

2026 Open Sheep Show

DEPARTMENT 49

Open & Junior Sheep Show

Saturday, August 1, 2026 – 9:00 am

Sunday, August 2, 2026 – 9:00 am

Livestock Pavilion

Welcome to the 48th Annual Open Sheep Show held in Sussex County, NJ. The Committee warmly invites you to participate in these events, planned for the enjoyment of all. We are proud of our attractive livestock facilities and we want you to utilize the improvements we add each year for the comfort of the animals, exhibitors, and the public. We are confident your participation will add to the exceptional quality we have always had at our show.

Additional information call: Tammy Didyk Rogers Show Director 973-600-1068

Email: asensale@njstatefair.com or thayes@njstate-fair.com

Agricultural Division (973) 948-5500 x 238

OPEN BREED SHOW

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. The show is open to all registered sheep breeds.
2. Vet check and penning of animals will be between 10:00am and 8:00pm Friday, July 31st. All entries must be in place before 8:00 am Saturday, August 1st. Judging will begin at 9:00 am Saturday and 9:00 am Sunday. Initial straw bedding will be provided. Animals shall remain in their pens until 3:00 pm on Sunday, August 2nd unless released earlier by show director. Premiums will be forfeited if animals are removed from pens prior to official release.
3. Premiums will be mailed.
4. Exhibitors must present registration certificates for each animal at check-in. No leased animals allowed. Appropriate tags must be in the animals' ear at vet check.
5. **Rabies vaccination is required for each sheep**
6. Each exhibitor will be limited to two premiums and ribbons in a single class and one premium and ribbon in a group class.
7. NEW JERSEY SHEEP must be accompanied by a valid (official) certificate of Veterinary examination signed by an accredited New Jersey Veterinarian. The certificate must state that all sheep originate from a flock observed by a veterinarian, and the flock has been found to be free of foot rot, sore mouth, or any other infectious or contagious diseases. The official New Jersey Certificate of Veterinarian Examination is valid for 30 days in New Jersey. All sheep must be individually identified by flock and scrapie tags in the ear and listed on the health certificate. ENTERING SHEEP INTO the State of New Jersey must be in compliance with New Jersey health requirements & regulations. Sheep entering New Jersey must be accompanied by an official health certificate approved by the state of origin and in compliance with General Requirements, inspected by an accredited licensed veterinarian approved by the Animal Health Official of state of origin, veterinarians in the employ of State Animal Health Agency and Animal Health Division, United States Department of Agriculture. *Name & address of consignor (owner). Origin (home) of sheep, if different from owner's residence. Name & address of consignee (destination—SCF&HS).* Description including species, breed, age, sex, and positive identification registration number in ear. Statement that the examining veterinarian has personally inspected the animals described and found them to be free from visible symptoms of infectious, contagious, or communicable diseases or known exposure thereto within 30 days of shipment.

2026 Open Sheep Show

All sheep from states with endemic Bluetongue, as determined by the USDA, except sheep imported for slaughter, must be tested negative within 30 days prior to entry. All animals must be clean and properly conditioned. **Please consult the health regulations under the Exhibitor General Information for other health regulations.**

8. Only official entries will be penned and sheep must be penned in the exhibitor assigned area on penning chart or premium will be forfeited. Payment MUST accompany entries at \$8.00 per animal in single classes. All group classes are free. All animals showing in group classes must have been shown in single classes. **All Entries must be postmarked by July 1, 2026. NO Late entries will be accepted.** There will be a \$35.00 charge for checks not honored by the exhibitor's bank. No entry fees will be refunded. **Due to the large numbers of sheep entries recently, we will be taking entries until pens are full. Once full, additional entries will be refunded. Please get your entries in early!**
9. All sheep are to be shown at halter at officials or judge's request. Judge may request exhibitor to open mouth of sheep. Exhibitors with multiple entries in an individual class must be prepared to enter show ring when class is called or may be disqualified.
10. The committee reserves the right to combine or cancel classes with fewer than two exhibitors and/or less than five animals present. The committee may decline any entry not meeting all rules and regulations. Animals may be placed in ABW (all other breed white– registered sheep only) or NCW (all other breeds natural color – registered sheep only)
11. Written grievances are to be submitted to show committee prior to judge's final placing of any class. Committee decision is final.
12. Age for senior lambs will be September 1st through December 31st, 2025. For junior lambs January 1st, 2026 to April 30, 2026 for ALL breeds. The judge will make final determination of class. Lambs must be carrying all lamb teeth and yearlings no more than four permanent teeth showing at time of show. Tails should be properly docked.
13. Participating in this event is at your own risk and that of the health of your animals
14. Premiums will be paid on the following scale:

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Premium</u>	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$8	\$8	\$8

LARGER CLASSES MAY BE DIVIDED INTO TWO EQUAL CLASSES. PREMIUMS AND RIBBONS WILL BE AWARDED TO BOTH CLASSES. Champions will receive rosettes. Reserve Champions will receive rosettes. Ribbons will be given for the first six places in all non-championship classes.

15. The exhibitor hereby releases the New Jersey State Fair®/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show from any and all responsibility or liability for injury or damage to any exhibitor, rider, employee, entry resulting from or due to the above entry and or the participation in the said New Jersey State Fair®/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show, and also releases and agrees to indemnify the said New Jersey State Fair®/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show against any damage, claim, legal proceeding or judgment arising out of the transportation, stabling, entry or exhibition of the listed entries of the said Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Association harmless from any claim or suit for injury, damage or blame resulting from the transportation, stabling, entry or exhibition of the listed entries.
16. The IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics is the standard for this show.

2026 Open Sheep Show

17. These section codes have the following classes:

BOL - Border Leicester; **CHE** – Cheviot; **COL** - Columbia; **COR** - Corriedale; **COT** – Cotswold; **DOR** - Dorset; **DPR** – Dorper; **HAM** - Hampshire; **HRD** – Horned Dorset; **JAC** - Jacob; **KAT** – Katahdins; **LIN** –Lincoln; **MON** – Montadale; **OXF** - Oxford; **RAM** – Rambouillet; **ROM** – Romney; **SHE**- Shetland; **SHR** - Shropshire; **SOU** - Southdown; **SUF** - Suffolk; **TUN** - Tunis.

Sheep with official white & natural color breed registry will be shown together in the same classes. For example, white and black Cotswolds will be shown together. Animals registered with a breed registry that has a show WILL NOT be permitted in NCW classes unless there are insufficient numbers. Based on director discretion.

Breed Classes will be numbered as follows

1. Yearling rams
2. Pair of yearling rams; no fee
3. Senior ram lambs
4. Junior ram lambs
5. Pair of ram lambs; no fee
6. Champion/Reserve Ram
7. Yearling ewes
8. Pair of yearling ewes, no fee
9. Senior ewe lambs
10. Junior ewe lambs
11. Pair of ewe lambs, no fee
12. Champion/Reserve Ewe
13. Flock-1R/2YE/2EL/bred & own, no fee
14. Exhibitor flock-1R/2YE/2EL, no fee
15. Get of Sire - 4 animals, both sexes, yearlings and lambs, same sire, no fee

These section codes have the following classes:

Fine, Medium and Long Wool and Natural Color will be shown together in same classes (All animals must have registration papers)

ABW – All Other Breeds White Wool; NCW – All Other Breeds – Natural Color Wool Classes will be numbered as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Yearling rams | 8. Pair of yearling ewes, no fee |
| 2. Pair of yearling rams; no fee | 9. Senior ewe lambs |
| 3.. Senior ram lambs | 10. Junior ewe lambs |
| 4. Junior ram lambs | 11. Pair of ewe lambs, no fee |
| 5. Pair ram lambs, no fee | 12. Champion/Reserve Ewe |
| 6. Champion/Reserve Ram | 13. Flock-1R/2YE/2EL/bred & own, no fee |
| 7. Yearling ewes | 14. Exhibitor flock-1R/2YE/2EL, no fee |
| | 15. Get of Sire - 4 animals, both sexes, yearlings and lambs, same sire, no fee |

2026 Open Sheep Show

1. There will be one wool class at the conclusion of the show; Supreme Champion Fleece. Each exhibitor may enter the ring with what he or she feel is their best-fleeced animal; either sex. Limit one entry per exhibitor. Supreme Champion Fleece will receive a rosette and a trophy.
2. Supreme Champion- all open show breed champions are eligible to compete at the end of the show, Supreme Champion Ewe and Supreme Champion Ram will receive a trophy and rosette.

18. Junior Sheep Show: Additional Junior Premiums for ALL Breed Shows

The New Jersey State Fair/Sussex County Farm and Horse Show will be offering Junior Exhibitors additional premiums for single classes in all breed shows as follows: 1st: \$12, 2nd:\$8, 3rd -6th : \$4. Group classes are exempt. Separate Junior Show Champion & Reserve in each breed will be selected. The Junior Show will be judged simultaneously with the Open show. Please note the Junior Exhibitors will still be eligible for open show premiums and awards, including Premier Exhibitor, as long as all animals are owned by that Junior Exhibitor. All other Open Sheep Show rules apply.

In order to receive the junior premiums the following stipulations must be met:

- The animal must be owned in the individual junior name. No family, farm names or partnerships with adults allowed. Sheep entered must be registered in the junior exhibitor's name or be in process of being registered to the junior exhibitor before June 1st. Futurity are welcome. No leased animals will be allowed.
- The junior exhibitor cannot be older than 21 years of age as of January 1 of the current year. Please put age and date of birth on the entry form.
- The junior exhibitor must be present show day and be **actively participating** in showing their animal(s) in the show rings at all times. Junior exhibitors must be old enough to handle their own sheep, understand and take direction from the judge, and show at head of one of their animals in the ring. A maximum of two animals per class will be allowed. Another junior must be showing the second animal. The junior must be present at sheep check in as well.
- No additional entry fee to be in the junior classes

Breed Classes for Junior Show will be numbered as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 21. Yearling rams | 25. Yearling ewes |
| 22. Senior ram lambs | 26. Senior ewe lambs |
| 23. Junior ram lambs | 27. Junior ewe lambs |
| 24. Champion/Reserve Ram | 28. Champion/Reserve Ewe |

***No Vehicles are permitted in the agriculture area after 10 am; they MUST be parked in a designated parking lot. Vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense. The New Jersey State Fair/ Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Association will not be responsible for any damages to your vehicle ***

The Water may contain Chlorine to combat harmful bacteria

THE NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR® / SUSSEX COUNTY FARM & HORSE SHOW

EXHIBITOR & GENERAL INFORMATION

***No Vehicles are permitted in the ag. area after 10am, they must be parked in a designated parking lot.**

Vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense. The New Jersey State Fair/ Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Association will not be responsible for any damages to your vehicle

NOTE: All premiums will be mailed within ten days of the show, unless noted otherwise in department rules

The following are some general information for livestock exhibitors that will assist you in planning your trip to the show. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Director of your show.

1. **Livestock barns** - Barns measure 40' x 200' and have open sides (no walls), except for barn #6, which is enclosed. Barn #6 houses the small animals (rabbits, cavy, etc) and poultry. Although barns are well ventilated, since it is August, you are encouraged to bring fans and 50' extension cords.

There will be no food or drink allowed in livestock barns 1-6, the livestock show arena, the milking parlor, or any other structure in the agricultural area which contains livestock, poultry or animals of any kind. All 4-H members and their families are required to follow these rules.

- It will be the responsibility of 4-H leaders and open show directors to monitor their groups.
- Judges and their helpers are permitted to have bottled water in the livestock show area during their show. Bottles must have cap on when not in use.

2. **Your Housing** - If you plan to stay overnight, there are a number of motels within 2030 minutes. Be sure to make a reservation soon. There are also a number of "hookups" for campers or RV's on the fairgrounds. If you plan to camp, please indicate it on your application so we can reserve a spot for you.

3. **Security** - Gates on the ends of the barns are closed during the night and security personnel patrol the fairgrounds.

4. **Restrooms & Showers** - A reserved restroom and shower facility are available for exhibitors. They are located adjacent to the Agricultural Food Booth. There are also restroom and shower facilities near the agricultural area.

5. The New Jersey State Fair® /Sussex County Farm & Horse Show is not responsible for omissions or printing errors

6. All exhibits must remain on display at the Fairgrounds until 8:00 pm on the second Saturday, unless otherwise noted.

7. Dog, Pet, and Exotic Animal Policy - Dogs, Pets, and Exotic Animals – None allowed with the following exceptions:

- a.) Handicapped persons requiring trained and controlled animal assistance
- b.) When they are a part of an approved exhibit, show or display and are controlled
 - c.) Livestock exhibitors
 - d.) Horse Show exhibitors
 - e.) Concessionaires/carnival living area.
- Permits must be filed for the above exceptions for the full time the animal will be on the grounds. The Dog, Pet and Exotic Animal permit may be found on the Exhibitors page of our website. Please send permits with your entries, when possible. Otherwise, you must file permits with your department chairperson. You will be given a copy as proof of filing. Please come to the Agricultural office in the Administration building to pick up your copy.

Rules for the preceding exceptions

- The PERMIT must be presented by the person controlling the animal at the request of any fair official or representative.
 - All animals must be on a leash or confined at all times and controlled by an adult. Animals used for Fair approved demonstrations (i.e.-accompanying carriages, herding sheep, etc.) may be unrestricted while they are doing their performance, but must be controlled by an adult.
 - Animals must remain in the specific area they are cleared to (i.e.-horse stall or trailer area, cow or sheep barn, etc.)
 - Animals must not be walked around the other parts of the Fair Grounds nor in the vicinity of a crowd in their area or near any food concessions.
 - Handicapped persons requiring trained and controlled animal assistance (i.e.-Seeing Eye dogs) may be excused from rules 2, 3, and 4, but must have a permit.
 - Animal's owner is responsible for clean-up of all wastes generated by the animal(s).
- IT IS ILLEGAL TO LEAVE YOUR PET IN A CAR OR SIMILAR VEHICLE.**

8. The water may contain chlorine to combat harmful bacteria

9. Participation in this event is at your own risk and that of the health of your animals

NJ STATE HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Any exhibitor showing at the The New Jersey State Fair®, Sussex County Farm & Horse Show must be in compliance with the New Jersey Division of Animal Health recommendations for New Jersey fairs, shows and sales. All animals must be free from infectious or contagious diseases. The recommendations made are in keeping with good management practices to minimize the risk of disease introduction and spread, with specific recommendations for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) prevention. New Jersey Department of Agriculture's (NJDA) Animal Health staff along with veterinarians, farmers, and producers is encouraged to remain vigilant for any signs of unusual diseases in an animal, flock, or herd.

Specific signs that may indicate exposure to an infectious or toxic agent include:

1. Excessive discharges from body orifices
2. Off-feed or weight loss
3. Skin lesions including blisters, pustules or discoloration around animal's mouth, nose, teats or hooves
4. Abnormal behavior; excessive vocalization, depression
5. Excessive urination, excessive salivation; excessive tearing
6. Lameness, off balance, falling down, difficulty rising; circling, partial or complete paralysis
7. Muscle tremors, seizures
8. Sneezing, open mouthed breathing, gasping for air, nasal discharge, coughing
Difficulty breathing
9. Diarrhea, vomiting, constipation, excessive dry manure
10. Twisting of head and neck
11. Foaming at mouth or nose
12. Head pressing, stargazing, no menace response, uneven pupil sizes
13. Drooping wings, feather or hair loss, excessive loss of mane and tail hairs
14. Partial to complete drop in egg production, production of thin-shelled eggs
15. Swelling of tissues around eyes, neck or legs; cloudiness of eyes
16. Abortions, still births, weak neonates
17. Abnormal body temperature
18. Unusual ticks or maggots
19. Staggering, falling or central nervous system disorders.

If you observe any of the above symptoms or suspect a disease transmission, contact your veterinarian, NJDA's State Veterinarian at 609-671-6400 or USDA's Veterinary Services at 609-259-8387 IMMEDIATELY.

All animals will be inspected by an accredited Veterinarian prior to entering the fair. It is the discretion of the veterinarian in charge to allow animals to enter and remain on the fair/show grounds. (PLEASE NOTE: NO animals will be permitted to off load without a health check, if you arrive at a time when there is no Vet available you will not be allowed to unload your animals. *In addition to the regular health papers required by our Fair . . . ALL sheep and goats to be shown at this fair shall also be identified by USDA official identification (ear tag and/or approved registry tattoo) in compliance with the federal regulations regarding the Scrapie Eradication Program.)

Any animals showing obvious clinical signs of warts, ringworm, foot rot, parasites, pink eye, draining abscesses or open wounds must not be exhibited or allowed to remain on the fairgrounds.

Any food animal should have a Drug Use Form accompanying it to the fair. This form will certify that the market animal is free of any medication – which means that the animal has not been treated with drugs, or the animal does not contain a drug for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed per label directions. If the animal has received drugs for medications for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed, this must be documented on the form. The animal identification, drug name, date(s) of administration, the route of administration and the drug withdrawal time prior to slaughter must be documented.

LIVESTOCK FROM OUT OF STATE entering New Jersey must be in compliance with NJ health requirements & regulations. An official health certificate approved by the state of origin must accompany livestock entering NJ. Animals must also be in compliance with General Requirements, and inspected by an Accredited Licensed Veterinarian approved by the Animal Health Official from the state of origin.

Animal Health Documentation

Fair/show management is responsible for ensuring that animals to be exhibited enter the grounds in good health and with proper documentation:

- **Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs)** - CVIs are completed and signed by accredited veterinarians for any animal being transported **interstate**. (e.g. Pennsylvania to New Jersey) CVIs are valid for 30 days from the date of examination. The official CVI shall include the following:
 - Complete name and complete address of exhibitor
 - Complete address of the premises of origin
 - **Complete name and complete address of the fair/show to be attended.** **A separate CVI needs to be completed for each individual fair/show to be attended.**
 - Species, breed, sex, and age of animals
- Cattle and swine shall be identified by at least one of the following methods:
 - official electronic ID, unique ear tag, tattoo or registration name or number with registration papers.
- Horses and other equine shall be identified by electronic ID, physical description and/or tattoo. Physical description must match with EIA certificate.
- Sheep and goats shall be identified by USDA approved official identification (ear tag and/or approved registry tattoo). For questions regarding the USDA's Mandatory Identification of Sheep and Goats regulation, or to obtain official identification tags for sheep and goats, call

2026 Open Sheep Show

the USDA, APHIS, VS office at (609) 259-5260. ○ Other livestock shall be identified by ear tag, registration name and number, name and physical description or microchip. ○ Statement that the examining veterinarian personally inspected the animals described and found them free from visible symptoms of infectious, contagious and/or communicable disease or known exposure thereto within 30 days of shipment.

DrugUseForms are available on the web at: <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/ah/news/fairsshows.html>. (This documentation should follow the food animal to its final slaughter destination.) If the animal has received drugs or medications for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed, this must be documented on the form. The animal identification, drug name, date(s) of administration, the route of administration, and the drug withdrawal time prior to slaughter must be documented. **Animals cannot be turned away from the show if they received medications. The drugs simply need to be documented, and the withdrawal time clearly stated.** *Certain drugs, such as gentamicin, are illegal for use in food animals.* It is the responsibility of the animal producer to check with his or her veterinarian as to what medications can be given

Additional requirements on top of the NJ Health requirements

Updated Revisions to Animal Health Requirements (July 5, 2021)

Rabies Vaccination

A current rabies vaccination is REQUIRED for all species for which there is a USDA licensed vaccine available. An acceptable proof of rabies vaccination must be presented at the vet check at the Fair. Note: Rabies titers are not acceptable proof of rabies protection and cannot be used for entry requirements.

Owners of animal species that do not have an approved rabies vaccine should discuss with their veterinarian the pros and cons of having their animal vaccinated against rabies with an “off label” rabies vaccine. During the Fair if an animal not vaccinated for rabies is suspected of having rabies, appropriate methods will be utilized to make a diagnosis including quarantining the animal for the appropriate period of time.

Public Health Concerns

Interactions between people and animals provide valuable and enjoyable educational experiences that should be encouraged. However, during such contact, there is some risk of disease transmission. To protect both humans and animals, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services encourages all fairs/shows to implement the following precautionary steps to protect both visitors and animals from disease.

- Provide hand-cleaning stations/facilities for use prior to and after contact with animals ○ Provide running water and soap or antibacterial hand wipes to clean dirt off hands ○ Provide *alcohol-based hand rubs* for use on clean hands
- Maintain safe and clean stations/facilities to protect visitors and animals ○ Trash cans should be available and emptied regularly

2026 Open Sheep Show

- Post signs indicating the location of hand-cleaning stations/facilities
- Do not allow human food or drink in animal contact areas • Forbid smoking in animal contact areas and at hand-cleaning stations/facilities
- Ensure that no feed is fed to the animals unless specifically provided by the fair

Note: reviewed the above information with Dr. Paul Tallamy & Dr. Monique Obsharski April 28, 2022.

Please check with your veterinarian for any updated tests that are required by the New Jersey Department of Animal Health.

IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS) NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior, as well as open class exhibitors, who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs

2026 Open Sheep Show

and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial, and national levels.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards, and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership, and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animals health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residues. This act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainers and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs from other than in accordance with applicable federal, state, and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event. If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the approved laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved, all procedures of said collection and preservation transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate. The report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise. At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.
5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only, and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.
6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices, such as striking animals to cause swelling using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.

2026 Open Sheep Show

7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show official before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation, and respect. No person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.
8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.
9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.
10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have any disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including *Fairs and Expos* and any special notices to members.
11. The act of entering an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by this code. It is further a consent that an action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.