

**2026**

**Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show**

**Rules and Important Dates**



Exhibitors,

## **The Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show Committee welcomes you!**

The Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show (OYLS) was established in 1969. OYLS is a not-for-profit organization seeking to promote and educate the young people of Okeechobee County, primarily in the field of agriculture and community development.

The OYLS board of directors is a group of sixteen (16) volunteer members. The board is comprised of members of the community in which we all live, work and play. They work hard to ensure that you, and your parents or guardians have an enjoyable experience learning about, showing and selling your projects.

Throughout your projects, you should seek the guidance of your 4-H club leaders, 4-H Agent, and FFA Advisors. The OYLS board is also here to help guide you through the process. These rules are designed to be a tool to help you navigate your project(s) for a productive show. Please read them carefully. They should answer any questions that you may have. If not, reach out to your 4-H Leaders, FFA Advisors, any OYLS board member or the OYLS administrator.

We look forward to working with you throughout your show project!

See you at the show!



2026



## RULES

**UPDATES AND REVISIONS ARE IN  
BOLD, UNDERLINED TYPE  
AND ARE ALSO HIGHLIGHTED!!!**



**IMPORTANT NOTE: The link to complete and submit all entry forms can be found at Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show's website ([www.okeechobeeyouthlivestockshow.com](http://www.okeechobeeyouthlivestockshow.com)) under the Rules & Information page.**

*Rule  
Change*

Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show, Inc.

**2025-2026 OYLS COMMITTEE**

Matt Vinson, President  
Mariah Anuez  
Rick Hartman  
Carrie McDonald

Hamilton Bishop, VP  
Carlos Carrillo  
Flint Johns  
Jared Prescott

Ben Butler, Treasurer  
Albert Ceballos  
Travis Larson  
Vacant

Beth Lehman, Secretary  
Will Diaz  
Raymond Lowe  
Kathy Jo Walpole

4H Advisor: Paula Daniel

FFA Advisors: Brian Dryden, Christal Lewis,  
Jared Prescott, Brian Trimble,  
Megan Williamson

OYLS Administrator:  
Kimberly Lundy  
[okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com)

**STEER and BEEF BREEDING**

Hamilton Bishop 863-634-3142  
Carlos Carrillo 954-822-8318  
Rick Hartman 863-634-7596  
Flint Johns 863-634-2698  
Matt Vinson 863-697-1205  
Kathy Jo Walpole 863-634-4807

**SWINE**

Carlos Carrillo 954-822-8318  
Albert Ceballos 772-633-0999  
Will Diaz 574-529-8235  
Raymond Lowe 863-634-0289  
Carrie McDonald 407-948-2144  
Jared Prescott 863-634-1657

**DAIRY**

Hamilton Bishop 863-634-3142  
Ben Butler 863-634-1463  
Travis Larson 863-634-0102

**SMALL ANIMAL**

Mariah Anuez 863-610-2946  
Raymond Lowe 863-634-0289  
Matt Vinson 863-697-1205  
Kathy Jo Walpole 863-634-4807

**BOER GOAT / LAMBS**

Carlos Carrillo 954-822-8318  
Flint Johns 863-634-2698  
Jared Prescott 863-634-1657

----- **GENERAL RULES** -----

1. Exhibitor must be an active Okeechobee 4-H or FFA member *in good standing* enrolled by October 31, 2025.
2. Exhibitor must be currently enrolled in the Okeechobee County School District or live in Okeechobee County and, upon request, be able to provide satisfactory proof of enrollment in another school district. Anyone having graduated shall be ineligible to enter the show.
3. **ALL email correspondence submitted to OYLS at [okeechobeeys@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeys@gmail.com) must include Exhibitor's name and submission type in the subject line (i.e., Jane Doe – Swine Picture, John Doe – Dairy Lease Papers).**
4. Exhibitors in 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade must have a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) to participate in the March show. You must submit your most current report card to [okeechobeeys@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeys@gmail.com), no later than February 1<sup>st</sup>. Home Schooled Exhibitors must provide their most current evaluation. Failing to email your report card or evaluation will result in a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fine if it is received after February 1<sup>st</sup> but no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>.
5. Physical conditions of Exhibitor which the Show Committee considers to be a health and safety problem in the show or sale may result in the Committee not accepting an entry or allowing the entrant to participate in the show or sale.
6. Exhibitor must be at least eight (8) years old by September 1, 2025. Participants (Cloverbuds) that are ages five (5) to seven (7) as of September 1, 2025 will only permitted to show Poultry and Rabbits.
7. The Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show Committee believes that every youth Exhibitor should receive proper training information for raising and showing a youth animal project. It is important that the Exhibitor understand the purpose and importance of ethics in youth livestock projects, proper animal handling and management, and the difference between animal welfare and animal rights. The Mandatory Youth Livestock Show Ethics and Animal Care Workshop is designed to meet these requirements. Every youth Exhibitor is required to attend a workshop and obtain certification no later than January 15<sup>th</sup>. Certification is valid for 3 fair seasons. This program has been endorsed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the University of Florida, IFAS. Dates, times, and locations of workshops will be available from 4-H Club Leaders, FFA Advisors, and the Florida State Fair website ([www.floridastatefairag.com](http://www.floridastatefairag.com)) after they have been scheduled.
8. OYLS recognizes that it is a privilege to participate in the livestock show and sale, and that bullying activities and illegal substance use are detrimental to the education provided by participation in 4-H or FFA activities. By entering an exhibit in the OYLS, the Exhibitor acknowledges that if they are found to participate in bullying activities or illegal substance use, their entry may be disqualified at any time at the discretion of the OYLS board of directors.
9. All entry forms must be completed and submitted online. Follow the link located at [www.okeechobeeyouthlivestockshow.com](http://www.okeechobeeyouthlivestockshow.com), under rules and information. Entries will remain pending until verified by 4-H Leaders and FFA Advisors.
  - a. **Steer** entry forms must be completed online at the link provided above on or before Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 5:00 pm. The Okeechobee County Steer/Heifer affidavit located at the end of the rule book must be submitted via email to [okeechobeeys@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeys@gmail.com) on or before the entry form deadline. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL**



**BE ACCEPTED!**

- b. **Swine** entry forms must be completed online at the link provided above on or before Wednesday, November 26, 2025, at 5:00 pm. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!**
- c. **Goat and Lamb** entry forms must be completed online at the link provided above on or before Wednesday, November 26, 2025, at 5:00 pm. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!** (\*see General Rule #11 regarding administrative fee)
- d. **Beef Breeding** entry forms must be completed online at the link provided above on or before Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 5:00 PM. The Okeechobee County Steer/Heifer affidavit located at the end of the rule book must be submitted via email to [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) on or before the entry form deadline. Purebred entry forms must also include a copy of the registration papers or the application for registration if not already registered. The ability to add pairs will be available online. (\*see rule #11 regarding administrative fee). **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!**
- e. **Dairy** entry forms must be completed online at the link provided above on or before Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 5:00 PM. Entry forms must include a copy of the Grade ID papers, registration papers, or the application for registration if not already registered. (\*see General Rule #11 regarding administrative fee). **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!**
- f. **Poultry and Rabbit** entry forms must be completed online at the link provided above on or before Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM. (\*see General Rule #11 regarding administrative fee). **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

10. **ALL EXHIBITORS MUST download and read the 2026 OYLS rules. The acknowledgement form on the last page of the rules must be signed by the Exhibitor and Parent/Guardian and emailed to [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) prior to entry deadline of the individual show (Poultry, Rabbits, Dairy, Swine, Goat, Lamb, Steer, Beef Breeding) in order to complete the entry. If this form is not received, the entry will be void and the Exhibitor will not show this year.**

11. A \$10 administrative fee will be assessed per non-sale animal entry for Beef Breeding, Dairy, Goats, Lambs, Poultry and Rabbits. This fee will be collected upon entry online.



12. An Exhibitor may enter and show six (6) animals or exhibits with a maximum of four (4) entries in one category. Exhibitor may enter only one animal per class. Exhibitor may initially weigh-in only one Steer or check-in only one Market Swine. (Excluding Dairy Show Exhibitors), Dairy Show Exhibitors may show up to six (6) Dairy. **Dairy Exhibitors exhibiting up to six (6) Dairy animals will equal one (1) show project and be permitted to show any other species.**



13. All animals must comply with State and/or Federal health regulations. **All animals, excluding Poultry and Rabbits, must have a Health Certificate signed by an accredited Veterinarian. All Swine and Steer projects, along with Goat and Lamb projects that are to be sold in the OYLS Sale must be checked in with their own copy of a certificate of veterinary inspection (i.e., each project must have their own copy if they are listed on one (1) Health Certificate with other projects). There will be a \$10.00 charge should OYLS have to make a copy of a Health Certificate.**



14. **All Exhibitors shall be present when their animals are being checked in during the final check-in during the show week.**

15. All animals must be approved by a sifting Committee as to quality and breed characteristics, along with fitness and grooming, so as to be a credit to the show and sale.

16. Showmanship is mandatory for all species. Exhibitor must show his/her own animal, except on permission of the Committee, and stand-in is not eligible for showmanship. Club/Chapter projects

are not permitted to show in showmanship.

17. Exhibitor must manage his/her animal to the satisfaction of the show Committee. All rejected animals must be removed immediately from the grounds and will not be allowed to show or sell. Animals can be ejected at anytime from the show by the show Committee.
18. All animals must have an Exhibitor's identification sign. The sign must have the Exhibitor's name, 4-H/FFA club name, animal name and animal breed. Signs must be displayed by the end of the respective check-in day. (The assigned Coop Card will suffice for Poultry and Rabbits.)
19. Use of tranquilizers or other forms of tampering is prohibited. Any market animal will be condemned if there are signs of drug residue. Exhibitor will forfeit all monies and/or prizes from that animal and be banned from OYLS.
20. Exhibitor must keep his/her animals, stall space, and the barn in general, clean and neat as possible and must provide a suitable feed box. There will be a monetary penalty charged if stall space is not kept presentable and the possibility of not being eligible to show the following year. Stall space for all animals will be assigned by OYLS.
21. Show boxes and chairs will not be allowed in the barn. Space will be provided in the horse barn stalls. (Excluding Dairy Show Exhibitors)
22. Exhibitors must dress appropriately any time on the fairgrounds and must wear appropriate dress of the organization designated by the 4-H Leaders or FFA Advisors during the Show and Sale. A nice shirt (no short or long-sleeve t-shirts or tank tops), along with long pants and closed-toed leather shoes are required for show and sale.
23. Exhibitor will be responsible for the care of his/her animal until it is removed from the barn. Non-sale, milking dairy animals can, at the Exhibitor's option, be removed after the dairy show. Additionally, cattle only (not the Exhibitor) will be excused to go to another show with confirmation of entry into that other show and 30-day advance notification in writing to the livestock show Committee. All other animals must remain until released by the Committee.
24. There will be three Showmanship divisions in each of the seven (7) shows (Beef Breeding, Dairy, Goat, Lamb, Poultry, Rabbit, Steer, and Swine). Participation is mandatory with the exception of chapter projects, which are excluded from showmanship competition.
  - i) Junior 11 Years Old and Younger as of 9/1/2025.
  - ii) Intermediate 12, 13 & 14 Years Old as of 9/1/2025.
  - iii) Senior 15 Years Old and older as of 9/1/2025.
25. Intermediate and Senior Exhibitors are required to attend the designated workday or to perform other work to be designated by the OYLS Committee. Failure to follow this rule will result in a \$100 fine. Exhibitors are to bring your own cleaning utensil (rake, shovel, push broom). Exhibitors must sign in and sign out to receive credit for the workday.
26. A stamped, addressed, unsealed envelope with a thank you letter(s) to the buyer(s) of your animal must be turned into the Okeechobee County Extension Office on or before WEDNESDAY, April 1, 2026, at 5:00 pm or a \$100 fee will be deducted from the sale check. If your thank you letter(s) was/were not previously turned into the Okeechobee County Extension Office, it/they must be brought to the check distribution in a stamped, addressed, unsealed envelope before you receive your sale check. If the thank you letter is not received by the check distribution date, the Exhibitor will not be allowed to show next year.

27. Unless notified by the OYLS Administrator that your buyer chose the donation option, a thank you plaque(s) **MUST BE DELIVERED** to the buyer(s) or buyer's representative prior to check distribution. A form will be available on the OYLS website, [okeechobeeyouthlivestockshow.com](http://okeechobeeyouthlivestockshow.com), that the buyer(s) or buyer's representative **MUST** sign to indicate that they received the plaque(s). This form **MUST** be brought to the check distribution site and given to an OYLS board member or our administrator in exchange for your sale check.
28. If, at any time, the OYLS Committee determines the Exhibitor is not directly responsible for the care and welfare of their project or that anyone other than the Exhibitor profits from the sale of the animal, the OYLS Committee reserves the right to prohibit that Exhibitor from participation in the show and sale.
29. All Exhibitors shall turn in a completed record book by the due dates established by the 4-H Agent and/or FFA Advisor. The record book must correspond with the 4-H or FFA designation indicated on each project entry form. **NO LATE RECORD BOOKS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** If the record book is not received, the Exhibitor will not be allowed to show the next year. The missing record book must be completed and turned in before the Exhibitor will be allowed to show in the following years. Any graduating senior not complying with this rule will be ineligible to receive a scholarship.
30. No professional fitter will be allowed to assist or groom any animal or said animal will be disqualified from the show and sale. Only Exhibitor's family or fellow 4-H/FFA members may be permitted.
31. Special barn rules may be posted.
32. Inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated. The Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show Committee has the authority to ban anyone for conduct deemed to be inappropriate.
33. Show management is in no way responsible for exhibits or any accidents that may occur.
34. Final interpretation and administration of all rules is vested in the Livestock Show Committee and its decision is final. Any changes or amendments to these rules can only take place with 2/3 majority vote of the entire Livestock Show Committee.
35. Appeals to any OYLS rule must be made in writing and delivered to the OYLS Committee by mail or in person. Appeals must be received 30 days prior to show check-in to be considered before the show. Any appeals received within 30 days of show check-in will not be guaranteed a ruling until after the show. Once appeals are voted on by Committee, the decision is final.

- - - - - **SALE RULES** - - - - -

1. Sale order will be as follows: Poultry, Rabbits, Boer Goats, Lambs, Dairy, Beef Breeding, Steers and Swine. The final Sale order may be adjusted at the discretion of the OYLS Committee.
2. Exhibitors may sell only one (1) animal per year.
3. All Steers and Market Swine shall be sold and slaughtered at a designated slaughterhouse.
4. If an animal is condemned at the show Committee designated slaughterhouse, the buyer will be reimbursed for the buy-back amount at the expense of the Exhibitor.
5. Dairy Exhibitors may sell a calf, heifer or cow. Heifers over 20 months of age must be confirmed pregnant or milking. Heifers will be pregnancy checked the week of the sale.
6. Steers will sell by Grand, Reserve, and the Okeechobee County Champion – followed by the Grand Champion Showman in each division.
7. Market Swine will sell by Grand, Reserve, then Division winners – followed by the Grand Champion Showman in each division.
8. Boer Goats and Lambs will sell by Grand and Reserve - followed by Grand Champion Showman in each division.
9. All no sales for Poultry, Rabbits, Dairy, Beef Breeding, Goats and Lambs must be announced before the animal leaves the sale ring. Exception to this will only be made by mutual consent of the buyer and seller.
10. The same Exhibitor shall not sell an animal that has been previously sold by that Exhibitor at the OYLS Sale.
11. There will be an expense commission held out on all sales and add-ons to pay for show expenses.
12. Transfer, I.D., Certificates and Registration Papers will be picked up at check-in for Beef-Breeding and Dairy sale animals. **All Exhibitors MUST CHECK-IN with their respective species Committee upon arrival show week. All Poultry, Rabbit, Beef Breeding, Dairy, Lamb, and Goat Exhibitors MUST TURN IN A SALE ENTRY in to the OYLS show office by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 18th in order to sell their exhibit. The sale entry form can be found at the end of this rule book. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to transfer documentation of the animal to the Buyer, NOT OYLS. There will be a \$10.00 charge should OYLS have to make a copy of a Health Certificate.**
13. Exhibitors that sell their animals or receive add-ons will be paid only money that has been collected prior to the check distribution. All money collected after the check distribution will be paid on July 1, 2026. After July 1<sup>st</sup>, a serious effort will be made to collect money from the buyer(s) only. Exhibitors will be paid when the money is collected.
14. Animals which do not show (including showmanship), will not sell during the sale.
15. Bred animals must be confirmed as pregnant by an accredited veterinarian.
16. Exhibitors will not be eligible to receive add-ons through OYLS if an Exhibitor's entry/animal does not make it through check-in, show and/or the live sale.



## SPECIAL RULES FOR BEEF BREEDING SHOW

1. Purebred entry forms must also include a copy of the registration papers or the application for registration if not already registered.
2. All animals registered with a breed association must compete in their respective breed specific division within the OYLS Beef Breeding Show. If a breed specific division for a registered animal does not exist, the OYLS Beef Committee will assign the registered animal to the appropriate division as it sees fit and at its sole discretion. An Exhibitor's failure to comply with this rule will result in an immediate disqualification of the animal and/or forfeiture of any awards and/or premiums.
3. All Beef Breeding animals must have a visible numeric identification in the form of an ear flap tag, a freeze brand, or a fire brand. **All Beef Breeding animals are required to have at least one of the following at the final check in during show week: 840 RFID Ear Tag, NUES Ear Tag, OCV Ear Tags, or Tattoo and/or Brand corresponding to breed association issued registration papers.**
4. All unregistered Beef Breeding animals will be shown by weight.
5. **Registered Beef Breeding** classes are listed on page 22 of this rule book. **Registered Beef Breeding animals will be segregated into classes in accordance with their respective breed association rules.**
6. Classes 15 and 16 must accompany confirmation by an accredited veterinarian that they are bred.
7. Large classes may be split.
8. If there are less than five (5) registered animals of the same breed and same gender, they will be added to the AOB (All Other Breed) class according to age.
9. Bulls must be registered in the name of the Exhibitor and papers shown upon entering the barn or certificate of application according to the breed association rules.
10. Bulls must be calved on or after January 1, 2024.
11. Heifers must be calved on or after January 1, 2023.
12. All bulls over 12 months old will be shown with a nose lead. A nose lead is optional and at the discretion of the Exhibitor for Beef Breeding Females and Steers.
13. Exhibitors will be granted one substitution animal, which must be owned or leased by December 1, 2025. Substitution must be declared by Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:00 pm.
14. Registered and crossbred females may be shown, but registered females must be registered in the Exhibitor's name and papers must be shown upon entering the barn or certificate of application according to the breed association rules.
15. Calves shown with cows must be under 205 days old on day of show and the cow must be **39** months or younger.



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16. Chairs will not be allowed in the barn. Show boxes will not be allowed in the barn, unless the OYLS Beef Committee authorizes Beef Exhibitors to have show boxes in designated areas within the barn. Space will be provided in the horse barn stalls. (Excluding Dairy Show Exhibitors)
17. Water bucket(s) **MUST NOT** be left in cattle beds. They must be removed immediately after watering the animal.
18. All cattle must have and be shown with a suitable halter.
19. All cattle with horns must be tipped to no smaller than a quarter (i.e. .25 cent piece) in diameter.
20. Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 9:00 am, some Beef Breeding Exhibitors may be required to walk their animal into the show ring to demonstrate control of their animal. This will be at the discretion of the Committee.
21. There will be an overall Okeechobee County Heifer Champion. Each division will select a Grand and Reserve Okeechobee County champion at the end of their shows who will come back to compete for overall Okeechobee County Heifer Champion.
22. Okeechobee County heifers will be source verified by the Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show Committee at initial check-in. Okeechobee County heifer exhibits must be conceived and born on property that lies entirely within the geographical boundaries of Okeechobee County (property may not extend into other counties).
23. A signed affidavit for each heifer entered into the Okeechobee County show must be emailed to the OYLS Administrator at [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) prior to entry deadline. Affidavit may be found at the end of the rule book.
24. If an animal is entered into the Okeechobee County show and later deemed not an Okeechobee County animal, the Exhibitor will be disqualified from the current year's show and sale and not permitted to show the following year.

\* Note – In vitro fertilization (IVF) animals must have been fertilized within the geographical boundaries of Okeechobee County.

## SPECIAL RULES FOR DAIRY SHOW


1. Registered and grade females with Grade I.D. papers may be shown, provided they are registered in the Exhibitor's name. Registration/Grade ID papers or a copy of the certificate of application must be submitted with online entry. Any entries with pending registration/grade ID papers need to submit updated copies of their papers before check-in. Registration/Grade ID papers/Lease agreements must also be shown upon entering barn at check-in.
2. Exhibitors may enter dairy females of the following six (6) breeds (Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey and Milking Shorthorn).
3. Exhibitors may enter and show dairy animals that are leased to the Exhibitor through the official Florida 4-H or FFA Dairy Lease Program. A copy of the official Lease certificate must be submitted online at time of entry. The rules of the official Florida 4-H or FFA Dairy Lease Program will apply to leased animals. Rules can be obtained by contacting the Lease Program Administrator, Dr. Chris DeCubellis ([cdecube@ufl.edu](mailto:cdecube@ufl.edu)).
4. No dairy animals may be entered or shown that are owned by more than one owner. This applies to owned or lease animals.
5. Exhibitors may enter and show up to six (6) Dairy animals. **Dairy Exhibitors exhibiting up to six (6) Dairy animals will equal one (1) show project and be permitted to show any other species.**
6. The Dairy Committee may allow for up to two (2) substitutions up until check-in.
7. All Class 2 or older dairy animals, including substitutions, must be owned or leased by December 1, 2025. All Class 1 dairy animals, including substitutions, must be owned or leased by entry deadline.
8. Cows three years old and older must have had at least one (1) calf prior to showing at OYLS.
9. Any animal that does not receive a blue ribbon will not be eligible to participate in a championship drive.
10. There will be a Junior, Senior and Overall Champion Bred-by-Exhibitor class. A Bred-by animal is born to a dam that was owned by the Exhibitor at the time of breeding. Proof of bred-by entry will be confirmed with registration paperwork at check-in. Leased animals are not eligible for bred-by classes.


\*Dairy classes are listed on Page 23 of this Rule Book.




## SPECIAL RULES FOR MARKET STEER SHOW

1. Steer entries are due Wednesday, September 10, 2025 by 5:00 pm. (this is your intent to show in the 2026 OYLS Steer Show.)

 2. **Steers will be weighed in on Thursday, September 18, 2025. There is no minimum or maximum weight requirement at initial weigh in. Steers will be caught in a squeeze chute and tagged with an OYLS issued flap/840 RFID/tissue sampling unit combination tag. DNA will be collected on each Steer via the tissue sampling unit. Pictures will be taken of each Steer at initial weigh in.**

 3. OYLS ear tag and premise ID tags must not be intentionally removed from animal. **All Steers are required to have the OYLS issued flap/840 RFID/tissue sampling unit combination tag the final check-in during show week. If the tag is damaged or lost, please contact a Steer/Beef Breeding Committee Member for a replacement.**

 4. **Market Steers are required to have Health Certificates. EID number and OYLS ear tag number MUST be on the Health Certificates. Each Market Steer project must have a copy of their own Health Certificate (i.e., each project must have their own copy if they are listed on one (1) Health Certificate with other projects). There will be a \$10.00 charge should OYLS have to make a copy of a Health Certificate.**

5. Steers will be weighed once and one time only and must weigh **at least 1000 pounds** at show weigh-in on **March 18, 2026**.

6. Steers will be classed by the show Committee according to weight with no more than 8 per class.

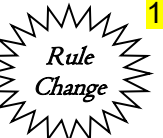
7. All cattle must have and be shown with a suitable halter. A nose lead is optional and at the discretion of the Exhibitor.

8. Chairs will not be allowed in the barn. Show boxes will not be allowed in the barn, unless the OYLS Beef Committee authorizes Beef Exhibitors to have show boxes in designated areas within the barn. Space will be provided in the horse barn stalls. (Excluding Dairy Show Exhibitors)

9. Water bucket **MUST NOT** be left in cattle beds. They must be removed immediately after watering the animal.

10. Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 9:00 am, ALL STEER EXHIBITORS MUST walk their Steer into the show ring to demonstrate control of their Steer.

11. There will be an Okeechobee County Steer champion.

 12. **A completed affidavit for all steers entered into the Okeechobee County portion of the steer show must be emailed to the OYLS Administrator at [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) prior to entry deadline of Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. The affidavit may be found at end of the rulebook. Animals competing in the Okeechobee County portion of the steer show must be conceived and born on property that lies entirely within the geographical boundaries of Okeechobee County (property may not extend into other counties).**

13. If an animal is entered into the Okeechobee County show and later deemed not an Okeechobee County animal, the Exhibitor will be disqualified from the current year's show and sale and not permitted to show the following year.

**\* Note – *In vitro fertilization (IVF) animals must have been fertilized within the geographical boundaries of Okeechobee County.***

## SPECIAL RULES FOR MARKET SWINE SHOW

1. All Market Swine must be of a recognized domestic breed.
2. All entries must be limited to market barrows or open gilts. Entries must be completed online by November 26, 2025.
3. Market Swine Exhibitors must declare their entry on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., by picking up your ear tag. **Ear tag pick up is mandatory on this day, Exhibitor need not be present (i.e., a parent/guardian, sibling, etc...may pick up ear tag on behalf of Exhibitor).** Pick up will be at the OHS (Okeechobee High School) Ag Barn. Do not bring your animal. (If an Exhibitor does not have the means to tag their animal, contact an OYLS Market Swine Committee member, your County 4-H Extension Agent or your FFA Advisor). **If the ear tag is not picked up on this day and time your entry will be disqualified.** Tag your Swine, in either ear, with the tag # on the top of the ear. You should be able to view the tag number when looking down at the pig.
4. Each Swine exhibit will require three (3) color pictures. One (1) color picture of the Exhibitor and their market Swine and one (1) color picture of the market Swine with the ear tag # clearly visible and one (1) color picture from the front of the market Swine with face and both ears visible. Email your color pictures to [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) with your Exhibitor first and last name and corresponding market Swine ear tag # in the subject line no later than December 18, 2025.
5. OYLS ear tag and premise ID tags must not be intentionally removed from animal.
6. Market Swine must weigh a minimum of 230 pounds and a maximum of 310 pounds at weigh-in on Tuesday, March 17, 2026.
7. During check-in/weigh-in at the show, drivers are to remain in vehicle and pull forward as soon as the animal is unloaded. Exhibitors are responsible for the unloading of their animals. OYLS will not assume liability for any injury to Swine. OYLS will take animal to the scale once it's unloaded. Exhibitors are encouraged to take their market Swine from the scale to their pen.
8. Market Swine will be allowed to weigh one time only at the weigh-in. In case an animal does not meet weight requirement, Exhibitor may request the scales be zeroed and re-weighed immediately. The request must be made before the animal leaves the scales and the animal cannot be removed from the scale area before being re-weighed.
9. By 3:00 pm the day of show check-in, if animal has not yet been attended to, Exhibitor and/or parent will be contacted. If issue is not resolved in a timely manner, Exhibitor will be disqualified, and the animal will then become the possession of OYLS.
10. All Market Swine Exhibitors must provide a self watering device in the pen at all times. Jugs will not be permitted to be left on pipes. Waterers must remain in the pens until Sunday. Waterers will be allowed to be picked up starting at 8:00 AM on Sunday morning. Waterers not picked up by the end of the workday are not the responsibility of OYLS. Any Exhibitor who removes a waterer from their pen prior to Sunday morning will be subject to a \$500 fine.
11. Cedar shavings and/or small flake shaving will not be permitted.



12. All Market Swine must have an Exhibitor's identification sign. The sign must have the Exhibitor's name, 4-H/FFA club name, animal name and animal breed. Signs must be displayed by the end of the respective check-in day.
13. Pens will be checked twice daily for cleanliness, water and signage. If pens are found not up to the standard of OYLS, Exhibitors will be warned at the time of check. Warning will be communicated by marking the pen, email and phone call. If the Exhibitor's pen is found not up to the standard on any check after warning, Exhibitor will be fined \$200 per check. Cleanliness will be at the discretion of the OYLS Committee.
14. Pens will be pre-assigned by OYLS, and grouped together by 4-H Club/FFA Chapter approximately 2-3 weeks prior to check in. A list will be emailed to Exhibitors. Exhibitors will have five (5) days to respond with any requests to be moved (siblings, family, etc.). After the five (5) days, assignments will not be changed. On Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> or Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Exhibitors will be allowed to come in and set their pens up (signs, water, etc).
15. Market Swine must be controlled by the Exhibitor at all times using the proper tools. Failure to comply will result in being banned from showing in OYLS for one (1) year.
16. **Market Swine are required to have Health Certificates. EID number and OYLS ear tag number MUST be on the Health Certificates. Each Market Swine project must have a copy of their own Health Certificate (i.e., each project must have their own copy if they are listed on one (1) Health Certificate with other projects). There will be a \$10.00 charge should OYLS have to make a copy of a Health Certificate.**
17. Show boxes and chairs will not be allowed in the barn. Space will be provided in the horse barn stalls. (Excluding Dairy Show Exhibitors)
18. Buyer's thank you letter(s) must be in a stamped, addressed, unsealed envelope with a thank you letter(s) to the buyer(s) of your animal must be turned in to the Okeechobee County Extension Office on or before WEDNESDAY, April 1, 2026, at 5:00 pm or a \$100 fee will be deducted from the sale check. If your thank you letter(s) was/were not previously turned into the Okeechobee County Extension Office, it/they must be brought to the check distribution in a stamped, addressed, unsealed envelope before you receive your sale check. If the thank you letter is not received by the check distribution date, the Exhibitor will not be allowed to show next year. (see General Rules #26)



## SPECIAL RULES FOR POULTRY SHOW

1. As of show day, all Poultry exhibits must be at least 180 days old.
2. All Poultry exhibits must be owned by the Exhibitor or Participant (Cloverbud).
3. A color photo of Exhibitor holding animal must be submitted to the OYLS Administrator at [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) at the time of entry. (excludes Cloverbuds)
4. No substitutions of animals within 30 days of check-in for Exhibitors. (Cloverbuds will be allowed substitutions until check-in.)
5. Cloverbuds are only permitted to exhibit one (1) Poultry.
6. If there are more than five (5) animals of the same breed and sex entered a class will be made. If there are not enough animals to make a class for the breed, the poultry will be shown in an open class with all other poultry of like sex.
7. Poultry entries will be limited to chickens, ducks and turkeys.

8. **All Poultry (excluding Ducks) will be bled and checked for disease at check-in. POULTRY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS THEY ARE IN HEALTHY CONDITION. Health Certificates are not required. State Health Inspectors will be onsite checking each exhibit at check-in.**

9. The OYLS Committee may decline any entries they feel should not be shown.
10. It is suggested you dust your bird for mites with 5% Sevin or 5% Bug-Be-Gone prior to check-in day.
11. There will be NO medicating of Poultry. If illness appears during the course of the show, the Poultry must be removed from the premises.
12. Pairs equal two entries. There will be no animals shown or penned as pairs.
13. Exhibitors are responsible for supplying dividers between pens of animals if preferred, OYLS is not responsible.
14. Storage under pens is prohibited. Space will be provided in the Horse Barn stalls.
15. Shavings nor hay will not be permitted in pens.
16. Feeders and waterers must be secured to the side of the pen.
17. Ducks are permitted to have a water bowl in pen.
18. Animals not cared for properly by cleaning pens, feeding and watering will be excused at the discretion of the Committee.
19. There will be limited access to the small animal barn during judging of animals.
20. Poultry will be released immediately following the awards ceremony the day of the show.

21. **Mandatory clean up for all Poultry Exhibitors/Participants at the conclusion of the awards ceremony.**

New  
Rule

New  
Rule

## SPECIAL RULES FOR RABBIT SHOW

1. As of show day, all Rabbit exhibits must be at least 180 days old.
2. All Rabbits must be owned by the Exhibitor or Participant (Cloverbud).
3. A color photo of Exhibitor holding animal must be submitted to the OYLS Administrator at [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) at the time of entry. (excludes Cloverbuds)
4. **State Health Inspectors will be at check-in. All Rabbits will be checked for disease at check-in. Automatic disqualifications include: runny eyes or nose, matted and heavily soiled fur below the tail, ear or fur mites, and/or excessively long nails. RABBITS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS THEY ARE IN HEALTHY CONDITION. Health Certificates are not required.**
5. The OYLS Committee may decline any entries they feel should not be shown.
6. If illness appears during the course of the show, the Rabbit must be removed from the premises.
7. No substitutions of animals within 30 days of check-in for Exhibitors. (Cloverbuds will be allowed substitutions until check-in).
8. Cloverbuds are only permitted to exhibit one (1) Rabbit.
9. If there are more than five (5) animals of the same breed and sex entered a class will be made. If there are not enough animals to make a class for the breed, the Rabbit will be shown in an open class with all other does or bucks.
10. Exhibitors are responsible for supplying dividers between pens of animals if preferred. OYLS is not responsible.
11. There will be limited access to the small animal barn during judging of animals.
12. Storage under pens is prohibited. Space will be provided in the Horse Barn stalls.
13. Shavings nor hay will not be permitted in pens.
14. Feeders and waterers must be secured to the side of the pen.
15. Animals not cared for properly by cleaning pens, feeding and watering will be excused at the discretion of the Committee.
16. Rabbits will be released immediately following the awards ceremony the day of the show.
17. **Mandatory clean up for all Rabbit Exhibitors/Participants at the conclusion of the awards ceremony.**



New  
Rule



New  
Rule

## SPECIAL RULES FOR BOER GOAT SHOW

1. There will be a Wether and a Breeding Doe show.
2. Dairy Goats are not permitted to show.
3. Eligibility of Animal: Limited to Boer Goats. Each Exhibitor will be responsible for obtaining their own Goat.
4. Exhibitors must submit a color photo of Goat with Scrapies tag when registering online. Scrapies tag information must be submitted at time of registration. There will be no initial weigh-in.
5. FINAL WEIGH-IN & ANIMAL ELIGIBILITY: Goats will be weighed on certified scales and this will be the official weight. Wethers will be placed in class based on weight. **Breeding Does will be placed in classes at the discretion of the OYLS Goat Committee.** Animals not displaying a Scrapies tag will not be permitted to be unloaded.
6. SHOWING: All Boer Goats must be trained for show and are to be controlled by the Exhibitor.
7. All Boer Goats must be shown in their natural confirmation and structure without alterations or modification, except for the grooming and treatment of the wool and trimming of the hooves.
8. Boer Goats are to be kept clean and in show condition until official release time.
9. Show boxes and chairs will not be allowed in the barn. Space will be provided in the horse barn stalls. (Excluding Dairy Show Exhibitors)

NOTE: ALL PENS MUST BE CLEANED DAILY. EXHIBITORS ARE REQUIRED TO CLEAN GROOMING AREAS AFTER GROOMING. A \$25 PENALTY PER ANIMAL WILL BE ASSESSED IF THE PEN IS NOT PROPERLY CLEANED DAILY OR EXHIBITOR DOES NOT CLEAN GROOMING AREA AFTER GROOMING.



## **SPECIAL RULES FOR LAMB SHOW**

1. Limited to Lambs (wethers only). Each Exhibitor will be responsible for obtaining their own Lambs.
2. A minimum of fifteen (15) Lambs entered to have a show.
3. Exhibitors must submit a color photo of Lamb with Scrapies tag when registering online. Scrapies tag information must be submitted at time of register. There will be no initial weigh-in.
4. Animals not displaying a Scrapies tag at final check-in/weigh-in will not be permitted to be unloaded.
5. Lambs will be weighed on certified scales and this will be the official weight. Lambs will be placed in class based on weight.
6. All Lambs must be trained for show and are to be controlled by the Exhibitor. Animals that cannot be handled properly will be asked to be haltered or be disqualified.
7. All Lambs must be shown in their natural confirmation and structure without alterations or modification, except for the grooming and treatment of the wool and trimming of the hooves.
8. Lambs are to be kept clean and in show condition until official release time.
9. Show boxes and chairs will not be allowed in the barn. Space will be provided in the horse barn stalls. (Excluding Dairy Show Exhibitors)

NOTE: ALL PENS MUST BE CLEANED DAILY. EXHIBITORS ARE REQUIRED TO CLEAN GROOMING AREAS AFTER GROOMING. A \$25 PENALTY PER ANIMAL WILL BE ASSESSED IF THE PEN IS NOT PROPERLY CLEANED DAILY OR EXHIBITOR DOES NOT CLEAN GROOMING AREA AFTER GROOMING.

## **YOUTH HEIFER BEEF BREEDING CLASSES**

Class 1	Jr. Heifer calves calved May 1, 2025 and later
Class 2	Jr. Heifer calves calved between April 1 & April 30, 2025
Class 3	Jr. Heifer calves calved between March 1 & March 31, 2025
Class 4	Jr. Heifer calves calved between January 1 & February 28, 2025
Class 5	Jr. Heifer Champion
Class 6	Jr. Heifer Reserve Champion
Class 7	Late Intermediate Heifers calved between October 1 & December 31, 2024
Class 8	Late Intermediate Heifers calved between July 1 & September 30, 2024
Class 9	Early Intermediate Heifers calved between April 1 & June 30, 2024
Class 10	Early Intermediate Heifers calved between January 1 & March 31, 2024
Class 11	Intermediate Champion
Class 12	Intermediate Reserve Champion
Class 13	Late Sr. Heifers calved between October 1 & December 31, 2023
Class 14	Late Sr. Heifers calved between July 1 and September 30, 2023
Class 15	Early Sr. Bred Heifers calved between April 1 & June 30, 2023
Class 16	Early Sr. Bred Heifers calved between January 1 & March 31, 2023
Class 17	Champion Sr. Heifer
Class 18	Reserve Champion Sr. Heifer
Class 19	Grand Champion Female
Class 20	Reserve Grand Champion Female

## **YOUTH BULL BEEF BREEDING CLASSES**

Class 30	Bulls calved October 1 to December 31, 2025
Class 31	Bulls calved July 1 to September 30, 2025
Class 32	Bulls calved April 1 to June 30, 2025
Class 33	Bulls calved January 1 to March 31, 2025
Class 34	Bulls calved October 1 to December 31, 2024
Class 35	Bulls calved July 1 to September 30, 2024
Class 36	Bulls calved April 1 to June 30, 2024
Class 37	Bulls calved January 1 to March 31, 2024

## **DAIRY CLASSES**

1. Junior Heifer Calf Born Sept. 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2025
2. Intermediate Heifer Calf Born June 1, 2025 - Aug. 31, 2025
3. Senior Heifer Calf Born March 1, 2025 - May 31, 2025
4. Winter Yearling Born Dec. 1, 2024 - Feb. 28, 2025
5. Junior Yearling Born Sept. 1, 2024 - Nov. 30, 2024
6. Summer Yearling Born June 1, 2024 - Aug. 31, 2024
7. Senior Yearling Born March 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024
8. JUNIOR CHAMPION
9. RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION
- \* Junior Bred by Exhibitor - All Breeds - After Class 9
10. Junior Two-Year-Old Born Sept. 1, 2023 - Feb. 28, 2024
11. Senior Two-Year-Old Born March 1, 2023 - Aug. 31, 2023
12. Three Year-Old Cow Born March 1, 2022 - Feb. 28, 2023
13. Four Year-Old Cow Born March 1, 2021 - Feb. 28, 2022
14. Aged Cow Born before March 1, 2021
15. SENIOR CHAMPION
16. RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION
17. GRAND CHAMPION
18. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
- \* Senior Bred by Exhibitor - All Breeds - After Class 18
19. OVERALL GRAND CHAMPION
20. OVERAL BRED-BY CHAMPION

# Okeechobee County Steer/Heifer Affidavit

Exhibitor name: \_\_\_\_\_

Steer: \_\_\_\_\_ Heifer: \_\_\_\_\_ ID#/Brand: \_\_\_\_\_

**All Beef Breeding animals must have a visible numeric identification in the form of an ear flap tag, a freeze brand, or a fire brand.**

Breeder/Representative name: \_\_\_\_\_

Breeder/Representative signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Breeder address where animal originated: \_\_\_\_\_

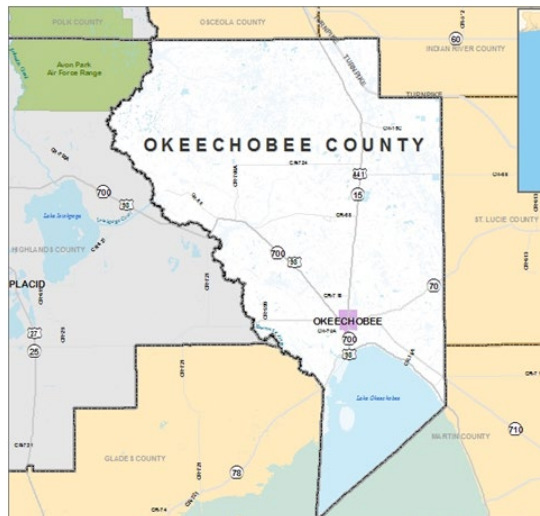
Breeder phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

I attest that the animal that I am entering into the Okeechobee County Steer and/or Heifer show was conceived and born on property that lies entirely within the geographical boundaries of Okeechobee County (property may not extend into other counties). I understand that if my animal is entered into the Okeechobee County show and later deemed not an Okeechobee County animal, I will be disqualified from the current year's show and sale and not permitted to show the following year.

\*Note – In vitro fertilization (IVF) animals must have been fertilized within the geographical boundaries of Okeechobee County

Exhibitor signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





# SALE ENTRY FORM 2026

DUE BY: 5:00 p.m. **WEDNESDAY - March 18, 2026**  
to OYLS Office – NORTH CONCESSION STAND

EXHIBITOR'S NAME:

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## ANIMAL INFORMATION

ANIMAL NAME:

DIVISION:

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BREED:

Tag ID:

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DATE OF BIRTH:

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MALE: \_\_\_\_\_ FEMALE: \_\_\_\_\_

EXHIBITOR'S SIGNATURE:

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PARENT'S SIGNATURE:

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# OYLS College Scholarships

Application packets will be available in the OHS Guidance office. Check with Guidance office on availability dates.

Eligibility requirements:

- Applicants must be a graduating Senior.
- Applicants must have shown at least one animal during the OYLS Show & Sale.
- Must be in good standing with OYLS.
- A 500 word essay (topic will be included in application packet).
- Any graduating senior not completing a record book and submitting it to their respective 4-H Agent or FFA Advisor before their deadline will be ineligible for a scholarship.

Recipients will be announced during the OHS Scholarship night. Funds will be dispersed through the Okeechobee Educational Foundation.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF 2026 OYLS RULES

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print Exhibitor) and  
\_\_\_\_\_ (print parent/guardian)  
acknowledge that we have downloaded the 2026 OYLS rules from the  
OYLS website (okeechobeeyouthlivestockshow.com) and have read  
them in their entirety. We further acknowledge that we understand those  
rules. If we did not understand, we acknowledge that we sought  
clarification from the OYLS administrator or an OYLS committee  
member and now understand them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exhibitor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **General Rule #10**

**ALL EXHIBITORS MUST download and read the 2026 OYLS rules. The acknowledgement form on the last page of the rules must be signed by the Exhibitor and Parent/Guardian and emailed to [okeechobeeyls@gmail.com](mailto:okeechobeeyls@gmail.com) prior to entry deadline of the individual show (small animal, dairy, Swine, Goat, Steer, beef breeding) in order to complete the entry. If this form is not received, the entry will be void and the Exhibitor will not show this year.**