

**Tennessee Junior Livestock Expo – Sheep Expo**  
**August 13-14, 2026; Tennessee State Fair, Lebanon, TN**

**Changes and Updates for 2026**

- **New Date and Location:** August 13-14, 2026; Tennessee State Fair, Lebanon
- **New Entry Fee:** \$10 per head
- **Commercial Ewe Show:** There will not be an overall breed-type champion drive. The Commercial Ewe Grand Drive will include the champion and reserve champion lamb and yearling from each breed-type division (White Face Cross, Black Face Cross, Hair Cross). It will still include selecting the overall top 5 commercial ewes.
- **Market Lamb Show:** Breed shows will stop at Breed Champion with breed champions to be part of the Market Animal Grand Drive
- **Market Animal Grand Drive:** Saturday, August 15 at 6pm
  - Includes Market Lamb Breed Champions and Market Goat Division Champions
  - Goat and Sheep Skillathon, Premier Exhibitor and Educational Contests winners announced at Grand Drive

**General Policies**

1. **General Policies:** All exhibitors in the TJLE Sheep Expo and their parents/guardians are required to read and comply with all policies and procedures contained in the TJLE Sheep Expo Handbook.
2. **Interpretation of Rules:** The TJLE Sheep Expo is administered, managed and governed by UT Extension. This entity is responsible for the administration of all applicable rules and policies, including enforcement and penalties. Management reserves the final and absolute right to interpret rules and regulations, settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard hereto, or otherwise arising out of the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgment may determine.
3. **Eligibility:** Competition is limited to either Tennessee 4-H members who were enrolled in the fourth grade or later and Tennessee FFA members who were enrolled in agriculture education courses on January 1 of current calendar year and who have not reached the end of the calendar year of their high school graduation or the end of the calendar year of their 20th birthday, whichever comes first. The exhibitors must be under the supervision of an Extension Agent or FFA advisor and shall be required to comply with all rules of the shows.
  - The signature of the Extension Agent or FFA Advisor of said exhibitor on the entry form is required to confirm that: the entry is a bona fide project of their 4-H or FFA program; is a member in good standing; **the animal is owned and in the continuous possession of the exhibitor;** Extension Agent or FFA Advisor has read the TJLE Sheep Expo Handbook, and Participant has been advised of rules as well as The National Show Ring Code of Ethics; been cautioned regarding sabotage, tampering, prohibited substances, unethical fitting and all rules and regulations have been complied with, to the extent of participation.
  - The exhibitor and parent or legal guardian of the exhibitor **must sign the entry forms** certifying that they have read the TJLE Sheep Expo Handbook, and that Participant has

been advised of these rules and regulations as well as The National Show Ring Code of Ethics; cautioned regarding sabotage, tampering, prohibited substances, unethical fitting and agrees to observe and abide by all rules and regulations.

4. **Rules Violation:** Any exhibitor, parent or leader, who individually or through other persons, violates any rules, may result in both animal(s) and exhibitor(s) being barred from participation in current or future shows. All premiums, awards received and sale receipts may be forfeited.
5. **Discourteous Behavior:** Discourteous conduct by exhibitors, parents, leaders, Extension Agents, FFA Advisors or any other persons representing an exhibitor, toward a judge, any member of show management or other exhibitors may result in the exhibitor and/or animal being dismissed from future Tennessee Junior Events and awards received being forfeited.
6. **Publicity Release:** As indicated by the signatures of the exhibitors, parents or guardians on the entry forms for TJLE Sheep Expo, authorizes the University of Tennessee and/or their representatives to photograph, film, audio/video tape, record and/or televise their image and voice and biographical material, participation in the various events and to publicize, in whole or in part in any medium or developed in the future without any restrictions.
7. **Care and Treatment of Animals:** All animals that are exhibited at the TJLE Sheep Expo are to be under the care and management of the 4-H or FFA member. The exhibitor's supervising Extension Agent, or the exhibitor's supervising FFA advisor, or UT Extension staff member has the right, with prior notification, to inspect any animals at a reasonable time during the ownership period. All animals that are exhibited in the TJLE Sheep Expo are to be treated in accordance with accepted humane livestock management techniques. Exhibitors are expected to comply with all federal, state and local laws or regulations concerning the treatment and care of animals. Specific areas of concern include but are not limited to:
  - Animals should be provided with food and water on a regular basis. A special effort should be made to ensure that market animals receive feed and water before the show and sale.
  - Medication given by or under the direction of a veterinarian must adhere to withdrawal times on the product label.
  - Animals which have been accidentally injured must receive appropriate veterinary attention.
8. **Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages:** Consumption of alcoholic beverages at the TJLE Sheep Expo is not permitted. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in the person(s) being dismissed, associated exhibitor(s) and/or animal(s) being dismissed and awards received being forfeited. Additionally, show management reserves the right to alert the appropriate police agency.
9. **Dogs:** No dogs are allowed on the show premises, except proper service dogs.
10. **Safety:** Everything possible will be done to prevent accidents; however, if any should occur, neither the University of Tennessee, nor University of Tennessee personnel, nor other persons, nor any other organizations connected with the management of the show assumes any liability, either legal or otherwise to persons or property.
11. **Grievance Complaints or Protest:** Grievance complaints or protests must be officially made prior to the final drive within a show and must be accompanied by \$100.00 cash to show

management. Official grievance complaints will be resolved prior to the final drive. No grievances can be made following the final drive of a show.

- The burden of proof rests with the party filing the grievance. The \$100 deposit will be returned if the grievance is upheld. The deposit will be forfeited to the TJLE Sheep Expo if the grievance is not sustained.
- The respective show manager and/or superintendent has the authority to make appropriate decisions based on the TJLE Sheep Expo Handbook. If needed, the protest shall be referred to a "Grievance Committee."
- The grievance will be reviewed. The grievance may be discussed with parties involved and show officials in reaching a decision. All parties involved will be notified of decisions reached.
- Protests related to judges' decisions, placings, classifications and/or other situations associated with judges and show management **will not** be accepted.

### **Show Procedures**

**Health Requirements:** Animals exhibited at the TJLE Sheep Expo must meet the following requirements: Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) will be required for every animal exhibited at the TJLE Sheep Expo. It is expected that junior exhibitors will bring only healthy animals to the shows. The CVI must be dated within 90 days of the respective show. All animals are subject to inspection upon arrival at the show and any with clinical signs of contagious disease will be quarantined or sent home immediately at the discretion of the show veterinarian.

**ALL livestock must have official forms of identification in order to have a valid health certificate.**

**Sheep:** all sheep must have a Scrapie tag

**Animal ID:** All market lambs and commercial ewes **MUST** have TJLE tag in order to show. Tags will be sent to the exhibitor's county Extension office. Extension Agents or FFA Advisors **MUST** supervise the tagging of each animal. Registered ewes will be entered with their scrapie tag.

If a tag becomes lost or damaged, exhibitors should be instructed to immediately notify their Extension Agent or FFA Advisor. The Extension Agent or FFA Advisor should witness the re-tagging of the animal just like the initial tagging. The Extension Agent should then email the Youth Livestock and Equine Specialist with the updated tag information. Any animal that arrives at the TJLE Sheep Expo without original ear tags supplied by UT Department of Animal Science **WILL NOT** show.

**Entries:**

1. All animals must be owned, and entries submitted through the local UT Extension office by June 1. This is the procedure for entries by both 4-H and FFA members.
2. Each exhibitor may enter and exhibit a total of 4 commercial ewes and 4 market lambs at the TJLE Sheep Expo. There is no limit to the total number of registered ewes that can be entered/shown, but only 2 per age classification can be entered/shown. Each exhibitor may

only show 2 leased commercial ewes and 2 leased registered ewes.

3. The TJLE tag (market lambs and commercial ewes) or Scrapie tag (registered ewe) must be completely and correctly listed on the entry form. These animal IDs will be verified against what is in the animal's ear at check-in of the show. These numbers must match for the animal to be eligible to be shown.
4. UT Extension staff are to follow the online entry procedure for ALL Tennessee Junior Livestock Shows. Information on the online entry program can be found at the UT Animal Science Department website (<https://animalscience.tennessee.edu/>).
5. **Entry fees of \$10.00 per head** must be submitted with entry forms. Refunds will not be made for animals not exhibited.
6. Copies of all entry forms are to be submitted by Extension Agents to the appropriate Regional staff and to the UT Animal Science Department.
7. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to be sure that his/her entries meet criteria to qualify for exhibition and to complete all the information requested on the entry form. Incomplete entry forms **will not** be accepted and will be returned to the Extension Agent. Animals will not be entered if entry forms are not completed, and entry fees not submitted. **Extension Agents and FFA Advisors should review all entries to ensure accuracy prior to submission.**
8. The signatures of the exhibitor, his/her parent or guardian and Extension Agent or FFA Advisor will be required before an entry will be accepted. These signatures will confirm that the parties:
  - Have read, understood and agree to the rules and regulations outlined in the TJLE Sheep Expo Handbook.
  - Have certified that the animal and exhibitor have complied with the rules and regulations outlined in the TJLE Sheep Expo Handbook.
  - Have certified that they understand that exhibitors are completely responsible for the care and custody of their animals at the TJLE Sheep Expo.

**Ownership, Possession and Registration:** All market lambs and commercial ewes must be individually identified with TJLE tag (witnessed by Extension Agent or FFA Advisor) and registered ewes must be individually identified by a Scrapie tag. All sheep **MUST** be owned and in continuous possession of (in care of) by the youth exhibitor by **June 1** through the show. Lease agreements for registered ewes and commercial ewes must be in place by June 1. Animals cannot be exhibited by anyone other than the owner/lessee from the entry date through the show. Additionally, the registration paper must be registered in one of the following ownership methods:

- a. in the youth exhibitor's name
- b. in the youth exhibitor's name with siblings [ie. John Smith (brother) and Jane Smith (sister)]

If anyone other than a sibling is listed on the registration paper with the youth exhibitor, the animal is ineligible to be shown.

**Animal Lease Program:** The objective of the Animal Lease Program is to provide youth, who would otherwise not have the opportunity, the educational experience of participating in the

sheep project without the expense of purchasing animals. Registered ewes and commercial ewes are the only animals eligible to be leased. Only 2 commercial ewes and 2 registered ewes may be entered/shown by each exhibitor.

Leased animals must conform to all rules associated with the respective show (ie. ID requirements, possession dates, exhibition rules, etc.). Completed lease forms and a copy of the animal's registration paper (if applicable) must be submitted along with the entry forms to the County Extension Office by the entry deadline.

**Exhibition:** Exhibitors will show their own animal unless they have two animals in the same class. The second animal must be shown by another 4-H or FFA member. Any animal shown by anyone other than the exhibitor who entered the animal may result in forfeiture of all premiums and awards unless prior approval is given by show management. Substitute exhibitors will be granted for those exhibitors with 2 animals in the same class or serious illness/injury at the time of the show.

**Tennessee Youth Quality Assurance Program (TYQA):** Youth must be TYQA certified in order to exhibit at the TJLE Sheep Expo. For more information about TYQA, contact your County Extension Office (<https://animalscience.tennessee.edu/quality-assurance/>).

**Showmanship:** Showmanship participation is available to all youth that have animals entered in the respective show. Showmanship will be conducted by the grade divisions shown below. Grade refers to the school grade in which the exhibitor was enrolled on January 1, of the current year.

- Explorer - (4th grade)
- Junior Level I - (5th & 6th grades)
- Junior Level II - (7th & 8th grades)
- Senior Level I - (9th & 10th grades)
- Senior Level II - (11th & 12th grades)

There will be a registered ewe showmanship and a market-type showmanship (commercial ewes and market lambs). Animals used in showmanship must be from those entered/exhibited by the exhibitor in the respective show. Exhibitors must show their own animal. Grade divisions may be split at the discretion of show management.

**Stalls, Tie-space and Pens:** Show management will assign tie space and pens per county based on the number of animals entered. The assignments will be made prior to the show and posted in the barn. No animals are to be tied or penned in the wash areas. Exhibitors are to provide their own pen security.

**Fitting and Grooming:** Each exhibitor should be working with their animals and in attendance with that animal during the entire fitting process. Breed Association guidelines related to grooming are to be followed at the TJLE Sheep Expo.

**Unruly or Unsound Animals:** The show superintendent, manager, show steward, ring person,

judge or show management may dismiss animals that, in their judgment, are unruly or unsound.

**Drug Testing:** Any animal entered into TJLE Sheep Expo is subject to tissue, urine, ultrasound and blood testing at any time at the discretion of the show management. Each exhibitor's cooperation is **REQUIRED**. Any exhibitor who does not submit their animal for drug testing will immediately be disqualified from all premiums and awards. If the result of the testing indicates the use of any substance that is not approved for use in that species by the FDA, or any substance used outside the specified withdrawal requirements of the FDA, these animals will be declared ineligible for competition and all awards will be forfeited. Substances tested for may include, **but are not limited** to Antibiotics, Repartitioning Agents, Diuretics, Tranquilizers, Analgesics, Steroids and Local Anesthetics. Exhibitors are completely responsible for the care and custody of their animals at the TJLE Sheep Expo.

**Special Considerations for Ewes and Wethers:**

1. Ewes are only eligible to be shown in one of the shows (registered ewe, commercial ewe or market lamb).
2. Commercial ewes and market lambs must be weaned.
3. All wethers must be castrated and completely healed.
  - a. Any evidence of testicles or testicular residue will disqualify the wether.
4. Commercial ewes will be classified into crossbred black-face, crossbred white-face and crossbred hair divisions. Commercial ewes will also be mouthed to determine age (lamb/yearling). Ewe lambs must have lamb teeth and yearling ewes must have yearling teeth. No commercial ewe will show with 2-year teeth.
  - a. Commercial ewes will be assigned to classes within each division by age (lamb/yearling) and then by weight.
  - b. Commercial ewes will be shown by weight. After a ewe leaves the scales, no reweighs will be made.
  - c. The grand champion commercial ewe will be chosen from the champion black-face lamb, champion black-face yearling, champion white-face lamb, champion white-face yearling, champion hair-cross lamb and champion hair-cross yearling ewes. The subsequent 4 overall ewes will be selected from those selected in the division champion drives.
5. Market lambs will be classified for breed characteristics. If it is determined that a market lamb does not meet the standard of a particular breed, it will be moved to the appropriate crossbred class. The decision of the breed classifier is final.
  - a. Market lambs must be completely slick-shorn. Wool/hair may only be left below the hock and knee.
  - b. Market lambs will be shown by breed and weight. After a market lamb leaves the scales, no reweighs will be made.
  - c. Breed shows will be provided for any breed with 6 or more head entered by 3 or more exhibitors following the breed classification.
    - i. A market lamb breed division may be sponsored for \$100. This sponsorship guarantees that breed division even if that particular breed ends up with less

than 6 market lambs at the show. Without such sponsorship, the particular breed must have at least 6 market lambs at the show to be eligible for a breed division. All market lambs entered in breeds that do not have their own breed division will be eligible for their respective All Other Breeds (AOB) Division.

- d. The number of lambs per class will be app. 10-15 lambs. Show management reserves the right to adjust class numbers and breaks.
  - e. If an exhibitor has 2 lambs in the same class, one of the lambs may be moved to the subsequent class.
6. Registered ewes will be shown by age in the following classes (There will be no overlap of age classification):
- a. March Junior Ewe (March 1 and after, year of show)
  - b. February Junior Ewe (February 1 – February 28/29, year of show)
  - c. January Junior Ewe (January 1 – January 31, year of show)
  - d. Senior Ewe Lambs (September 1 – December 31, preceding year)
  - e. Junior Yearling Ewe (February 16 – August 31, preceding year)
  - f. Senior Yearling Ewe (September 1, year before preceding year – February 15, preceding year)
7. Breed shows for registered ewes will be offered for any breed with 8 or more head entered by 3 or more exhibitors. Those with less than 8 head and 3 exhibitors will be shown in the All Other Breeds classes.
8. At the end of each breed show, there will be a flock class. Each entry will consist of 3 ewes owned/leased by 1 exhibitor. Two of the 3 ewes must be bred by exhibitor and should be entered in the show as such. Each exhibitor may enter only 1 flock per breed show. Each entry will be evaluated as a group. At the conclusion of all breed shows, each first-place flock will compete for the Champion Exhibitor's Flock Award.
9. Classes may be divided based on discretion of show management.
10. Bred By Exhibitor for Registered Ewes is defined as an exhibitor being listed as both the sole breeder and sole owner of the ewe on the registration paper.
- a. To be eligible for Bred By Exhibitor competition, it must be indicated on entry form.
  - b. It is the youth's responsibility to address BBE issues with show management before the show starts. Once the show starts, no changes will be made.
11. Farm Bred for Commercial Ewes is defined as the ewe being produced by a dam solely owned by the exhibitor, his/her parents/legal guardian or his/her grandparents at the time that the said ewe was conceived.
- a. To be eligible for Farm Bred competition, it must be indicated on entry form.
  - b. It is the youth's responsibility to address FB issues with show management before the show starts. Once the show starts, no changes will be made.
12. Tennessee Bred Lamb for Market Lambs is defined as a lambs whose dam was owned by a Tennessee sheep producer at the time the said lamb was conceived. The lamb must have been born in the state of Tennessee.
- a. To be eligible for Tennessee Bred competition, it must be indicated on entry form with breeder information included.
  - b. It is the youth's responsibility to address TB issues with show management before the

show starts. Once the show starts, no changes will be made.

13. There will be a County Group of Five for registered ewes, commercial ewes and market lambs. For each, there must be 5 animals from at least 3 different exhibitors, respectively. Exhibitors can only participate in one county group entry per animal type.

**Market Animal Grand Champion Drive:** The Market Animal Grand Champion Drive will take place on Saturday, August 15 at 6pm following the State Jr Meat Goat Show. It will include champions from the Market Goat Show and the Sheep Expo Market Lamb Show.

- Market Goat Division Champions and Reserve Champions
- Market Goat Farm Bred Division Champions and Reserve Champions
- Market Lamb Breed Champions and Reserve Champions
- Market Lamb Tennessee Bred Breed Champions and Reserve Champions

#### **Market Lamb Champion and Reserve Champion Premiums**

TJLE Sheep Expo is considered a terminal show for the Champion and Reserve Champion Market Lambs. A representative from the UT Department of Animal Science will take immediate possession of the lambs following pictures and drug testing. Premiums will be provided to exhibitors of these champions once all testing is completed. According to the Drug Testing section of this document, if the result of the testing indicates the use of any substance that is not approved for use in that species by the FDA, or any substance used outside the specified withdrawal requirements of the FDA, these animals will be declared ineligible for competition and awards will be forfeited. Following post-harvest inspection, if carcasses are condemned for any reason or contain significant blemishes/bruises indicating a violation of quality assurance and animal welfare standards, no premium will be awarded to the exhibitor.

#### **Premier Exhibitor Recognition Program:**

The purpose of the Premier Exhibitor award program is to provide 4-H and FFA members the opportunity to demonstrate the skills and knowledge learned and gained by participating in the junior livestock projects. This recognition program will increase the emphasis on the knowledge and skills attained by the youth and will complement the wholesome competition, social development and fun learning traditionally associated with junior livestock shows.

A Premier Exhibitor for Registered Ewe, Commercial Ewe and Market Lamb will be selected at the TJLE Sheep Expo in each of the following divisions:

- Explorer - (4th grade)
- Junior Level I - (5th & 6th grades)
- Junior Level II - (7th & 8th grades)
- Senior Level I - (9th & 10th grades)
- Senior Level II - (11th & 12th grades)

To be eligible for the Premier Exhibitor competition, youth must exhibit an animal in the respective show, participate in the respective showmanship and in the skillathon contest. The Premier Exhibitor will be the individual who earns the most points by participating in these three

educational events. A previous Premier Exhibitor winner in a particular division is not eligible to compete in the same division of the same show in future years (ie. cannot win Senior Level I Commercial Ewe Premier Exhibitor more than once). Additionally, youth may not win multiple Premier Exhibitor awards in the same year (ie. cannot win Senior Level I Market Lamb and Registered Ewe Premier Exhibitor in the same year).

**Skillathon:** This event consists of different activities that will evaluate an exhibitor's knowledge gained from participation in the sheep project for a total of 100 points. Each exhibitor will participate in the skillathon as an individual. The activities will increase in difficulty as the grade division increases. Examples of skillathon activities include but are not limited to feed, breed and meat identification, health and production practices and record-keeping.

**Sheep Show:** Registered ewes will be evaluated by the judge based on their merit related to breed and industry standards and assigned a Blue (95 points), Red (85 points) or White (75 points). Flocks will also be assigned a Blue (100 points), Red (90 points) or White (80 points) based on their merit.

Commercial ewe and market lamb exhibitors will receive a score for their highest placing animal respectively as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> place: 100 points	5 <sup>th</sup> place: 92 points	9 <sup>th</sup> place: 84 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place: 98 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place: 90 points	10 <sup>th</sup> place: 82 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> place: 96 points	7 <sup>th</sup> place: 88 points	All others: 80 points
4 <sup>th</sup> place: 94 points	8 <sup>th</sup> place: 86 points	

**Showmanship:** Each exhibitor will receive a score for their placing in showmanship, which will count for Premier Exhibitor:

1 <sup>st</sup> place: 100 points	5 <sup>th</sup> place: 96 points	9 <sup>th</sup> place: 92 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place: 99 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place: 95 points	10 <sup>th</sup> place: 91 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> place: 98 points	7 <sup>th</sup> place: 94 points	All other Blues: 90 points
4 <sup>th</sup> place: 97 points	8 <sup>th</sup> place: 93 points	All Reds: 80 points

**Tie Breakers:** Ties in Skillathon and Premier Exhibitor will be broken as follows:

Skillathon: Stations 1-5 individually in order, Showmanship score, Animal score

Premier Exhibitor: Skillathon score, Showmanship score, Skillathon stations 1-5 individually in order, Animal score

### **Show Ring Code of Ethics**

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership, and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residue. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of, consent by the owner, exhibitor, trainer and/or responsible persons for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event. In the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medications, this shall be a *prima facie* evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood or other substance tested by the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise. At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animals shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.
5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance, drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.
6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.
7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during or after the competitive event is prohibited. In

the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of the rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.
9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of the code of ethics.
10. The act of entering an animal is giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer or absolutely responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of the Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including Fairs and Expositions and any special notices to members.
11. The act of entering an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of Federal, state or provincial statutes, regulations or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

**Violations of the Code of Show Ring Ethics:** Any violations of the Code of Show Ring Ethics (below) or any other rules and policies associated with the TJLE – Sheep Expo may result in forfeiture of premiums and awards, disqualification, loss of sale proceeds, probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future participation. Any illegal substances found at slaughter will result in forfeiture of all premiums and revenues from the sale of the animal. Violations of these rules may result in both animal and exhibitor being disqualified from the show. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Treating the animal internally with an irritant or other substance to artificially change the animal's conformation. This would include injection of air, gas, liquid, solid or any foreign material under the skin.
- Surgery of any kind to change the natural conformation or appearance of the animal's body. (Exceptions include those procedures that are part of a normally accepted management program, such as dehorning, castration and tail docking.)
- Altering or changing an animal from its natural color to misrepresent the animal.
- Use of any abnormal procedure or product to change the degree of firmness, muscle tone or mass and/or weight of the animal.
- Use of any illegal substance or procedure that results in condemnation of the carcass of a market animal.
- Adding of any foreign material (twine, hair, etc.) to any part of the body in an attempt to disguise or alter the conformation or condition of the animal.

- The use of graphite.
- Administration of any substance (internal or external) not used according to label instructions.
- Excessive force in handling of animals.
- Physical abuse of an animal, either in the barns, on the grounds or in the show ring by the exhibitor or his/her parents or representatives, Extension Agent or FFA Advisor may result in both animal and exhibitor being dismissed from the show(s).