

An Update for Exhibitors

by **Bailey Clanton**, National Shows Coordinator and Youth Activities Assistant

As 2016 is well underway, the American Hereford Association (AHA) continues to improve programs and processes for breeders, exhibitors and the Association. The AHA has a few changes to the check-in processes at national shows, new requirements for point shows and show awards, and additions to the AHA show rules.

With the increased interest for Hereford cattle in the showing year after year, the AHA has updated its check-in process not only to accommodate the growing numbers, but to decrease the time it takes to process the increasing number of cattle.

Change is a big part of being successful, and as the Hereford breed continues to grow, the AHA must adapt to that change and embrace it to the fullest. As the Association focuses on the future and continues to improve programs and processes, on behalf of the AHA, I can't help but say thank you to each and every one of you for your patience and for embracing the changes of the AHA and, of course, always supporting the Association and its staff members as well as one another. **HW**

Check-in process



During the 2015 North American International Livestock Expo, the AHA stamped its first AHA registration paper with "tattoo verified." From here on any animal that has a paper stamped "AHA verified" will not need to come through the check-in line. However, the papers of these animals will still need to be processed during the allotted check-in time at any of the following national shows:

- Junior National Hereford Expo
- Keystone International Livestock Expo
- American Royal Livestock Show
- North American International Livestock Expo
- Western Nugget Hereford Show
- National Western Stock Show
- Southwestern Exposition Stock Show

Note: *At any of the state and regional Hereford shows, stamped papers will be honored at the discretion of the show management.*

AHA point shows and awards

For the 2016-17 AHA point shows, the Association has set a few new requirements for qualified shows. It is very important that the AHA receive adequate information of the animals shown to ensure proper credit and recognition are given.

- Official results from the show staff must be submitted within 30 days of completion of the show
- Results must contain the following:
 - › Eight-digit AHA registration number
 - › Complete registration name as recorded in the AHA registration system
 - › Owner(s) as listed on the papers from the AHA registration system
- In order for results to be included in the calculation for show animals of the year, shows must have at least 25 head exhibited at the show
- Shows that are listed as a national or regional point show as specified by the AHA show and sale committee will submit results to Bailey Clanton with the AHA at bclanton@hereford.org or mail them to:

American Hereford Association
Attn: Bailey Clanton
P.O. Box 014059
Kansas City, MO 64101



The AHA has also altered the awards that will be given to show winners each year. At the 2017 AHA Annual Meeting and American Royal National Hereford Show in Kansas City, Mo., the Association will now recognize four national show animals of the year, continue to award 16 regional show animals of the year and recognize eight regional premier exhibitors of the year.

- National Show Bull and Female of the Year for horned and polled
- Regional Show Bull and Female of the Year for horned and polled
- Regional Premier Exhibitor for horned and polled

National Western Stock Show (NWSS) rules

At the 2017 NWSS, exhibitors with females in the spring and junior yearling divisions must be confirmed pregnant within 45 days of show by a licensed veterinarian or by blood test or show with a calf at side.

Exhibitors with bulls born before Dec. 1, 2015, are required to provide a licensed veterinarian's statement indicating the bull has been semen checked and evaluated as fertile. Semen evaluation is to occur within 90 days of the show. These statements must be provided to the AHA staff at check-in. These rules are for cattle showing at the NWSS only.

