Division A – Jr. Fair Beef

Livestock Committee Members: Natalie McCoy, Jeremy McCoy, Seth Downing

Divisions

Showmanship

101 Beef Showmanship

Breeding Classes

Breeding Classes are divided by animal's date of birth. *

102 Born on or after Jan 1, 2027

103 Born between Nov 1 – Dec 31, 2026

104 Born between Sep 1 – Oct 31, 2026

105 Born between Jul 1 – Aug 31, 2026

106 Born between May 1 – Jun 30, 2026

107 Born between Mar 1 – Apr 30, 2026

108 Born between Jan 1 – Feb 28, 2026

109 Born between Sep 1 – Dec 31, 2025

110 Cow/Calf - calf must be younger than 6 months

Market Classes

111 Beef Feeder Calf

112 Dairy Feeder Calf

113 Start a Steer (feeder)

114 Market Beef

115 Market Heifer

116 Market Dairy Steer

Overall Champion Dairy Feeder

Overall Champion Beef Feeder
Beef Feeder and Start a Steer (year 1) will compete for Overall Champion Beef Feeder.

Overall Champion Breeding Heifer
Champion and Reserve Champion from each age division will compete for Overall Champion

Overall Champion Market Beef
Market Steers, Start a Steer (year2), and Market Heifers will compete for Overall Champion Beef

Jr. Fair Beef General Rules and Regulations

1. Breeding Heifers, Beef Feeders, and Dairy Feeders are required to be in exhibitor's possession by May 1st of the current year.
2. All market steers, market dairy steers, and market heifers must be owned by the exhibitor and on feed by December 1. They must participate in December weigh-in, as well as be enrolled through 4-H or FFA.
3. Weight/Age Requirements:
   - Market Steer/Heifer animals must weigh a minimum of 900 pounds and must be born after January 1 of the previous year to sell.
   - Dairy Feeder and Beef Feeder calves must weigh a minimum of 350 pounds and not more than 899 pounds to be eligible to sell. Dairy and Beef Feeders will not be sold for slaughter.
   - Start-a-Steer must weigh between 200 and 550 pounds, as well as be born after January 1 of the current year.
4. Identification/Tagging Requirement:
   All cattle MUST have a scannable electronic RFID (EID) tag to be eligible to show, NO EXCEPTIONS. The RFID will have a unique 15-digit number beginning with "840" and be used to confirm identification. Correct EIDs must be provided during the online entries process. Exhibitors with registration papers with tattoo verified and stamped by their respective breed associations will be accepted.
   4.1. Any animal without an 840 RFID tag will be tagged at designated species weigh-in or fair check-in.
   4.2. 840 RFID tags are an official USDA tag and CANNOT be removed. In the event a tag is lost or removed after project enrollment, the exhibitor must report this to the Livestock Committee or Junior Fair Coordinator immediately and submit the completed Animal Replacement Tag Form. If the original tag is located, it must be submitted with the form. Failure to comply will result in ineligibility and forfeit exhibition rights.
5. Breeding animals must have their registration papers under the name of the exhibitor, immediate family or family farm/operation. Breeding Animals without papers must be shown as crossbreds. NO BULLS ALLOWED.

6. Breeds: Angus, Charolais, Chianina, Hereford, Maine, Simmental, % Simmental, Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Crossbred

   *If there are not at least 3 animals in a particular breed class, then an AOB (all other breeds) class may be added, otherwise those heifers will show as Crossbred

7. All cattle must be polled or dehorned. Dehorned cattle must be healed by exhibition. Scurs can be no longer than ¼-inch.

8. Each animal must have two forms of tie outs, such as a neck rope and rope halter, at all times when tied in the stall.

Start a Steer

In the first year of the project, the exhibitor will be eligible to enter the Premium Sale and still maintain possession of the feeder. In the second and final year of this project, the exhibitor can choose to sell or keep the steer. If, however, the exhibitor chooses to maintain possession of the steer at the completion of this project, they will not be permitted to participate in the Premium Sale. In the first year of this project, all the other rules that apply to the beef feeder project, except for "weigh a minimum of 350 pounds to sell in the Premium Sale" and "have possession by May 1", apply to this project. In the second year of this project, all the other rules that apply to the Market Steer Project including but not limited to weighing in at the pre-Fair weigh-in apply to this project. Before the exhibitor participates in the Premium Sale, each exhibitor will be asked to sign a letter of intent that he /she will bring the feeder back as a steer to the next year's fair.

ADDITIONAL NOTES: If a calf is born in January and is creep fed while still on the cow, he could exceed the maximum weight. A calf with a small birth weight born after May 1 will likely have trouble meeting the minimum weight. The best time frame for meeting the weight requirements is to purchase a steer born between Feb. 15 and April 15. It is also recommended that a steer be castrated (not clamped) to ensure that the calf is a steer and not still a bull.

START A STEER GUIDELINES:

1. Must be a steer
2. Must be born after Jan. 1 of the current year
3. Must be weaned, halter broke, and on feed by the fair

4. Must be 100% BEEF
5. Must return to the next year's fair as a steer
6. There will not be a market for this feeder calf. It must go home with the exhibitor at the conclusion of the fair; however, the exhibitor can participate in the premium sale.
7. The weight for the first year of the project is 200 to 550 pounds
8. Must have possession of the feeder steer by June 15

Beef Showmanship Guidelines

PURPOSE: The purpose of a showmanship contest is to encourage exhibitors to acquire the skill and knowledge of handling animals and to obtain information and practice in fitting and grooming them for show.

1. Entry in Showmanship is mandatory. Market animals must be shown in showmanship in order to sell; however, if an exhibitor chooses to enter their Breeding Project into Showmanship, then that will make their Market Project eligible for the Premium Sale.
2. Each exhibitor must fit and show their own animal. During the show, exhibitors may be asked by the judge to exchange their animal with another exhibitor.
3. The animal used for showmanship must be one entered and shown by the exhibitor in respective breeding or market classes.
4. The winner of the Beef Showman of Showmen contest will participate in the Grand Showman of showmen Contest.

5. Please consult the showmanship section of the Fair book for age and class breakdowns for showmanship. You will also find the progression to the Grand Showman of Showmen in that section.
6. Alteration of animals is not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to; paints, dye, powder, nonclear adhesive, foam, or shoe polish. Also banned are artificial tail heads, switches, polls, hair, heels. It is prohibited to administer, feed, give, or inject any substance or drug to an animal exhibited, except when medically necessary or when the drug used has been approved for such use by the Food and Drug Administration or U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Rate of Gain Contest

Rate of Gain measures the average daily weight increase between an initial weigh-in and the final weigh-in. Market Beef Exhibitors must enter the contest during the market beef weigh-in held in December. Final weight will be captured during fair. check-in.