

# **2024 Waller County Fair Youth Meat Pen Rabbits**

Committee Officers

Chairman – Holly Kieke 979-221-4025

Co-Chairman – Nicole Bankhead 832-419-1400

Secretary/Treasurer – Mandy Garza – 281-838-5782

Members – Randi Urban, April Hartley, Katherine Austin

Cathy Spangler

## **Important Dates**

### **Paper Tag-In & Informational Meeting**

Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6:30 pm (Virtual, link posted on FB)

Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 2-3 pm

\*you only have to attend one of the above meetings\*

\*all paperwork must be turned in by 4/21/2024, electronically or in person\*

**\* Breed Date: June 17, 2024 \***

**Tattoo/Validation Day:** Sunday, August 25, 2024: 3:00-5:00 pm

Progress Show: Sunday, September 15, 2024: 2:00 pm

Show Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 Check-in: 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Release/Check-out: Sunday, October 6, 2024: 8:00 am

## **Judges**

Market Rabbit Judge – tbd

Showmanship - tbd

## **Rules**

1. All Market Meat Pen Rabbit entries are subject to the General Rules and Regulations of the Waller County Fair and Rodeo as well as the American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA). All rules for disqualification and elimination apply. All entries that are disqualified are to be removed from the grounds. See the WCFA General Rules.
2. Any rabbits not checked in by 10 am on Show Day WILL BE DISQUALIFIED!!!
3. See the WCFA General Rules regarding Registration and Entry Fees.
4. The exhibitor MUST be present to place and remove the meat pen from the judging table if required. If the exhibitor is not present when their pen number is called, the project will be considered abandoned.
5. The PAPER TAG-IN & INFORMATIONAL MEETING had two dates scheduled. EACH EXHIBITOR AND A PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST ATTEND at least one of these in order to participate and show their project unless prior arrangements have been made with the Rabbit Committee. This meeting will help each exhibitor learn more about their project, how to handle their project, and better their skills at showmanship. We will also be going over the rules and answering any questions you may have at this meeting. You will also be signing and turning in your entry forms and W-9 forms. You must have a W-9 filled out or you will not be able to tag in your rabbits per the General Rules.
6. The PROGRESS SHOW will have two parts. EACH EXHIBITOR MUST ATTEND. There will be a speaker, with rabbits, for hands-on learning for the exhibitor. Following will be the written portion of the Showmanship Test. (see rule 9 for score information)
7. EACH EXHIBITOR AND A PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST ATTEND Tattoo/Validation Day.
  - a. Each exhibitor can tattoo/validate a maximum of 15 rabbits.
  - b. Family Tag-In is allowed with a limit of 15 rabbits per exhibitor. (Ex. 2 exhibitors, maximum of 30 rabbits)

- c. To enter and be eligible to show, all meat pen rabbits must be tattooed with the WCF and Rodeo validation tattoo in their right ear at the tattoo/validation date listed above. All rabbits will be validated on that date, NO EXCEPTIONS!
  - d. All meat pen rabbits must have an Identification Tattoo in their left ear before leaving Tattoo/Validation Day. Each exhibitor will have a unique identification tattoo for their rabbits on this day. You may contact the Chairman if you choose to tattoo your own rabbits before this day to see if your unique identification tattoo is available. You may choose your own tattoo if it has not been taken by another exhibitor or you can use the tattoo the committee assigns. You may tattoo your own rabbits before Tattoo/Validation day, at Tattoo/Validation day, or the Rabbit Committee will be doing Identification tattooing on this day for a \$10.00 fee per exhibitor. All meat pen rabbits must have an Identification Tattoo before leaving Tattoo/Validation Day. This will be checked by the committee before the rabbits leave the fairgrounds.
  - e. All registration and entry fees will be paid on that date, NO EXCEPTIONS!
8. See the WCFA General Rules regarding the Judge selection. The Showmanship written test and answer key will be provided to the Rabbit Committee by the Showmanship Judge or the Waller County Fair Association on the day of the show.
  9. The Showmanship contest is mandatory. There will be 3 classes of showmanship: Senior- 14-19yrs, Junior- 11-13yrs, Sub. Jr.- 9-10 years as of September 1, 2024. Showmanship will consist of hands-on judging and a written test. Each part will count as 50% of their total score. Tie breakers will consist of choosing the exhibitor with the highest score on their written test first, and if the tie is still unbroken the showmanship judge will use his/her discretion to break the tie.
  10. Entries in the market show are limited to 2 pens per exhibitor. A meat pen consists of 3 of the same breed of meat rabbits of either sex. The recognized meat pen rabbit breeds are Californian, New Zealand, Satin, Palomino, Champagne D'Argent, and Cinnamon.
  11. Meat pens entered in the WCF and Rodeo should not be over 76 days old and must weigh between 3lbs 8 oz. - 5lbs. 8 oz. (a 2-ounce variance on each end may apply). Rabbits will only be weighed 1 time. We will NOT reweigh rabbits. If your rabbit is underweight or overweight, you will not be able to show that rabbit.
  12. If a rabbit gets disqualified out of your meat pen after judging has started, no substitutions will be allowed. The meat pen will be disqualified and will go home with you after the show.
  13. If a rabbit is suspected to be sick at the weigh-in, the judge will make a determination, if the rabbit(s) are determined to be showing signs of sickness they should be removed from the fairgrounds immediately.
  14. If the meat pen does not make the sale during the competition, there will be NO soliciting to sell your project during the junior auction.
  15. The placing of the meat market rabbits may be called out by the judge, comments given, and then taken off the table by the exhibitor. The awards for the market rabbits will be presented at the conclusion of the showmanship contest. Awards will be presented as follows:
    - Market Rabbits Grand & Reserve will receive buckles and 1<sup>st</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> places will get ribbons.
    - Fryer Show Grand & Reserve will receive buckles. 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> places will receive ribbons
    - Showmanship Grand & Reserve will receive buckles and 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> places will receive ribbons.
  16. All exhibitors selling in the WCF and Rodeo auction MUST turn in their HANDWRITTEN thank you notes to the chairman BEFORE checking out on Sunday after the fair. If you do not have the thank you note on Sunday, you will not be able to check out or pick up your rabbits. ALL THANK YOU NOTES ARE DUE SUNDAY MORNING NO EXCEPTIONS!
  17. All exhibitors who receive an award in the Waller County Fair Rabbit Show must have a thank you letter turned in to the Committee Chairman before Check-out on Sunday, October 6, 2024. This letter needs to be

handwritten, stamped, and unsealed. You will not be able to check your rabbits out until you have turned in all thank you letters.

18. Meat pens will be assigned cages. The checked-in meat pen is the only 3 rabbits allowed in the cage. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to feed and water their animals by 9 am and 6 pm each day. Each exhibitor must bring their own feed and water dishes/bottles with them. The good housekeeping award will go to the 2 exhibitors whose cage area is kept clean and their animals are taken care of. One pen of rabbits will remain at the Fair Grounds regardless if you made the sale or not. If your rabbits are disqualified they will go home at the conclusion of the show.
19. Parents work rule!!!! Please refer to the Waller County Fair and Rodeo General rules and make sure you EACH sign up for your shift.
20. Attention: Use of Drugs: The use by non-veterinarians\* of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accordance with the labeling approved by the FDA is a violation of federal law. All Grand and Reserve Champion animals and one animal chosen at random from each division are subject to drug sample testing (Order to be set by the division chairperson). For more information on drug testing see the General Rules.
21. If the rules are not followed, you will not be allowed to show or sell your projects.
22. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated by exhibitors, parents, and/or guardians and will result in disqualification. If any exhibitor/parent interferes with the judge or shows disrespect to them, to the show, or to any committee person, the WCF and Rodeo may take any steps deemed appropriate (see general rules).
23. Under NO circumstances should an exhibitor or parent ask for your project back after it has been sold. See general rules.
24. Each chairperson will submit a list of all entries to the fair secretary before leaving the grounds on the day of the show and will submit a final placing one hour after the judging is complete. Any exhibitor wishing to pull out must submit a letter in writing one hour after the show. If no letter is submitted, the animal will be sold through the auction. Failure to abide by this rule will bar the exhibitor from the following WCF and Rodeo. See general rules for more details.
25. The Fryer Show will be held immediately after the Market Rabbit Show. See the attached rules for the Fryer Show.
26. The rabbit committee will be accepting sponsorships to help cover the cost of belt buckles and ribbons. Please let us know if you have someone interested in being a sponsor.

\*\*\*Also, please note this year the validation tattoo will be done as usual, but those wanting to stay for the identification tattoo will be required to pay \$10 cash per exhibitor for this service.\*\*\*

#### 2024 Rabbit Show Paper Tag-in & Informational Meeting Checklist

- \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number
- \_\_\_\_\_ W-9 Form
- \_\_\_\_\_ Entry Form

#### 2024 Rabbit Show Tattoo/Validation Day Checklist

- \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Fee
- \_\_\_\_\_ Entry Fee per animal/project
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Identification Tattoo Fee per exhibitor (if applicable)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rabbits

## 2024 Rabbit Show Checklist

\_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility form signed

\_\_\_\_\_ Fryer Show Entry Fee \$10.00 per animal/project (Max. 2)

## **2024 Youth Fryer Rabbit Show Rules**

1. All classes in this show will be governed by the ARBA rules and guidelines.
2. The fryer show will be limited to the following breeds: Californian, Satin New Zealand, Champagne D'Argent, Palomino, and Cinnamon
3. Awards will be presented as follows: Grand and Reserve will receive buckles and ribbons will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> places.
4. Exhibitors may enter 2 fryers in the show but the rabbit may NOT be from the market meat pen already on the tables for judging.
5. All entries must be the bonafide property of the exhibitor. All rabbits must be tattooed. The fryer rabbits must be validated with the WCF tattoo and the unique ID tattoo that is issued to the exhibitor at Tag-In.
6. The fryer must meet the weight requirements as stated in the Market Pen Rules.
7. Mixed-breed rabbits will not be allowed to show.
8. There are NO cages provided for the fryer rabbits at this time. This is a cage carry show only. The exhibitors are responsible for their fryer rabbit(s) at all times and the fryer rabbits will go home with the exhibitor at the conclusion of the show.
9. Each exhibitor is responsible for bringing his/her exhibits to the table when they are called for.
10. These rabbits must leave the fairgrounds immediately following the rabbit show and awards ceremony.
11. There is a \$10 Entry fee per fryer to enter the show, which will be due upon check-in on the day of the rabbit show.