

DEPARTMENT 14

YOUTH RABBITS AND CAVIES

Superintendent: Kelly Schalte 734-776-1772

Rabbit Show Time: Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.

Rabbit Pen Fee: \$3.00 per head, Pen of 3 \$6.00

Dress Code: All exhibitors must wear black pants, a white shirt, white lab coat and closed-toe shoes/boots.

Age: Exhibitors must be 5 years old as of January 1st in the current year.

Rabbit Rules:

1. An exhibitor cannot show in both the protégé and youth division unless the exhibitor is a protégé or clover-bud teacher.
2. Each exhibitor may enter a Maximum of 15 breed rabbits, 12 meat rabbits (in any combination of the following; meat pens (see Rule 1 Section 2), Single fryer, single roaster) and 10 cavies.
3. Rabbits must be a minimum of 9 weeks old and cavies must be a minimum of 12 ounces and owned by the exhibitor. Exhibitors must have owned the animal being exhibited for at least 45 days before exhibiting at the fair to ensure the health of the animal.
4. **All rabbits must be identified by a permanent legible ear mark. Cavy identification is optional. Market rabbits must be tattooed by the Barn Superintendents OR if tattooed elsewhere, exhibitors must provide tattoo information to the superintendents by the tattoo date. All Market rabbits must be owned and shown by the registered exhibitor. Breed rabbits must have tattoo identification at the time of Fair Check in.**
5. Entry deadline is **JULY 15th, 2026. ALL CLASS ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JULY 15TH. Absolutely NO ENTRIES will be accepted after JULY 15, 2026.**
6. Due at the Fair on Saturday August 8, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
7. Pens will be assigned as rabbits and cavies are checked in by the Barn Superintendents. Rabbits, and cavies are not allowed in the barn until health inspection is completed. Any animal showing signs of diseases or other abnormalities will be sent home.
8. Exhibitors are to provide their own shavings, feed, and dishes (dishes need to be of suitable size and spillproof).
9. Exhibitors are responsible for doing Barn Duty.
10. **Exhibitors are required to show their own animals. Exhibitors must accompany their rabbits/cavies to the show, care for, and exhibit it. An exhibitor that has any Emergency, Sickness, or Conflicting Show must notify the Superintendent or Co-Superintendent.** In case of sickness or other emergency an animal may be shown by an appointed substitute, if a Rabbit/Cavy Team Member has granted permission and the Barn Superintendent or Co-Superintendent has been notified of the conflict. Exhibitors are encouraged to provide assistance and support for younger junior youth. If assistance is needed for reasons of safety, then another exhibitor, 4-H leader, or parent can provide assistance.
11. Rabbits and cavies will be judged according to breeds. All varieties will be grouped together by class.
12. In addition to the confirmation classes, exhibitors must participate in showmanship classes. An exhibitor's animals must be entered in a breed or meat class in addition to showmanship.
13. All pens must be cleaned by 10:00 a.m. every day except Wednesday. Wednesday is show day and all pens must be cleaned by 8:00 a.m.
14. Unkempt animals, cages, feed and water dishes, and no Barn Duty CAN RESULT IN forfeiture of awards.
15. Animals will not be released from their pens until August 15, 2026, at 11:00 p.m. Market animals may leave with the processor after 11:00 p.m. on Saturday of Fair week. Auction animals may be taken to a livestock sale barn after 11:00 p.m. on Saturday of Fair week.
16. All barn decorations must remain up until after 11:00 p.m. on August 15, 2026. Early removal will result in the loss of premiums.
17. Rabbits should be placed in Section 36 – Other, if their breed is not listed.
18. All youth exhibiting rabbits must use water bottles or a spill proof water pan to water their rabbits.
19. **ALL EXHIBITORS ARE REQUIRED TO HELP ON SUNDAY WITH BARN BREAK DOWN. RELEASE ON SATURDAY EVENING DOES NOT RELEASE YOU FROM HELPING TEAR DOWN ON SUNDAY!!**

RABBIT AWARDS

1. Rosettes will be given to Best of Breed and Best Reserve for the Top 10 Breeds showing with at least 5 animals in the section.
2. The Board of Directors shall have the power to make prorated deductions from premiums offered if, in their opinion, the financial conditions of the Association render it necessary.
3. Premiums will be paid for each exhibitor, according to the judges' placing as indicated by the division and class entered.
4. Breeding or Production Classes: Classes numbered one through six in each section will consist of one buck or one doe. Rabbits will be judged on breeding or production quality only as set up by ARBA standards. The classes are determined by age and sex.

DIVISION - 1: Showmanship Rabbits

Rules

1. To be judged on the ability to handle the rabbit and knowledge of the rabbit.
2. All 1st and 2nd place showmen will come back in the arena to then compete for Best Overall Showman.

1st Award, Rosette 2nd thru 6th - Rosette

Class:

01. Beginner Showmanship: 5 - 7 years
02. Junior Showmanship: 8 - 11 years
03. Intermediate Showmanship: 12 – 15 years
04. Senior Showmanship: 16 – 20 years

Grand Champion Overall Showman – Award Reserve Grand Champion Overall Showman - Award.

DIVISION - 2: Market Rabbits

Rules:

1. Grand & Reserve Champion market rabbits (under each class 1-3) must be sold at the Livestock auction. All other animals with meat of passing quality will be sold next.
2. **Meat Pen Class:**
 - Must consist of three (3) rabbits all the same breed and variety.
 - Rabbits should not be more than sixty-nine (69) days old and weigh between a minimum of 3 lb. 8 oz. and a maximum of 5 lbs. 8oz.
 - Meat Pens will be judged according to the ARBA standards on meat type.
 - The meat pen is to be raised by the exhibitor.
3. **Single Fryer Class:**
 - Must NOT be over 10 weeks of age.
 - Minimum weight 3 lbs-8 oz.
 - Maximum weight 5 lbs-8 oz.
4. **Single Roaster Class:**
 - All rabbits must be under 6 months of age.
 - Minimum weight 5 lbs-8 oz.
 - Maximum weight 9 lbs.

Awards:

1st thru 6th - Rosette

Class:

01. Meat Pen Rabbits-pen of 3
02. Single Fryer
03. Single Roaster

Grand Champion Meat Pen – Award, Rosette Reserve Grand Champion Meat Pen - Award, Rosette Grand Champion Single Fryer– Award, Rosette Reserve Grand Champion Single Fryer- Award, Rosette Grand Champion Single Roaster – Award, Rosette Reserve Grand Champion Single Roaster - Award, Rosette

DIVISIONS 3-36 BREED CLASSES

DIVISION - 3 : American

DIVISION - 4 : American Checkered Giant

DIVISION - 5 : American Chinchilla

DIVISION - 6: American Fuzzy Lop

DIVISION - 7: Britannian Petite

DIVISION - 8: California

DIVISION - 9: Champagne

DIVISION - 10: Crème D'Argent

DIVISION - 11: Dutch

DIVISION - 12: Dwarf Hotot

DIVISION - 13: English Angora

DIVISION - 14: English Lop

DIVISION - 15: Flemish Giant

DIVISION - 16: Florida White

DIVISION - 17: French Angora

DIVISION - 18: French Lop

DIVISION - 19: Giant Chinchilla

DIVISION - 20: Harlequin

DIVISION - 21: Havana

DIVISION - 22: Holland Lop

DIVISION - 23: Jersey Wooly

DIVISION - 24: Lion Head

DIVISION - 25: Mini Lop

DIVISION - 26: Mini Rex

DIVISION - 27: Mini Satin

DIVISION - 28: Netherland Dwarf

DIVISION - 29: New Zealand

DIVISION - 30: Polish

DIVISION - 31: Rex

DIVISION - 32: Sable

DIVISION - 33: Satin

DIVISION - 34: Silver

DIVISION - 35: Standard Chinchilla

DIVISION - 36: Other

1st thru 6th - Rosette

Class:

01. Senior Buck
02. Senior Doe
03. Junior Buck
04. Junior Doe

Best of Show - Award
Reserve Best of Show - Award
Best of Breed - Rosettes

DIVISION - 37: Mixed

Rules:

1. Mixed rabbits are not eligible for Best in Show or Reserve in Show.
2. Limit of two rabbits per exhibitor.

1st thru 6th - Rosette

Class:

01. Senior Buck
02. Senior Doe
03. Junior Buck
04. Junior Doe

DIVISION – 38: Rabbit Agility

Show Time: TBD

Rule: Superintendent will provide rules.

1st thru 6th- Rosette

1st Award

Class:

01. Rabbit Agility

CAVIES

Show Time: Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.

Exhibit Fee: \$3.00

Dress Code: All exhibitors must wear black pants, white shirt, white lab coat and closed-toe shoes/boots.

Rules:

1. The exhibitor furnishes feed and dishes.
2. Exhibitors must clean and maintain their pens throughout the Fair. Cages must be cleaned by 10:00 a.m. except for show day by 8:00 a.m.
3. **ALL CLASS ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JULY 15th, 2026, AND PAYMENT ENCLOSED. Absolutely NO ENTRIES will be accepted after JULY 15th, 2026!**
4. Cavies showing symptoms of disease or other abnormalities will be sent home.
5. Maximum of 10 cavies per exhibitor.
6. Exhibitors must be 5 years old as of January 1 of the current year.
7. Cavy identification is optional.
8. Rosettes will be given for Best of Breed when 5 or more animals are in the section.
9. Cavies should be placed in Section 44 – Other if their breed is not listed.
10. EXHIBITORS MUST DO BARN DUTY.
11. Exhibitors ARE REQUIRED TO HELP WITH BARN BREAK DOWN. SATURDAY EVENING DOES NOT RELEASE YOU FROM TEAR DOWN SUNDAY!!

DIVISION - 39: Showmanship Cavy

Rules:

1. To be judged on the ability to handle cavy and knowledge of the cavy.
2. All 1st and 2nd place showmen will come back in the arena to then compete for Best Overall Showman.

1st Award, Rosette 2nd thru 6th - Rosette

Class:

01. Beginner Showmanship: 5 - 7 years
02. Junior Showmanship: 8 - 11 years
03. Intermediate Showmanship: 12 – 15 years
04. Senior Showmanship: 16 – 20 years

Grand Champion Overall Showman – Award
Reserve Grand Champion Overall Showman - Award

DIVISION - 40: American

DIVISION - 41: Abyssinian

1st thru 6th - Rosette

Class:

01. Junior Boar - up to 22 oz. Not over 6 months old.
02. Junior Sow - up to 22 oz. Not over 6 months old.
03. Senior Boar - over 30 oz.
04. Senior Sow - over 30 oz.

DIVISION - 42: Crested

DIVISION - 43: Other

Best of Breed - Rosettes
Grand Champion Cavy – Award
Reserve Champion Cavy - Award

DIVISION - 45: Rabbit and Cavy Costume

Show Time: TBD

Rules:

1. Entries will be judged on originality and creativity.
2. Only one (1) animal per exhibitor for Costume Class.
3. Exhibitors do not have to dress up with their animal.
4. Exhibitors must show their animal in a breeding or meat class.
5. Exhibitors must use their own rabbit or cavy.

1st thru 6th - Rosette

Class:

01. Costume Class – Rabbit
02. Costume Class – Cavy

Best Costume Rabbit – Award / Best Costume Cavy – Award

DIVISION - 46: Educational Exhibits

Entries are due at the time of animal check-in.

Rules:

1. Standard poster size is required.
2. Poster contents: Any information regarding rabbits/cavies that would be educational to the viewer of the poster. The purpose is to provide learning experience.
3. Entries must be labeled with the exhibitor's name and age, on the **back** bottom right corner of the poster. No personal information is to be on the front of the poster.
4. Limit 1 poster per class.
5. Exhibitors must have entered the rabbit or cavy division to exhibit in class 01 or 02.

1st Award, 2nd thru 6th – Rosette

Class:

01. Educational Display – Rabbit
02. Educational Display – Cavy