

★ THE VITAFERM® ★ JUNIOR NATIONAL HEREFORD EXPO

JULY 12-18, 2025 ★ LOUISVILLE, KY.

RULES & REGULATIONS



ENTRY INFORMATION

- Fees:
 - Early Bird Online Entry Fee is \$50 per entry if processed by MAY 15
 - Online Entries processed between MAY 16 and JUNE 1 are \$70 per head
 - A one-time bedding fee per animal is \$70 and includes bedding for tie-outs.
 - Entries submitted prior to the Early Bird deadline with animals not meeting the entry requirements will be put on hold and will be charged an additional \$20.
- Deadlines:
 - Early Bird Entry & Ownership Deadline - May 15
 - Final Entry & Ownership Deadline - June 1
 - Steer weights will be declared electronically by noon, Sunday, July 13
 - Arrival Deadline for all cattle is 9 a.m. on Sunday, July 13, and all cattle must be processed by noon Sunday, July 13.
- ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**
- All animals must be registered and transferred prior to the June 1 entry and ownership deadline date.
- No late transfers, entries or substitutions will be accepted.
- YOU MUST** have a registration number before completing your online entry. This includes calves on the side of cow-calf pairs. Plan ahead to ensure registrations and transfers are handled in advance of the May 15 and June 1 deadlines. "PENDING" or "APPLIED FOR" will not, under any circumstances, be accepted.
- Be sure to indicate whether your female(s) will show in the owned show, the bred-and-owned show, or both. Female(s) exhibited in both shows will require two entry fees and one bedding fee and must be entered on the same exhibitor's entry.
- Animals that are multi-owned and showing in BOTH the bred-and-owned and owned shows, must be entered on the exhibitors entries that will be showing in the bred-and-owned show. If the animal is entered on two separate entries, it will be removed from one of the entries.
- If an animal is transferred after the completion of any entry, the animal will be removed from the entries and the exhibitor will not receive the stall space or refund.
- If an animal is duplicated on an entry(ies) the duplicated animal will be deleted and the exhibitor will not receive the stall space or refund.
- All entries and additional orders must be submitted through herefordjunionational.com by the final deadline.
- VitaFerm will be sponsoring one free shirt to each exhibitor who enters cattle; additional shirts may be purchased online through June 1, or at the JNHE.

BARN & TIE OUT POLICIES

- Barns are climate controlled. Porta Cool Units WILL NOT BE allowed in the barns or in the tie-out areas.
- No pens or tents will be allowed in tie outs.
- No need to arrive early and mark tie outs since tie outs will be pre-assigned by state and marked by state advisors. All cattle will be tied on the panels provided in the tie out area and NO INDIVIDUAL PENS will be built in tie outs. We appreciate your cooperation with this and your help ensuring everyone has adequate space in tie outs.
- No generators inside the barns and due to liability concerns and recent fire code regulations, generators and fans WILL NOT be allowed in the tie out area. This rule will be strictly enforced and we appreciate everyone's cooperation as we work to ensure the safety of all cattle stalled in tie outs throughout the week.**

STALLING INFORMATION

1. No advisors or exhibitors will be allowed to mark or set up stalls or any decorations prior to the barns being open Saturday, July 12 at 2 p.m. All exhibitors will be stalled by state in the barn and advisors are in charge of stalling assignments within each state. The state advisors will have final say in stalling for each state, so we ask that everyone cooperate with this stalling process in order to get the week off to a good start.
2. Advisors are encouraged to assign stalls and share assignments electronically with exhibitors prior to arrival at the JNHE.
3. **No cattle** will be allowed on grounds until 6 p.m., Saturday, July 12 and **no cattle** in barns until Sunday morning, July 13.
4. ALL CATTLE EXHIBITING AT THE JNHE MUST BE STALLED WITH THE STATE THE JUNIOR EXHIBITOR IS FROM. If under special circumstances the case arises that the junior exhibitor is competing with a different state association, it must be specified at the time of entry, no exceptions, and that exhibitor must compete in all contests as an exhibitor from the state where they are stalled.

CLASS BREAKS & SHOW STRUCTURES

1. Class and division breaks will be determined after check-in. The AHA classifications for national shows will be utilized as guidelines.
2. Steers classes will be split by weight.
3. There WILL NOT be a 2025 calf division in the OWNED female show.
4. If the number of entries warrant, classes will be divided.
5. Horned and polled bred-and-owned females will show together.
6. Horned and polled bulls will show together.
7. Horned and polled pairs will be combined in one cow-calf show.
8. Horned or de-horned animals are eligible for the horned owned breeding show, Polled cattle or cattle with scurs are eligible for the polled owned breeding show.
9. Horned and polled owned females will be shown separately, alternating at the divisions.

BRED-AND-OWNED SHOW RULES

1. To be eligible for the bred-and-owned show, the exhibitor(s) must have owned the entry's dam at the time of conception and must be listed as the breeder and original owner on the registration certificate.
2. Bred-and-owned females calved on or after August 1, 2023 are eligible.
3. Bred-and-owned females may also show in the owned show. This must be declared at the time of the entry. An additional entry fee will be charged.
4. Bred-and-owned bulls calved after August 1, 2023 are eligible.
5. There will not be a class for 2-year-old bulls.
6. Bred-and-owned bulls must have been bred by the junior exhibitor, but may be owned jointly with an adult/farm, provided that the junior exhibitor is listed as the sole breeder, original owner and is officially recorded as a current owner of that bull.
7. All bulls calved before January 1, 2025, must be shown with a nose lead.

SPECIAL COW-CALF RULES

1. Offered to cows born prior to Aug. 1, 2023.
2. No maximum age for cows.
3. Calf must be her natural calf and no more than 240 days in age as of the day of the show. (Calves must be born on or after November 18, 2024.)
4. There will be a bred-and-owned cow-calf division and an owned cow-calf division. Winners of the bred-and-owned and owned divisions will compete for grand champion cow-calf pair.
5. Bred-and-owned cow-calf class – Exhibitor must be the breeder and owner of BOTH the cow and the calf. The same cow-calf pair may not show in both the bred-and-owned and owned cow-calf classes.
6. Owned cow-calf classes – Exhibitor must be the breeder of the calf and must have been the recorded owner of the cow at the time of conception.
7. Calves at the side of cow-calf pairs may show in separate female or bull shows, however, additional entry fees will apply. If the calf is not showing separately an additional \$70 bedding fee applies.
8. The bred-and-owned bull show ownership rules apply to bull calves in the cow-calf show.
9. There will be no nurse cows allowed in the cow-calf pair show or stalled in the barns.

STEER RULES

1. All steers showing at the JNHE must be registered by the AHA and out of a registered sire and dam.
2. **All steers will be required to be parent verified to both sire and dam, therefore, a DNA profile of the steer, the sire and dam must be completed through the official AHA lab by entry deadline. To request a DNA kit for your animal, access your MyHerd or contact AHA customer service.**
3. No steer certificates will be accepted, only registration papers.
4. Steer classes will be divided by weight.
5. The JNHE will be using a weigh back system. The JNHE steer exhibitor must electronically submit and turn in a form with their steers' declared weight. Declaration forms are available at the scales and through JNHE Resources. This will become the animal's official weight and this data will be used when breaking classes and will be provided to the judge.
6. The top three placing animals in each class will be weighed. No reweighs will be allowed once the animal has stepped off of the scale.
7. There will be a 5% tolerance from the declared weight and the show day weight. All animals outside of the 5% tolerance will be disqualified.
8. There will NOT be a separate prospect steer show.

SPECIAL CLASSES

1. Produce of Dam – Each exhibitor can enter 1 group consisting of two bred-and-owned progeny representing one dam. No steers are allowed. Enter through herefordjuniornational.com by June 1.
2. State Groups – Two divisions of any combination of steers, females or bulls is acceptable. There may be only one group per state. State Advisors are responsible for entries, they can be found on the JNHE resources page.
 - Large State Division - 25 head or more entered by the state
 - » Five animals from one state, owned by three or more exhibitors and representing not more than two animals per exhibitor.
 - Small State Division - Less than 25 head entered by state
 - » Three animals from one state, owned by two or more exhibitors and representing not more than two animals per exhibitor.
3. Premier Adult and Junior Breeder
 - Award points are computed from winnings in breeding animal classes:
 - » 5 points for 1st
 - » 4 points for 2nd
 - » 3 points for 3rd
 - » 2 points for 4th
 - » 1 point for 5th place.
 - Points are given only for individual classes; no points for champions or groups.
 - The Senior Premier Breeder Award is given to the adult or farm with the top point total.
 - The Junior Premier Breeder Award is given to the junior member with the top point total, regardless of the number exhibited.

*Computed the same as the National Hereford Open Shows.

4. Premier Exhibitor
 - Award points are computed from winnings in breeding animal classes:
 - » 5 points for 1st
 - » 4 points for 2nd
 - » 3 points for 3rd
 - » 2 points for 4th
 - » 1 point for 5th place.
 - Points are given only for individual classes; no points for champions or groups.
 - The Premier Exhibitor Award is given to the junior with the top point total, regardless of the number exhibited.

*Computed the same as the National Hereford Open Shows.

GENERAL RULES

1. Exhibitors must be 7 years old and not yet 22 years old by January 1, 2025, and a current member of the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA). When entering contests be sure to use your age as of January 1 of the current year.
2. Junior memberships are \$15 and must be paid prior to entry. Dues may be paid via MyHerd.org and membership forms may be completed online through hereford.org/youth.
3. All animals must be registered with the AHA.

4. Each entry, except in the bred-and-owned bull show must be owned solely by the junior exhibitor(s) and in his/her recorded ownership before June 1. Siblings may jointly own animals, provided all are current members of the NJHA and meet JNHE age requirements. No animal is eligible to compete if recorded in joint ownership (other than the sibling rule and bred and owned bull rule), and no joint ownership with farm name or family name.
5. Scurs, if present, must be loose and not firmly attached to the head; they must not be removed or tampered with.
6. Original registration certificate must be presented at check-in.
7. All animals must be tattooed and will be checked unless the original registration paper has been stamped VERIFIED by an AHA staff member.
8. Tattoos that are missing, illegible, altered, incorrect and/or in any other way disagree with the official AHA records will be justifiable cause for disqualification of entry. **CHECK TATTOOS WELL BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE JNHE.**
9. Entries must meet Kentucky health regulations. All animals must have an official health certificate. Refer to the health requirements available at JNHE Resources.
10. Exhibitor must show his/her own animals. Only exhibitors who are in attendance at the JNHE and are physically unable to show the animals due to illness or injury will be excused.
 - In the case of extenuating circumstances, the family must come to the NJHA board and AHA Youth Director, in which case, the board of directors and AHA Youth Director have sole discretion as to whether the animal may be shown by a substitute showman.
 - Owner may secure another junior member to show his/ her animals if excused or if exhibitor has more than one entry in the same class.
 - It is recommended that if you have more than one animal being shown in a class you utilize a fellow junior from your own state to assist.
 - No adult may assist a junior member or be allowed in the showring at any time.
11. Exhibitor must wear official show shirt in both showmanship and in the entire cattle show along with entry numbers on chest and back.
12. Exhibitor must follow AHA fitting rules as stated in the official Show Rules and Classifications of the AHA.
13. State herdsmanship (neatness, decoration, workmanship and cooperation) will be judged.
14. If all requirements are not met, the NJHA Board and Youth Director reserve the right to disqualify any entry.
15. All persons making entries in the show shall agree to abide by all the rules and regulations as outlined and will not hold the AHA or the JNHE organizers responsible for accident, loss or injury to any person, animal or article.
16. No farm signs or videos may be displayed at the stalls. Family signs may be displayed if junior exhibitor(s) names are included.
17. The following showmanship divisions will be offered: peewee, junior, intermediate and senior.
18. All showmanship and judging contestants must pre-enter by JUNE 1. There will be no entries accepted at the show. The entry fee is \$5 per contest.
19. Breeding cattle will not be weighed or measured.
20. The most current EPDs will be used. EPDs for all cattle will be provided to the judge for him/her to use at their discretion.
21. Junior members will only have EPDs if they are compliant with Whole Herd TPR or purchased an animal from a Whole Herd TPR breeder. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to call the AHA customer service department and fix compliancy issues if they arise.
22. Due to the Kentucky Expo Center regulations and safety of exhibitors, NO DOGS will be allowed on the grounds, in the tie outs, in the barns or in Broadbent Arena with the exception of service animals with proper identification.
23. Any animal a junior enters may be used in the team-fitting competition and/or be asked to be used in the judging contest.
24. At the JNHE, the exhibitor of any animal that wins competition shall, promptly after the announcement that such animal has won such competition, permit the Association to secure a DNA sample from such animal. Please see Rule 4 of Section VII of the Association rules and regulations for how DNA testing is handled.
25. It is a policy of the NJHA board of directors that if an animal gets loose in the showring, an exhibitor will be given two chances to regain control of said animal throughout the duration of that particular show. After the third instance, exhibitor and animal will be dismissed from the showring by an NJHA board member or AHA staff member
26. Only Junior National Hereford Expo exhibitors are allowed to show animals in the showring. This includes ALL special classes.
27. No aerosol cans are allowed in the make-ready area or the showring.

CONDUCT

The JNHE is a family event. Any false representation, interference, or unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of any attendee will be dealt with by AHA staff according to the equities of the case. If any attendee interferes in any way with the judges or shows disrespect to them, or to the show, the JNHE may withhold any awards or take any other steps deemed desirable.