

**2022 State Fair of Virginia  
Youth Livestock Shows  
New Rules and Updates**

**ALL SPECIES:**

- Showmanship – **NEW RULE** – *Showmanship animals in all species will be shown clean and unfitted (no glues or adhesives).*
- Nomination process for 2022 will be the same as that for 2021
  - Self-nomination with DNA hair samples collected on ALL market animals, commercial does, commercial ewes, commercial heifers, and commercial breeding gilts.
  - \*\*\*DNA samples are NOT collected on Purebred/Registered Breeding Heifers, Does, Ewes, or Gilts
- Nomination Dates – **Nomination Deadline for 2022 - July 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm** this will be the deadline for postmarking of DNA Samples and Paperwork and entering Nomination information into the Nomination Portal.
- Exhibitors may begin requesting DNA envelopes and instructions on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- FairEntry system where all entries will be entered will open on July 15<sup>th</sup> and close on August 15<sup>th</sup>

**SHEEP and GOATS:**

- Location of sheep and goats – **UPDATED RULE** - *“All sheep and goats must remain in the designated penning area and immediate barn area upon arrival and until released from the fair. All tack and fitting areas for sheep and goats must remain in the designated area adjacent to the barns as defined by show management.”*

**Beef Cattle:**

- No new proposed rule changes
- 2022 Judge: Zach Butler

**Meat Goats:**

- No new proposed rule changes
- 2022 Judge: Spencer Scotten

**Swine:**

- Number of animals shown – **UPDATED RULE** – *Swine exhibitors are still limited to six hogs total, but those hogs may represent any combination of market and breeding animals. (Removed: the maximum of 4 market and/or 4 breeding.)*
- 2022 Judge: AJ Genter

## Sheep:

- **Reduction in Weigh-back tolerance – UPDATED RULE** - Weight tolerance for sheep has been reduced to 5 pounds. All market lambs and commercial ewes must weigh within 5 pounds of their declared weight.
- **Belly/Flank Wool – UPDATED RULE** - *“Market Lambs must be exhibited shorn slick to the skin above the knee and hock joints, and this includes belly and flank wool.”*
- **Classification Time for All Non-Blackface Sheep:** All non-black face sheep will be classified at a designated time (3:00 on Friday) and their weight cards submitted at the time of classification.
- **New Market Lamb and Commercial Ewe Classification Rules:** Heads on White-Face, Speckle-Face, and Southdown Lambs must be closely sheared for classification.
  - **White-Face:** Includes lambs exhibiting characteristics of straightbred or purebred white-face breeds and crosses of those white-face breeds (Dorset, Cheviot, Montadale, Rambouillet, Texel, etc.). Lambs should exhibit characteristics of these breeds as found in the respective breed association breed standards. For example, Dorset lambs should be all white, with pink nose, mouth lining and lips. Wool and hair should be free of dark fiber and brown spots (exception: a black spot on the nose, septum, mouth or an ear equal to or smaller than the size of an eraser head is acceptable). Excessive dark colored spots in the wool or hair anywhere on the animal; dark/black nose, septum, or mouth; and black hooves or hooves with excessive black striping are not acceptable.
  - **White-Face Cross:** Includes lambs exhibiting characteristics of a percentage white-face and percentage any other non-whiteface breeding. Evidence of significant white speckling/spotting must be present for at least two of the following areas: face, ears, and/or legs. This class may also contain any lambs which are predominantly white which do not meet the criteria for White-Face classification (ie: excessive dark coloration for white-face breeds)
  - **Southdown:** Lambs must exhibit purebred characteristics of Southdown breed. Hair color should be mouse colored – grey to brown. Nostrils must be black to purple-grey, and ears should be moderate length, covered with short hair or wool. **\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: There is not a Southdown Classification Division for Commercial Ewes.**
  - **Hair Sheep:** Lambs must exhibit purebred characteristics of hair sheep breeds (Katahdin, Dorper, etc.). Lambs must be straight hair sheep breeding – crossbred hair x wool breeding is not acceptable. *Note: A minimum of five lambs from at least three exhibitors is required to have a separate hair sheep class.*
  - **Black-Face or Crossbred:** Generally, includes lambs of Suffolk and Hampshire breeding and their crosses, along with other black-faced breeds. Also includes all lambs that do not fit classification requirements for any other breed type classes.
- **2022 Judge: Cade Wilson**