

Procedure for Entering a Youth Livestock Competition at the 2009 State Fair of Virginia

Dr. Mark L. Wahlberg
Extension Animal Scientist, VA Tech

The State Fair of Virginia will utilize an on-line entry system again in 2009. The information provided by exhibitors via the on-line process will be used to assemble show programs, automate the premium payment process, and build a complete database of participants in the Fair.

Key steps to follow are the same as they have been the past two years. They are:

- Go to the State Fair website, which is <http://www.statefair.com/>
- Select "Competitions" from the choices on the screen.
- All the various categories of competition are listed. Each competition category includes a detailed file of rules and classes that are offered. Select the competition guide for the category you want to enter. This will download a pdf file which contains the rules and classes. Make note of the classes you want to enter.
- After you go back to the competition page, click on the maroon link that says "Click Here to Register On-line".
- The instructions that come up are copied in the box below. Note that Youth Livestock exhibitors do not pay an entry fee.
- Once you have gathered all the information needed, follow the instructions which say **Begin on-line entry**. Make your choices from the Main Menu on the left side of the screen.
- You complete all entries for all departments with the same on-line submission. Separate entries for different departments are not required.

Youth Beef and Youth Sheep will only accept the on-line entry - no paper entry form is available. The other departments still have paper entry forms available as well as on-line entry. On the competition page the entry form can be found just to the right of the rules and class list for each department. Each department has a separate entry form, which gets mailed to different destinations, so please follow those directions carefully.

- Market Beef, Market Lambs, and Commercial Ewe Lambs had a special nomination process, which was completed last month. Animals which were nominated are eligible to show in these competitions at the State Fair. Entries submitted for these competition categories for animals which were not nominated will not be accepted.
- The nomination process was not an entry. You must still submit an on-line entry for Market Beef, Market Lamb, and Commercial Ewe Lamb.

Deadline for livestock entries is August 15.

Tickets will be issued to exhibitors after their entries have been received. This year all Youth Livestock and Poultry exhibitors will receive 3 exhibitors passes, regardless of the number of

animals entered. These passes, which are good for the duration of each competition only, will enable the bearer to enter the fairgrounds, but not to go on the rides. Rides require a separate ticket. Each exhibitor may purchase up to 4 additional exhibitor passes for \$10 each. These tickets are purchased directly from the fair. Details of the ticket policy are explained at:

http://www.statefair.com/pdf/competition/09_LIVESTOCK_RULES.pdf

[Instructions for the On-Line Entry System for the 2009 State Fair](#)

Scholarships are awarded in each of the livestock youth competitions. The number of scholarships available in each youth livestock competition has expanded from a year ago. Information regarding the scholarships can be found at the end of each of the youth livestock (i.e. Beef, Sheep, and Hogs) competition guides.

The Junior Stockmens Contest also has the on-line or paper copy version of the entry form. Entries for this contest are due by September 15. All contestants must have either a livestock exhibitors pass or a student competition ticket (purchased from the State Fair). Details about the Stockmens Contest can be found at the State Fair Competition site, or the 4H Livestock website,

<http://4-h.ext.vt.edu/programs/anscience/Livestock/livestock.html>