

AHA Show Rules

- All cattle entered, including calves on the side of cow-calf pairs and senior yearlings, must be registered in the Herd Book of the American Hereford Association (AHA). Entries with registrations “pending” or illegible tattoos or improper tattoos as shown on the registration certificate at check-in time are ineligible for competition. Exhibitors are subject to the Association’s special rule on class qualification. Entries in these classes are accepted with the understanding that the exhibitor agrees to abide by the rule in all respects.
- The exhibition of cattle displaying false hair will not be allowed.
- Any product administered internally or used externally to alter the conformation of an animal for exhibition is prohibited. This includes the use of graphite, hemp or other similar substances externally and steroids or growth stimulants internally.
- The act of artificially filling animals internally, which includes stomach pumping, drench tubes or any other method by mouth or esophagus, is prohibited.
- All animals shown in group classes must have been shown in their respective single-age class. No transfer from one (1) breeder to another, after entry, will be permitted.
- Expected progeny difference (EPD) values will be provided to the judge and audience for all animals shown. Animals without EPD data are eligible to show but will have N/A (not available) in place of missing data.
- Any animal without a legible tattoo will not be eligible to show.
- All Hereford animals must be officially recorded (registered) prior to show date to be eligible to show at a National Hereford Show.
- An animal that is scurred (scurs are small, rudimentary horns that are loosely attached to the head, which are considered to be expressed only in animals that are genetically heterozygous for the polled gene) will show in the polled division of Hereford shows. Once an animal is confirmed to be scurred by an AHA field representative, then this designation will be placed on the animal’s registration papers. Once this determination has been made and reported to the AHA office, then the owner may remove the scurs. Animals with scurs removed will show in the polled division of Hereford shows. Once an animal is confirmed polled or scurred, it will retain this designation forever.
- The individual classes will be made up and divided after the cattle are checked in at the show. They will be judged from the youngest to the oldest animal within each class.
- It is recommended by the AHA Show Committee that classes with 10 or more head be considered to be split, depending on animals’ birthdates in each particular class.
- If the number of classes in a division warrant, a division will be split into multiple divisions
- Calves on the side of cow-calf pairs and senior yearlings **MUST BE** the cow’s natural calf and fully registered with the AHA.
- For cattle exhibited at the Cattlemen’s Congress and National Western Stock Show:
 - › Exhibitors with senior bull calves and/or intermediate, yearling and senior bulls 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. This statement must be presented at check-in during the Cattlemen’s Congress and National Western Stock Show.
 - › 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.

AHA Show Classifications

The decision to have both a Hereford and polled Hereford show or to have a combined show will be left up to the discretion of the state breed associations and show management.

State and regional Hereford female show classifications

1. Cow-calf (Any female older than the below ages with a calf at side.)
 - Calf older than 240 days of age on the show date is not eligible to show in cow-calf class.
 - If the cow is horned and the calf polled, then the pair shows in the horned cow-calf class, and if the cow is polled and the calf is horned, then the pair shows in the polled cow-calf class.
 - Calf is eligible for individual classes but must be entered in the appropriate class.
 2. Spring heifer calves calved March 1 to June 30.
 3. Junior heifer calves calved Jan. 1 to Feb. 29.
 4. Senior heifer calves calved Nov. 1 to Dec. 31.
 5. Senior heifer calves calved Aug. 1 to Oct. 31.
 6. Late summer yearling females calved June 1 to July 31.
 7. Early summer yearling females calved May 1 to 31.
 8. Spring yearling females calved March 1 to April 30.
 9. Junior yearling females calved Jan. 1 to Feb. 29.
 10. Senior yearling females calved Aug. 1 to Dec. 31.*
- * For shows occurring Jan. 1 to May 1, a senior yearling female class and division will be allowed. Females must show with a calf at side.
- * Cow-calf does not compete for overall champion female.

Female divisions

Junior Heifer Calves	Class(es) 2 & 3
Senior Heifer Calves	Class(es) 4 & 5
Intermediate Yearling Females.	Class(es) 6 & 7
Spring Yearling Females	Class 8
Junior Yearling Females	Class 9
Senior Yearling Females	Class 10

State and regional Hereford bull show classifications

1. Spring bull calves calved March 1 to June 30.
2. Junior bull calves calved Jan. 1 to Feb. 29.
3. Senior bull calves calved Nov. 1 to Dec. 31.
4. Senior bull calves calved Aug. 1 to Oct. 31.
5. Late summer yearling bulls calved June 1 to July 31.
6. Early summer yearling bulls calved May 1 to 31.
7. Spring yearling bulls calved March 1 to April 30.
8. Junior yearling bulls calved Jan. 1 to Feb. 29.
9. Senior yearling bulls calved Aug. 1 to Dec. 31.
10. Two-year-old bulls calved Jan. 1 to July 31.

Bull divisions

- Junior Bull Calves Class(es) 1 & 2
- Senior Bull Calves Class(es) 3 & 4
- Intermediate Bulls Class(es) 5 & 6
- Yearling Bulls Class(es) 7 & 8
- Senior Bulls Class(es) 9 & 10

National Hereford female show classifications

1. Cow-calf (Any female older than the below ages with a calf at side.)
 - Calf older than 240 days of age on the show date is not eligible to show in cow-calf class.
 - If the cow is horned and the calf polled, then the pair shows in the horned cow-calf class, and if the cow is polled and the calf is horned, then the pair shows in the polled cow-calf class.
 - Calf is eligible for individual classes but must be entered in the appropriate class.
 - Cow-calf does not compete for overall champion female.
2. Spring heifer calves calved after May 1 to June 30.
3. Spring heifer calves calved April 1 to 30.
4. Spring heifer calves calved March 1 to 31.
5. Junior heifer calves calved Feb. 1 to 29.
6. Junior heifer calves calved Jan. 1 to 31.
7. Senior heifer calves calved Nov. 1 to Dec. 31.
8. Senior heifer calves calved Oct. 1 to 31.
9. Senior heifer calves calved Aug. 1 to Sept. 30.
10. Late summer yearling females calved June 1 to July 31.
11. Early summer yearling females calved May 1 to 31.
12. Spring yearling females calved April 1 to 30.
13. Spring yearling females calved March 1 to 31.
14. Junior yearling females calved Feb. 1 to 29.
15. Junior yearling females calved Jan. 1 to 31.
16. Senior yearling females calved Aug 1 to Dec 31*

* For shows occurring Jan. 1 to May 1, a senior yearling female class and division will be allowed. Females must show with a calf at side.

Female divisions

- Spring Heifer Calves Class(es) 2, 3 & 4
- Junior Heifer Calves Class(es) 5 & 6
- Senior Heifer Calves Class(es) 7, 8 & 9
- Intermediate Yearling Females Class(es) 10 & 11
- Spring Yearling Females Class (es) 12 & 13
- Junior Yearling Females Class (es) 14 & 15
- Senior Yearling Females Class 16

The AHA reserves the right to break classes so a 30-day age span may be maintained in the spring, junior and senior calf classes (Classes 2-9).

National Hereford bull show classifications

1. Spring bull calves calved after May 1 to June 30.
2. Spring bull calves calved April 1 to 30.
3. Spring bull calves calved March 1 to 31.
4. Junior bull calves calved Feb. 1 to 29.
5. Junior bull calves calved Jan. 1 to 31.
6. Senior bull calves calved Nov. 1 to Dec. 31.
7. Senior bull calves calved Oct. 1 to 31.
8. Senior bull calves calved Aug. 1 to Sept. 30.
9. Late summer yearling bull calved June 1 to July 31.
10. Early summer yearling bull calved May 1 to 31.
11. Spring yearling bull calved April 1 to 30.
12. Spring yearling bull calved March 1 to 31.
13. Junior yearling bull calved Feb. 1 to 29.
14. Junior yearling bull calved Jan. 1 to 31.
15. Senior yearling bulls calved Aug. 1 to Dec 31.
16. Two-year-old bulls calved Jan. 1 to July 31.

Bull divisions

- Spring Bull Calves Class(es) 1, 2 & 3
- Junior Bull Calves Class(es) 4 & 5
- Senior Bull Calves Class(es) 6, 7 & 8
- Intermediate Bulls Class(es) 9 & 10
- Yearling Bulls Class(es) 11, 12, 13 & 14
- Senior Bulls Class(es) 15 & 16

The AHA reserves the right to break classes so a 30-day age span may be maintained in the spring, junior and senior calf classes (Classes 1-8).

Rules and classifications

Exhibitors in Hereford classes are subject to the Association's special rule on class qualification, and any animal without a legible tattoo will not be eligible for show. For state and regional shows, all Hereford animals must be officially recorded at show time to be eligible to show. For national shows all Hereford animals must be officially recorded (registered) 30 days prior to the show date to be eligible to show. Entries with registrations "Pending" or "Applied For" will be ineligible to show.

Group classes

Get-of-sire — Four animals shown in above single-entry classes with both sexes represented and all progeny of one sire. It is permissible to use either the cow or calf from a cow-calf pair for the get-of-sire. Get-of-sire may be comprised of animals from one or more owners and of both horned and polled animals.

Best six head — All animals must have been shown in their respective single-entry classes, and they must be owned by the exhibitor or by a member of his/her immediate family. A cow-calf will be considered as two head in the best six head class. Best six head may be comprised of both horned and polled animals.

Premier exhibitor, premier breeder

Awarded with the following point system: first place = 5 points, second place = 4 points, third place = 3 points, fourth place = 2 points and fifth place = 1 point. No points will be given for champions. Points will be awarded for the best six head for premier exhibitor. The same scoring system as above will be used for awarding points for the group classes. It is suggested that banners be given to the premier exhibitor and the premier breeder.

National junior show ownership rule

Cow-calf pairs, females and steers may be jointly owned by siblings provided all are individual members of the National Junior Hereford Association and are between the ages of 7 and 22 as of Jan. 1 of the current year. No animal is eligible to compete if recorded in joint ownership (other than the sibling rule) or ownership of farm or family name. Bred-and-owned bulls, however, may be owned by the exhibitor, a ranch/family name as long as the junior exhibitor is also the breeder.

National and regional show point system

Placing	Level 1		Level 2	
	National Point Show	National Point Show	National Point Show	Regional Show
1	15	10	10	5
2	14	9	9	4
3	13	8	8	3
4	12	7	7	2
5	11	6	6	1
6	10	5	5	0
7	9	4	4	0
8	8	3	3	0
9	7	2	2	0
10	6	1	1	0
Division Champion	15	10	10	5
Reserve Champion	10	5	5	3
Grand Champion	50	20	20	10
Reserve Grand Champion	25	10	10	5

Points for national and regional show bull and show female of the year will be based on the Regional Show Point System. Animals do not have to show in a regional show in order to be eligible for show bull or female of the year in the respective four quadrants. An animal may only win show bull or female of the year for one quadrant per year. Ownership percentage followed by ownership succession (breeder, first owner, second owner, etc.) will determine from which quadrant the animal will be recognized.

AHA point shows and awards

- 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 specified as point shows 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, 11500 N. Ambassador Dr., Ste. 410, Kansas City, MO 64153.

At the AHA Annual Membership Meeting and Conference and National Hereford Show in Kansas City, Mo., the Association will recognize four national show animals of the year, 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

LEVEL 1 NATIONAL POINT SHOW

Cattlemen's Congress, Oklahoma City, Okla.

LEVEL 2 NATIONAL POINT SHOWS

- American Royal, Kansas City, Mo.
- Keystone International Livestock Exposition, Harrisburg, Pa.
- National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.
- North American International Livestock Exposition, Louisville, Ky.
- Southwestern Livestock Exposition, Ft. Worth, Texas
- Western States Hereford Show, Reno, Nev.

REGIONAL POINT SHOWS

Southeast

- Alabama National Fair, Montgomery
- Appalachian District Fair, Gray, Tenn.
- Arkansas State Fair, Little Rock
- Dixie National, Jackson, Miss.
- Florida State Fair, Tampa
- Kentucky State Fair, Louisville
- Louisiana State Fair, Shreveport
- Mississippi State Fair, Jackson
- North Carolina State Fair, Raleigh
- South Carolina State Fair, Columbia
- Tennessee State Fair, Nashville
- Tennessee State Hereford Show

Southwest

- Arizona National Livestock Show, Phoenix
- California State Fair, Sacramento
- Hereford Heritage, Abilene, Texas
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Houston, Texas
- New Mexico State Fair, Albuquerque
- Sonoma County Fair, Santa Rosa, Calif.
- State Fair of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City
- State Fair of Texas, Dallas
- Tulsa State Fair, Tulsa, Okla.
- Utah State Fair, Salt Lake City
- West Texas Fair, Abilene

Northwest

- Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson
- Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island
- Northern International Livestock Expo (NILE), Billings, Mont.
- Oregon State Fair, Salem
- Red River Valley Fair, Fargo, N.D.
- South Dakota State Fair, Huron
- Washington State Fair, Puyallup
- Western Idaho Fair, Boise
- Wyoming State Fair, Douglas

Northeast

- Eastern States Expo, W. Springfield, Mass.
- Illinois State Fair, Springfield
- Indiana State Fair, Indianapolis
- Iowa State Fair, Des Moines
- Maryland State Fair, Timonium
- Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul
- Missouri State Fair, Sedalia
- New Jersey State Fair, Augusta
- New York State Fair, Syracuse
- Ohio State Fair, Columbus
- Ozark Empire Fair, Springfield, Mo.
- State Fair of West Virginia, Lewisburg
- Upper Peninsula State Fair, Escanaba, Mich.
- Wisconsin State Fair, W. Allis
- World Beef Expo, W. Allis, Wis.