

DEPARTMENT 160 – POULTRY SHOW

Check-In: *Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (9:00 AM-12:00 PM)*

Judging: *Thursday, November 5, 2026 (9:00 AM)*

Showmanship: *Saturday, November 7, 2026 (11:00 AM)*

Release: *Sunday, November 15, 2026 (8:00 PM)*

All poultry must stay the entire length of the Fair.

All entries in the Youth Livestock Programs must be submitted via online system by the registration date

Entry Deadline- October 1, 2026

Youth Poultry Premiums

Blue - \$10 Red - \$8 White - \$5

Best of Class - \$10 Best of Breeds - \$8

Youth Poultry Premiums

Division Champion - \$30 & Banner
Division Reserve Champion - \$15 & Banner

Best of Show- \$75 & Banner
Reserve Best of Show - \$50 & Banner

North Florida Fair Champion Exhibitor

A Champion Youth Exhibitor and a Reserve Champion Youth Exhibitor will be selected in each age division for each Youth Livestock Show at the North Florida Fair. These exhibitors will be selected based on the highest number of points accumulated. The Champion Youth Exhibitors in each Youth Show will be eligible to receive:

The Champion and Reserve Champion Youth Exhibitor Award is based on a premium point system. Each category is worth 100 points. Exhibitors are required to receive a minimum of 70% of the total points to be eligible for Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors disqualified or earning a zero from any category below will not be eligible for Champion Exhibitor.

Points are accumulated by participating in the following categories:

Record Book
Skill-a-thon
Showmanship
Poster
Ask Me Booth



Eligibility of Exhibitor:

- Only bona-fide North Florida youth agricultural organizations or FFA members residing in/or attending school in the following counties **Bay, Calhoun, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsen, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwannee, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington** are eligible to enter.
- Exhibitors must be enrolled in elementary or secondary school.
- Exhibitors must be 8 years of age by September 1, 2026, to compete.
- Exhibitors must be under the direct supervision of their Leader/Advisor/Parent/Guardian at all times.
- Exhibitors must designate at the time of online entry, which agricultural organization (4-H or FFA) they will conduct their project under.

- All exhibitors are required to have Ethics Training and have a valid Ethics Number in order to show at the North Florida Fair.
- 1. All exhibitors are required to submit a record book for each animal project entered.
- 2. All exhibitors are required to take a Skill-a-thon for each animal project entered.
- 3. All exhibitors are required to participate in Showmanship for each animal project entered.
- 4. All exhibitors are required to participate in Herdsmanship for each animal project entered.

Cloverbud Program:

- Cloverbud: age between 5 – 7yrs, as of September 1, 2026.
- Cloverbud Exhibitors must register their own Rabbit/Cavy online before October 1, 2026.
- Cloverbuds may only exhibit 1 animal, they may choose between Purebred Poultry, Rabbit or Cavy.
- Cloverbuds will participate in showmanship Friday, November 6, 2026, at 6:00 PM.
- Cloverbud exhibitor must submit a Cloverbud record book.
- Cloverbud exhibitor may submit a poster.
- Cloverbud exhibitors may participate in Skill A Thon.

Cloverbud Award Participation

Ethics Certification: (Required)

Ethics Certification is required for all exhibitors at the North Florida Fair. The North Florida Fair believes that every youth exhibitor should receive proper training and information for raising and showing a youth project. All exhibitors that exhibit at the 2026 North Florida Fair must have completed the Ethics training in order to show at the 2026 North Florida Fair.

It is important that the exhibitors understand:

- The purpose of youth livestock projects
 - The importance of ethics in youth livestock projects
 - Proper animal handling and management
 - The difference between animal welfare and animal rights
- Be prepared to be an ambassador for animal agriculture

The Youth Livestock Show Ethics and Animal Care Workshop is designed to certify students to meet the mandatory certification requirements that will be in effect for the 2026 North Florida Fair.

North Florida Fair Workshop Dates

Saturday, July 18, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

Saturday, September 19, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

These are LIVE, ON-SITE workshops, held at the North Florida Fairgrounds
Please register online at www.floridastatefairag.com

PLEASE NOTE: FOR EXHIBITORS SHOWING AT THE 2026 NORTH FLORIDA FAIR SEPT 19th, 2026, WILL BE THE LAST ACCEPTED DATE TO TAKE YOUR ETHICS TRAINING...NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!

Eligibility of Animal:

- All sick birds or birds with external parasites will be isolated and are not eligible for competition or awards. Birds must be removed from the premises immediately.
- Eligible Purebred Breeds are those recognized by the American Poultry Association Standard of Perfection and the American Bantam Association Standard of Perfection. Classes will be provided for chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. No crossbred poultry will be allowed.
- Poultry must be inspected as provided in 5C-4.004.
 - OCVI Required. An OCVI is required for Poultry, Domestic Fowl or Ratitites for movement into Florida, but not specifically for exhibition. However, Poultry, Domestic Fowl or Ratitites presented for exhibition without an OCVI, must be inspected as provided in subsection 5C-4.0017(4) F.A.C.
 - Test or Certification Required. All poultry or domestic fowl entered for exhibition must originate from Pullorum-Thyroid Clean flocks or hatcheries, as provided in 9 CFR ss 145 (Jan 2018) and ss 147 (Jan 2018) and ss 148 (Jan 2018) are hereby incorporated by reference and available online at xxxxx.
- Animals/Exhibitors may be sifted at any time due to any circumstance (i.e. structural conformity, behavior, malnourishment, etc.)
- Tampering with or faking any animal entered is prohibited.
- NPIP is encouraged. Birds without certificates will be checked by the FDACS at Fair check-in.
- To see full registration list and class numbers, [Breeds & Varieties - The American Poultry Association \(APA\)](#) Please use this list to ensure accurate registration.

Proof of Ownership:

- As of August 1, the exhibitor must show ownership of animals and be in possession of the animal.
- Bill of sale or statement of ownership with the name of breeder (seller), breeders address and phone #, date of purchase, date of birth, breed of animal, USDA Tag ID number must be submitted with registration online.
- Statement of ownership must be signed by a parent or guardian.
- If proof of ownership is not with the entry form, the animal will be disqualified.

Official Entry Form & Entry Fees:

- A **\$5.00** per animal entry fee is required at the time of online entry.
- Copy of bill of sale or statement of ownership, livestock exhibitor certificate, copy of ethics certificate and waiver must be submitted at the time of entry via the website links.
- All birds must be entered by class, breed, variety, and sex and will be judged as they were entered.

Health Requirements & Identification

- Poultry must be inspected as provided in 5C-4.004.
 - OCVI Required. An OCVI is required for Poultry, Domestic Fowl or Ratitites for movement into Florida, but not specifically for exhibition. However, Poultry, Domestic Fowl or Ratitites presented for exhibition without an OCVI, must be inspected as provided in subsection 5C-4.0017(4) F.A.C.
 - Test or Certification Required. All poultry or domestic fowl entered for exhibition must originate from Pullorum-Thyroid Clean flocks or hatcheries, as provided in 9 CFR ss 145 (Jan 2018) and ss 147 (Jan 2018) and ss 148 (Jan 2018) are hereby incorporated by reference and available online at <http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-10045>.
- FDACS will be present to test all birds upon arrival. All birds without a valid NPIP number will be given a pullorum-typhoid blood test on entry. Reactors will be taken by the Department of Agriculture and not returned to the exhibitor.
- It is highly recommended that each exhibitor contact the Florida Department of Agriculture to obtain their NPIP number prior to arriving at the North Florida Fair.

Record Books (Required):

- All species are required to submit COMPLETED Record Books for the Fair office no later than **Friday, October 16, 2026**. Record books may be mailed to the fairgrounds. If mailing your record books, it must be received by **Friday, October 16, 2026, OR delivered to your County Extension Agent** to be accepted. Species include Beef Breeding, Prospect Steers, Dairy Goats, Breeding Sheep, Poultry, Rabbits/Cavy, Boer Goats. All record books must be completed through the animal's check-in date. The Fair is not responsible for any submission lost by the Postal Service. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to confirm that the Fair has received their record books.
- Only 2026 North Florida Fair Record Books will be accepted.
- Record Books will not be accepted without the completed Signature Pages. Record Books will be reviewed and any exhibitor submitting an incomplete record book will RECEIVE A ZERO and will be notified along with their leaders/advisor. The exhibitor along with their parent or advisor will be required to complete the record book at final check-in to be eligible for show and participation at the North Florida Fair. The exhibitor will be given a 1-hour window to complete & resubmit on final check-in day. Any record book deemed incomplete at resubmission will forfeit the exhibitor from participating & showing at the North Florida Fair.
- The project officially begins **August 1, 2026**.
- The ownership deadline goats/sheep is **August 1, 2026**.
- All Photos must be in color and from the current project year. Photos should not look like scrapbooks and should be kept in a square and rectangular shape.
- Final Record Books must be handwritten by the exhibitor in their own words. Failure to comply is considered grounds for disqualification of the exhibitor resulting in ineligibility for show & participation in the program.
- If additional pages are needed, print a duplicate page, and add them into the book. Be sure to staple in the left-hand corner & include them in your final calculations.

- Record Books not submitted by the deadline will result in exhibitor disqualification from the program.
- Parents and advisors/leaders are responsible for reviewing for completeness prior to signing.
- Disqualified exhibitors will be notified by the North Florida Fair.
- Graded Record Books will be returned at the Fair.
- Exhibitors must score 70 or better in order to receive record book recognition and/or awards.
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions: junior, intermediate and senior.
- Points will be earned towards Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.
- Record Books are judged on the Modified Danish System; Blue, Red and White.
- Record Books will be available for pick up at release.

Skill-a-thon (Required):

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (1:00 PM)

- The Skill-a-thon will be given at the North Florida Fair.
 - The Skill-a-thon is designed to test the exhibitor’s knowledge in areas associated with their livestock project.
1. All exhibitors are required to participate in the Skill-a-thon in order to show.
 2. Failure to take the Skill-a-thon will result in disqualification from the program.
 3. There is no time limit during the multiple-choice section of the test; however, there will be time limits on the hands-on station to ensure movement.
 4. Exhibitors must score 70 or better to receive Skill-a-thon recognition and/or awards.
 5. Exhibitors will be in age divisions; junior, intermediate and senior.
 6. The 2026 Educational topic is the same as the Florida State Fair’s please refer to the following website for study material: <http://www.floridastatefairag.com>.
 7. Exhibitors will earn points toward Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.

SKILL-A-THON AWARDS

Award Awarded to Junior, Intermediate and Senior Division Winners!

Banners Awarded to 2nd and 3rd Place Junior, Intermediate and Senior Division Winners!

Exhibitors scoring 70 or above on their Skill-a-thon will receive the following award

90%-100% - \$30 80%-89% - \$20 70%-79% - \$10

Showmanship (Required)

Saturday, November 7, 2026 @ 11:00 AM

The main objective in being a good showman is to present the animal to the judges in the best possible manner. The animal must be set up properly, clean and trained well enough to respond to the exhibitor's commands. The exhibitors must be courteous, attentive and demonstrate knowledge of their project.

1. Failure to compete in showmanship will result in a zero for Champion Exhibitor Points and forfeiting all premiums.
2. Exhibitors will be in age divisions; junior, intermediate and senior.
3. Official North Florida Fair Show Ring attire is required.
4. Exhibitors must be in the arena 15 minutes prior to the show starting for an official dress check.
5. During all shows only the judges and committee members are allowed inside the ring. All others will remain outside the closed off area.
6. Awards will be given to the top three (3) places in each age division.
7. Exhibitor earns points towards Champion Exhibitor (no monetary premium will be paid).

Showmanship Divisions

Junior (8-11 years old) · **Intermediate** (12-14 years old)

Senior (15-18 years old -through grade 12 in high school)

Belt Buckles Awarded to Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship Division Winners!

Banners Awarded to 2nd & 3rd Place Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship Winners!

No Premium Monies will be awarded!

Judging (Required)

Thursday, November 5, 2026 @ (9:00 AM)

- The birds will be judged utilizing the Danish System of judging. Barn closes at 9:00 AM.
- Signs are permitted above Cages. Signs must be no larger than 4X6 inches.
- The judging of birds will be conducted in consideration of breed characteristics per the American Bantam Association & American Poultry Association Standards.
- During all shows only the Judge, Handler, and Clerk (All appointed by the Superintendent & Livestock Manager) are allowed inside the Poultry Barn. All others will remain outside the closed off area.
- During the selection of champions, exhibitors and parents shall refrain from speaking with the judges.
- The decision of the judges shall be final. No protest will be entertained.

- Birds must receive blue ribbons to be eligible for higher placings.
- Do not put glitter or other non-animal safe substances on show or sale animals.

Youth Poultry Premiums

Blue - \$10 Red - \$8 White - \$5

Best of Class - \$10 Best of Breeds - \$8

Youth Poultry Premiums

Division Champion - \$30 & Banner
Division Reserve Champion - \$15 & Banner

Best of Show- \$75 & Banner
Reserve Best of Show - \$50 & Banner

Educational Posters (Optional) (Earn points toward Champion Exhibitor)

- Posters must be submitted at the Skill-a-thon **Wednesday, November 4, 2026.**
- Posters must be done on 20 x 30 foam board ONLY. NO trifolds or poster board will be allowed and will be disqualified.
- Posters must be done in a landscape/horizontal format. Any other orientation will be disqualified.
- Posters from other fairs will not be accepted. Clean, neat posters with no bent corners, staples, tape, holes, etc. that show signs of being previously displayed will not be accepted.
- Poster must relate to the current Skill-a-thon topic.
- Exhibitors using any resource must cite the source on the back of the Poster.
- Include a clear legible title on the front of the poster.
- On the back of the poster include:
 - Name
 - Age Division
 - Program (i.e., Poultry, Steer, Dairy Goat, etc.)
 - Sources
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions, Junior, Intermediate and Senior.
- Cloverbud posters are optional.
- Posters must be removed at check-out.

- Points will be earned toward Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors not submitting a poster or receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.

- Judging will be based on the following:

Topic & Educational Value	25 points
Originality and Creativity	25 points
Quality of Work	25 points
Citing Work	25 points
TOTAL POSSIBLE	100 points

Ask Me Booth (Optional) (Earn points toward Champion Exhibitor)

Thursday, November 5-Sunday, November 8, 2026

- Exhibitors are encouraged to participate in the Ask Me Booth Demonstrations.
- Exhibitors may sign up for two (2) thirty (30) minute demonstrations.
- Each Ask Me Booth demonstration is worth 50 points each towards Champion Exhibitor.
- Exhibitors who are exhibiting animals are the only ones eligible to demonstrate in the Ask Me Booths.
- All exhibitors participating in the Ask Me Booth Demonstrations **MUST BE IN OFFICIAL DRESS...NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Exhibitors must register for the Ask Me Booth prior to Fair.
- Exhibitors must check-in and check-out with the committee member on duty.
- Groups of friends/parents/advisors/leaders are not permitted to gather around exhibitors while they conduct their Ask Me Booth time slot. The intent of this area is for exhibitors to interact with & educate the public about poultry and their projects.

Fair Arrival:

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (9:00 AM-12:00 PM)

- FDACS will be present to test all birds upon arrival. All birds without a valid NPIP number will be given a pullorum-typhoid blood test on entry. Reactors will be taken by the Department of Agriculture and not returned to the exhibitor.
- It is highly recommended that each exhibitor contact the Florida Department of Agriculture to obtain their NPIP number prior to arriving at the North Florida Fair.
- After animals have been inspected management will check-in animals and will assign pens.
- **NO animal will be allowed in the barn until they have been inspected by the FDACS team, NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Only animals that have been registered to show and exhibit are allowed on the North Florida Fairgrounds and in the barns, **NO DOGS, NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Pens will be assigned by management.
- All exhibitors must be present at check-in at the Fair (Wednesday, November 4, 2026) and accompanied by an adult leader or advisor unless special permission has been requested and approved by management.
- **NO WET BIRDS WILL BE ACCEPTED UPON ARRIVAL!**

- Animals with any signs of lice, mites, eggs or any other external parasites will be removed from the barn immediately & are not eligible to show.
- Birds will be cooped by class, breed, variety, & sex.
- All exhibitors are required to water and feed their birds upon arrival.
- Signs are permitted above Cages. Signs must be no larger than 4X6 inches.
- During cold weather, cages may be covered by the Exhibitor between the hours of 10pm-9am. It is the Exhibitors' responsibility to ensure that the covering is moved before 9am.
- A limited amount of shavings will be provided by the fair.
- NO leash walking due to safety.

Herdsmen Contest (Mandatory)

Proper herdsmanship will be upheld by all exhibitors of the North Florida Fair. In order to ensure a proper and safe environment for our exhibits, public guests and exhibitors, all exhibitors will participate in the Herdsman Contest during their time at the 2026 North Florida Fair.

The exhibits will be judged daily from 10:00 AM-10:00 PM on the following basis:

1. Orderliness and cleanliness of service area, cages, beds, animals and public walkways.
2. Neatness, courtesy and behavior of exhibitors.
3. Cooperation with fellow exhibitors and show officials in presenting attractive exhibits.
4. Availability of exhibitors to furnish information about their exhibits.

**Awards will be given to the
1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Outstanding Herdsman Teams**

Show management reserves the right to withhold any or all Herdsman Awards if they are not merited by virtue of superior housekeeping.

Daily Care of Animals & Quarters:

- All animals are the responsibility of the exhibitor to be fed, watered and pens cleaned daily until the animal(s) leave the grounds.
- Exhibitors are required to have proper footwear on while inside the livestock barns.
- Exhibitors are prohibited from spending the night in the livestock barns and/or pens.
- Please note: no cooking will be allowed in the barns; food and drink should not be consumed in any animal area.
- Each exhibitor is required to maintain clean and attractive quarters for his or her birds at all times.
- The North Florida Fair will furnish cages.
- Exhibitors will be responsible for feed, water and have their respective cages cleaned daily.
- The Fair will supply cups for waterers and feeders as well as bedding.
- No toys, blankets or other additional items will be allowed in the cages!
- Animals must be fed, watered and have their respective pens cleaned daily.
- Poultry barn closes at 10:00 PM each night.
- No dogs allowed on the Fairgrounds!

- The Central Florida Fair and the Poultry Committee will not be responsible for any loss that may occur but will exercise every reasonable care of exhibits.
- Animals must be held securely when not in their cage and must remain in their respective designated animal areas.
- All eggs are the property of the North Florida Fair and will be removed daily by management.
- Leaders and Advisors will be notified if animals are not properly attended. Exhibitors are expected to be present at their designated exhibit areas.
- If someone is caring for your animals please notify the Livestock office, Chair, or Co-Chairman immediately of the Exhibitor and what they are responsible for.
- Barn is open from 7am to 10pm daily. All Animals must be cared for daily & before 10am and after 6pm. Exhibitors are permitted to leave property after their animals are cared for and secured for the night. Please hat Herdsman judging does continue until Barn Close. The Herdsman Rubric can be found under the Herdsman section of this book.

Daily Pen Cleaning:

- Exhibitors are responsible for daily pen cleaning.
- Bedding: The upper layer of shaving must be removed and shavings replaced daily. Hay is not permitted.
- Any exhibitor failing to do a daily cleaning of the animal pen will be fined \$25 per occurrence and will be disqualified from showing at the North Florida Fair and will be asked to remove the animal from the grounds. All premiums will be forfeited.

Animal Grooming:

- Animals must be properly groomed for shows and showmanship.
- Putting glitter, oil, powder or any other foreign substance is strictly prohibited on fur.
- Grooming and clipping of animals is limited to the exhibitor, advisor/leader, and/or parent ONLY.

Release

Sunday, November 15, 2026 (8:00 PM)

- During the period of exhibition, no animal may be removed, except by consent of management.
- Animals will be released Sunday, November 15, 2026, at 8:00 PM. Animals removed prior to this time, without prior permission will forfeit all premium monies won.
- No cages will be permitted in the barn until release.
- Do not remove Coop Cards!!! Coop Cards are to be left on all poultry for purposes of identification at load out.
- Premium checks take 6 weeks to process after the Fair ends and will be mailed to the address provided by the exhibitor on the official entry form.

FUN CONTESTS

Fashion Revue (Optional)

Sunday, November 15, 2026 (3:00 PM)

This is a fun show for exhibitors and spectators alike. The intention is to exhibit originality and teamwork within the 4-H and FFA Chapters by displaying up to three (3) members in coordinating costumes. Imagination is beneficial to our learning experiences. However, keep in mind that we are working with animals and have limited resources in the show area setting.

1. The contest is open to all youth exhibitors participating in the livestock programs.
2. Members may enter as individuals or in a group of two (2) or three (3).
3. Teams must be registered as exhibitors and in coordinating costumes.
4. Any animals used in the Fashion Revue must be officially entered and processed to show at the North Florida Fair.
5. Each exhibitor must submit an information summary sheet including the following information:
 - a. Names of individuals participating
 - b. Name of 4-H or FFA Chapter
 - c. What the exhibitor has learned from their project
 - d. Why they chose their costume
 - e. A short description of the entry to be read during the presentation.
6. All summaries are due by Saturday, November 14, 2026.
7. All care should be taken to ensure the animals, being dressed, are not harmed or hindered from natural movement in any way by the costume. On the animal no use of glitter, paints or dyes will be allowed.
8. Products must be made for use on livestock. Committee members have the right to question products being used on animals. All animals **MUST** be broken down and free of product prior to barn closure at 10 PM. Failure to comply with rules will result in a \$100 fine.
9. Awards will be given in each age division; all species will be combined.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. **Costume originality**-The imagination is the limit, with the limits of a livestock show and fair limitations.
2. **Coordination of Costume**-Animal costume should be coordinated with the costume of the exhibitor accompanying the animal in the show ring.
3. **Showmanship**- Entry should be exhibited to best display the concept represented by the costumes.

Fashion Revue Awards

1st-3rd Place in each age division-Award (12 awards)

Egg Decorating Contest (Optional)

- Open to any registered poultry exhibitor.
- Only one entry per exhibitor.
- Only one egg per entry.
- Eggs used in contest must be from a bird eligible to be registered in the North Florida Fair, i.e. ducks, chickens, turkey, etc.
- Entries must be no larger than 6" x 8 ½" x 11".
- Eggs must be turned in at time of check-in.
- Egg may be decorated (age-appropriate PG theme, subject to committee approval) with paint, feathers, paper, crayons, etc.
- Eggs must be blown out. No raw or hard-boiled eggs will be accepted.
- Egg must have been decorated by the exhibitor.
- Judge's decisions are final.
- Eggs will be available for release on Sunday, November 15, 2026. The fair will dispose of any eggs left after that time.
- Cloverbud (exhibitors ages 5-7) are encouraged to participate in the Egg Decorating Contest.

Egg Decorating Awards

1st -3rd Place Award in each age division-Award (12 awards)

Rooster Crowing Contest (Optional)

Saturday, November 14, 2026 (1:00 PM)

- Only one entry per exhibitor in the Rooster Crowing Contest.
- No props are permitted for use during the contest.
- Exhibitors will be responsible for bringing their crowing contestants to the judging area.
- The winner will be the rooster crowing the most times in 2 minutes.
- Entries will be judged by a panel of judges.
- Entries and cage may not be touched or handled in any manner by the owner during the contest.
- Entries must be designated on the entry form.
- Cloverbuds are encouraged to participate in this contest.

Rooster Crowing Awards

1st-2nd Place Award in each age division- Award (8 awards)

END

