

## LOCAL RULES

## Local Rules for the Humboldt County Fair Association

NOTE: California State Rules, Health Rules, and Scorecards as prescribed by California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Fairs & Exposition apply to all entries in this Fair. Exhibitors are recommended to download a copy of the 2025 STATE RULES FOR CALIFORNIA FAIRS which is available at the Humboldt County Fair Association's Exhibitor Guidebook webpage or obtain a copy from their 4-H & FFA project advisors.

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/Documents/Circular Letters/2025/2025 State Rules for California Fairs.pdf](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/Documents/Circular%20Letters/2025/2025%20State%20Rules%20for%20California%20Fairs.pdf)

### Definitions:

1. **OPEN:** No restrictions as to residence: Juried Art, Fine Needle, Quilts, Wool Handcraft, Wool Fleece, Handspun Yarn, Youth & Open Rabbits, Adult Poultry and all Adult Livestock.
2. **LOCAL:** Humboldt County residents only: All other Youth & Adult departments.
3. **LIABILITY:** Exhibitor agrees to waive all claims against Association for loss, injury or damage to person or property of any type, for any reason. Exhibitor agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Association regarding all claims or damages arising out of the activity of any person or property which may have occurred on or about the property of the Association. This hold harmless clause further applies to any acts or omissions of the exhibitor or exhibitor's property.

### Local Rules & Guidelines:

1. Any exhibitor who wins over \$600.00 dollars or more in qualifying premiums or prizes must complete a W-9 form before checks are distributed in compliance with IRS regulations. A 1099 MISC will be issued to those exhibitors
2. Per the State Rules for California Fairs, no exhibitor shall receive more than two cash awards in any one class using the American Judging System.
  - a. When an Exhibitor earns more than two awards in a class, the exhibitor will receive the two highest cash awards, and the lesser cash awards will be moved down the placings to other exhibitors; ribbons will be awarded as placed.

### Static Exhibits:

1. Exhibitors are responsible for reading the competition information, individual rules for each competition, general entry rules and must abide by them.
2. There are no refunds of entry fee. See competition or contest for individual entry fee.
3. Please print out your online entry receipt for your records.
4. Departments have age restrictions as follows:
  - a. Youth Departments for Home Arts, Fine Arts, Floriculture and Horticulture are for exhibitors 17 years or younger as of August 16, 2025. Some Divisions and Classes will have more defined age

## LOCAL RULES

requirements and must be followed. For the 2026 Fair, this age deadline will be moved back to January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current Fair year going forward.

- b.** Open Departments for Home Arts, Fine Arts, Livestock, Floriculture and Horticulture do not have a set age unless specifically defined in a Division or Class.
- 5.** Entries accepted from INDIVIDUALS ONLY, unless otherwise stated such as educational or group project whereas such language is included in the Division and/or Class title/description.
- 6.** All entries entered must be the handiwork of the exhibitor. If, in the opinion of the Fair staff, an item had previously been entered, the Fair reserves the right to withhold the item from judging and display. Items can only be entered in the Humboldt County Fair once.
- 7.** One item per entry line unless otherwise stated, an example is in the Preserved Foods show where two (2) jars are required.
- 8.** Under description enter a basic brief description of the item. For example, “yellow flowers”.
- 9.** In classes calling for “any, specify” or “other than listed, specify” be sure to indicate on the entry form the type of item being entered.
- 10.** Only items listed and described on the entry form will be accepted for judging.
- 11.** Judges and/or Fair staff may reassign entries to a more appropriate division and/or class.
- 12.** Delivery date of all Fine and Home Arts department entries is Friday and Saturday, August 1 and 2, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you are unable to drop off your entry at this time you may send someone in your place.
- 13.** Delivery date of all Floriculture and Horticulture department entries is Thursday, August 14, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you are unable to drop off your entry at this time you may send someone in your place.
- 14.** The Humboldt County Fair will not be responsible for returning display hardware i.e. hangers, etc.
- 15.** Entries that are stained, soiled or showing obvious signs of wear or use will be disqualified. Entries must be finished, no incomplete work will be accepted. Fair reserves the right to reject any exhibit or entry, if there is anything questionable, unsuitable, obscene, or requires more space than can be given, or conflicts with exhibit requirements.
- 16.** All entries must not exceed 25 pounds, have required hardware and be ready to hang. Items designed for hanging that are not so equipped will be displayed in a manner deemed appropriate by the Fair. If you have an entry that is large in scale, please contact the Competition Coordinator to verify we can accept the entry.
- 17.** No fresh flowers or food permitted as an entry unless otherwise stated.
- 18.** Identification tags will be issued for all items entered and exhibitors will be given a claim check for each item.
- 19.** Each entry must have your name displayed on the back of the entry. If the entry needs to be displayed a certain way, please indicate that next to your name.
- 20.** Although reasonable efforts are taken to safeguard the exhibitor’s property against loss, damage, or theft, the Humboldt County Fair is not responsible for any loss, damage or theft of exhibitor’s property

**LOCAL RULES**

brought on the premises during the period of the Humboldt County Fair. Every precaution will be taken in the handling and exhibiting of entries.

- 21.** Pick up of all entries is on Monday, August 25, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you are unable to drop off your entry at this time you may send someone in your place. Bring your claim checks with you. If your claim checks are lost, you must show photo identification before we release your items. If you are unable to pick up your items, you may contact the Fair Office to schedule a different pickup time. If entries are not picked up within two (2) weeks of the last day of Fair, then they will be donated to charity or disposed of.
- 22.** The Humboldt County Fair Association reserves the right to amend and add to these rules and empowers the Fair Director with the final and absolute right to interpret all rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto.
- 23.** The Humboldt County Fair pays premiums ONLY in those divisions and/or classes specifically listed.
- 24.** The Humboldt County Fair is not responsible for redemption of premiums.

**Live Exhibits:**

- 1.** Live exhibits must be owned solely by and under the exhibitor's care and management and under the supervision of the organization in which the project will be shown. The official ownership date is the date shown on the receipt of sale unless the animal was bred by the exhibitor. Ownership minimum is as follows:
  - a.** Market animals:
    - i.** Beef - 120 consecutive days prior to Fair start date.
    - ii.** Swine, Sheep, Veal, and Goats - 60 consecutive days prior to Fair start date.
  - b.** Breeding and feeder animals: 30 consecutive days.
  - c.** All small market animals (rabbits and poultry): 30 consecutive days.
  - d.** Animal projects may NOT be shown by another person at ANY other show/jackpot regardless of the other shows' rules, within the animal's ownership period.
- 2.** Youth Livestock is for exhibitors 19 years or younger as of January 1, 2025, following the rules for their program such as 4-H or FFA.
  - a.** Youth must be at least 9 years of age by January 1, 2025, to sell at Youth Livestock Auction.
- 3.** See the Exhibitors' Guidebook for exhibit submission and release times. These times will be enforced.
- 4.** It is the responsibility of all Exhibitors to enter the correct information for each of their entries. No entries will be accepted after the close date listed on the Fair's webpage.
  - a.** A penalty may be required by the Fair if the above information is not provided prior to the close of entries (State Rule VIII 28). All registration papers must be checked by livestock clerks on entry day. It is the responsibility of Exhibitors to have their animals entered into the correct classes.
- 5.** Market animal entries are due for submission by June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The required documents for these entries include a Bill of Sale, signed Code of Excellence, signed Code of Conduct for Parent / Guardian,

## LOCAL RULES

current YQCA Certificate, and two photos of the animal: 1) one side profile view, and 2) a headshot where the Humboldt County Fair Tag is clearly visible and legible.

- a. All entries entered to the Humboldt County Fair as “large animals” must have a tag in their ear prior to the market animal submission deadline (see item 4 for date).
6. Breeding and small animal entries are due July 14th, 2025.
7. Exhibitor(s) from the same household are allowed to raise backup animal(s). These animals are to be owned by the household and the bill of sale must be reflective of joint ownership including any Exhibitor within the household that may exhibit the animal.
  - a. Joint ownership should be made known at the time of tagging.
  - b. All backup animals must be tagged following the same timeline and requirements as the primary animal(s) and each animal must be entered individually during the online entry process.
  - c. Only one animal of each species may be weighed per exhibitor.
8. Youth Exhibitors must be at least 9 years of age on January 1 2025, to show in competitive shows during the Humboldt County Fair for both large and small animal species.
  - a. No program affiliation (such as 4-H or FFA) is required for “Primary” classes. Exhibitors between 5 and 8 years old as of January 1, 2025 may show small animals in special showmanship classes as listed in the exhibitor guidebook.
    - i. All classes for this age bracket are non-competitive and only qualify for participation ribbons or awards.
  - b. The PeeWee Showmanship special divisions allows exhibitors between 5-8 years of age to show certain large animal species as outlined. This show is also non-competitive. Please see PeeWee Showmanship page for further requirements.
9. Youth Exhibitors must groom and handle their own animals. Adults are to supervise only, not do the work. Violation of this local rule, or of state rules, may result consequences such as nonpayment of premiums, disqualification from competitions, or disqualification from auction(s). Violations shall be subject to the review of the Board of Directors or by a committee designated for said purpose.
10. Any Exhibitor who, in the Fair’s judgment, cannot keep their animal under control and presents a hazard to the public shall have the animal disqualified from the Fair and will remove the animal from the grounds immediately. Any Exhibitor acting in a non-responsible manner shall, along with their animal, be removed from the Fair and may not be allowed to participate in the exhibitor program with the Humboldt County Fair Association again in the future.
11. The Humboldt County Fair Association has sponsor donors who will provide the first bedding only for livestock. Additional bedding may be purchased from feed stores by the Exhibitor. Exhibitors must change bedding when needed or any earned premiums will be withheld. Youth Exhibitors may enter barns to decorate no earlier than 4:00 pm on August 18th 2025.
12. Exhibitors must at all times give the necessary attention to the animals they have on exhibit in Livestock Department.

## LOCAL RULES

- a. They must keep their animals groomed, cleaned, fed, and in top show condition;
  - b. Stalls and pens must be neatly kept and supplied with clean bedding;
  - c. Pathways must be kept clean/clear for the convenience of spectators;
  - d. All animal waste and used shavings must be moved from the barns and placed in the designated compost locations;
  - e. Upon sale of your animal in the auction or wrap-up at event completion, every Exhibitor must fully empty their animal's pen or cage.
    - i. For penned animals, this includes scraping the pen fully, taking shavings to compost, and ensuring no trash is in the shavings. Trash must be removed and disposed of in the garbage.
    - ii. For caged animals, this includes scraping the waste inside the cage and then removing it from the table to clear off the table beneath. Trash must be removed and disposed of in the garbage.
  - f. All forks, shovels, and other equipment will be neatly displayed.
  - g. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disallowance of premium awards and dismissal of a market animal from the Youth Livestock Auction during the current Fair or in the future.
- 13.** Fair will not allow the use of any drugs or artificial means to stimulate an animal so it can be shown to better advantage. If, in the opinion of the management, any drug and/or any article is used that may fall under this category, no premiums will be paid and Exhibitor and/or herdsman may be disqualified from the Junior Livestock Auction and barred from all departments of the Fair Exhibitor Program and will not be permitted to show at any future Humboldt County Fair.
- 14.** No animals are permitted beyond the Livestock Boundaries at any time. No animals are permitted in bathrooms. If violated, premiums may be withheld.
- 15.** The Association prohibits market animals sold at auction from being replaced with any other market animal, either before or after the auction. Violators shall be denied payment of any kind that relates to the Fair or its auction, including sponsored premiums or awards.
- 16.** Livestock exhibitors shall receive no more than two cash awards in any one class for the same kind of exhibit (State Rule IV-6). An Exhibitor is the owner of the exhibit, either the sole owner or designated exhibiting owner as shown on the breeding partnership form. In Open departments, members of a family are considered as exhibitors. This includes mother, father and unmarried minor children. Adult children are considered separate exhibitors. In youth departments brothers and/or sisters are considered to be separate exhibitors.
- 17.** Judge's decisions are final. Premiums are paid according to the judge's record sheets only. Possession of a ribbon has no significance as to payment. All premium checks are void after 90 days.
- 18.** Pen requests may not be fulfilled due to space limits.
- 19.** PROTEST: State Rules for Protest shall apply as the Local Rules. As per the State Rules for California Fairs states in Section V:

## LOCAL RULES

- a. Protests will be considered only if there has been a violation of State or Local Rules that have not been enforced at the Humboldt County Fair. Decisions of judges, veterinarians, weighmasters, breed callers, tail dock officials and timers cannot be protested and are final.
  - b. All Protests must be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.00 (cash, money order or certified check made payable to the fair).
  - i. The deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld. If the protest is upheld, the violator may be held liable for any portion of the direct costs incurred by the fair in the course of the protest resolution. Failure to reimburse the Fair shall be cause for disallowing future entries in any of the network of California fairs.
  - c. Protests can only be filed by an exhibitor being affected by a violation of State or Local Rules, their parent/guardian, or leader/advisor.
  - d. All protests must be filed in a timely manner, **within 24 hours of the alleged rule violation.**
  - e. Protests will not be accepted after the fair has ended.
  - f. Please review the State Rules for California for further information regarding further requirements and the process of Protest.
20. If an Exhibitor brings a vehicle onto the Fairgrounds for any reason, even approved, and it is left on the Fairgrounds after 10:00 am then the vehicle will be towed at the owner's expense.

**2025 State Fair Rules for California Fairs Are Available Online**

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/Documents/Circular Letters/2025/2025 State Rules for California Fairs.pdf](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/Documents/Circular%20Letters/2025/2025%20State%20Rules%20for%20California%20Fairs.pdf)