Jr. Broiler Rabbit Division

Jr. Broiler Rabbit Division Rules

**Notice to Exhibitors:** Exhibitors must remove rabbits that are sifted from the Show immediately after sifting. All others must be consigned by the exhibitor to the processing plant individual, etc. who places the highest bid with the Show Management. Violation of this rule will result in exhibitor being barred from future shows.

1. Each exhibitor must be a bona fide member of a 4-H Club or FFA Chapter and be enrolled in elementary, secondary or home school in Starr County, and in their respective FFA Chapter or 4-H club by November 1st, of show year.
2. FFA and 4-H exhibitors must be in third grade or nine years old but under twenty as of January 1st of show year.
3. Rabbits must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor as of validation date, and must be continuously fed and cared for by the exhibitor as a project under the supervision of an AST or CEA.
4. An exhibitor can enter only one.
5. Rabbits will be weighed on official show scales at time of entry.
6. Rabbits must meet the following requirements:
	1. Must weigh more than five pounds at the sifting weigh-in.
	2. Must be free of the following defects:
		1. Cysts, ruptures or tumors
		2. Cold or snuffles
		3. Abscesses (hock or elsewhere)
		4. Matted eyelids
		5. Blindness in either or both eyes
		6. Mange
		7. Mites (ear or body)
		8. Fleas
		9. Malocclusion
		10. Vent Diseases
		11. Missing toes or missing complete toenail
		12. Bob tail or broken tail
7. A rabbit, which in the opinion of the sifter, does not meet ARBA Breed Standards of the breed in which it is entered, will be moved to the proper breed by the sifter.
8. After rabbit has been accepted by the Show, no exchange of animal may be made. To do so will disqualify the exhibitor.
9. Each exhibitor must identify the breed of their rabbit at the time of check-in to sift. Each exhibitor must bring one hanging metal rabbit feeder and one or two 32 ounce or larger bottle type water (so rabbit will have enough water during warm weather). *These must be displayed to the Sifting Committee at check-in time. No crocks or bowls allowed. Rabbits will not be admitted unless properly functioning spill proof containers accompany the pen.* ***Each exhibitor will be responsible for feeding and watering their rabbits each day until rabbits are released at the end of the Show. Failure to do so will disqualify the exhibitor from showing next year.*** The Rabbit area will be open from 7:00 am till 9:00 pm each day. **Rabbits must have water at all times. They must be fed by 9:00 am and 7:00 pm each day.**
10. The Livestock Show will not be responsible for any rabbits that get sick or die while on exhibit or in case of fire.
11. No oils, polishes, powders, or other products may be used which would cosmetically alter the rabbit’s naturally groomed appearance at sifting or at the show table.
12. Rabbits will be judged in accordance with American Rabbit Breeder’s Association’s (ARBA) Standards. Judges will additionally refer to the appropriate Breed Standards, as they deem necessary.
13. Basically the four judging factors are:
	1. **GENERAL TYPE –** Look for rabbits that are compact, short and well filled out with rounded solid flesh. Protruding hips, pin bones, back bones, etc. are faults. Look for wide, deep loins, thickness of the hind quarters and well developed shoulders. Hindquarters are most important. Loin is next and shoulders are third in importance.
	2. **CONDITION** – each rabbit should be in prime condition.
	3. **COLOR** – should match breed characteristics.
	4. **FUR**
14. Exhibitors will be required to display their rabbits at the show tables as directed by the judge. Any exhibitor who places in their class must remain in the rabbit barn until advised to leave. Failure to remain in the area will result in forfeiture of any further placing.
15. Rabbits will be classified in the following breeds: New Zealand / Californian / Cross (which consists of New Zealand or Californian crossed rabbits).

**SCHEUDLE OF PREMIUM AWARDS**

For those who choose not to sell their project, a premium will be given based on class placing:

 PLACING PREMIUM

 1 ……………………………………………………………………………………………………$50

 2 ……………………………………………………………………………………………………$45

 3 ……………………………………………………………………………………………………$40

 4 ……………………………………………………………………………………………………$35

 5 ……………………………………………………………………………………………………$30

 6 ……………………………………………………………………………………………………$25

 7 ……………………………………………………………………………………………………$20

RABBIT DIVISION SHOWMANSHIP

All exhibitors of rabbit are eligible to compete. Exhibitors will be divided into two age groups. Exhibitors must show his or her own rabbit.

14 year old and over

13 years of age and under

As of day of contest

Awards will be made on the basis of showmanship, neatness of exhibitor, show condition and behavior of animal.

Immediately following the judging showmanship entrants must report to the rabbit barn, at which time a multiple-choice exam will be given. Test questions will be drawn from the Texas A&M Extension Service rabbit literature that is available through the County Extension Agents from the 2011 through 2015 editions of the American Rabbit Breeders Association Standard of Perfection (pages 4-15; 29 thru 57; 90 thru 91; and 182 thru 184).

(After completion of all rabbit judging):

The top five contestants from each of the age group, scoring highest on the multiple choice exam, will compete in the showmanship finals. Each finalist will be called individually to take their rabbit, to the show table for final competition. Physical “showing” of their rabbit as well as their knowledge of rabbit husbandry will constitute 100% of the score. The decision of the judge is final.