

2025 State Fair of Virginia

Junior Meat Goat Show

Nominations Due July 1st by 5:00 PM

Entries due August 22nd by 5:00 PM

Dr. Scott Greiner, Virginia Tech, Youth Livestock Shows Co-Superintendent

Katherine Carter, Virginia Tech, Youth Livestock Shows Co-Superintendent

Hunter Liles, Virginia Tech, Youth Livestock Shows Co-Superintendent

Emmalee Edwards, Augusta Co. Extension, Meat Goat Department co-chairperson

Lauren McCroskey, Washington Co. Volunteer, Meat Goat Department co-chairperson

Judge: Harlan Yocham – Sapulpa, OK

Youth Meat Goat Show Rules:

The State Fair General Rules, the Livestock Rules and the Show Ring Code of Ethics apply to the Junior Meat Goat Show. By submitting an entry, you agree to read and abide by these rules.

1. See General Livestock Rules for information pertaining to health regulations (including Scrapie Identification requirements and issues pertaining to contagious and infectious diseases). The National Show Ring Code of Ethics shall govern the livestock show as found in the General Livestock Rules. The State Fair of Virginia reserves the right to test any entry for violative drug residues as described in the National Show Ring Code of Ethics. **All market animals exhibited must be eligible to immediately enter the food chain.**
2. **Participants must enter the FairEntry System through the Youth Livestock Web Site at <https://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/youth-livestock/shows/state-fair.html> under “Exhibitor Entry Information” or use the direct FairEntry link <http://sfva-youth-livestock.fairentry.com/>. The entry system will open on **Monday, July 21st**. Entries must be made online no later than Friday, August 22nd by 5:00 pm. Please print the Entries APPROVED email, and mail with entry fee payment by Monday, August 25th at 5:00 pm. All entries must be postmarked by Monday, August 25th.**
3. The State Fair of Virginia Junior Meat Goat Show is open to all Virginia 4-H and Virginia FFA youth which are in good standing with their respective organizations and meet the entry requirements of each species division. Exhibitors must be at least 9 years of age by September 30, 2025 (exception for 8 & under sheep costume class) and must not have had their 19th birthday before January 1, 2025. Exhibitor eligibility and entries will be verified using the 4HOnline enrollment system for 4-H youth and the State FFA Office Member Roster for FFA youth.
4. All youth exhibiting beef, meat goats, sheep, and swine **must be** YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) certified before August 31, 2025. For more information about YQCA or to be YQCA certified please visit the YQCA section of the Virginia Youth Livestock Website <https://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/youth-livestock/yqca.html>. Available trainings can be located at this link under the “Training Schedule” Tab.
5. Goats which have participated in any sale or premium auction associated with another fair or livestock show after completing the State Fair of Virginia online nomination process (date of online nomination submission will be used for verification) are ineligible for exhibition. This rule applies even if there was not a change in ownership (i.e. goats are ineligible even if they are “bought back” or “no-saled”).
6. Exhibitors must show their own entries unless the exhibitor has more than one animal in the same class, or permission is given by the show superintendent. Substitute show persons must be eligible 4-H or FFA member with 2025 SFVA Youth Livestock entries on-site and checked-in for any species.
7. All youth beef, sheep, goat and swine entries are subject to on-farm inspections to verify entry information. All exhibitors agree to accommodate such inspections by submitting nominations and entries.
8. All 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 goats must remain in the designated area adjacent to the barns as defined by show management.

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9. Exhibitors are expected to care for their animals in an acceptable manner and adhere to quality assurance guidelines.
10. Use of irritants including alcohols, sprays, and other irritants is prohibited. The use of external or internal tail stimulants is prohibited.
11. The use of muzzles is prohibited.
12. The use of adhesives and glues for purpose of fitting hair is allowed, however the addition of twine, hair, or like substances is prohibited.
13. Pen assignments will be made by the show administration.
14. Health or other issues that arise with goats which require treatment while at the State Fair of Virginia shall be done with the knowledge and supervision of the show veterinarian and superintendent. The show management reserves the right to remove entries from the fairgrounds for this purpose.
15. Show rails (racks) will not be allowed inside the barns. All show rails must be kept outdoors.

SHOWMANSHIP

1. Only exhibitors entered in the Junior Meat Goat Show with goat entries checked and present at the show are eligible to compete in showmanship classes.
2. Showmanship competition for market goat, commercial doe and registered breeding doe exhibitors will be combined. There will not be separate showmanship divisions for market goat/commercial doe and registered breeding doe exhibitors.
 - a. Showmanship classes will be divided by age as follows:
 - b. Novice Division- for exhibitors showing for the first time at the State Fair, and who are 12 years of age or younger on September 30, 2025
 - c. Junior Division- exhibitors 12 years of age and younger on September 30, 2025
 - d. Intermediate Division- exhibitors 13 to 15 years of age on September 30, 2025
 - e. Senior Division- exhibitors 16 years of age and older on September 30, 2025
3. Classes may be divided into smaller preliminary classes/heats as deemed appropriate by the Show Superintendents.
4. All exhibitors with entries in the Junior Goat Show(s) will automatically be entered in the appropriate showmanship and Skillathon division based on Date of Birth. There will not be a Showmanship or Skillathon Division in the entry system, as all exhibitors will be automatically entered. While neither participation in showmanship or Skillathon are mandatory, they are required for consideration of the Premier Exhibitor awards. It will be the responsibility of the exhibitor to scratch from these competitions by the designated time.
5. **Exhibitors must show their own animal in showmanship.** The animal must be entered in the junior meat goat show. Exhibitor's goats that are eliminated from the show due to weight requirements may be used in showmanship.
6. **Showmanship animals must be shown clean, dry, and unfitted (no glues or adhesives allowed).**

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MARKET GOATS and COMMERCIAL DOES

To be eligible for exhibition, all Market Goat and Commercial Doe entries must have been nominated using the **OFFICIAL STATE FAIR OF VA ONLINE NOMINATION PROCESS, INCLUDING DNA SUBMISSION**. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to properly nominate his or her goats **NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2025**. At the time of nomination all market goats and commercial does must be individually identified with an official Federally issued Scrapie Tag. Only goats that have been nominated and properly identified will be eligible to show in the Market Goat or Commercial Doe competition at the State Fair of Virginia. Exhibitors may nominate up to a total of 12 goats (wethers and does, to be shown as either market goats or commercial does). Each animal may be nominated in the name of ONE exhibitor only.

*****NOMINATION = OWNERSHIP. Once an animal has been nominated it may not be shown in/under the name of any other exhibitor between the date of online nomination submission and the conclusion of the State Fair of Virginia Youth Livestock Shows. The ONLY EXCEPTION is that a Cloverbud/Pee Wee youth may use that animal in a SHOWMANSHIP CLASS at another event, if that event's rules allow such. However, any change in the owner/exhibitor name in any other circumstance will constitute a change in ownership and that animal will no longer be eligible to be shown at the State Fair of VA Youth Livestock Shows.**

DNA Envelopes must be ordered using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/2025-SFVA-DNA-ENVELOPE-ORDER>

After receiving DNA Envelopes, each exhibitor must complete the online nomination process at this link: <http://sfva-youth-livestock.fairentry.com/>

Deadline for completion of the Online Nomination Process and Postmark Date for return of DNA Samples is July 1st, 2025

Exhibitors are limited to 6 total entries in the market goat and commercial doe divisions. A maximum of 4 market goats and a maximum of 3 commercial does per exhibitor may be shown (total not to exceed 6).

1. Market goats and Commercial Does should be born on or after January 1 and must have their milk teeth and no eruption of permanent teeth.
2. Market goats and Commercial Does must be owned and cared for by the exhibitor on or before the date of online nomination submission and continuously thereafter. Nomination constitutes ownership.
3. Market Goats may be wethers or does. Wethers must show no evidence of testicular tissue and be completely healed from castration.
4. Goats exhibited in the market goat division may not be shown in the commercial doe division or the registered breeding doe divisions. Commercial does may not be shown in the market goat or registered breeding doe divisions.
5. Market Goats and Commercial Does will be shown by weight.
6. A declared weight system will be used for Market Goats and Commercial Does. Exhibitors will pick up their weight/entry card from the designated check-in location. The exhibitor will fill out and turn in the card **by the designated time** with a declared weight which will be the official show weight for that animal. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to have the card complete and turned in by the designated deadline. Scales will be available for exhibitors to use when determining their declared weights.
 - a. The top 2 – 3 placing animals in each class (or more as determined by show management or judge) will be weighed back during the show.
 - b. Goats must not be more than 5 pounds heavier than their declared weight at weigh-back
 - c. Any goat heavier than the 5-pound tolerance will be disqualified, and will not be eligible for any other live classes.

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- d. No re-weighs will be allowed during the weigh-back process.
 - e. Any goat under the minimum weight of 45 pounds during the weigh-back process will be disqualified.
 - f. If any goats are disqualified during the weigh-back process, animals placing lower than those disqualified will move up in placings as appropriate.
7. **Market Goats and Commercial Does must weigh a minimum of 45 pounds (no maximum weight limit).** Class weight breaks and Division assignments will be made at the discretion of show officials. An attempt will be made to limit classes to a maximum of 20 goats and Divisions assigned with a goal of having approximately the same number of goats in each Division.
8. **All goats with a declared weight under 45 pounds (market goats and commercial does) will be allowed to show in a feeder goat class at the beginning of the Market Goat Show.** These goats will not be eligible for premiums or awards. Goats weighing less than 45 pounds are not eligible to sell.
9. The market goat show will be terminal for the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion goats. Exhibitors of these goats qualify for the Scholarship Program. Please see scholarship description at end of this Competition Guide for details. The show is also terminal for Class Winners participating in the Scholarship Program. Participation in the scholarship program for class winners is optional.
10. Final designation of market goat and commercial doe entries will be made at check-in.
11. All first and second place class winners must compete for their respective Division Champion and Reserve Division Champion, as well as Third Overall Division honors. Additionally, all Division Champions and Reserve Division Champions must be shown to compete for Overall Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion and 3rd Overall honors. Failure to do so will be considered a violation of the National Show Ring Code of Ethics and appropriate action will be taken.
12. In the Market Goat and Commercial Doe shows, classes will be broken into three divisions – Light, Medium, and Heavy Weight. A champion, reserve, and third overall will be selected in each division. A Grand Champion Overall, Reserve Champion Overall, and Third Overall will be selected from the division winners in both the Market Goat and Commercial Doe shows.

REGISTERED BREEDING DOES

- 1. Does must be owned, separated, and cared for by the exhibitor before July 1, 2025 and continuously thereafter.
- 2. Registered Does of any meat breed are eligible. Does must be recorded with, and have registration papers issued from, a national breed association. All does must be registered with their respective breed and carry their corresponding tag and/or tattoo.
- 3. Breeds must have a minimum of 10 does from at least 3 exhibitors to qualify for a breed show. Breeds not meeting this requirement will be exhibited in the All Other Breeds division.
- 4. All does must be the property of, registered, and certificates issued in the name of the exhibitor prior to July 1, 2025. Registration papers must be available for inspection at the fair. Each registered goat entry must be owned and entered in the exhibitor's name.
- 5. Ownership of Registered Breeding Goats may be joint with an immediate family member (parent, step-parent, or sibling), provided the Exhibitor's Name is present on the certificate. No Farm Names, even the family farm, are allowed. For goats with joint ownership, entries may only be made in the name of one exhibitor and may not be changed once entries are submitted and approved.
- 6. The date of birth must be verified for all entries by their registration papers.
- 7. All exhibitors must check their entries and provide paper copies of the registration papers with show officials by the designated time.

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8. Does exhibited in the youth registered breeding doe division may not be shown in the market goat division or commercial doe division.
9. Classes may be split at the discretion of show officials.
10. Class winners and second place does will return to compete for Champion and Reserve Champion Registered Breeding Doe.
11. Exhibitors are limited to a total of two (2) premiums per class in individual classes, and a maximum of 6 total registered breeding doe entries.
12. Registered Breeding Doe entries: Enter class from following list. Include animal tag/tattoo, registration number, and animal birth date on entry form. Enter appropriate breed- Boer, Kiko, Myotonic, Pygmy. If breed is not listed, enter All Other Breeds (AOB) Division and indicate breed on entry. Maximum of 2 entries per exhibitor for individual classes, and total of 6 registered breeding does total. Registered Breeding Doe classes:
 - a. Yearling Does- born 9/1/23-8/31/24
 - b. Senior Kid- born 9/1/24-12/31/24
 - c. Intermediate Kid- born 1/1/25-3/15/25
 - d. Junior Kid- born 3/16/25 and later

PREMIUMS, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Meat Goat Premium Schedule

	Placing									
	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>6th</u>	<u>7th</u>	<u>8th</u>	<u>9th</u>	<u>10th</u>
Market Goats	\$50	\$25	\$22	\$19	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$9	\$8
Commercial Does & Registered Does	\$30	\$25	\$22	\$19	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$9	\$8
Costume	\$15	\$12	\$10	\$9	\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$4
Showmanship	\$75	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$14	\$13	\$12	\$11

PREMIUMS AND SPECIAL AWARDS FOR MARKET GOATS

Entries must be sold for slaughter to receive the cash premiums listed below.

Grand Champion Market Goat:	\$250, Banner, Scholarship & Market price for animal
Reserve Grand Champion Market Goat:	\$150, Banner, Scholarship & Market price for animal
Division Champion Market Goats:	\$75, Banner
Reserve Division Champion Market Goats:	\$50, Banner
Class Winners: (Scholarship eligible)	Scholarship & Market price for animal

Scholarships are cumulative for the same entry.

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PREMIUMS AND SPECIAL AWARDS FOR BREEDING DOES

Grand Champion Commercial Doe:	\$200 & Banner
Reserve Champion Commercial Doe:	\$150 & Banner
Third Overall Commercial Doe:	Banner
Grand Champion Registered Breeding Doe:	\$200 & Banner
Reserve Champion Registered Breeding Doe:	\$150 & Banner
Third Overall Registered Breeding Doe:	Banner

***New for 2025 – There is no longer a Supreme Breeding Doe Competition between Commercial and Registered Breeding Does

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM- MEAT GOATS

Market Goats:

All market goat entries/animals qualifying and designated for the Scholarship Program must be sold and slaughtered. If the animal is condemned for any reason, neither payment nor scholarship will be awarded and the competitor must accept the consequences without recourse against the State Fair of Virginia.

Upon qualifying for and agreeing to participate in the Scholarship Program, the exhibitor will be compensated for his/her entry as set forth in the Scholarship Program.

Overall Grand Champion Market Goat	\$600.00 Scholarship	(1)
Overall Reserve Grand Champion Market Goat	\$350.00 Scholarship	(1)
Class Winners – Market Goats	\$150.00 Scholarship each	(Max of 10)

Scholarships are cumulative for the same animal. Exhibitors may receive multiple market goat scholarships, which may include any combination of the Grand and Class Winner awards detailed above.

Premier Exhibitor Scholarships - 9 Scholarships (by age group):

Junior	1 st	\$300.00	2 nd	\$200.00	3 rd	\$100.00
Intermediate	1 st	\$350.00	2 nd	\$250.00	3 rd	\$150.00
Senior	1 st	\$400.00	2 nd	\$300.00	3 rd	\$200.00

Meat Goat Promotion & Herdsman Awards

1st Place: \$100 and Rosette

2nd Place: \$ 80 and Rosette

3rd Place: \$ 40 and Rosette

Additional information, including the rules and rubric for judging, are included in the Herdsmanship/Educational Display Contest Rules and Guidelines.