

SECTION 11 – 2026 GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES

1. All market animals entered in the Eastern Michigan State Fair must be owned by the exhibitor. If the animal is owned by a co-op or owned by the exhibitor's family member, that ownership must be declared to the superintendent at the time the animal is registered/tagged. Any other ownership arrangements must be disclosed in writing and must receive approval from both the Superintendent and the Fair Management.
2. Animals are to be weighed according to the posted schedule.
3. Animals are to be tagged upon weighing at the fairgrounds. All tags not required by Eastern Michigan State Fair must be removed before weigh in.
4. All animals entered will be placed by the judge and sold at the livestock auction in the order created by animal area superintendent.
5. All animals must meet the requirements stated in Rules for Livestock Divisions B-J.
6. Exhibitors are required to provide care (feed, water, cleaning of stalls) for their animals each day while at the fair. Exhibitors not fulfilling this requirement will be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day for each day the requirement is not met, including watering, feeding and care of animals while in Champion Pens. Fines must be paid to fair office prior to auction check being distributed.
7. All Grand and Reserve Champion market animals must be sold. If a member has 2 animals, which receive Grand or Reserve Champion, both must be sold at auction.
8. Exhibitors showing any market animal must show in the corresponding showmanship class. Exceptions at discretion of superintendent.
9. On weigh-in day, show day, auction day and release day, exhibitor or their representative must be present.
10. Market animals will be released at 6:00 am on Sunday, post fair. See animal species for specific rules.
11. Grand and Reserve Champion Market Animals will be on display in their designated "Champion Area" (pen, cage, stalls, etc.) within two hours of their show and daily thereafter by 10:30 am and removed from pens between 10-10:30 pm every night of fair.
12. Each exhibitor of champion/reserve animals will be responsible for daily cleaning of their own pen or pens and around the area in the champion barn. Failure to comply will result in a \$50.00 fine will be assessed. Fines must be paid to fair office prior to auction check being distributed.

SECTION 12 – LIVESTOCK INSPECTION

1. The Board of Management reserves the right to refuse admission to any animal or animals originating from a herd whenever the status of health of the herd is questionable or suspicious.
2. Health requirements for Livestock Exhibits are set up by the State Department of Agriculture and will be strictly enforced. See Michigan Department of Agriculture Requirements for Livestock Exhibited in Michigan.
3. All horses brought onto the Fairgrounds must have current negative Coggins certificate.
4. All animals will have USDA required tags including: Beef – RFID tags, Sheep & Goats – Scrapie tags, Swine – USDA 840 tags
5. The General Livestock Superintendent or his representative will inspect all animals according to the Michigan Department of Agriculture's Current Health Requirements for Livestock Exhibited in Michigan, before they are unloaded from trailers, trucks, or cars.
6. Fair Management has the sole and exclusive right to request any exhibit, animal or otherwise to be removed from Eastern Michigan State Fairgrounds and denied ability to exhibit.

SECTION 13 – PROTESTS & APPEALS

1. Appeals and Complaints: An exhibitor compelled to bring a complaint regarding conflict of interest of the judge, disqualification of an exhibit or exhibitor, group leader or superintendent's behavior, or eligibility of an exhibit, exhibitor shall in the order listed below.
 - Discuss the issue with the area Superintendent.
 - Discuss the issue with the General Livestock Superintendent.
 - Submit the complaint in writing to the Fair Office.
2. If a resolution is not reached, protests shall be referred to the Fair Board, which shall review the protest at the next scheduled Fair Board meeting with interested parties and give parties an opportunity to submit evidence. The party against whom the protest was filed shall have the right to read the statement of protest.
3. The Fair Board shall issue an opinion within 2 weeks of the fore-mentioned scheduled meeting.
4. An exhibitor may file an appeal to the Department of Agriculture within 45 days of filing the initial complaint if the exhibitor is not satisfied with the Association's action. The Department of Agriculture shall have 60 days after receipt of any appropriately filed appeal to investigate the complaint and issue a finding of fact and notice of department action and any recommended actions for the Association.