

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Final interpretation of the rules of the Jim Wells County Fair Association will be made by the Jim Wells County Fair Executive Committee.
2. Violation of any general or division rules will bar exhibitor from Junior Auction and eligibility for awards and premiums.
3. Any person who fails to practice proper animal husbandry, as determined by the division superintendent or two committee members may be penalized by withholding awards and premiums from auction division sales.
4. Any exhibitor, parent/guardian or individual being unruly or causing a scene, will be removed from show arena or pen/stall area. Exhibitors will forfeit any premiums and awards. Parents/Guardians or other individuals will be removed from fairgrounds immediately and not be allowed back on fairgrounds until a meeting with Executive Board and a decision is made. His or her actions deemed unruly are at the discretion of the Division Superintendent or Committee Members.
5. The Jim Wells County Fair Association abides by all legislative mandates on student eligibility including Texas Education Code 33.081 "No Pass, No Play". Ineligible student will not be allowed to participate in activities, events or competitions. Substitutes will not be permitted for ineligible students. The County Agent, FFA Advisors and FCCLA Advisors will submit a written list of ineligible students to the Jim Wells County Fair Association prior to check-in.
6. Only active 4-H Club and FFA Chapter members that live or go to school in Jim Wells County may exhibit in the Junior Livestock Division. All animal projects must be owned, placed and in the exhibitor's or their immediate family's possession by validation dates. Immediate family is defined as members of a common household. The Jim Wells County Fair Association will provide upon request, a written list of all exhibitors to neighboring livestock shows or fair associations
7. An exhibitors may be barred from participation if they, a close family member or an associated entity are not in good standing with the Association.
8. All Junior Livestock and Horse Show exhibitors must be Texas Quality Counts verified and Verification Number must be provided on all entry forms when entries are submitted. Entries will not be accepted without Quality Counts Verification Number
9. Eligibility of all active 4-H and FFA members to show in the Junior Division will expire at graduation.
10. This is a closed county show.
11. A number or tag for the show and sale will identify all market animals.
12. Jim Wells County Fair Association assumes no liability in case of sickness or accident of any animal in the show.
13. Each Jim Wells County exhibitor will sell a fair membership and will be due and turned in by the 2nd Wednesday of September 2026.
- **NEW****14. All exhibitors must notify their adult leader or agriculture science teacher of animals on feed prior to the division deadlines. All livestock, poultry, and horse projects can be visited during the feeding period by the Division Committee. Animals must be housed in Jim Wells County or within the boundaries of the school district the exhibitor is attending during the entire feeding period. The Jim Wells County Fair Association must be notified by e-mail (jimwellscountyfair@gmail.com) if the project is taken outside these boundaries and not accompanied by the exhibitor. Notification must take place prior to the event. Physical address of animal residency must be provided at validation
15. All validation lists and validation fees must be submitted to the fair office within 10 days after the division deadline date. Validation lists and validation fees not turned in within 10 days after the division

deadline date will result in invalid entries. Notification of invalid entries will be the responsibility of the division superintendent. Any exhibitor not on a validation list will not show. Validation forms should include individual exhibitor's name, address, date of birth, phone number, club or chapter, school campus exhibitor will be attending, and grade level.

****NEW****16. All livestock, home economics, calf scramble and shop project entries and memberships are due by 2nd Wednesday of September to the respective 4-H leaders, FCCLA Advisors and FFA Advisors. All livestock entries and memberships are due in the fair office by Agents and Advisors on 2nd Wednesday of September by 5:00 p.m. No entry fees will be refunded after this date. Late entries will be accepted up to the Thursday prior to the Fair opening date with a late fee of \$50/entry. All entry fees must be in the form of money order, school or 4-H check. No personal checks will be accepted. The County Extension Agent, FFA Advisors or FCCLA advisors must sign entry cards BEFORE they are turned into the Fair Office.

17. Exhibitors must immediately notify the Division Superintendent when a tag is lost or damaged. Ear tags must be replaced prior to arrival to the Jim Wells County Fairgrounds. All replacement tag orders must be submitted 10 days prior to the show for timely delivery of replacement tag. If an ear tag is lost or damaged within 10 days of the show, County Agent or Ag Teachers must immediately notify the Division Superintendent. Any animal arriving to the Jim Wells County Fairgrounds without original ear tags supplied by the Jim Wells County Fair Association or without replacement ear tag form on file **WILL NOT** show. A retag fee of \$5.00 per replacement tag will be charged.

18. Scales of the Jim Wells County Fair will be used to determine the official weight of a project. Each division superintendent has the discretion to establish a tolerance for the scale weight when determining the official weight of a project. No protest will be allowed and no exhibitor will be allowed to reweigh after crossing the scales at weigh-in.

19. Each junior exhibitor may enter three projects in each market division. If an exhibitor wins more than one champion, the superintendent will direct the judge to select the third best animal of the division for the sale order only.

20. All Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion animals in all market classes must sell at the auction sale. If any exhibitor wins more than one Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion the exhibitor may choose which project to sell, but all Grand Champions must sell over Reserve Grand Champions.

21. No animals will be unloaded on the fairgrounds before 12:00 noon on Tuesday, October 20, 2026.

22. All Market and Breeding entries may be designated to only one exhibitor at the time of check-in or sift.

23. Attention: Use of Drugs

The use by non-veterinarians* of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accord with labeling approved by FDA is a violation of federal law. Exhibitor and exhibitor's parents and/or guardians agree that: (1) They are absolutely and completely responsible persons for the care and custody of their animals. (2) The Jim Wells County Fair shall be entitled to disqualify an exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug, even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents or guardians are innocent of any wrongdoing and did not administer the drug. (3) The drug test results of the testing laboratories are final and binding upon the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents and/or guardians. Even if the source of the drug is unknown. The Jim Wells County Fair shall be entitled to disqualify the exhibitor. *Abuse of the extra-label privilege by veterinarians is unethical and is subject to serious consequences such as license revocation.

a. Unapproved Drug Use: The showing of any animal that has been administered during its life any quantity of any unapproved drug, chemical or medication is strictly prohibited. Such drugs include, but are not limited to, any diuretic, unapproved growth stimulant or other unapproved medication. Unapproved means not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for slaughter animals including animals that may be destined for human consumption.

b. Approved Drug Use: If an animal has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species, sufficient time must have passed so that the animal does not test positive for that drug upon arrival at Jim Wells County Fairgrounds. Animals must remain free and clear of all drug and chemical residues while on the fairgrounds. Please note that elimination time (the time it takes for no drug residue to be found in the system) is generally longer than the labeled withdrawal time for most approved drugs.

c. Animal Inspection: As condition for participation in the Jim Wells County Fair, exhibitor must agree to submit any animal entered by the exhibitor for inspection. Exhibitor agrees to have such animal submitted to any tests requested by the Jim Wells County Fair. Exhibitor also agrees that the opinion reached by the Jim Wells County Fair or its officials as to whether such animal is unethically fitted or over age shall be final and binding without recourse against the Jim Wells County Fair or any of its officers. Further, the Jim Wells County Fair specifically reserves the right to have tissue, blood or urine laboratory analysis made on any animal entered for competition. The conclusions reached by the laboratory shall be final and binding without recourse against the Jim Wells County Fair or any of its officers. An exhibitor of an animal that is found to be unethically fitted, over age, and/or testing positive for any drug or medication or unapproved chemical may forfeit all rights and privileges to exhibit livestock in the future at the Jim Wells County Fair.

d. Emergency Treatment: If an animal requires emergency treatment while on the Jim Wells County Fairgrounds, only a licensed veterinarian will be allowed to administer any drug, chemical or feed additive. An exhibitor may choose a licensed veterinarian other than the official Fair veterinarian, but the official Fair veterinarian MUST be notified in advance and he/she MUST be present. Animals which are administered treatments with a withdrawal or extended elimination time period will be disqualified from competition. Furthermore, the Official Fair Veterinarian, in agreement with Fair Management, reserve the right to treat any animal if, in the opinion of the Official Fair Veterinarian, it is in the best interest of the animal's health and well-being to be treated. If the Official Fair Veterinarian administers treatment to an animal, and therefore uses any medication that does not meet the appropriate withdrawal and or elimination time, the animal will be determined ineligible for competition.

e. Treatment Cost: All treatment costs are the responsibility of the exhibitor.

f. Animal /Exhibitor Disqualification: To foster fair competition, to provide a level playing field and to protect the safety of food, the showing of unethically fitted livestock, livestock of any ineligible age for exhibition in the class entered, and/or animals being administered unapproved drugs is strictly prohibited. Additionally, any animal that has been administered a drug that is not FDA approved for its species is subject to disqualification if that animal tests positive for that drug upon arrival at Jim Wells County Fairgrounds. All animals must remain free and clear of all drug and chemical residues while on fairgrounds.

1. Unethical Fitting: Unethical fitting means any attempt to alter the natural appearance, conformation, musculature or weight of an animal by any unnatural means. Animals showing any signs of being unethically fitted will be disqualified.

Examples of unethical fitting include, but are not limited to the following:

- Application of any substance to any part of the animal's body, unless specifically allowed in the department rules of that species
- Use of injections
- Draining of fluids
- Bruising
- Feeding of material not conducive to the health of the animal, safety of food or marketability of its carcass
- Surgical alterations
- Artificially filling animals by stomach pumping or airing injections

g. Wholesome Meat Act: The USDA Wholesome Meat Act applies to all market livestock. Only animals eligible for immediate slaughter may be brought onto the Jim Wells County Fairgrounds and exhibited.

1. Animals must be in good health and carcasses free of drug or chemical residues.

2. Drug labels must be observed. Please note that elimination time (the time it takes for no drug residue to be found in the system) is generally longer than the labeled withdrawal time for most approved drugs.

3. If drug or chemical residues are found in tissue of carcasses, the entire carcass may be condemned.

The Jim Wells County Fair will in no way be liable or responsible for the condition of carcasses or the sale price of the animal. In such cases, the exhibitor forfeits all rights to any and all proceeds including: Auction Price, Scholarships, Premium Awards, Market (Floor) Price and Special Awards.

h. Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act: As required, in 21 CFR 589.2000, entry in the Market steer, lamb, and goat shows, competition shall serve as verification by the exhibitor that, to the best of their knowledge, while under their ownership, possession or direct control, the animal(s) were not fed any feed

containing ruminant-derived meat or bone meal. Entrants agree to allow packer inspections of feed ingredient records and facilities.

i. Disqualification/Condemnation of Animal: "The Jim Wells County Fair practices a Zero Tolerance policy on all residue violations." The Jim Wells County Fair reserves the right to condemn and/or disqualify any animal, either live or slaughtered, found in violation of Rule 23 of the Jim Wells County Fair General Rules & Regulations listed in the catalog and the exhibitor will forfeit all auction sale and/or premium money if the animal is disqualified. If an animal(s) is disqualified, the class placing will not change. A disqualified exhibitor may forfeit all rights and privileges to exhibit livestock in the future at the Jim Wells County Fair.

j. Disclaimer of Warranties: Jim Wells County Fair expressly disclaims any express or implied warranties (including merchantability), whether the goods or services are provided by the Jim Wells County Fair or others (such as drug testing). The Jim Wells County Fair does NOT provide security or guard services and is not responsible for the acts of third parties. Exhibitor and exhibitor's parents and/or guardians agree that the Jim Wells County Fair shall be entitled to disqualify any exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents or guardians are innocent of any wrongdoing and had no role in the administration of the drug shown by the drug test. Even if the source of the drug is unknown. The Jim Wells County Fair shall be entitled to disqualify the exhibitor. Disqualification results in forfeiture of all prize money and auction proceeds.

k. Rule Infraction Database: Each exhibitor understands and agrees that the Jim Wells County Fair is entitled to report any and all rule infractions to the North American Livestock Show and Rodeo Managers Association (NALSARMA) Rule Infraction Database (RID). The exhibitor agrees that this information will be available to the membership of the NALSARMA.

l. Ultimate Care and Responsibility: By making entry into the Jim Wells County Fair the exhibitor agrees and understands that ultimate care and responsibility for an animal rest solely upon the exhibitor until such time that possession of the animal is turned over to the commission agency or taken into custody by Jim Wells County Fair Show management.

24. All animals will be sifted by a sifting judge appointed by the division superintendent. If any animal is sifted, the animal must be removed immediately. The only exception will be for weight only and if sifted animals are needed to meet the weight quota of the resale truck. These animals will be placed in a designated area with the exhibitor being responsible for the care and feeding of their animal.

25. Each 4-H and FFA exhibitor is required to put a stall card or sign over his/her exhibit.

26. Each exhibitor must keep their animal and premises clean through the duration of the fair or exhibitor will forfeit right to sell and/or premium money. \$100.00 per pen will be withheld from sales or premium checks if pens are not cleaned. Superintendent of the division will have authority to enforce this rule.

27. Each FFA, FCCLA and 4-H exhibitor who brings a project to the show will be issued one exhibitor's arm band, which must be worn at all times during the show. The arm band will serve as the exhibitors' admission to the fairgrounds. Exhibitors who lose their arm band will be charged \$5.00 for replacement.

28. Parents, advisors, leaders, agents or other adults will not be allowed to assist boys or girls during judging. Exhibitors must meet all membership and eligibility requirements in order to show in the ring.

29. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to bring his/her animal or animals when his/her name is called. No complaint or protest that an animal was overlooked will be considered. The same rules apply during the Junior Auction Sale. Animals must be shown to be able to sell in the auction.

30. An exhibitor who is unable; due to illness, injury or extenuating circumstances to show or sell their animal, may substitute an exhibitor of the same age group to show or sell the animal. This will be ruled upon by the Division Superintendent. Prior notice must be given to the Division Superintendent. Substitutes will not be permitted for ineligible exhibitors.

31. There will be up to ten placings in each class.

32. Any entry that becomes unruly or creates a disturbance in the show arena will immediately be excused at the discretion and instruction of the Division Superintendent or judge and will not be eligible to compete thereafter in the same class.

33. All entries will be officially released Sunday, October 25, 2026, at 6:00 a.m. and must be removed from the fairgrounds by 12:00 noon or animal becomes property of the Jim Wells County Fair Association. All livestock and poultry sold at the auction will remain the responsibility of the original owner until released by the division superintendent.

34. Any market animals with a pending drug test AND scheduled for resale will be held by a JWCF member designated by the respective species superintendent until the results are received and the animal is released for processing. The JWCF is not responsible for the death or injury to an animal while under the care of the association pending drug test results. In the event an animal dies while waiting for the drug testing results, the JWCF Association will reimburse the buyer the resale value of the animal.

35. The checks for all sales and/or premiums will be given to the teacher or sponsor in charge and will be invalid after 60 days.

36. Night watchman service will not be available prior to Tuesday, October 20, 2026.

37. Any dog on the Jim Wells County Fairgrounds during the fair must be on a leash.

38. No fireworks allowed or sold on fairgrounds during the Jim Wells County Fair. Violators will be removed.

39. No golf carts, three or four-wheelers or motorcycles will be allowed on fairgrounds. Only fair officials that have obtained authorization from show management will be allowed to use certain types of off road vehicles.

40. Any protest must be lodged immediately, with a \$250.00 non-refundable deposit, to the division superintendent. Protest Committee will consist of three Jim Wells County Fair Board members.

41. The Jim Wells County Fair Association will not provide a float in the annual Fair Parade for the Photogenic Contest winners, nor under any circumstances may parents of the Photogenic Contest winners solicit sponsors or donations to enter their child in the Fair Parade under the Photogenic Contest name. Failure to abide by these rules will result in winner being disqualified.

****NEW****41a. : Awards or the Little Mr. and Miss Jim Wells County Photogenic division shall consist of a buckle, sash, and banner.

42. Livestock judges' decisions will be final.

43. Ethics Rule:

Each exhibitor, his or her parent(s) and/or guardian(s) agrees to abide by the General and Special Rules published in the current catalog. Any violations of the rules or any exhibitor and/or parent(s), guardian(s) found to have participated in unethical Practice (i.e. (1) approaching buyers for the purpose of asking to exchange, return, or purchase any sale item(s) (2) the showing of any animal that has been administered any unapproved/unlabeled medication will forfeit all prizes, awards, and premiums.

****NEW**** 44. The area between the cattle barn and the rodeo arena is reserved for vehicle parking only. The parking area directly north of the swine and rabbit barns is reserved for vehicle parking only. No trailers may be parked in these areas.

