



## Entry Fees and Deadlines:

May 15, 2026

For Questions, please contact: Email: [Livestock@alamedacountyfair.com](mailto:Livestock@alamedacountyfair.com)

Phone: (509) 619-6260

[Register Here!](#)

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# DEPARTMENT 13

## Educational Exhibits and Contests

### Pee Wee Showmanship

No Entry Fee – Ribbon Only

1. Open to Juniors 5-8 years of age.
2. You may register online or at the Livestock office. Two classes will be offered: Sheep and Goats.
3. Entries due by Wednesday, July 8 at 10 am. No late entries. Entries shall be made on livestock entry forms provided by the fair. Exhibitors to enter at the showing thirty minutes prior to the show.
4. The signature of a parent or guardian is required.

#### DIVISION

##### A. Pee Wee Showmanship

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#### CLASS

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1. Goats
2. Sheep

### 4-H & FFA Poster/Panel Exhibit

Pre-Entry is required.

**Danish System of judging**

1. 4-H and FFA are judged together.
  2. Exhibits must be on display while exhibitor's animals are at the fair. Horse posters may be delivered and displayed during market week. Deliver to livestock office after Pre-Fair Meeting Wed., June 17 at 7pm.
  3. Panel Construction: Use posters, mounted on heavy paper or wood or work on wood itself. The exhibit must be no larger than 4' x 6' (width of pen).
  4. Educational Poster must be no smaller than ½ poster board (14"x22) or no bigger than Full Poster Board (22"x44").
  5. Poster does not have to be covered in plastic.
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6. Exhibitors that solicit their sale animal on poster will automatically be disqualified. Please view the following Guidelines:
7. Posters must be educational the following must be followed:
  - a. **Purpose:** Attract the viewer's attention, hold their attention for a period of time, and teach them something.
  - b. **Viewing:** Distance: 5 feet Minimum
  - c. **Content:** Multiple thoughts on a common subject Content
  - d. **Accuracy:** Contents MUST be accurate Data Source: Must be listed on the back. Reliable sources only.
  - e. **Don't:** No solicitations.

AWARDS – Poster		
1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
\$5	\$4	\$3

## DIVISION

### B. Poster and Panel Exhibit

## CLASS

1. Poster
2. Panel
3. Pee Wee Poster (Ribbon Only)

### **4-H & FFA Buyer Letter Competition**

Pre-Entry is required.

#### **American System of judging**

What is a Buyer's Letter and why are they important?

Buyer's letters are letters you send out to potential buyers before the fair letting them know about yourself and about your project. It is also an invitation for them to come to the upcoming fair and/or to participate in the junior livestock auction. Buyers like the personability and the direct outreach from youth exhibitors. It is your responsibility to market yourself to ensure the success of your project.

How do I write a Buyer's Letter?

- Address a specific buyer, buyers like messaging to be personalized.
- Introduce yourself: your name, age, year in 4-H/FFA, your club.
- Introduce your project: what are you showing? How long have you been involved in the project? What did you learn? Buyers want to hear about you and your project animal.
- Include fair dates, show dates, and most importantly Auction information (date, time & additional information).

- Other things to include: Image of you and your project, thank them for previous participation in support of your projects (when applicable), be creative!
- Make Letters informative, but not lengthy.
- Things NOT to include: Do not ask buyers about a certain price point. Do not threaten your buyer or convey hardships. Do not assume or use assuming language that they will buy your auction animal.

**Rules:**

1. Open to all Alameda County 4-H & FFA market livestock exhibitors.
2. Entries will be judged on Creativity, Legibility and Overall Messaging.
3. Only ONE Entry per exhibitor.

**To Enter:**

- Send one buyer letter to the following address:

Alameda County Fair Jr. Livestock  
 Attn: Buyer Letter  
 4501 Pleasanton Ave  
 Pleasanton, CA 94566

- Must include proof that letters were mailed to at least 3 different buyers
- This can be an image of three addressed and stamped envelopes
- Or copies of three different letters

Letters must be received by the exhibits office no later than June 8, 2026, to be eligible for competition. Winners will be announced at the Mandatory Livestock Exhibitor Meeting June 28th, 2025.

<b>AWARDS – Buyer Letter Competition</b>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
\$100	\$50	\$25

**DIVISION**

**C. 4-H & FFA Buyer Letter Competition**

**CLASS**

1. Entry

## **4-H & FFA Public Speaking**

Pre-Entry is required.

### **Danish System of judging**

1. 4-H and FFA are judged together.
2. Minimum length is 5 minutes and maximum length is 10 minutes.
3. Exhibitors are encouraged to use the microphone, provide public participation, do a demonstration or give a talk that tells/shows the public something important or interesting about their project. Visual aids are encouraged.
4. Event will take place in the Amador Pavilion.
5. Additional animals may be brought from home and taken home the same day.
6. Exhibitors must wear the official uniform unless prior approval has been obtained from the Livestock Office.

<b>AWARDS – Public Speaking</b>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
\$10	\$8	\$5

### **DIVISION**

#### **D. 4-H & FFA Public Speaking**

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### **CLASS**

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2. Public Speaking

## **Livestock Skill-a-thon**

**No Pre-Entry**

**Ribbon Only**

1. The Skill-A-Thon test will consist of questions about the following species - Horse, Dairy Goats, Dairy Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Swine, & Beef Cattle. Things to study: breeds, cuts of meat, body parts, livestock equipment and general knowledge.
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## DIVISION

### E. 4-H & FFA Skill-a-thon

## CLASS

1. 1<sup>st</sup> year members (exhibiting livestock)
2. Junior (13 years and under)
3. Advanced (14 years and older)
4. FFA
5. Adult

### Herdsmanship

**No Pre-entry Required**

**Danish System of judging**

1. 4-H and FFA are judged together. American System of Judging.
2. Each pen must clearly display Club or Chapter name to be eligible.
3. Judging will be based on cleanliness, neatness of the exhibit area and the educational and attraction values of the display. (E-mail: [livestock@alamedacountyfair.com](mailto:livestock@alamedacountyfair.com) for Judging Standards.)
4. Judges will only make awards when worthy.
5. All exhibits will be inspected daily at various times during the fair.

AWARDS – Herdsmanship				
1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$100	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50

## DIVISION

### F. Herdsmanship

## CLASS

1. Beef
2. Dairy Goat
3. Sheep/Goat
4. Swine

**Carcass Contest**  
**No Pre-entry Required**  
**American Judging System**

**Beef Carcass Contest**

1. Mandatory pre-tag weigh day will establish the beginning weight and the fair weigh-in will establish the final Weight.
2. To be eligible for an award, cattle must gain at 2.2 pounds per day and be judged live as market ready.
3. All cattle processed at the Junior Livestock Auction and consigned as live or resale will be judged in the carcass contest.
4. Only animals qualifying for rate of gain and carcass will be scored with the live placing for Super Steer/Heifer.
5. Dressing Percentage must be 60-69% (hot weight divided by sale weight).
6. Super Steer Scorecard: 10 % rate of gain, 60% carcass, 30% live placing.
7. In the event that all animals are not weighed at the pre-tagging day, the score card for Super Steer will be 60% carcass.

**Market Goat Carcass Contest**

1. All goats that are ultra-sounded and deemed Market Ready in live judging will be eligible for competition.

**Market Lamb Carcass Contest**

1. All lambs consigned to the commercial processing plant will be judged.
2. Dressing percentage must be a minimum of 50%.
3. Lambs judged by the USDA Inspector must meet the following criteria to be eligible:
  - a. Yield Grade #2 (.16" to .25" back fat) OR Yield Grade 3 (.26" to .35" back fat)
  - b. Quality Grade of Prime or Choice
4. Super Lamb Score Card: Market Class Placing – 40%, Carcass Contest Placing – 60%

<b>AWARDS – Carcass Contest</b>				
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>
\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10

**DIVISION**

**G. Carcass Contests**

**CLASS**

1. Market Beef
2. Market Goat
3. Market Lamb