligible to show in the Breeding and Market Shows.
4. Breeding sheep will be classified by age.
5. All Animals must be clean, dry and clipped prior to being weighed.
6. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Grand Champion           \$25.00
  - b. Reserve Champion       \$15.00
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup> Place (each class)   \$12.00
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place                 \$10.00
  - e. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place                 \$8.00
  - f. 4<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$6.00
  - g. 5<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$4.00

## Breeding Swine

Superintendent: Donna Day  
Asst. Superintendent: Jerry Bonds

1. All breeding gilts must be validated to be eligible to show.
2. Breeding gilts will be eligible to be shown in both the breeding and market shows.
3. All breeding gilts must be in the barn by 8 am, Tuesday June 13,2024. Weigh in will start after barns are drawn and begin weighing at 8:15 am.
4. All Animals must be clean, dry and clipped prior to being weighed.
5. It is no longer required to only use soap and water on the show grounds.
6. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Grand Champion           \$25.00
  - b. Reserve Champion       \$15.00
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup> Place (each class)   \$12.00
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place                 \$10.00
  - e. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place                 \$8.00
  - f. 4<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$6.00
  - g. 5<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$4.00

## Breeding Beef Cattle

Superintendent: Cody Gonzales

Asst. Superintendent: JP Clopton

1. Paper check will be from 8-10 am Tuesday June 11, 2024. There will be NO Dairy Cattle Show.
  
2. Cattle will be shown by breed as long as there are at least five (5) heifers entered within a given breed. Those breeds with less than five (5) entries will be shown together by age and division. There will be four divisions: American, British, Exotic, and Non-registered. Division champions will show for Overall Breeding Champion. Show order: American, British, Exotic, and Non-Registered.
  
3. Breed classes will be:
  - January 2024 and Younger
  - November-December 2023
  - September-October 2023
  - July-August 2023
  - May-June 2023
  - March-April 2023
  - January-February 2023
  - November-December 2022
  - September-October 2022
  - July-August 2022
  - May-June 2022
  - March-April 2022
  - January-February 2022
  - September-December 2021
  
4. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Grand Champion \$25.00
  - b. Reserve Champion \$15.00
  - c. 1st place (each class) \$12.00
  - d. 2nd place \$10.00
  - e. 3rd place \$8.00
  - f. 4th place \$6.00
  - g. 5th place \$4.00

## Market Goats

Superintendent: Chandler Baggerly

Asst. Superintendent: Zach Johnson

1. All market goats must be validated to be eligible to show.
2. 55 lb. minimum weight requirement at check in. There will be a 2 lb grace on goats starting in 2022.
3. Goats may or may not have horns. If they have horns, they must be tipped.
4. Goats must be shorn with hair no longer than 3/8" and the tail hair trimmed in a wedge shape.
5. Blow & Go Show, no grooming materials of any kind is allowed. Grooming or fitting with foreign material that includes (but not limited to) painting, powdering, oiling, artificial coloring, or adhesives is prohibited.
6. Goats may be a nanny or a wether.
7. Goats will be led in the show ring by a collar, choke chain or show halter and exhibitors may use a short lead attached to the collar or chain.
8. Classes will be broken by weight.
9. A special award will be given to the exhibitor with the highest placing in-county goat in the sale order as "Best Goat Born and Raised in the County"
10. All 1st and 2nd place goats automatically make the Sale with the order to be determined by the judge.
11. All Animals must be clean, dry and clipped prior to being weighed.
12. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - Grand Champion                      \$25.00
  - Reserve Champion                      \$15.00
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place (each class)                      \$12.00
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place                                      \$10.00
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place                                        \$8.00
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Place                                        \$6.00
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Place                                        \$4.00

## Market Poultry

Superintendent: Ross Mathison

1. Poultry show shall be open to broilers **ONLY** purchased through the Texas A&M University.  
Orders need to be given to advisors and FCFA Board Secretary will make the order.
2. Broilers will be shown three (3) to a pen.
3. All birds entered in the show should be free of external and internal parasites. Those showing signs of these parasites and diseases will not be allowed to enter the show.
4. Broilers entered in the show should be well groomed by washing legs and comb and treated with a light coat of Vaseline rubbed into the skin.
5. All broilers will show as one class.
6. All market poultry will be released after the show.
7. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - g. Champion Pen                      \$25.00
  - h. Reserve Pen                        \$15.00
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Place                              \$12.00
  - j. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place                              \$10.00
  - k. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place                              \$8.00
  - l. 4<sup>th</sup> Place                                \$6.00
  - m. 5<sup>th</sup> Place                              \$4.00

## Market Rabbits

Superintendent: Ross Mathison

Assistant Superintendent: Nikki Holcomb

1. All market rabbits will be validated at Rabbit Validation-Teague/Wortham Area May 14<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7pm at Teague Ag Barn. Fairfield/Streetman Area May 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7pm Fairfield Ag Barn.
2. Market fryer rabbits must be in their pens at the show by 8:30 am Tuesday June 11, 2024.
3. Entries must be earmarked by the superintendent when brought to the pens. 4-H and FFA youth should handle their own rabbits.
4. Each rabbit in the Junior Meat pens must weigh between 3 to 5 and half pounds. One rabbit not weighing between these weights will cause the entire pen to be sifted. A pen will consist of 3 rabbits.
5. Only meat pens will be sold in the auction.
6. Rabbits that qualify at the weigh in on show date will be placed.
7. Any rabbit validated will be eligible to show, regardless of injury, misfortune, and other hardship, provided they meet the weight limit listed in rule 3 of the Market Rabbit division. 8. All Rabbits must be ARB- American Recognized Breed
9. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Champion Meat Pen of 3 \$25.00
  - b. Reserve Meat Pen of 3 \$15.00
  - c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$12.00
  - d. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$10.00
  - e. 4<sup>th</sup> Place \$8.00
  - f. 5<sup>th</sup> Place \$6.00

## Market Sheep

Superintendent: Kai Lookabill  
Asst. Superintendent: Larry Chapman

1. All sheep must be validated to be eligible to show.
2. All sheep must be shorn slick. Blocked or otherwise unshorn sheep will be sifted. Wool ¼" in length will be accepted. No tooth rule on sheep.
3. Blow & Go Show, no grooming materials of any kind are allowed. Grooming or fitting with foreign material that includes (but not limited to) painting, powdering, oiling, artificial coloring, or adhesives is prohibited.
4. All lambs must weigh at least 70 lbs to show. There will be a 2 lb. grace starting in 2023.
5. All Animals must be clean, dry and clipped prior to being weighed.
6. All 1st and 2nd place lambs automatically make the Sale with the order to be determined by the judge.
7. Ewe lambs and wethers will compete together as market lambs.
8. Prize money will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Grand Champion           \$25.00
  - b. Reserve Champion       \$15.00
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup> Place (each class)   \$12.00
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place                 \$10.00
  - e. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place                 \$8.00
  - f. 4<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$6.00
  - g. 5<sup>th</sup> Place                 \$4.00



## Market Cattle

Superintendent: Cody Gonzales

Asst. Superintendent: JP Clopton

1. All steers will be slick shorn with 1/4" maximum length, except the switch. This length of hair will be checked at weigh-in.
2. Castration process must be started by Validation.
3. No steers in the barn before 5 pm on check in day Wednesday June 12, 2024.
4. Only exhibitors and their animals will be able to enter the show arena for weigh in. Designated people by the Superintendent of the show are the only ones allowed in the ring during weigh-in.
5. All steers must weigh a minimum of 1000 lbs. **with a grace of 2%** at county fair weigh in. There will also be a 3-person temperament committee to evaluate all steers at weigh in. Depending on their findings as a committee they will make recommendations to the Livestock Committee based on bad temperament and safety at the show.
6. There will be a maximum of six classes of steers: **Super light weight, Light weight, Light Middle weight, Middle weight, Light Heavy weight and Heavy weight.**
7. A "Rate of Gain Buckle" will be given at the Steer Show. Also, a special award will be given to the exhibitor with the "Best Steer born and raised in County."
8. Blow & Go Show, no grooming materials of any kind is allowed. Grooming or fitting with foreign material that includes (but not limited to) painting, powdering, oiling, artificial coloring, or adhesives is prohibited.
9. All Animals must be clean, dry and clipped prior to being weighed.

Prize money will be awarded as follows:

Grand Champion	\$25.00
Reserve Champion	\$15.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Place (each class)	\$12.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$10.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$8.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	\$6.00
5 <sup>th</sup> place	\$4.00

## Market Swine

Superintendent: Donna Day  
Asst. Superintendent: Jerry Bonds

1. Market hogs weighing less than 220 lbs. and more than 295 lbs. on the day of the weigh in at the show will be automatically sifted. There will be a 5 lb. grace allowed. The exhibitor must choose which hog they want to show, once they cross the scale that will be the pig you have chosen to show, no substitutions, the chosen hog will be allowed one re-weigh if they are under or over the weight limits. Re-weigh will occur 45 minutes after the last pig in that barn is weighed.
2. All market swine must be in the barns by 8am Thursday June 13, 2024
3. All Animals must be clean, dry and clipped prior to being weighed.
4. Market swine weigh in will be conducted by a random drawing of the order of barns. Market swine weigh in will begin at 8:15am on Thursday June 15, 2024. Exhibitors or their parents/guardians must be present to weigh in their own animal.
5. Gilts and barrows will compete in these classes.
6. This will no longer be a blow and go show. While it is still in the best interest with the heat not to put oils etc. on the swine the superintendents will not monitor it any longer.
7. All market swine must be validated to be eligible to show.
8. Prize money will be awarded as follows:

Grand Champion	\$25.00
Reserve Champion	\$15.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Place (each class)	\$12.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$10.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$8.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	\$6.00
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	\$4.00
9. A special award will be given to the exhibitor with the highest placing in county hog in the sale order as "Best Hog born and raised in the County."

## Freestone County Fair Association Ethics Policy

This ethics policy applies to any 4-H/FFA member planning to exhibit animals at livestock shows in Texas. All classes of livestock offered at the livestock event are included: Cattle, Goats, Sheep, Swine, and any

other livestock classes offered. This “Texas 4-H/FFA Livestock Program Ethics Policy” will be enhanced with additional rules and guidelines which individual fairs and livestock shows adhere to on the local, county, regional, and state levels. The provisions contained in this policy do not constitute a contract, express or implied, between Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas 4-H, Inc., or Texas FFA and any applicant, participant, or parent. Additionally, the terms and conditions contained herein do not create or expand legal rights already existing under the law.

**4-H and FFA livestock project exhibitors are under the supervision of an Agricultural Science Teacher or County Extension Agent who serves as the advisor for that project.** The Freestone County Fair supports the educational content and leadership provided by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, and the Texas Education Agency/ATAT. Also, the Freestone County Fair fully support the administrative authority of Agricultural Science Teachers and County Extension Agents to certify the fulfillment of all validation protocols and appropriate paperwork between the exhibitor, Texas 4-H/Texas FFA, the major livestock shows and the supervising educator. Exhibiting livestock is a privilege, and exhibitors must comply with this document and respect the authority granted to his/her supervisor.

The following practices or procedures are unacceptable and are defined as being deceptive, fraudulent, unethical, and inhumane in the care, fitting, preparation and showing of all classes of livestock. The use of any illegal drug is prohibited. Any practice used to alter the appearance of an animal entered in livestock events is prohibited (See Rule #7 & #8). Proof of any animal being subjected to illegal and/or unethical practice(s) and/or procedure(s) described herein subjects the animal to immediate disqualification from the state validation program. If a violation is found of any of the following rules, this may result in a cancelled validation record or future validation records. All 4-H/FFA exhibitors must follow these rules to enter livestock at organized competitive events.

The following is a listing of guidelines all 4H/FFA exhibitors must follow to enter the Freestone County Fair.

1. Exhibitors must be bona fide members of a 4-H Club or FFA Chapter in the State of Texas and be in good standing and eligible to compete in accordance with each respective organization. The exhibitor must care for their animals under the direct supervision of a County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher. Exhibitors must be enrolled in, and attending, public or private and/or home school in grades 3-12 for the exhibition year.
2. All exhibitors must have viable proof of ownership available to prove the length of time animals have been owned. Animals must be owned and under the exhibitor’s daily care by the following deadline dates December 2, 2023, April 1, 2024 Registered Heifers, April 6, 2024 Market and Breeding Sheep, Goats and Swine, and Non Registered Heifers. Market and Single Fryer Rabbits May 14 or May 16, 2024. Poultry must be purchased by March 23, 2024 through the FCFA Board. Poultry will be purchased from Texas A&M. For Breeding Heifers, the official ownership date is the date reflected on registration papers. This date is the specific date for each breed of record as recognized by the validation program. Registered breeding heifers must show the exhibitor as the sole owner of the animal on the breed association papers. Breeding animals with additional registration papers within the breed association of validation record or in another breed association may be evaluated for multiple ownership. If additional registration papers are found active within an association indicating ownership information conflicting with the exhibitor's sole ownership designation, the breeding animal may be considered multiple-owned and subject to disqualification.

3To gain the life skills developed through the livestock project; exhibitors must be closely engaged in the continuous feeding, maintenance, training, grooming and overall welfare of his/her animals. Exhibitors and immediate family/guardians are responsible for providing the primary and continuous daily care of livestock projects throughout the validation period. The validation period begins immediately following the county validation date through exhibition at all livestock shows (exhibitors must provide continuous care for breeding heifers, sheep, swine and goats throughout the animal's eligibility to show). Facilities and location/space are a major determining factor in livestock species selection by the exhibitor. In some instances, it may be in the best interest of the exhibitor and his/her learning experience to select a species project that is best suited for his/her facilities and feasibility of housing projects.

a. 4-H and FFA livestock project exhibitors are under the supervision of an Agricultural Science Teacher or County Agent who serves as the advisor for that project. Excessive involvement of third-party consultants, breeders, fitters not affiliated with the Texas 4-H and/or Texas FFA programs is prohibited. Third-party involvement interfering with the exhibitor's ability to provide primary daily care of and engagement with livestock projects may result in the disqualification of all county validated livestock projects owned by all associated exhibitors/families. Likewise, third-party involvement interfering with the County Extension Agent and Agricultural Science Teacher's ability to properly supervise the livestock project may result in the disqualification of all county validated livestock projects or future validation records.

b. Livestock projects must be raised at the physical address of validation record. Prior approval must be granted by the "Livestock Chairman" in the event the animal will be outside the direct care of the exhibitor, immediate family/guardian, and/or the supervising County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher for more than 48 hours. Failure to gain approval from the supervising Agricultural Science Teacher/County Extension Agent and the Livestock Chairman will result in the disqualification of the livestock for the Freestone County Show.

c. To obtain prior approval, exhibitors must complete an official 4-H/FFA Validation Rule #3 Prior Approval Form. Exhibitors not obtaining prior approval as outlined above will be subject to disqualification of the livestock in question and any other state validated livestock projects. The form can be accessed here:

<https://texasyouthlivestock.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Rule-3-Approval-Form.pdf>

By signing this document, the exhibitor and parent/guardian, recognize his/her responsibilities for the primary and continuous care of livestock projects throughout the feeding period and hereby authorizes the Livestock Chairman and supervising AST/CEA the right to inspect your livestock project(s), at any time during the feeding period with or without prior notice. County validated livestock must be made available for inspection at any time requested at the address listed on validation record or any other property (public or privately owned) where the livestock may be located. Failure to make inspection available as requested will constitute a violation of validation rules and will lead to disqualification of the livestock in question and any other validated livestock. Additionally, any exhibitor in violation of the primary and continuous daily care rule is subject to disqualification.

d. The following is intended to serve as a guideline for housing county validated livestock. Texas 4-H and FFA livestock exhibitors are expected to follow these guidelines under the supervision and approval of their county level state validation committee and supervising Agricultural Science Teacher and/or County Extension Agent. In any instance of discrepancy, the Species-Specific State Validation Chairperson and the State Validation Executive Committee have the right to interpret these rules and will have the final decision on all housing inquiries.

- All county validated livestock should be housed at the home of the livestock exhibitor or a family member or at a county or school ag facility. Any exhibitor who has existing livestock facilities or existing land to build such should house their livestock projects at their residence or at a county or school facility. It is the burden of the livestock exhibitor family to research and contact all school or county facilities in the county before exploring alternative options.
- If the previous facilities do not exist, an alternative facility may be investigated to house the livestock. A facility of this nature can only be explored after previously listed facilities have been exhausted. Alternative facilities must be within the exhibitor's county and/or school district, unless deemed appropriate by designated approval documents. Alternative housing addresses must be listed on the Texas 4-H/FFA Livestock Program Ethics Policy Acknowledgement/Signature Form. Additionally, alternative facilities may only be used with approval from the County-Level State Validation Committee. These requests may be denied based on existing evidence of possible housing facilities listed in #1 AND/OR due to concerns of excessive third-party involvement. The burden of seeking approval is on the livestock exhibitor family. The Species-Specific State Validation Chairperson and the State Validation Executive Committee have the right to interpret these rules and will have the final decision on all housing inquiries in instances of disagreement or interpretation. If an exhibitor is concerned about a potential housing facility that may not be acceptable according to the listed criteria, please contact the Species-Specific State Validation Chairperson for an advisory opinion. All interpretations, decisions and settlements will be made by program leadership to align these rules with the best interest of the program and participants. These requests and/or appeals will be approved/denied based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: existence or availability of housing facilities listed above, location, proximity to exhibitor, excessive third-party involvement, and previous instances of rule violation or excessive third-party involvement at the intended location. Excessive third-party involvement may be defined as, but is not limited to, the following:
  - 1) Decision making or advice counter to that of the supervising County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher
  - 2) Daily or frequent feeding, training, maintenance, washing, rinsing, blowing, or other care practices.
  - 3) Interfering or denying access to CEA, AST, and/or any other county or state level committee member as listed in Rule #3 to supervise or check state validated livestock.
  - 4) Encouragement of or use of unethical fitting or showing practices as listed in Rule #7
  - 5) Excessive or misleading advice at livestock shows.

4. Animals validated for Freestone County Fair may also be exhibited at other jackpot or prospect shows but must NOT be exhibited at another county fair or livestock show.

5. Any method used to misrepresent the age of an animal for a class in which it is shown is deceptive and considered a violation of the rules and guidelines.
6. Showing an animal for another individual by claiming ownership in order to show in a specific livestock class/event or claiming ownership through signage, social media, or any other advertising method is prohibited. A false claim of ownership is a violation of these guidelines and will lead to disqualification.
7. Treating an animal internally or externally, with any irritant, counter-irritant, or other substance used to artificially change the conformation or appearance of an animal for show is considered unethical, inhumane, and is prohibited. Surgery, injection, or insertion of foreign material under the skin and/or into the flesh of an animal to change the natural contour, conformation or appearance of an animal's body is illegal. This includes, but is not limited to, injection of gas, air, oil, or other foreign substances; cutting/tearing of the hide/underneath the hide or removal of tissue in any attempt to alter the physical appearance of the animal; numbing or "deadening" an animal's tail; cutting tendons of an animal; using foreign substances to build or cosmetically re-shape feet (this does not include medically necessary treatments for injured hooves or feet); as well as "twining" which includes the attachment of hair or hair substances (i.e. baling twine, cloth, fiber, etc.). Acceptable practices of physical preparation which are allowed include, clipping of hair, trimming of hooves, dehorning, removal of ancillary teats, and docking of tails.
8. The use of unethical fitting, showing and/or handling practices or devices compromising animal welfare shall not be tolerated.
9. The Freestone County Fair Board reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and to settle and determine all matters, questions, and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, or connected with, or incident to "Freestone County Fair Ethics Policy". All interpretations, decisions and settlements will be made by program leadership in order to align these rules with the best interest of the program and participants.
10. Any violation of the "Texas 4-H/FFA Livestock Program Ethics Policy" and/or specific rules as designated by the Freestone County Fair Associations may result in disqualification and/or probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future participation in organized livestock competition. Possible civil or criminal penalties may be imposed by the proper authorities based on evidence provided by the livestock show of 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/or national levels. All rule violations will be dealt with on an individual basis by the "Specie Specific County Validation Committee", the Freestone County Livestock Committee Chair and/or Freestone County Fair livestock show officials.

**County validation deadline dates are as follows:**

Market Steers December 2, 2023

Breeding Sheep, Goats, Swine, Non-Registered Breeding Heifers April 6, 2024

Market Sheep, Goats & Swine April 6, 2024

Fryer & Market Rabbits May 14 & 16, 2024

Registered Breeding Heifer ownership deadline only April 1, 2024

Poultry purchased by March 23, 2024

All Entries except Rabbits and Poultry are Due by April 15, 2024. Rabbits and Poultry are due by May 17<sup>th</sup>  
**Entries will NOT be accepted without a valid social security number.** The exhibitor or their guardian is responsible for input of the information for entering the FCFA Livestock Show into the Fair Entry software program, payment must be made online at the time of entry.