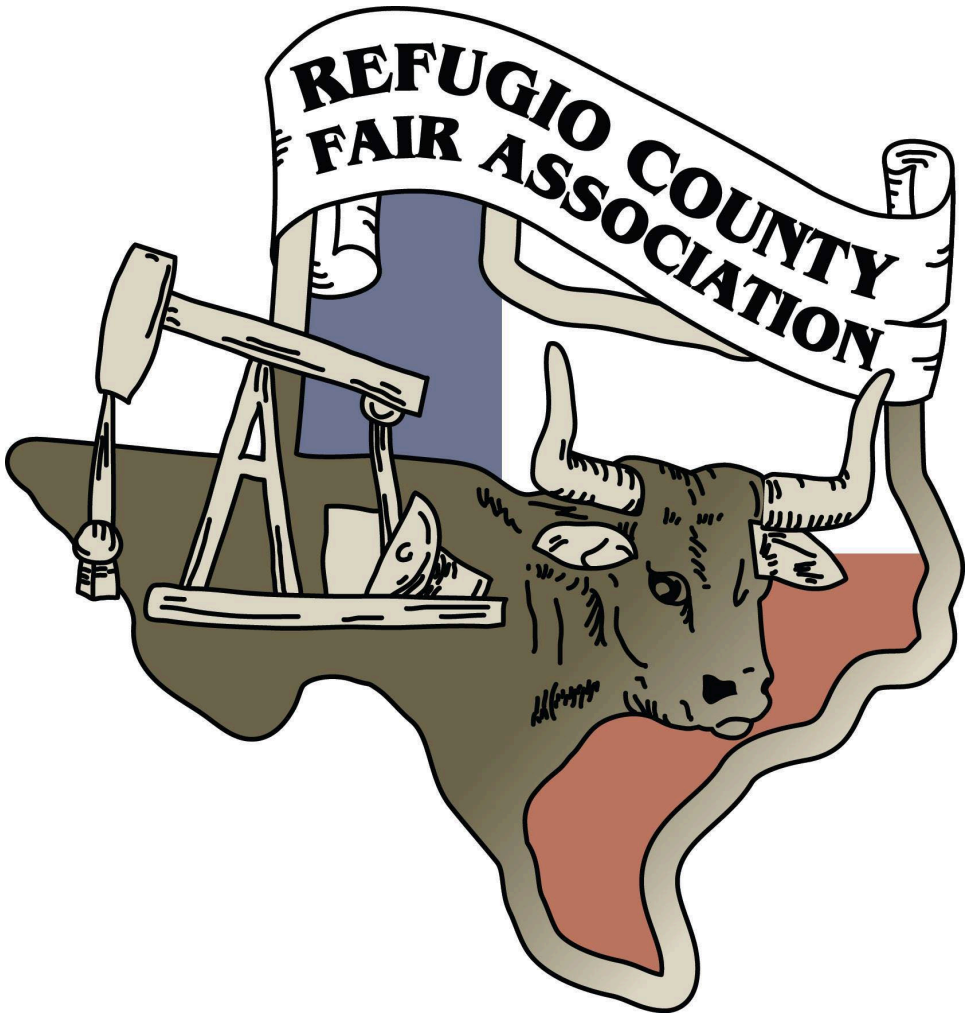
REFUGIO COUNTY FAIR

Rule Book



March 31 - April 3, 2027

Refugio County Fair Association Board

David Poland.....President
Jamey Nixon.....Vice President
Courtney Lenhart.....Secretary
Julie Van Ness.....Treasurer
Nick Arredondo.....Member
Ryan Deal.....Member
Stephen Meza.....Member
Andy Rocha.....Member
Jeremy Speis.....Member
Sierra Williamson.....Member
Harvey Dierschke.....Member

Refugio County Fair Livestock Committees

General Superintendent.....Nick Arredondo
Assistant General Superintendent.....Andy Rocha

Cattle Superintendent.....Ryan Deal
Assistant Cattle Superintendent.....Nick Arredondo

Lamb & Goat Superintendent.....Schelsea Arredondo
Assistant Lamb & Goat Superintendent.....Derek Lewis

Poultry Superintendent.....Irene Porras
Assistant Poultry Superintendent.....Shane Myers
Assistant Poultry Superintendent.....Jennifer Pakebusch

Rabbit Superintendent.....Madalynn Nixon
Assistant Rabbit Superintendent.....Russell Sternadel

Swine Superintendent.....Jamey Nixon
Assistant Swine Superintendent.....Ryan Speis

Refugio County Fair EXPO Building

Expo Building Superintendent.....David Poland
Assistant Expo Building Superintendent.....Courtney Lenhart

Refugio County Fair Association Committees

Rodeo & Arena Committee
Nick Arredondo
Sierra Williamson

Carnival Committee
Harvey Dierschke
Jamey Nixon

Vendors & BBQ Area
Jeremy Speis

Fair Entertainment Committee
Sierra Williamson
Julie Van Ness

Padilla Hall Committee
Julie Van Ness
Sierra Williamson

RV Areas Committee
Julie Van Ness
Jeremy Speis

Scholarships Committee
David Poland
Julie Van Ness

Sponsorships Committee
Sierra Williamson
Julie Van Ness

VIP Tent
Harvey Dierschke
Courtney Lenhart

County Liaison
Executive Committee

Youth Livestock Auction Association Directors

Chris Levien.....President
Trace Claybrook.....Vice-President
Denise Poland.....Treasurer
Justin Walker.....Secretary
Jimmy Bauer.....Member
Arnulfo Perez.....Member
Andrew McGuill.....Past President

Refugio County Extension Agent – Agriculture

Boogie Barber

Agriculture Science Teachers

Austwell - Tivoli High School.....Ismael Gonzalez
Refugio High School.....Justin Southern
Woodsboro High School.....Ryan Speis
Woodsboro High School.....Sam DuBose

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Refugio County Junior Livestock Division

Junior Livestock Division
General Rules

1. The Refugio County Fair Species Committee reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations. The Refugio County Fair Species Committee also has the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgement may determine, with the final approval of the Refugio County Fair Board. All Agricultural Science Instructors, County Extension Agents-AG, and members of the Board of Directors of the Refugio County Fair Association and Species Committees will have the authority to spot-check feeders at any time.
2. Deadline for memberships – Friday, February 26, 2027. **Late entries will be accepted until 5PM on Monday, March 1, 2027; however, a $100 late fee per entry plus entry fees will be assessed**. No late entries and/or revisions will be accepted after 5PM on Monday, March 1, 2027. [For exception, see Rule No. 10.] These dates are subject to change by the Youth Livestock Auction Association.
3. Boys and girls must reside in Refugio County or be enrolled in a Refugio County school to be eligible to participate in the Refugio County Fair/Junior Livestock Show. Exhibitors must be 8 years old and in 3rd–12th grade and must be actively enrolled in TX4H as a member of a 4-H club, Jr. FFA or FFA Chapter in Refugio County. Youth younger than 4-H age will be considered Pee Wee exhibitors and will include those youth 5 years old and in kindergarten through 2nd grade. **Each exhibitor must be a member of a 4-H club or FFA program prior to validation of animals. 4-H members must be enrolled by October 31, 2026. Transfer 4-H or FFA members will be eligible for the Refugio County Jr. Livestock Show if they enrolled in the previous county by October 31, 2026.**
4. A livestock exhibitor in the Refugio County Fair must buy or sell one membership to the Refugio County Fair Association for each project he or she plans to exhibit. Memberships must be designated at the time of purchase and typically should be assigned to the exhibitors' parents or guardians first. Any remaining memberships can be assigned to any other Refugio County adult resident as designated by the exhibitor. Membership will be good from March 2026 through February 2027. This membership will cover the 2026 year and will renew each year prior to the County Fair. Each membership is $25.00. The maximum memberships for exhibitors with market animals will be three (3) or $75.00. There is no limit to breeding animal memberships. Memberships and forms will be available online February 2, 2026. A link will be provided so that entries can be submitted online from the ShoWorks website. Payments will be made online at the time of exhibitor registration. Any entry submitted after Friday, February 27, 2026, will incur a $100.00 late fee. Entries will not be accepted after 5PM on Monday, March 2, 2026.
5. All exhibitors must attend 4 out of 6 of their 4-H or FFA meetings from August to March to be eligible to show. FFA Leaders will oversee their own attendance and work requirements for their exhibitors. Their reports will be sent to the Fair Board. 4-H Club Managers will complete a monthly attendance report and submit it to the Extension Office. The Extension Office will submit them to the Fair Board. The Fair Board will notify exhibitors that are not fulfilling the attendance requirement no later than January.
6. Each exhibitor is required to work two workdays, minimum of 2 hours each, as well as any mandatory workdays.
    A. Annual Fundraiser – Raffle – tickets can be sold in lieu of work requirements
    B. Mandatory Workday – Saturday, March 20, 2027 from 8AM-12PM

    Exhibitors who do not meet these mandatory requirements will be ineligible to show.
7. Youth livestock exhibitors must complete the Quality Counts program and obtain a verification number to be eligible to participate in the Refugio County Jr. Livestock Show. Quality Counts helps youth livestock

exhibitors learn the importance of using proper livestock management practices. Exhibitors need to be verified once as a Junior (grades 3-5), once as an Intermediate (grades 6-8), and once as a Senior (grades 9-12). **Pee Wee exhibitors are <u>not required</u> to take the Quality Counts test**. To view the program and become verified exhibitors visit the website: https://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com/qc/qcregister.aspx

8. <u>MEMBERSHIP FEES</u>:

STEER $25 per head	LAMBS $25 per head
SWINE $25 per head	GOATS $25 per head
RABBITS $25 per pen (3/pen)	BREEDING ANIMALS $25 per head
POULTRY $25 per pen (broilers 3/pen & turkey 1/pen)	COMMERCIAL HEIFERS $25 per pen (2/pen)
PEE WEE CATTLE $25 per head	PEE WEE SWINE $25 per head
PEE WEE GOAT $25 per head	PEE WEE RABBIT $25 per pen (1/pen)

9. Each exhibitor will be allowed to enter a maximum of two (2) animals from each species but will only be allowed to show three (3) market animals from two (2) different species. For example: Entered 2 Steers, 2 Lambs, 2 Turkeys, but the day of weigh in arrive with 1 Steer and 2 Turkeys.
10. Entry substitutions will be allowed until Friday, March 5, 2027, and will be charged an extra $75 per head in addition to the original entry fee. Substitutions will only be allowed if an exhibitor has sold an entered animal at a Major Livestock Show (for example: HLSR).
11. **EXTRACURRICULAR ENFORCEMENT: ANY EXHIBITOR DETERMINED INELIGIBLE FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ACCORDING TO THE SCHOOLS' ENFORCEMENT OF SENATE BILL 1 IS INELIGIBLE TO SHOW. THE CHILD AND ANIMAL ARE BOTH INELIGIBLE. <u>THIS *INCLUDES* PEE WEE EXHIBITORS</u>**.
12. Entry must be the bonafide property and under the daily feeding and care of the exhibitor. The entry must be owned and fed to the satisfaction of the supervisor (CEA or AST). In the event of an absence of the supervisor, the entry should meet the requirements to the satisfaction of the Species Committee.
13. Each exhibitor must furnish his own hay and feed.
14. No heaters or lamps will be allowed in the Show Barns for safety purposes.
15. Each exhibitor will be expected to always keep their space in good order. Stalls must be cleaned before 8AM each day and refuse matter disposed of at the Species Superintendents' direction.
16. All livestock must be kept in designated pens as assigned by the superintendents.
    NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!
17. Sifting judges will check exhibits from 5-7PM on Wednesday, March 31, 2027, to determine quality, finish, and type of each entry. Market animals (steers, swine, lambs, goats) will be sifted and classified as needed by the species superintendents to place them in their proper classes. Entries sifted will not be allowed in the show and shall be removed from the show grounds after sifting on Wednesday night. Poultry and rabbits will be sifted at the time of check-in.
18. All exhibitors, excluding Pee Wee, must lead or carry animals to scales at weigh-in (adults may help at scale or weigh-in at the discretion of the supervising superintendent).
19. Animals will be weighed only one (1) time before 7PM Wednesday night. This will be the official weight for all purposes. NO Thursday or Friday morning weighing will be done.
20. Each exhibitor will be given one opportunity to confirm the animal(s) weight, should a discrepancy be suspected. Confirmation will be immediately following the initial weighing of the animal(s).
21. All entries must be in their assigned places in the show building or in line to unload their animals by 7PM Wednesday, March 31, 2027. If you have not unloaded by 7PM, then you must notify the species superintendent that you are in line to do so. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

22. After check-in, all animals must be cared for daily (i.e., feed and water) until final disposition on Sunday morning. Division superintendents will oversee compliance. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of resale premiums or auction proceeds. All proceeds forfeited will be dispersed at the discretion of the Livestock and Auction Committees.
23. Each entry in the Junior division must be shown by its owner, unless otherwise approved by the superintendent. All substitute exhibitors must be a member of a Refugio County 4-H club, Jr. FFA or FFA chapter, and meet all eligibility requirements. Only exhibitors and show officials may be in the show ring during judging. No individuals will be allowed in the holding area during the show without permission from the show superintendent.
24. Posted class breaks will be final with the exception of an omitted name.
25. Animals in all classes will be under the personal supervision of the exhibitor. In NO case will Fair management personnel or any official of the show be responsible for any loss, damage or injury to any person or property shall be assessed nor suit instituted.
26. Only authorized individuals and/or family will be allowed in the holding area during the show. To do so will require approval from the show superintendent.
27. Any wild or unruly animal will be sifted and/or disqualified and shall be removed immediately from the premises.
28. Any exhibitor or parent showing unsportsmanlike conduct will be barred from the show for a term determined by the Livestock Committee.
29. Judging of the Junior Market Animal Division will be:

Wednesday, March 31, 2027

Commercial Heifer Show Awards	7:30PM
Poultry	7:30PM

Thursday, April 1, 2027

Superstar Livestock Show	10AM
Market Lamb Show	2PM
Market Goat Show	following the Market Lamb Show
Pee Wee Goat Show	following the Pee Wee Goat Show
Pee Wee Rabbit Show	5PM
Market Rabbit Show	following the Pee Wee Rabbit Show

Friday, April 2, 2027

Breeding Gilt Show	9AM
Market Swine Show	following the Breeding Gilt Show
Pee Wee Swine Show	following the Market Swine Show
Breeding Heifer Show	2PM
Market Steer Show	following the Breeding Heifer Show
Pee Wee Cattle Show	following the Market Steer Show

30. Showmanship will be judged following the selection of Grand and Reserve Champion of each species. Judges will be provided by the show management for all classes. The judges' decisions on all placings will be final. Showmanship awards will be provided for Poultry, Lamb, Goat, Swine, Rabbit, and Cattle divisions.
31. Showmanship Eligibility: An exhibitor is eligible for the showmanship award in each species he or she owns an animal in. Jr. Showmanship for 3rd-5th grade exhibitors in all divisions. Intermediate Showmanship for 6th-8th grade exhibitors in all divisions. Sr. Showmanship for 9th-12th grade exhibitors in all divisions. Each

exhibitor will be assigned a number to be worn when showing a livestock project. When showing an animal for someone else, the number will not be worn.

32. Who May Win Showmanship & How Often: Exhibitors are eligible to win the award in all species they exhibit and own an animal. No limit is set on the number of times an exhibitor may win the award during their years of show eligibility. Exhibitors must use an animal in which he/she weighed in at weigh-in on Wednesday, March 31, 2027.
33. Protest Policy – protest concerning any livestock shown in the Refugio County Fair must be made within two (2) hours after the show of the animal in question and be accompanied by a $200 cash deposit, which will be refunded ONLY if the protest is upheld. In the case of a protest, the Protest Committee must meet immediately to discuss and render a decision. The Committee is defined as the Species Superintendents, Executive Board Member or Representative, AST, and CEA; however, the Executive Board Member or Representative will break the tie. The vote will remain anonymous and only the outcome and action will be announced. The Protest committee has the full discretion to determine the severity of the case and issue an appropriate action. The ruling by the Protest committee will be final. Both sides of protest need to be present at time of protest. There will be no anonymous protest allowed. If the protest involves unethical drug use, a drug test will be requested by the committee and if the protest is upheld, the drug test will be paid for by the exhibitor. All protests will be documented, and records will be held by the Refugio County Fair Association.
34. If a **DISQUALIFICATION** occurs, the exhibitor, exhibitor parents, Species Superintendent and General Superintendent MUST all be present.
35. After each livestock show, the livestock show rules will be reviewed and re-evaluated. A public meeting will be held each year by each of the Species Committees to accept proposed rules and voted on and be accepted to present to the RCFA Fair Board for final approval.
36. Rules for next year's livestock show should be prepared and available for all exhibitors no later than September 1, 2027.
37. A list of superintendents' responsibilities and duties will be given to each superintendent so they will know what their job should be throughout the year. Superintendents will have the final say pertaining to enforcement and/or interpretation of show rules in their division.
38. Unethical practices will not be tolerated in any aspect of the Refugio County Fair. There is a strong commitment by the Refugio County Fair Board to maintain the integrity of our Junior Livestock Program. All exhibitors in the Refugio County Fair's Junior Livestock Show will have to abide by the Texas Livestock Show Code of Ethics. The exhibitor and parent must sign a contract ensuring that the exhibitor and parent understand the code of ethics.
39. This program is designed to be educational and beneficial to the youth of Refugio County. Any exhibitor and/or parent found to not be adhering to any rule pertaining to the Junior Livestock Show; punishment will be determined by the Refugio County Fair Board, Species Superintendents and AST or CEA which could include their entire family being banned for a period of one year to lifetime from exhibition.
40. All species classes, excluding poultry and rabbits, will be divided into weight classes at the discretion of the Species Committees.
41. If an animal is sick or deceased during the show, the exhibitor must notify the species superintendent, CEA, or AST immediately. The official will determine the next steps that must be taken. If an animal needs veterinarian care, the official Show Veterinarian will be contacted and any compensation for services will be between the exhibitor and the Veterinarian. The Refugio County Fair Association will not be responsible.

42. Health Papers: A licensed veterinarian will continue to be asked to inspect and give a blanket health certificate for the entire show. Should all animals qualify, a blanket certificate will be provided for the show.

THE FOLLOWING RULES 43-47 WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO FOR ALL BEEF, SWINE, GOAT, LAMB, POULTRY, AND RABBIT DIVISIONS

43. Animal Care: All owners or persons in charge of property, or livestock, shall care for, guard, protect, and preserve same, as the Refugio County Jr. Livestock Show does not undertake to do so, and it shall not be held responsible for any loss, shrinkage, or damage to said property or the owners or exhibitors thereof. The Refugio County Jr. Livestock Show is not responsible for the acts of third parties.
44. Unethically Fitted Livestock: The showing of unethically fitted livestock, the showing of livestock of any ineligible age for exhibition in the class entered, or the misrepresentation of breeding or milking status is prohibited. Unethical fitting will be deemed to consist of changing the normal conformation of any part of the animal's body or using drugs, including over the counter and/or extra-label, or mechanical devices to alter the physical makeup and/or performance of the animal.
    This includes but is not limited to the following:
    (a) Animals that are in milk due to an unnaturally induced lactation.
    (b) Balancing the udder by any means other than leaving naturally produced milk in any or all quarters.
    (c) Treating or massaging any part of the animal's body, internally or externally, with an irritant or other substance to temporarily improve conformation.
    (d) Minimizing the effects of cramping by feeding or infecting drugs and depressants or applying packs or using any artificial contrivance or therapeutic treatment except normal exercise.
    (e) Blocking the nerves to prevent limping or switching of the tail.
    (f) Striking the animal to cause swelling in a depressed area.
    (g) Surgery or other practices performed to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body, hide, or hair, or feet (this is to include any materials added to the feet of an animal) except the removal of warts or horns and the permitted clipping and dressing of hair and trimming of hooves.
    (h) Insertion of foreign material under the skin.
    (i) Changing the color of hair at any point, spot, or area on the animal's body. Any grooming material that allows color to come off of any animal will not be allowed at the show.
    (j) The act of artificially filling animals internally, which would include stomach pumping, drench tubes, or any other method per OS (by esophagus) is prohibited.
    (k) The use of alcoholic or carbonated beverages in the feed or administered as a drench.
    (l) The use of diuretics.
    (m) Administration of a drug internally or externally. Animals under the care of a licensed veterinarian and/or taking any type of medication are ineligible.
45. Medication: All medication administered during the livestock show must be administered by the show veterinarian and a written medication record must be filed. Animals receiving performance-enhancing drugs (i.e., including, but not limited to, steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatory, tranquilizers, and pain killers) this manner are ineligible for competition.
46. The term "drug" shall mean any substance for which the sale, possession or use is controlled by license under federal, state, or local laws or regulations and any substance commonly used by the medical or veterinary professions that affects the circulatory, respiratory, muscular, skeletal, or central nervous system

of any species of livestock. If drugs are used by an official show veterinarian to treat a recognized disease in the market animals, the withdrawal times listed by the drug manufacturer will be strictly followed.

47. Veterinarians/Medications: Animals under the care of a licensed veterinarian and/or taking any type of performance-enhancing medication to include, but not limited to, steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatory, tranquilizers, and pain killers, are ineligible for competition. Exhibitors with questions regarding medications and/or eligibility should consult with the official show veterinarian prior to competition.

THE TEXAS LIVESTOCK SHOW CODE OF ETHICS

This code of ethics applies to anyone exhibiting animals at livestock shows in Texas. It includes Junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. All classes of livestock offered at the livestock event are included. Cattle (Beef and Dairy), Goats (Angora, Boer, Dairy, Meat, Cashmere), Equine (Donkey, Horses, Mules), Llamas and other specialty animals, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, Swine, and any other livestock classes offered. This "Texas Stock Show Code of Ethics" will be enhanced with additional rules and regulations which individual fairs and livestock shows impose on the local, county, state, regional and national levels.

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 drugs is prohibited. Legal or illegal substances used to phenotypically alter the appearance of an animal entered in livestock events are prohibited. (See rule #4.) Use of illegal drugs is considered a pre-meditated act! Furthermore, any information obtained in the practice of illegal alteration of an animal will be turned over to the proper authorities for possible criminal prosecution. **THIS IS A ONE STRIKE AND YOU ARE OUT POLICY!** Exhibitors will forfeit any premium, awards, or auction proceeds and will be prohibited from further competition at future shows in Texas, as well as being subject to potential criminal prosecution.

The following is a listing of guidelines all exhibitors must follow to enter livestock at organized competitive events:

1. All exhibitors must have viable proof (Junior Division) of ownership available to prove the length of time animals have been owned. Market animals (Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goats) must be owned and under exhibitor's daily care by the following dates: June 30 – Steers, October 31 – Sheep and Goats, November 30 – Hogs, to be eligible to participate at all major stock shows within Texas. This also includes small market animals (rabbits and poultry). The official ownership date is the date shown on the bill of sale or receipt of sale, unless the animal was bred by the exhibitor, in which calving, or birth records will be utilized. (Individual show rules may determine ownership requirements for non-market animals.) Registered breeding livestock must show the exhibitor as the sole owner of the animal on the breed association papers or certificates.
2. No exhibitor may show a market animal which has been previously sold at an auction or sale as a market animal through another local, regional or major livestock show. Any method used to misrepresent the age of an animal for a class in which it is shown is deceptive and considered illegal. Showing an animal for another individual by claiming ownership in order to show in a specific livestock class or event is prohibited. False ownership is illegal.
3. 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. This includes, but is not limited to the use of graphite, air, powders, hemp, artificial hair coloring, common products such as fly spray, ointment or liniment used to the point that it is irritating, (unless required to reduce edema at time of calving) or similar type products. Adding false hair or hair-like material, fleece, or skin at any point, spot, or area of the animal's body is illegal and will result in immediate disqualification. Utilization of any liquid or substance not considered part of an accepted and normal diet for livestock is deemed illegal and inhumane.

4. The use of tranquilizers, sedatives or depressants which alter the physical or physiological state of the animal is illegal. Exceptions to this rule would be a licensed show veterinarian's treatment for a recognized disease or injury. **All drugs must be approved by The Food and Drug Administration for use in meat producing animals.** All exhibitors shall advise show management of any drugs and/or medications administered to an animal that might be detected at the time of showing or at meat inspection. The name of the drug, its purpose, the person who administered the drug, time and date of administration shall be presented to show management prior to showing and sale of the animal. Failure to report this information to the show management will result in severe penalties and/or disqualification. **Any use of drugs or substances not approved by The Food and Drug Administration is strictly prohibited.** All animals entered into livestock competition shall be subject to testing for foreign substances that exceed acceptable levels established by the FDA, FSIS, USDA, or EPA. During livestock events, in the case of an animal requiring treatment, all medications shall be administered by a licensed show veterinarian and the livestock show officials shall be notified.
5. Surgery, injection, or insertion of foreign material under the skin and/or into the flesh of an animal to change the nature contour, conformation or appearance of an animal's body is illegal. This includes vegetable oil, air, silicon, or any other substance used to alter the shape of the animal. Acceptable practices of physical preparation which are allowed include clipping of hair, trimming of hooves, dehorning, removal of ancillary teats and docking of tails.
6. The balancing of the udder by abnormal means that includes the use of a mechanical contrivance or the injection of fluids or drugs, setting the teats and/or occluding (sealing the ends) with a mechanical contrivance or with the use of a chemical preparation is illegal. Treating or massaging the udder or its attachments with an irritant or counterirritant is prohibited.
7. The use of inhumane fittings, showing and/or handling practices or devices shall not be tolerated. For example, breaking of tails, striking of the animal to cause swelling or for bracing purposes, use of electrical contrivance or use of overly severe bits is not acceptable and prohibited.
8. Direct criticisms or interference with the judge, show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives or show officials before, during or after the competitive event is prohibited.
9. At the time an animal is sold at auction at the livestock show, the exhibitor shall be held directly responsible for animals that are rejected at a processing center due to the presence of foreign residues. The seller may be liable to the buyer for an amount equal to three (3) times the purchase price and may also be liable for attorney's fees and civil penalties. **Show management may share acceptable intelligence and evidence information with FDA and USDA.** If for any reason, any part of a meat animal carcass must be removed by the FDA or USDA inspectors, the market price will be discounted.
10. Show management reserves the right to require animal health certificates. Health inspectors and diagnostic tests may be made before or after animals are on the livestock show premises for exhibitor and animal safety, or to inaugurate disease control procedures which may become necessary in emergencies as determined by animal health officials.

Any violation of "The Texas Livestock Show Code of Ethics" or specific rules as designated by individual fairs and livestock shows may result in forfeiture of premiums and awards, disqualification, and may result in probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future participation in organized livestock competition. **Possible civil 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 national levels.** All rule violations will be dealt with on an individual basis by a committee composed of show management, 4-H, or FFA members, parents, and show superintendents. This can include part or all of these individuals and will be conducted on an as needed basis deemed necessary by show management. Other shows will be notified of the action taken by show management, which may affect the eligibility of the individual, group, or sponsoring organization for participation at other shows. **The decision of the oversight committee will be final.**

Bred Commercial Heifer Division Rules

Ryan Deal, Superintendent

Commercial Heifer Judging – Wednesday, March 31, 2027

1. Participants may exhibit two pens of two heifers (Bred/Open or Combination of Both) in his or her name.
2. A pen will consist of two bred heifers younger than 30 months of age.
3. Any breed or cross breed is acceptable.
4. Heifers must be dehorned or tipped to quarter dollar blunt tips.
5. Heifers must have brucellosis tag from veterinarian prior to validation.
6. Participants may validate up three heifers per pen, two heifers for the pen and one alternate.
7. For heifers to be eligible to show, they must be validated by the cattle superintendent or designated committee member on or before October, 2026.
    a. For the bred heifer division, health papers must be brought to validation showing heifer open at least 30 days prior to validation.
8. All heifers will be pictured and tagged with a special ear tag furnished by the Livestock committee. If the ear tag is lost during the feeding period, it must be reported to the cattle superintendent or County Agent for replacement.
9. Health papers for heifers must come from veterinarian and show heifers bred at least 60 days prior to show.
10. Division classes shall consist of:
    a. Junior (3rd- 7th Grade)
    b. Senior (8th-12th Grade)
11. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion overall will be selected from either bred or open division champions.
12. Heifers and participants will be judged by the same panel of three judges acquired by the cattle committee and County Agent.
13. Judging shall consist of:
    a. Heifer quality 60%
    b. Two-minute oral sales pitch 20%
    c. Oral quiz (maximum 15 questions) 20%
14. Potential questions for oral quiz will be shared with participants at least 60 days prior to show at an organized meeting. Examples of sales pitch will also be shared.
15. Sale order will be derived by the placement of Grand/Reserve Overall, Bred Division Champions, Open Division Champions. All other sale order placements will be determined and derived from the scoring of the heifers only.
16. All exhibitors and/or parents must be present to release heifers and assist in loading. Exhibitor is responsible for arranging transportation of heifers with buyer.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

COMMERCIAL HEIFER AWARDS – Bred Division

Banners: Grand Champion Bred JR Division & Reserve Champion Bred JR Division

Banners: Grand Champion Bred SR Division & Reserve Champion Bred SR Division

Open Commercial Heifer Division Rules

Ryan Deal, Superintendent

Commercial Heifer Judging – Wednesday, March 31, 2027

1. Participants may exhibit two pens of two heifers (Bred/Open or Combination of Both) in his or her name.
2. A pen will consist of two open heifers approximately 14-16 months of age.
3. Any breed or cross breed is acceptable.
4. Heifers must be dehorned or tipped to quarter dollar blunt tips.
5. Heifers must have brucellosis tag from veterinarian prior to validation.
6. Participants may validate up three heifers per pen, two heifers for the pen and one alternate.
7. For heifers to be eligible to show, they must be validated by the cattle superintendent or designated committee member on or before October, 2026.
8. All heifers will be pictured and tagged with a special ear tag furnished by the Livestock committee. If the ear tag is lost during the feeding period, it must be reported to the cattle superintendent or County Agent for replacement.
9. Health papers for heifers must come from veterinarian and show heifers bred at least 30 days prior to show.
10. Division classes shall consist of:
    a. Junior (3rd- 7th Grade)
    b. Senior (8th-12th Grade)
11. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion overall will be selected from either bred or open division champions.
12. Heifers and participants will be judged by the same panel of three judges acquired by the cattle committee and County Agent.
13. Judging shall consist of:
    c. Heifer quality 60%
    d. Two-minute oral sales pitch 20%
    e. Oral quiz (maximum 15 questions) 20%
14. Potential questions for oral quiz will be shared with participants at least 60 days prior to show at an organized meeting. Examples of sales pitch will also be shared.
15. Sale order will be derived by the placement of Grand/Reserve Overall, Bred Division Champions, Open Division Champions. All other sale order placements will be determined and derived from the scoring of the heifers only.
16. All exhibitors and/or parents must be present to release heifers and assist in loading. Exhibitor is responsible for arranging transportation of heifers with buyer.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

COMMERCIAL HEIFER AWARDS – Open Division

Banners: Grand Champion Open JR Division & Reserve Champion Open JR Division

Banners: Grand Champion Open SR Division & Reserve Champion Open SR Division

COMMERCIAL HEIFER AWARDS - Overall

Buckles: Overall Grand Champion • Overall Reserve Champion

Plaques: High Point SR Interview • High Point JR Interview

Junior Breeding Beef Division Rules

Ryan Deal, Superintendent

Breeding Heifer Show – Friday, Friday, April 2, 2027 @ 2PM

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. Beef breeding cattle must have been under the ownership and care of the exhibitor by November 1, 2026.
2. All breeding beef will be validated through the State Validation process or notification of proof of ownership must be sent to the Extension Office by November 1.
3. Breeding beef classes will be broken into the same breed classifications as Market Steers.
    a. American
    b. British
    c. Exotic
4. Age Distribution
    a. All breeding females under 18 months of age will show in their respective class.
    b. All breeding females over 18 months of age will show in their respective class.
    c. No heifers older than 31 months of age.
5. Grand Champion Overall Heifer and Reserve Grand Champion Heifer will be selected, and appropriate awards will be provided for each.
6. Cordless clippers may be used to trim at show. No full clipping may be done, only touch up on beef heifers only.
7. Heifers may be released from the grounds after 9PM on Saturday.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

CATTLE BUCKLE AWARDS

Grand Champion Heifer
Reserve Champion Heifer
Senior Heifer Showmanship
Intermediate Heifer Showmanship
Junior Heifer Showmanship
Grand Champion Steer
Reserve Champion Steer
Senior Steer Showmanship
Intermediate Steer Showmanship
Junior Steer Showmanship
Champion Pee Wee Cattle Showman

Market Steer Division Rules

Ryan Deal, Superintendent
Market Steer Show – Friday, April 2, 2027
Following the Junior Breeding Heifer Show

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. Participants may exhibit two (2) steers in his or her name.
2. All steers to be entered and eligible to show must be the property of the exhibitor and on feed by county steer validation which is August 18, 2025. Exhibitors will be allowed to county validate their steers on June 23, 2025, during state validation if they wish.
3. For steers to be eligible to show, they must be validated by the county validation committee. The committee will set and publicize the validation/classification dates.
4. All steers will be tagged with a special ear tag furnished by the Validation Committee. If the ear tag is lost during the feeding period, it must be reported to the Species Superintendent or County Agent for replacement.
5. Steers will be classified at check-in of the show as to their breed. The classifier's visual decision will determine the class the animal will be shown in at the county fair.
6. Division classes shall consist of:
    a. American
    b. British
    c. Exotic
7. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected from the champion and reserve division champions.
8. **Minimum weight at check-in will be 1000 lbs and a maximum weight of 1600 lbs. NO weight tolerance will be allowed**. Exception – All Miniature Breeds – minimum weight at check-in will be 850 lbs. All miniature breeds must be accompanied by registration paperwork. All steers must be castrated, dehorned, and completely healed at check-in or the animal will be sifted.
9. If an animal has been through official check-in (weigh-in and/or sifting) it cannot be replaced by another animal in that division or any other division. No substitutions after weigh-in and sifting.
10. No paint will be allowed.
11. Cordless clippers may be used to trim at show. No full clipping may be done, only touch up.
12. To maintain a level field of competition between exhibitors showing their steers at the San Antonio and Houston Livestock Shows, steers exhibited in Refugio County show will be sheared to a quarter (1/4) inch of hair over their entire body with the exception of their tail and switch.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

Pee Wee Cattle Division Rules

Ryan Deal, Superintendent
Pee Wee Cattle Show – Friday, April 2, 2027
Following the Market Steer Show

1. The purpose of this show is to give Pee Wee youth an opportunity to participate in the Refugio County Fair. Participants will learn responsibility and sportsmanship.
2. The Pee Wee Cattle Show is open to youth 5 years of age and enrolled in kindergarten through 2nd grade of the current school year, must reside in Refugio County or live in a Refugio County School District and must be actively enrolled in 4-H Online as a member of a 4-H club to be eligible to show.
3. Showmanship of the exhibitor is the only quality that will be judged.
4. Heifers and steers may be any mini breed.
5. Maximum height to be shown in these classes is 45" on mature females and 48" on mature steers. All entries will be measured prior to showing. Those exceeding the height requirement will be disqualified from competition.
6. Exhibitors will be required to enter the show ring with assistance from a parent/guardian who is at least 18 years of age or a senior qualified exhibitor. This is strictly for the safety of the youth. If an animal is at any time deemed unruly, it may be banned from showing by any show official.
7. Cattle will be required to be on feed by Nov 1st and will be verified by CEA or AST. No exceptions will be made.
8. No clipping will be allowed on the grounds.
9. This will be a blow and go show. There will be no adhesives or paint allowed.
10. All participants will receive a trophy and ribbon. Showmanship will be a special award, which will be selected by the judge and presented to only one exhibitor.
11. Pee Wee Cattle will not be eligible for the premium auction.
12. Pee Wee Cattle may be released from the grounds after 9PM on Saturday, March 28, 2026.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

Breeding Gilt Division Rules

Jamey Nixon, Superintendent

Breeding Gilt Show – Friday, April 2, 2027 @ 9AM

1. Breed classification will be:

Berkshire	Chester White	Landrace
Yorkshire	Duroc	Hampshire
Poland China	Spot	Crossbred

2. Each exhibitor may enter a maximum of three (3) entries.
3. Breeding gilts will be separate animals from the market show.
4. Breeding gilts must be born between July 1 and September 30 prior to the year shown. (Ex: 2027 show: gilts must be born between July 1, 2026, and September 30, 2026).
5. All breeding gilts must be on feed and under exhibitor's care by the Major show validation date for the current show year.
6. All breeding gilts are required to be validated and tagged with state validation tag and have registration papers on file (registration papers are required for Purebred only) by the dates required for major show validation of current show year.
7. Breeding gilts will be shown by breed and exhibited by age classes within that breed. Crossbred gilts will be shown by weight with no weight limit.
8. Breeding gilts do not have to be present at County Validation.
9. Breeding gilts may be removed from the grounds after 9PM on Saturday, April 3, 2027.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

SWINE BUCKLE AWARDS

Grand Champion Gilt
Reserve Champion Gilt
Grand Champion Market Hog
Reserve Champion Market Hog
Senior Swine Showmanship
Intermediate Swine Showmanship
Junior Swine Showmanship
Champion Pee Wee Swine Showman

Market Swine Division Rules

Jamey Nixon, Superintendent
Market Swine Show – Friday, April 2, 2027
Following the Breeding Gilt Show

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. Participants may exhibit two (2) swine in his or her name.
2. All swine to be entered and eligible to show must be the property of the exhibitor and on feed by the validation date. Swine must be present at validation at a time and place designated in November. Major show swine will be validated on the same day as County Validation.
3. All hogs will be tagged with a special ear tag furnished by the Validation Committee. If the ear tag is lost during the feeding period, it must be reported to the Species Superintendent and the County Agent for replacement. THIS IS A WATER ONLY SHOW. NO OIL. NO PAINT. Please see Rule #3 on page 13 for more information / clarification.
4. Swine will be shown by breeds. Classification will be determined at the time of sifting and check-in on Wednesday, March 31, 2027.
5. Breed classification will be:
    a. Hampshire
    b. Duroc
    c. Crossbred
    d. Other Pure Breeds
6. Breeds of swine with ten (10) animals or less shall be evaluated for breed justification. If deemed necessary to reclassify a breed, the livestock committee reserves the right to place the swine breed in question into the appropriate breed as needed.
7. Breeds will be divided into weight classes at the discretion of the Species Committee. Barrows or gilts may be shown.
8. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected from the breed champion and reserve breed champion.
9. Swine must meet a minimum weight of 220 lbs. and a maximum of 280 lbs. NO tolerance of 2 lbs. NO Exceptions.
10. If an animal has been through official check-in (weigh-in and/or sifting) it cannot be replaced by another animal in that division or any other division. No substitutions after weigh-in and sifting.
11. No show boxes or tack in walkways or alleyways.
12. Cordless clippers may be used to touch up. Animals cannot be restrained.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

Pee Wee Swine Division Rules

Jamey Nixon, Superintendent

Pee Wee Swine Show – Friday, April 2, 2027

Following the Market Swine Show

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. The Pee Wee Swine Show is open to youth 5 years of age and enrolled in kindergarten through 2nd grade of the current school year. The exhibitor must live within Refugio County or attend a school in Refugio County and must be actively enrolled in 4-H Online as a member of a 4-H club to be eligible to show.
2. Showmanship of the exhibitor is the only quality that will be judged.
3. Pee Wee swine will not be eligible for the Youth Livestock Auction.
4. Pee Wee swine exhibitors will be allowed to borrow a hog from a Junior Exhibitor. Each exhibitor must notify the County Extension Agent in writing between November validation and January 2, 2027, to be eligible to show. No exceptions will be made. At the time of notification, a mentor exhibitor (one of 4-H or FFA age) must be listed for the exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors must attend mandatory clinics set by Species Superintendent.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

Market Lamb Division Rules

Schelsea Arredondo, Superintendent

Market Lamb Show – Thursday, April 1, 2027 @ 2PM

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. Participants may exhibit two (2) lambs in his or her name.
2. All lambs to be entered and eligible to show must be the property of the exhibitor and on feed by the validation date. Lambs must be present at validation at a time and place designated in November.
3. All lambs will be tagged with a special ear tag furnished by the Validation Committee. If the ear tag is lost during the feeding period, it must be reported to the Species Superintendent or the County Agent for replacement.
4. Lambs will be shown by breeds. Classification will be determined at the time of sifting and check-in on Wednesday, March 31, 2027. Lambs will be shown according to the classifier's designation.
5. Lamb breed classes shall consist of: Southdown, Fine Wool Cross, Medium Wool.
6. Breeds will be divided into weight classes at the discretion of the Species Committee.
7. Grand Champion or Reserve Champion will be selected from the breed champion and reserve champion.
8. Lambs' tails must be docked, or they will be sifted.
9. The minimum weight at check-in will be 100 lbs. and maximum will be 185 lbs. A 2-pound tolerance will be allowed. Blankets must be removed for weigh-in.
10. If an animal has been through official check-in (weigh-in and/or sifting) it cannot be replaced by another animal in that division or any other division. No substitutions after weigh-in and sifting.
11. Ewes or Wethers may be shown.
12. All lambs must be slick sheared, with no more than an 1/8 inch of re-growth.
13. Lambs may be shown with a halter or such device.
14. No clipping of any kind is to be conducted on the grounds after 2 hours of the completion of weigh-in. A penalty will be imposed.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

LAMB BUCKLE AWARDS

Grand Champion Lamb
Reserve Champion Lamb
Senior Lamb Showmanship
Intermediate Lamb Showmanship
Junior Lamb Showmanship

Market Goat Division Rules

Schelsea Arredondo, Superintendent
Market Goat Show – Thursday, April 1, 2027
Following the Market Lamb Show

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. Participants may exhibit two (2) goats in his/her name.
2. All goats to be entered and eligible to show must be the property of the exhibitor and on feed by the validation date. Goats must be present at validation at a time and place designated in November.
3. All goats will be tagged with a special ear tag furnished by the Validation Committee. If the ear tag is lost during the feeding period, it must be reported to the Species Superintendent or the County Extension Agent for replacement.
4. The show is open to any breed or crossbred meat type goat.
5. The minimum weight of all goats at check-in will be *60 lbs. and maximum will be 125 lbs. A 2 pound tolerance will be allowed.* There will be one weighing for each goat. Goats will be divided into weight classes at the discretion of the Species Committee.
6. If an animal has been through official check-in (weigh-in and/or sifting) it cannot be replaced by another animal in that division or any other division. No substitutions after weigh-in and sifting.
7. Goats must have their milk teeth only at validation.
8. Only castrated males may be shown.
9. Market goats with horns must be tipped and blunt.
10. During the show small goat collars and halters may be used.
11. The Grand Champion and the Reserve Champion will receive specific awards.
12. No clipping of any kind is to be conducted on the grounds after 2 hours of the completion of weigh-in. A penalty will be imposed.
13. If you are stalled with more than one family, you must feed outside the pen.
14. All goats must be slick sheared, with no more than 1/4 inch of re-growth.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

GOAT BUCKLE AWARDS

Grand Champion Goat
Reserve Champion Goat
Senior Goat Showmanship
Intermediate Goat Showmanship
Junior Goat Showmanship
Champion Pee Wee Goat Showman

Pee Wee Goat Division Rules

Schelsea Arredondo, Superintendent
Pee Wee Goat Show – Thursday, April 1, 2027
Following the Market Goat Show

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. The purpose of the Pee Wee Goat show is to prepare our youth for their future in the Refugio County Market and Breeding shows. A participant must be 5 years of age and enrolled in kindergarten through 2nd grade of the current school year, live within Refugio County or attend a school in Refugio County and must be actively enrolled in 4-H Online as a member of a 4-H club to be eligible to show.
2. Each exhibitor must be in kindergarten – 2nd grade to be eligible.
3. Goat may be a wether or an unbred doe. The goat must be in the exhibitor's possession and on feed by January 2, 2027.
4. Pee Wee goat exhibitors will be allowed to borrow a goat from a Junior Exhibitor. Exhibitor's parents must notify the County Extension Agent in writing between November validation and January 2, 2027, to be eligible to show. No exceptions will be made. At the time of notification, a mentor exhibitor (one of 4-H or FFA age) must be listed for the Pee Wee exhibitor.
5. Pee Wee goats' horns MUST be tipped prior to show.
6. Minimum weight of 40 lbs. Maximum weight of 125 lbs. No exceptions.
7. There is no tooth rule.
8. Neck collars and halters with leashes are optional for showing goats.
9. Goats should be shorn no more than 1 week before show. Hair should be no longer than 1/4 inch at show.
10. A champion showman will be selected, and an award given.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

Market Poultry Division Rules

Irene Porras, Superintendent

Market Poultry Show – Wednesday, March 31, 2027 @ 7:30PM

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. All poultry will be ordered and purchased through the direction of the County Extension Agent. All poultry will be ordered from one hatchery, will be of the same breeding and will be hatched the same day. All birds will be ordered straight runs.
2. Each exhibitor must order the minimum number as stated in the chart below:

SPECIES	MINIMUM ORDER	ORDER in LOTS of
Broiler	1 exhibitor 25	25
	2 or more exhibitors	50
Turkeys	25	25

   If an exhibitor wishes to order more than the minimum, they must be ordered in lots as designated above.
3. All poultry will be wing-banned at the hatchery. Only wing-band numbers originally assigned to individual exhibitors and/or a family will be accepted. If a bird loses a band or they are tampered with, the individual bird is automatically disqualified from the show.
4. Poultry will be sifted at the time of check-in. During the check-in process each exhibitor will be responsible for presenting their entry to the sifting judge. The sifting judge will be looking for broken limbs, bruises, blisters, parasites, cleanliness, and overall quality. Adults may help at check-in at the discretion of the supervising superintendent.
5. *Exhibitors will not be allowed to return home or leave the fairgrounds to replace a bird that has been sifted. Due to the fragile nature of poultry during transit, problems do and will occur. It is advised that exhibitors bring extra birds, if possible, to the check-in. (Need to bring 4 birds per pen, and all of them to the sifter and one time to be replaced in front of the superintendent and sifter.). Exhibitors will not be allowed to return to the vehicle, house, etc. for extra birds.*
6. If an exhibitor has more than one bird per class, substitute exhibitors who are any school aged child that resides in Refugio County will be permitted to assist in the ring. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to find help before judging.
7. Ribbons will be awarded through 10 places. Grand and Reserve Champion prizes will be awarded.
   BROILERS: An entry consists of three broilers of either sex. Limit two entries per exhibitor. The show management reserves the right to divide the broilers into heats at their discretion depending on the number of entries. Exhibitors must have birds sorted into a pen of three prior to check-in.
   TURKEYS: An entry shall consist of a single turkey hen or tom. Limit two entries per exhibitor.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

POULTRY BUCKLE AWARDS

Grand Champion Turkey • Reserve Champion Turkey

Grand Champion Broiler • Reserve Champion Broiler

Turkey Showmanship: Senior, Intermediate & Junior Divisions

Broiler Showmanship: Senior, Intermediate & Junior Divisions

Pee Wee Rabbit Division Rules

Madalynn Nixon, Superintendent

Pee Wee Rabbit Show – Thursday, April 1, 2027 @ 5PM

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

1. The purpose of this show is to give youth an opportunity to participate in the Refugio County Fair. Participants will learn responsibility and sportsmanship.
2. The Pee Wee Rabbit Show is open to youth 5 years of age and enrolled in kindergarten through 2nd grade of the current school year, must reside in Refugio County or live in the Refugio County School District and must be actively enrolled in 4-H Online as a member of a 4-H club to be eligible to show.
3. Showmanship of the exhibitor is the only quality that will be judged.
4. Pee Wee rabbit exhibitors will be allowed to borrow a rabbit from a Junior Exhibitor. Exhibitor's parents must notify the County Extension Agent in writing between January 2, 2027 and February validation to be eligible to show. No exceptions will be made. At the time of notification, a mentor exhibitor (one of 4-H or FFA age) must be listed for the Pee Wee exhibitor.
5. An entry consists of 1 fryer rabbit. The rabbit must weigh a minimum of 3 lbs. 5 oz. and a maximum of 5 lbs. 5 oz. at weigh-in. No weight tolerance will be allowed. Validation will be in the month of February. An exhibitor may validate 1 pen of 3 fryers.
6. Rabbits showing signs of obvious disease (ear canker and/or ear mites, sore hocks, bad eye, buck teeth), or other illnesses will be sifted from the show. These animals must be removed from the grounds immediately.
7. Rabbits must be Californian or New Zealand breeds. No crosses. Colors: white, red, black, blue and broken.
8. All participants will receive a trophy. Showmanship will be a special award. There will be no Grand and Reserve Champion awards.
9. Pee Wee rabbits will not be sold at premium auction or on outback sales.
10. Pee Wee rabbits may be taken home after showing.

General Rules will be strictly adhered to.

RABBIT BUCKLE AWARDS

Grand Champion Rabbit
Reserve Champion Rabbit
Grand Champion Fryer Rabbit
Reserve Champion Fryer Rabbit
Senior Rabbit Showmanship
Intermediate Rabbit Showmanship
Junior Rabbit Showmanship
Champion Pee Wee Rabbit Showman

Market Rabbit Division Rules

Madalynn Nixon, Superintendent

Market Rabbit Show – Thursday, April 1, 2027

Following the Pee Wee Rabbit Show

THE CLASSIFIER'S VISUAL DECISION IS FINAL!

Exhibitor may only show 2 pens of rabbits – in any combination.

For example: 2 single fryer pens; or 1 meat pen and 1 single fryer pen; or 2 meat pens.

MEAT PENS

1. An entry will consist of a pen of three rabbits of the same breed and variety. Each rabbit must weigh a minimum of 3 lbs. 5 oz. and a maximum of 5 lbs. 5oz. at weigh-in. No weight tolerance will be allowed.
2. Each exhibitor may show a total of 2 pens of (3) fryers. Validation will be in February. Each exhibitor will be allowed to validate no more than 10 rabbits. Each additional rabbit over 10 will be charged $5 per rabbit.
3. Rabbits showing signs of obvious disease (ear canker and/or ear mites, sore hocks, bad eye, buck teeth), or other illnesses will be sifted from the show. These animals must be removed from the grounds immediately.
4. Only two pens of rabbits may be brought to the official scales, with no more than one substitute allowed for each pen. If a sifted rabbit cannot be replaced by a qualified substitute, the entire pen will be sifted.
5. All rabbits will be shown in one division.
6. Rabbits must be Californian or New Zealand breeds. No crosses. Colors: white, red, black, blue and broken.
7. All exhibitors must have rabbits sorted into a pen of three prior to check-in.
8. The show management reserves the right to divide the rabbits into heats at their discretion depending on the number of entries.
9. Ribbons will be awarded through 10 places. Grand and Reserve Champion prizes will be awarded.

SINGLE FRYER PEN

1. An entry will consist of a single pen of 1 rabbit. Each rabbit must weigh a minimum of 3 lbs. 5 oz. and a maximum of 5 lbs. 5oz. at weigh-in. No weight tolerance will be allowed.
2. Each exhibitor may show a total of 2 pens of (1) single fryer. Validation will be in February. Each exhibitor will be allowed to validate no more than 10 rabbits. Each additional rabbit over 10 will be charged $5 per rabbit.
3. Rabbits showing signs of obvious disease (ear canker and/or ear mites, sore hocks, bad eye, buck teeth), or other illnesses will be sifted from the show. These animals must be removed from the grounds immediately.
4. Only two pens of rabbits may be brought to the official scales, with no more than one substitute allowed for each pen. If a sifted rabbit cannot be replaced by a qualified substitute, the entire pen will be sifted.
5. All rabbits will be shown in one division.
6. Rabbits must be Californian or New Zealand breeds. No crosses. Colors: white, red, black, blue and broken.
7. The show management reserves the right to divide the rabbits into heats at their discretion depending on the number of entries.
8. Ribbons will be awarded through 10 places. Grand and Reserve Champion prizes will be awarded.

YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION ASSOCIATION

Market Livestock Auction Rules

1. This will be a controlled auction. In other words, the highest selling animal in a division sets the maximum bid allowed. An animal can sell up to the highest price of the reserve champion of each species, including the bumps in the auction. Auction lots that have met their maximum will be allowed a $3000 add-on. Outback lots will be limited to $1000 in total add-ons. Recognized support groups shall have the ability to disburse funds over and above the maximum add-on amount. The Auction Association Board of Directors will have final approval of the distribution of funds. A Recognized Support Group must be pre-approved by the Auction Association Board of Directors prior to the auction.

Example:	Grand Champion receive	$1000
	Reserve Champion receive	$ 999
	Breed Champion receive	$ 998
	Reserve Breed Champion receive	$ 998
	First Place receive	$ 998
	Second Place receive	$ 998
	Third Place receive	$ 998
	Fourth Place receive	$ 998

   The Grand and Reserve Champion animals or birds must sell in the auction sale. Exhibitors can only sell two (2) lots unless they have three (3) Grand or Reserve Champions, in which case all three (3) must sell in the auction. If an exhibitor has three (3) exhibits that qualify for the auction below Grand or Reserve Champion, they must decide as to which two (2) exhibits they will sell. A 6% or less commission will be taken from each auction lot sale to be used as working capital.
2. An auction sale will be held for those animals earning such privilege. A resale price will be obtained prior to the sale. The Youth Livestock Auction Association or a committee designated by the Association will set the floor price for the auction. The floor price will be no more than the resale bid acquired for each species.
3. Disposition of animals (EXCLUDING POULTRY AND RABBITS) sold in the auction will be made by the buyers on the auction bid form.
4. Animals will be sold only once during the auction.
5. Animals will be sold in the following order: Steers, Lambs, Hogs, Goats, Turkeys, Broilers and Rabbits.
6. Sale Eligibility:

   STEERS: A minimum of 10 steers, or maximum of 75% (whichever is the greater value) in the show, including Grand and Reserve (not to exceed 36 steers) will be allowed in the auction. Placing eligibility of each breed represented in the show will be determined after check-in and prior to the market steer show. Lower placing steers in the Grand and Reserve classes will not “move up” and will not be eligible for auction.

   LAMBS: A minimum of 10 lambs, or a maximum of 75% (whichever is the greater value) in the show, including Grand and Reserve, (not to exceed 16 lambs) will be allowed in the auction. Placing eligibility of each breed represented in the show will be determined after check-in and prior to the market lamb show. Lower placing lambs in the Grand and Reserve classes will not “move up” and will not be eligible for auction.

SWINE: A minimum of 10 swine, or a maximum of 75% (whichever is the greater value) in the show, including Grand and Reserve (not to exceed 48 hogs) will be allowed in the auction. Placing eligibility of each breed represented in the show will be determined after check-in and prior to the market swine show. Lower placing hogs in the Grand and Reserve classes will not "move up" and will not be eligible for auction.

GOATS: A minimum of 10 goats, or a maximum of 75% (whichever is the greater value) in the show, including Grand and Reserve, (not to exceed 16 goats) will be allowed in the auction. Placing eligibility will be determined after check-in and prior to the market goat show. Lower placing goats in the Grand and Reserve classes will not "move up" and will not be eligible for auction.

POULTRY: 12 turkeys and 12 pens of broilers will be allowed in the auction including Grand and Reserve champions. Placing eligibility of each gender represented in the turkey show will be determined after check-in and prior to the market turkey show. Lower placing turkeys and broilers will not "move up" and will not be eligible for auction.

RABBITS: 15 pens of meat rabbits and 5 pens of single fryer rabbits will be allowed in the auction including Grand and Reserve champions. Lower placing rabbits will not "move up" and will not be eligible for auction.

7. All market animals will be under the control of the Youth Livestock Auction Association after all judging is completed. Exhibitors must inform the Auction Directors within two (2) hours after judging is completed if they do not want to sell their animals in the auction or on the outback sale. NO market animals will be allowed to be removed from the show grounds without an official signed release from the Auction Committee. Violators will be subject to criminal prosecution and all auction proceeds will be forfeited.
8. Exhibitors must continue to care for their animals until they are removed from the show grounds. Failure to care for animals in a humane manner (i.e., feed and water) will result in a minimum $200.00 fine and a maximum penalty of the forfeiture of all proceeds from the sale of the animal in the auction. Violations may be determined by auction officials, livestock show officials, livestock show veterinarian and contracted processors. All suspected violations will be verified by a licensed veterinarian. Forfeited auction proceeds will become the property of the Youth Livestock Auction Association to be used for reimbursements and expenses incurred due to the violation.
9. In the situation where an exhibitor has three (3) lots eligible for auction, he or she must notify the superintendent of the specific animal or food item to be withdrawn. Should notification not be made, the committee completing the sale order will have authority to make the best decision for that exhibitor.
10. Animals not included in the auction will be offered for sale on the "out back sale list" posted in Padilla Hall. These animals will be offered for sale by the head. The price will be determined by the Directors of the Auction Association. If the animal neither qualifies for the auction or remains unsold "out back", the exhibitor will be paid market value (floor price) with the exception of poultry and rabbits. All poultry and rabbits that remain unsold will not receive payment.
11. Official R. C. F. A. ear tags must remain on all animals. All other tags must be removed prior to auction.
12. To be eligible to participate in the Livestock & Youth Food Auction, exhibitors must be in school grades 3-12.
13. Pee Wee goats may, by request, be sold to the resale buyer at the stated floor price. All commission charges will be applied.

14. Exhibitors are required to clean their assigned stalls/pens by 6:00PM Sunday following the show and sale. A $50 cleaning fee will be charged for each stall/pen not cleaned. (All fees collected for cleaning will be paid to R. C. F. A)
15. All poultry and rabbits must be taken home by exhibitors. All poultry and rabbits will be sold as a premium sale only. Buyers of premium sale lots will not receive any product. Exhibitors will not be required to deliver poultry or rabbits to the buyers. Animals being picked up by buyers must be removed by 7:00AM Sunday morning.
16. All animals must be in their designated stall/pen prior to load out.
17. A maximum of 5 food items will be allowed in the auction. Following General Rules, food items in the auction will receive a maximum of $300. Any amount over $300 per lot, including add-ons, will be evenly distributed to youth exhibitors participating in the Exhibit Building.
18. Thank you letters to buyers are required from all exhibitors to all buyers, add-on supporters, and sponsors of awards. Letters (addressed, stamped, and sealed) must be turned in to the Extension Office no later than two (2) weeks from the date the buyer list is distributed to exhibitors. Failure to turn in letters by the due date will result in a $200 late fee deducted from exhibitor's check. Checks will not be released until the exhibitor turns in thank you letters.
19. The Picante Sauce winning entry will be sold at the auction. All proceeds will be used for scholarships. Funds will be administered by the Youth Livestock Auction Association. The Picante Sauce winner will receive a $100 prize. This prize may be donated or taken from the scholarship fund if necessary.
20. Exhibitors and/or parents that do not follow the rules of the Youth Livestock Auction Association are subject to Rule #28 on page 8 of the Livestock General Rules.
21. Youth Livestock Auction Association Rules will be revised one time each year at the annual meeting to be held during the month of April. All rule change proposals must be submitted in writing to the County Extension Office not later than April 15 and must include name and contact information. Only pre-submitted rule change proposals will be considered for revision at the annual meeting.
22. The Youth Livestock Auction Association Board of Directors reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgment may determine.
23. The Youth Livestock Auction Association will not be liable for payment of any add-on pledges that are not collected.

Revised September 2026

YOUTH FOOD AUCTION RULES

NOTE: TO ALL YOUTH FOOD DIVISION PARTICIPANTS

All food items auctioned will have a maximum of $300 to go to the entrant. If an item sells for more than $300 or gets add-on, the surplus will be used as a supplement paid on youth entries in the Expo Building, excluding school divisions. Each food auction participant must re-bake their winning food item for the auction on Saturday, March 22. A participant can auction a total of two (2) items, animals, and foods. The food auction will follow the Livestock Auction.

COMMERCIAL HEIFER AUCTION RULES

COMMERCIAL HEIFERS EXHIBITED IN THE REFUGIO COUNTY FAIR YOUTH COMMERCIAL HEIFER SHOW WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MARKET LIVESTOCK AUCTION. ALL PENS OF HEIFERS EXHIBITED WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE AUCTION, SEPARATE AND ASIDE FROM THE RULES GOVERNING THE MARKET LIVESTOCK AUCTION. A SALE ORDER WILL BE PRODUCED BY THE COMMERCIAL HEIFER COMMITTEE. PAYMENT FOR THE SALE OF ALL HEIFERS WILL BE MADE PAYABLE TO "THE YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION ASSOCIATION" AND WILL BE COLLECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL HEIFER COMMITTEE PRIOR TO BUYERS PICKING UP AND TAKING POSSESSION OF ANY HEIFERS. A 6% OR LESS COMMISSSION WILL BE TAKEN FROM EACH AUCTION LOT SALE. CHECKS TO EXHIBITORS FOR THE COMMERCIAL HEIFER SALE WILL BE ISSUED AS SOON AS ALL ACCOUNTS ARE SETTLED AND CHECKS ARE CLEARED THROUGH THE BANKING INSTITUTION OF RECORD. THE COMMERCIAL HEIFER COMMITTEE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PRODUCING AND DISPLAYING PHOTOS OR VIDEO OF THE HEIFERS AS THEY ARE AUCTIONED AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOAD OUT OF ALL HEIFERS FOLLOWING THE SALE.

PICANTE SAUCE CONTEST RULES

Bring your entry to Padilla Hall shortly before noon on Saturday. Contestants need to bring two (2) separate pint containers of their recipe (one used in judging and one for possible auction). Contestants can mix a fresh batch or use entries they have canned. Any ingredients which make a picante or "hot sauce" are eligible. There is no entry fee for this contest. The winning entry will go to auction. The auction money will go toward scholarships which will be awarded to local high school seniors who are participating in the Junior Livestock Show and/or in the Expo Building. The winner will receive a $100 prize.

EXPO BUILDING

THE PURPOSE AND MISSION OF THE EXHIBIT BUILDING IS TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT FROM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.



GENERAL RULES

1. **PRE-ENTRIES**: All exhibits must be pre-entered. Pre-entry cards (not the items entered) will be accepted at the County Extension Office, 414B N. Alamo St, Refugio, TX 78377. **Pre-entry cards can be turned in between January 4, 2027, and March 15, 2027**. Any entry submitted after the deadline will be subject to a $10 late fee, and all proceeds from late entries will be used for trophies, ribbon, etc.
2. Each exhibitor will be charged an entry fee PER EXHIBITOR as follows:
    a. $2 per youth and $5 per adult.
    b. The flat fee will be charged regardless of the number of entries submitted.
3. **Refer To Each Division for Number of Entries Allowed**
4. **Any article previously exhibited in the Refugio County Fair may not be exhibited again, except for Horticulture.**
5. **All entries must be made by the person in whose name they are entered except for Quilts.**
6. All entries must be clean and unsoiled at the time of check-in. Entries not meeting these criteria will be immediately removed from the Exhibit Building if possible. If entry remains, it will not be judged or exhibited.
7. Competitive entries will be limited to residents and taxpayers of Refugio County, students (and their parents) enrolled in Refugio County schools, or those who work full-time in Refugio County. Any other entries will be for display only.
8. **CHECK-IN: All tags must be attached to the item before check-in**. All items must be checked in with one of the superintendents who will issue a claim stub. This stub must be presented before any item is released at the close of the Fair. If the item is not checked in during the designated times, it will not be accepted.
9. **JUDGING**: Trophies, rosettes and ribbons will be presented to blue, red, and white ribbons according to the merit system. The merit system is a grading system based on 90-100 is a blue ribbon, 80-89 is a red ribbon, and 70-79 is a white ribbon. One rosette will be awarded per class. Judges might not award a rosette in a small class if they choose. One youth and one adult trophy will be awarded in each division.
10. Where there are only one or two entries in any class, the judge will award places and ribbons according to the merit system.
11. The Refugio County Expo Building Committee reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgment may determine.
12. **THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES WILL BE FINAL.**
13. An award will be presented to the high point overall exhibitor in the Adult and Youth Division. (Note: High point score will be based on total highest score in each division excluding school art.) The following point system will be used to determine the high point winner:

    10 pts = trophy 5 pts = rosette 3 pts = blue

    2 pts = red 1 pt = white
14. **DISPLAYS**: The Refugio County Fair Association will take all reasonable precautions for items exhibited in the Expo Building; however, the Fair Association will not assume responsibility for any items lost, stolen or damaged.
15. **AUCTION**: Youth must be 9 years old or 8 years old and in the 3rd grade, and not over 18 years old as of August 31st of the current school year. It is the responsibility of the youth to verify if their food item has made the auction. Youth who qualify for the food auction must notify the building superintendent of

intent to auction within two hours after completion of animal project judging. Food items must follow auction rules. **See page 32**.

16. All entries are to be picked up on Saturday between 4:00-5:00PM. **YOU MUST HAVE YOUR ENTRY STUB TO PICKUP JUDGED ITEMS**. All baked good items not sold will be discarded at the end of the checkout time (5:00PM) if not picked up by participant.
17. All youth baked goods will be sold starting Thursday at 6:00PM for $10.00 per item. Each youth that sold an item will receive the money at check-out time.
18. "NO" one will be allowed in the Expo Building on the day of judging except for the superintendents, judges, and staff in charge of the Expo Building. Once items have been checked in to be judged, participants are asked to leave the building. The Expo Building will re-open to the public on Thursday at 11:00AM.

ENTRY CARDS

All entry cards are due by **5:00PM on Monday, March 15, 2027, at the County Extension Office, 414B N. Alamo St, Refugio, TX 78377**.

INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT OR CARDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!
ONE CARD PER DIVISION.

1. Name – Enter exhibitors name.
2. Telephone # - Enter exhibitors telephone number.
3. Address – Enter exhibitor's address.
4. Exhibitor's Age – This is to be marked as follows:
    a. Primary – age 7 or younger
    b. Junior – 8 years old & in the 3rd grade through 13 years
    c. Senior – Ages 14-18 (still in school)
    d. Adult – Ages 19 & over
5. Age as of August 31st of the current school year & Date of Birth
6. Grade Level
7. Division – Obtained from Rule Book
8. Class – Obtained under each division in the Rule Book
9. Name of Entry – Obtained from article exhibitor is entering.
10. Exhibitor's Signature – This shows that the exhibitor understands that each entry must be made by the exhibitor.

REFUGIO COUNTY FAIR HOMEMAKING ENTRY CARD

Division _____
Name _____ Telephone # _____
Mailing Address _____
Age: Prim _____ Jr _____ Sr _____ Adult _____ Age (as of August 31st) _____
Grade Level _____ Date of Birth _____

TAG # CLASS / LOT Name of Entry

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

I hereby declare that the entries listed above were made by the exhibitor.

_____
Signature of Exhibitor

BAKED GOODS DIVISION

RULES: All items may be accepted but could be disqualified at judging if entry does not comply with all the rules.

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. One entry per lot.
3. All items will be judged for taste, texture, and appearance.
4. Each entry in the show must be made by the person under whose name it is entered.
5. All baked goods, except for decorated cakes, must be exhibited in a sealed, closed, disposable container with a clear plastic dome lid that may be purchased at the Extension Office. All items must have a black plastic bottom and clear, sealable dome lid. If not in the correct container, the item will be disqualified.
6. No refrigerated items such as cheesecakes, whipped cream, cream pies, gelatin, etc. will be judged. The purpose for this rule is to avoid possible food spoilage.
7. Recipes will be required with all baked food items. The recipe should be typed on an 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper and taped to the top of each container. Recipes are not required for decorated cakes. Entries without recipes or which are not attached to the top will have a 10-point deduction from the score.
8. The entry tag must be attached to the food container prior to check-in.
9. Cakes, pies, and bread entries should contain the whole entry in one piece. The minimum size of cookies, candy, cupcakes, etc., entries should be AT LEAST 24 pieces.
10. The Top 5 youth items from the baked goods division, except for decorated cakes, will qualify for the auction.
11. Food items submitted will become the sole property of the Expo Building Committee. Should the committee decide to do so, they may sell samples of the baked goods to attendees.
12. Any food items and/or containers not picked up during the designated time will be disposed of by the Expo Building Committee. Containers not complying with the present rules but allowed will also be disposed of.
13. All entries, except for cakes plus entries, MUST be made completely from scratch (example: pie crusts, yeast breads). A mix can NOT be used for any part of the entry.

BAKED GOODS DIVISION CLASSES

CLASS 1: CAKES – SCRATCH

LOT A Plain
LOT B Sponge
LOT C Pound
LOT D Angel Food
LOT E Sheet Cake
LOT F Bundt
LOT G Layered Cake
LOT H Coffee Cake
LOT I Cupcakes

CLASS 2: CAKES PLUS

Must include any cake made from only one package of cake mix with exhibitor's choice of ***at least two*** variations. Entries without recipes will be disqualified. Cakes made with a cake mix with no variations or only flavoring changes will be disqualified.

CLASS 3: DECORATED CAKES & CUPCAKES

Recipes are not required as the cake will be judged for the decorated quality.
Decorated cakes will not be eligible for the auction.

CLASS 4: COOKIES

Entries should be at least 24 pieces.

LOT A Drop
LOT B Rolled
LOT C Filled
LOT D Refrigerator
LOT E Decorated
LOT F Un-baked
LOT G Brownies
LOT H Bar Cookies

CLASS 5: PIES

Fruit pie filling and crusts must be made from "scratch". No canned filling, pre-mixed or purchased crust may be used. Pies should be prepared no earlier than 24 hours before the check-in time and kept at an appropriate temperature for food safety standards.

LOT A Fruit
LOT B Nut
LOT C Custard
LOT D Tart
LOT E Cobblers (fruit filling must follow same rules as LOT A)
LOT F Other (any pie not fitting into another lot)

CLASS 6: YEAST BREAD – SCRATCH

LOT A White
LOT B Dark
LOT C Dinner Rolls (6)
LOT D Sweet Breads (cinnamon rolls, kolaches, etc.)
LOT E Creative Yeast Breads (Ex: monkey bread)

CLASS 7: BREAD (Non-Yeast) – SCRATCH

LOT A Cornbread
LOT B Biscuits
LOT C Quick Breads
LOT D Miscellaneous

CLASS 8: SNACKS

CLASS 9: CANDY: 24 pieces of candy consist of an entry.

PRESERVED FOODS DIVISION

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Each exhibitor may enter no more than four (4) entries per class or lot.
3. All canned items should have been preserved during the 12 months prior to the Fair.
4. Recipes are not required on preserved foods.
5. Preserved foods will be judged for appearance.
6. Definition: JELLIES are usually made by cooking fruit juice with sugar. A good product is clear and firm enough to hold its shape when turned out of the container, but quivers when the container is moved.
7. Definition: JAMS are thick, sweet spread made by cooking crushed or chopped fruit with sugar. Jams tend to hold their shape but are generally less firm than jelly.
8. Definition: PRESERVES are small, whole fruit or uniform size pieces in clear, slightly gelled syrup. The fruit should be tender and plump.
9. All canned products, including sauces and relishes, must have standard lids. Jars must be ***sealed***, clean, polished, and labeled as to type and contents.

CLASS 11: CANNED VEGETABLES

CLASS 12: CANNED FRUITS

CLASS 13: CANNED JAMS, JELLIES, PRESERVES (soft spread)

CLASS 14: PICKLES

LOT A Pickles
LOT B Relishes
LOT C Pickled Vegetables

CLASS 15: DRIED MEAT

LOT A Jerky
LOT B Sausage

CLASS 16: DRIED FRUIT

LOT A Fruit Roll Up
LOT B Fruit

CLASS 17: DRIED VEGETABLE

CLASS 18: MIXED VEGETABLE RELISH (Includes salsas, picante sauce, chow chow)

CLOTHING, SEWING & HANDWORK DIVISION

RULES: Items may be disqualified at judging if the entry does not follow the rules.

CLOTHING & SEWING

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Each Exhibitor may enter no more than four (4) entries per class.
3. All dresses, suits, etc., must be exhibited on coat hangers.
4. Soiled items will not be judged.

CLASS 1: Playwear

CLASS 2: Casual

CLASS 3: Dressy

CLASS 4: Formal

CLASS 5: Specialty

CLASS 6: Doll Clothes

CLASS 7: Pillowcases

CLASS 8: Miscellaneous

HANDWORK DIVISION

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Each Exhibitor may enter no more than four (4) entries per class.
3. In a class where sets are entered (placemats, potholders, etc.), the articles forming the set must be pinned together or mounted on a piece of cardboard.
4. All wall hangings and pictures must be equipped with sturdy hangers.
5. Soiled articles will not be judged.

CLASS 1: Crochet, Tatting

CLASS 2: Knitting

CLASS 3: Hand Stitchery (embroidery, candle wicking, crewel, cross stitch)

CLASS 4: Fabric Embellishments

CLASS 5: Miscellaneous

QUILT DIVISION

RULES: Items may be disqualified at judging if the entry does not follow the rules.

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Each Exhibitor may enter no more than four (4) entries per class.
3. In a class where sets are entered, (CLASS 5), the articles forming the set must be pinned together or mounted on a piece of cardboard.
4. Soiled items will not be judged.

CLASS 1: Machine Quilting

CLASS 2: Hand Quilting

CLASS 3: Quilt Blocks

CLASS 4: Quilt Top-Unquilted

CLASS 5: Other Quilted Items (including clothing, wall hangings, etc.)

CRAFT DIVISION

RULES: Items may be disqualified at judging if the entry does not follow the rules.

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Each Exhibitor may enter no more than one (1) entry in each class.
3. If the exhibit is to be hung for display, it must have a wire, cord, or other sturdy hanging device and be ready for hanging. Otherwise, the exhibit will be disqualified.

CLASS 1: Bead Work
CLASS 2: Shell Crafts
CLASS 3: Mosaic Articles (any articles made using the mosaic method)
CLASS 4: Glass Etchings, Stained Glass (must be glass)
CLASS 5: Stained Glass Kits (may be plastic)
CLASS 6: Hobby Collections (small stone collections, any other collection of merit)
CLASS 7: Felt Articles
CLASS 8: Styrofoam Articles
CLASS 9: Jewelry
CLASS 10: Yarn
CLASS 11: Sand Art
CLASS 12: Silk Flower Arrangements
CLASS 13: Holiday Items
CLASS 14: Ceramics
CLASS 15: Decorated Pottery
CLASS 16: Wreaths
CLASS 17: Craft Foam Articles
CLASS 18: Tie Dye
CLASS 19: Fabric Painting
CLASS 20: Handmade Rugs
CLASS 21: Decorated Rugs
CLASS 22: Candle-Making
CLASS 23: Toys
CLASS 24: Recycled Items
CLASS 25: Decorated Baskets
CLASS 26: Handmade Dolls
CLASS 27: Hair Accessories
CLASS 28: Fashion Accessories
CLASS 29: Home Accessories
CLASS 30: Scrapbooking
CLASS 31: Needlepoint (kits)
CLASS 32: Woodworking
CLASS 33: Leatherwork
CLASS 34: Metal Art
CLASS 35: Miscellaneous (Items which do not fit in any other class. This includes decoupage, papier-mache, sculptured items, plaster articles, etc.)

HORTICULTURE DIVISION

RULES: All items will be accepted, but may be disqualified at judging, if the entry does not follow the rules.

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Each Exhibitor may enter no more than four (4) entries per class.
3. Horticulture must be grown by exhibitor and be in their possession for at least 4 months prior to the Fair.
4. Horticulture must be free of disease and insects.
5. Plants must be clean, but no gloss.
6. Silk and artificial are not permitted in the Artistic classes.
7. Plants should not be repotted 4 months prior to show.
8. All entries will be accepted.
9. If a plant won the trophy, it cannot be exhibited again.

HORTICULTURE CLASSES

CLASS 1: Hanging Baskets

CLASS 2: Foliage Pot Plants

CLASS 3: Flowering Pot Plants

CLASS 4: Terrariums

CLASS 5: Cacti

CLASS 6: Succulents

CLASS 7: Water Plants

CLASS 8: Miscellaneous

ARTISTIC CLASSES

CLASS 1: Using Fresh Flowers

CLASS 2: Using Dry or Treated Plant Materials

CLASS 3: Using Both Fresh and Dry Plant Material in Combination

ART DIVISION

Adult and Youth Framed Art Rules

RULES: All items will be accepted, but may be disqualified at judging, if the entry does not follow the rules.

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Artists may enter no more than four (4) entries per class.
3. Pictures must be dry prior to submission. Except for Class 6 & 7, art entries must be framed. A mat may be used to enhance artwork, but a frame must also be used.
4. All entries must have a **separate** wire hanger ***securely*** attached and be ready for hanging. Otherwise, the exhibit will be disqualified. NO TAPED-ON HANGERS!
5. All entries must be original. No copies, number paintings, nude paintings or paint along will be accepted.
6. Signatures on artwork must be covered for judging**. It is the responsibility of the entrant to cover the name before check-in.**

CLASS 1: Oil or Acrylic (Oil Techniques)

CLASS 2: Watercolor or Acrylic (Watercolor Techniques)

CLASS 3: Graphics (charcoal, pencil, pen & ink)

CLASS 4: "Crayola" Art (crayons, markers, finger-paint)

CLASS 5: Miscellaneous (framed art items which do not fit in any other category)

CLASS 6: Unframed Artwork

CLASS 7: Sculpture

PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

RULES: All items will be accepted, but may be disqualified at judging, if the entry does not follow the rules.

1. See General Rules – page 34
2. Each Exhibitor may exhibit no more than one (1) entry in each lot per class.
3. Each photo should be pre-entered with the information to include exhibitor's name, address, and age.
4. Each entry must have a completed entry tag attached to the FRONT of the photo.
5. All entries must be framed with a stand attached SECURELY to the back of the frame. NO DECORATIVE FRAMES WILL BE ALLOWED, PLAIN BLACK FRAME PREFERRED. All entries not in compliance will be disqualified and will not be displayed.
6. LOT A-F should be single photos only.
7. CLASS 1 & CLASS 2 are for Amateur Photographers.
8. CLASS 3 & CLASS 4 are for Professional Photographers.
9. ALL photos can be either film or digital, regardless if the photo is color, black & white, sepia. NO exceptions.
10. The measurement of framed photos can be no larger than 8½ x 10½ or smaller than 5 X 7 including matting. Photos submitted that are larger than the specified size will be disqualified and will not be judged or exhibited.

AMATEUR DIVISION

CLASS 1: COLOR – digital or film

LOT A People
LOT B Animals
LOT C Landscape/Scenic
LOT D Flora & Plants
LOT E Humor
LOT F Miscellaneous

CLASS 2: BLACK & WHITE – digital or film

LOT A People
LOT B Animals
LOT C Landscape/Scenic
LOT D Flora & Plants
LOT E Humor
LOT F Miscellaneous

PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

CLASS 3: COLOR – digital or film

LOT A People
LOT B Animals
LOT C Landscape/Scenic
LOT D Flora & Plants
LOT E Humor
LOT F Miscellaneous

CLASS 4: BLACK & WHITE – digital or film

LOT A People
LOT B Animals
LOT C Landscape/Scenic
LOT D Flora & Plants
LOT E Humor
LOT F Miscellaneous

SCHOOL ART DIVISION



SCHOOL ART DIVISION

RULES: All items will be accepted, but may be disqualified at judging, if the entry does not follow the rules.

1. Work done at school will be entered by the teacher and will be limited to one (1) entry per student.
2. School art must be matted but unframed. Entries through the 8th grade should measure no larger than 9" x 12", including the mat. High school entries ONLY may be no larger than 10" x 14", including mat and must have a hanger attached.
3. School art will be displayed according to grade level – nursery through 12th grade.
4. No premiums or supplements will be paid.
5. Ribbons will be awarded by the merit system with one rosette per grade level.

SCHOOL SCULPTURE DIVISION

RULES: All items will be accepted, but may be disqualified at judging, if the entry does not follow the rules.

1. Work done at school will be entered by the teacher and will be limited to one (1) entry per student.
2. School sculptures will be displayed and judged according to grade level – nursery through 12th grades.
3. No premiums or supplements will be paid.
4. Ribbons will be awarded by the merit system with one rosette per grade level.

INDUSTRIAL / AG MECHANICS DIVISION



AG MECH DIVISION

Metal and Woodworking Projects

ELIGIBILITY:

1. General Rules must be followed to participate in the Ag Mech Division.
2. Projects must have been constructed by the exhibitor within the twelve months preceding the show.
3. Cost of Entries will be $25.00 per entry. Projects may be entered by an individual or group. You can enter as many projects as you want, but only one project per category. Entries will be online via ShoWorks. Entry information will be distributed to Ag Teachers once available.
4. All projects must be constructed under the supervision of Agricultural Science Teachers, County Extension Agent, or 4-H Leaders. A group can be no more than 6 people. Groups must name the individuals in the group at the time of entry. If a group loses a member, the group is still eligible, but they cannot replace the member. You can enter as many projects as you want, but you can only enter one project per category.
5. Exhibitors will declare project description at check-in, Wednesday, March 31, 2027.
6. All exhibitors must attend 4 out of 6 of their 4-H or FFA meetings from August to March to be eligible to show. FFA Leaders will oversee their own attendance and work requirements for their exhibitors. Their reports will be sent to the Fair Board. 4-H Club Managers will complete a monthly attendance report and submit it to the Extension Office. The Extension Office will submit them to the Fair Board. The Fair Board will notify exhibitors that are not fulfilling the attendance requirement no later than January.
7. Each exhibitor is required to work two workdays, minimum of 2 hours each, as well as any mandatory workdays.
    A. Annual Fundraiser – Raffle – tickets can be sold in lieu of work requirement
    B. Mandatory Workday – Saturday, March 20, 2027 from 8AM-12PM

Exhibitors who do not meet these mandatory requirements will be ineligible to show.

AWARDS:

- Team project winners will receive a trophy for the school to display and banners will be presented to each team member.
- A buckle will be given to individual project winners for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion in both the Jr. and Sr. Division.
- Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries.
- Additional prizes will be awarded if they become available.

GENERAL RULES:

1. All projects must be checked in by the Ag Mech Committee on Wednesday of the show from 9AM-12PM. The Ag Mech Committee will designate the location of all projects.
2. Judging of Projects will be on Wednesday at 1PM.
3. Ag Mech Awards will be awarded at a time to be announced.
4. All projects must be complete and finished by the time they move into the show area. Exhibitors must provide trailer paperwork (Proof of Registration) at check in or have certified weight ticket.
5. All projects must have a sign displaying club or chapter and exhibitor(s).
6. Entries will be divided into Junior and Senior Divisions.

a. Junior Exhibitors are defined as 3rd – 8th grade as of September 1.
b. Senior Exhibitors are defined as 9th – 12th grade as of September 1.

7. Entries will be categorized into appropriate classes for judging. The Superintendent has the right to place projects into classes and create new classes as needed.
8. Ag Mech projects can leave Saturday and must be out by 11AM.
9. Allow buckles for team projects if a team is a winner with sponsorship for extra buckles.

DIVISIONS:

1. Agricultural Machinery and Equipment - Examples: Trailers, Shop Equipment, Tractor Equipment
2. BBQ Pits and Outdoor Cooking
3. Truck Accessories – Examples: Bumpers, Receiver Baskets, Headache Racks
4. Livestock and Wildlife Equipment – Examples: Deer Blinds, Feeders, Trim Chutes
5. Home – Examples: Furniture, Dining Room Tables
6. Yard – Examples: Swings, Picnic Tables
7. Reclaimed – Repurposed Wooden Pallet Projects

RECORD BOOK REQUIREMENTS:

A. Student generated plans with measurements (hand drawn or computer generated)
B. Labeled photographs showing stages of construction
C. Bill of materials
D. Properly displayed in a 3-ring binder or folder (NO POSTER BOARDS)

JUDGING STANDARDS:

A.	Workmanship	20 points
B.	Variety of skills preformed	20 points
C.	Structural Balance	20 points
D.	Difficulty of Design	10 points
E.	Record Book	10 points
F.	Practical Utility	5 points
G.	Ability to answer Judges Questions	10 points
H.	Finish	5 points

TOTAL 100 points

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

Appropriate safety measures must be taken to ensure the safety of all those at the show. Sharp edges or points must be padded or covered. Bar-b-que pits are to have lids and doors always secured, except during judging.

All trailers must follow TXDOT requirements.

SILENT AUCTION:

The Ag Mech Committee will allow a Silent Auction to be held at the time of check-in until 6PM on Saturday of the Auction. Exhibitors that wish to participate will need to pick up a Silent Auction Form from the Ag Mech Committee at the time of check-in. Exhibitors are responsible for picking up their bid sheets at the conclusion of the Auction Sale and finish the transaction between the buyers. No “For Sale” signs will be allowed. The Ag Mech Committee will in no way be responsible for negotiating, bargaining, or collecting funds from the silent auction. The exhibitor and the highest bidder are to arrange for delivery of the project and any payment that needs to be made to the exhibitor.

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

The Refugio County Fair Association wishes to express their sincere appreciation to all the many, many faithful workers who spent so much of their time and effort to make the 2026 County Fair another success. This is the kind of cooperation that makes Refugio County so great. As long as we can find cooperation in our community, we will progress and look forward to the future. Most especially, we are proud of the youth of this fine county.

Thanks again for your help and encouragement.

Refugio County Fair Association
Exhibit Building Committee
Refugio County Fair Livestock Committee
Youth Livestock Auction Association
Refugio County Extension Office

EXPO BUILDING
PROGRAM of EVENTS

January 4, 2027 – March 15, 2027
Pick up Pre-Entry Tags and Cards at the Extension Office.

Monday, March 15, 2027
Pre-Entry Cards due in the Extension Office by 5:00PM.

Tuesday, March 30, 2027
All entries, except food, will be accepted from 5:30PM - 7:00PM.
Entries will not be accepted after 7:00PM.
This will include school art and industrial art.

Wednesday, March 31, 2027
Food items will be checked in on Wednesday morning between
7:00AM - 9:00AM. Entries will not be accepted after 9:00AM.

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED ON WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Thursday, April 1, 2027

Expo Building opens to the public	11:00AM - 9:00PM

Friday, April 2, 2027

Expo Building opens to the public	11:00AM - 9:00PM

Saturday, April 3, 2027

Trophy & High Point Winners Newspaper Photos	11:00AM in EXPO Building
Expo Building opens to the public	11:00AM - 4:00PM
All entries must be picked up between	**4:00PM - 5:00PM**

If you are not able to pick up your entries, please contact the Expo Building Superintendent, David Poland. Items will be disposed of at the end of the day on Saturday if you have not made prior arrangements.

2027 REFUGIO COUNTY FAIR
LIVESTOCK DIVISION SCHEDULE

IMPORTANT DATES:

June 22, 2026	5-7PM	Heifer & Steer Physical Validation
August 17, 2026	5-6PM	County Only Steer Validation
September 19, 2026	8-9AM	Commercial Heifer Validation
October 26, 2026	5-7PM	Major Show Heifer & Lamb/Goat Validation
November 12, 2026		Turkey Pickup (date is approximate)
November 21, 2026	8-9AM	County Validation for Lambs/Goats/Swine
November 21, 2026	8-9AM	Major Show Swine Validation
February 19, 2027		Broiler Pickup
February 18, 2027	5:30-6:30PM	Rabbit Validation
March 20, 2027	8AM-12PM	Mandatory Workday for All Exhibitors

Wednesday, March 31, 2027

Commercial Heifer Check-in	7AM-10AM
Ag Mechanic Projects Check-in	9AM-12PM
Commercial Heifer Judging & Exhibitor Interviews	12PM
Ag Mechanic Projects Judging	1PM
Check-in Livestock Projects – Sift & Classify	5-7PM
Commercial Heifer Awards	7:30PM before the Poultry Show
Poultry Show	7:30PM

Thursday, April 1, 2027

Superstar Livestock Show	10AM
Market Lamb Show	2PM
Market Goat Show	After Lamb Show
Pee Wee Goat Show	After Goat Show
Pee Wee Rabbit Show	5PM
Market Rabbit Show	After Pee Wee Rabbit Show

Friday, April 2, 2027

Breeding Gilt Show	9AM
Market Swine Show	After Gilt Show
Pee Wee Swine Show	After Swine Show
Breeding Heifer Show	2PM
Market Steer Show	After Heifer Show
Pee Wee Cattle Show	After Steer Show

Saturday, April 3, 2027

Youth Livestock Auction	12PM @ Padilla Hall
Commercial Heifer Auction	Following the Market Auction

Sunday, April 4, 2027

Load Out	7AM