



2025 Major Show Updates

THE LIVESTOCK DIVISION TEAM

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Exhibitor Newsletter: sign-up at:

<http://www.rodeohouston.com/Get-Involved/Exhibitors-Participants/Livestock-Show>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HoustonLivestockShowExhibitors/>

**2025 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™
March 4 – March 23, 2025**

Major Show Changes

New Entry System: a new entry system will be used to take entries for the 2025 show. Each club/chapter will have to set-up an account to create entries, information will be sent out soon to create accounts. Advancements to the system include:

- **Payment:** ability for each club/chapter to pay by check or with credit card.
- **Entry submissions:** each club/chapter can submit multiple sets of entries. If you have submitted entries and need to submit additional entries, you simply start a new order.
- **Grounds Passes:** additional ground passes for exhibitors will now be added at the exhibitor entry level. This should allow you to better track who has purchased grounds passes.
- **Late Entries:** late entries can be entered through the entry portal.

Junior Commercial Steer:

- **Entry Limit:** increasing total entries allowed to 175.
- **Entry Procedures:** new for 2025, intent forms will not be collected prior to entry. Instead, entry for the contest will take place in August. Entries are first come first served, and entries must be submitted and paid for within 1 hour of starting the entry to confirm the placement.

Archery Contest: New divisions and organizations allowed for 2025.

- **Organizations Eligible to Compete:** 4-H/FFA, TFAA (Texas Field Archery Association), ASA (Archery Shooters Association), USA Archery, and JOAD (Junior Olympic Archery Development).
- **3-D Archery Competition:** new competition being added to further advance the competition and create more opportunities for contestants.

Ag Science Fair/Ag Public Speaking Entry:

- Entry will take place via judgingcard.com for 2025
- Uploads of supporting documents will also take place on judgingcard.com

Calf Scramble Certificates:

- The total certificate value is increasing to \$2,500 for 2025.
- Winners will receive \$2000 to purchase a calf and an additional \$500 upon successful completion of the program.
- Winners cannot purchase animals from themselves, immediate family members (mother, father, brother, sister, sister-in-law, brother-in-law,

grandfather, grandmother, stepfather, stepmother, half-brother, half-sister, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, cousin) or their ranches (family ranches or partnerships), or 4-H club/FFA chapter. Winners cannot purchase animals from their 4-H/FFA advisor or the 4-H/FFA advisor's immediate family members (mother, father, brother, sister, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, stepfather, stepmother, half-brother, half-sister, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, cousin) or their ranches (family ranches or partnerships). Winner cannot purchase animals from their Donor or their Donor's immediate family members (mother, father, brother, sister, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, stepfather, stepmother, half-brother, half-sister, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, cousin) or their ranches (family ranches or partnerships). Winners may not purchase heifers previously exhibited through any Calf Scramble program. Payments will not be issued to 4-H Clubs, FFA Chapters, students, parents, supervisors or Donors.

Animal Handling Devices: Rule update

- Halters of any material less than ¼ inch in diameter are prohibited for all species, including but not limited to: cable, nylon, string and monofilament.

Breeding Sheep:

- Premier Exhibitor Award: award has been discontinued for 2025
- Royal White has been discontinued in both junior and open shows and will be replaced with Other Hair Breeds. Other Hair Breeds includes the following breeds: Royal White, Texel, and Katahdin.

Dairy Cattle Show:

- Adding Milking Shorthorns as a breed for 2025.

Heifer Show Entry:

- New for 2025, heifer show exhibitors will not declare the validated heifer they intend to show until check-in similar to how breeding sheep and gilts are handled.

Steer Classification:

- New for 2025, classification will take place on show day concurrent with each class similar to lambs and barrows. Reclassed steers will show in their designated breed.

Scramble Steer Show:

- The scramble steer show will take place at 5 p.m. on the day of move-in, allowing the junior market steer show to start earlier on the first day of each wave.

Livestock Quiz Bowl: New awards for 2025

- Senior High Point Individual – Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo belt buckle
- Senior Reserve High Point Individual - Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo belt buckle
- Junior High Point Individual – Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo belt buckle
- Junior Reserve High Point Individual - Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo belt buckle

4-H/FFA Wool Judging: New Awards for 2025

- Individual High Point Individuals in each category: Overall, Grading, Placing, and Reasons for Second - Fifteenth places will receive a plaque.
- High Point Individuals in each category: Overall, Grading, Placing, and Reasons for Sixteenth - Twentieth places will receive a rosette.

Trailer Parking Lot:

- New lot for trailer parking separate of trailer staging lot. This will allow for more space for staging trailers for move-in and an overall smoother process.
- Note: the new lot will be adjacent to existing lot at Airport Road.

Livestock Footing:

- For 2025, we will be using carpet on all aisle ways in NRG Center as footing for livestock.

Junior Market Shows

Market Lamb & Goat Shows: Tuesday, March 11 – Thursday, March 13

- **Judges:**
 - Lambs – Jason Simpson
 - Goats – Chad Coburn

Market Poultry: Thursday, March 13 – Friday, March 14

- **March 13:** Broiler Show
- **March 14:** Turkey Show, followed by Grand Drive for Broilers & Turkeys
- **Judges:** TBD

Market Barrow Show – Saturday, March 15 – Thursday, March 20

- **Wave 1:** March 15-17
 - **Show A** – March 16: Hampshire, Poland China, Spotted
 - **Show B** – March 17: Other Crossbred I
- **Wave 2:** March 18-20
 - **Show C** – March 19: Duroc, Berkshire, Yorkshire, Chester White/Landrace
 - **Show D** – March 20: Other Crossbred II
- **Judges:** Maverick Squires and Ty Egnell
 - **Note:** Judge selection for Other Crossbred barrows will not be announced until the morning of Show A.

Market Steer Show/Scramble Steer Show: Sunday, March 16 – Friday, March 21

Market Steer Show

- **Wave 1:** March 16 – 18
 - **Show A** – March 17: TBD
 - **Show B** – March 18: TBD
- **Wave 2:** March 19 – 21
 - **Show C** – March 20: TBD
 - **Show D** – March 21: TBD
- **Judge:** Jack Ward

Scramble Steer Show

- **Scramble Steer Schedule**
 - Wave 1: March 16 (Awards Social to follow show)
 - Wave 2: March 19 (Awards Social to follow show)
 - Scramble Steer Judges: TBD

Junior Breeding Shows

Junior Breeding Sheep: Monday, March 3 – Wednesday, March 5

- Open Show: Tuesday, March 4
- Junior Show: Wednesday, March 5
- Judge: TBD

Junior Dairy Heifer Show: TBD, we are currently working on the schedule to plan for a move-in time that suites our dairy cattle exhibitors.

- Judge: TBD

Junior Breeding Gilts: Thursday, March 6 – Friday, March 7

- Judge: TBD

Junior Breeding Beef Heifer Show/Scramble Heifer Shows: Monday, March 10 – Saturday, March 15

Junior Breeding Heifer Schedule

- Wave 1 – American Division: March 10 - 12
 - Show A – March 11: ARB, Beefmaster, Brangus, Red Brahman, Red Brangus, Simbrah
 - Show B – March 12: Santa Gertrudis, Grey Brahman
- Wave 2 – British & Continental Divisions: March 13 – 15
 - Show C – March 14: Angus, Charolais, Hereford, Maine-Anjou, ORB, Polled Hereford, Red Angus, Simmental
 - Show D – March 15: Chianina, Limousin, Shorthorn
- Junior Heifer Judges: TBD

Scramble Heifer Schedule

- American Scramble Heifer Show: March 11 (Awards Social to follow show)
- British/Continental Shows: March 14 (Awards Social to follow show)
- Scramble Heifer Judges: TBD

Contests & Competitions

Archery: Friday, Oct. 19 – Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024

- Location: NRG Center, Hall A
- Entry will be via eyesonscore.com starting August 1 (link will be posted on our exhibitor page under the shooting sports tab)

Young Guns Shooting Sports: Friday, Feb. 7 – Sunday, Feb. 9

- Location: Greater Houston Sports Club
- Contest Registration: registration via iClays
- Format: Contest is limited to the first 720 entries with no single division to exceed 360 entries. Event includes Sporting Clay, Skeet, and Whizbang.

Junior Commercial Steer: Sunday, March 9 – Tuesday, March 11

- Important Dates
 - August 31st – Last day to purchase and weigh steers
 - September 15th – Deadline to submit Scale Tickets

Ranching & Wildlife Poster Board & Video Contests: Saturday, March 8

- Award Presentation: Saturday, March 8 at NRG Center
- Registration: Jr. Show Entry Portal via rodeohouston.com
- Judging will take place prior to March; contestants will be notified prior to the contest if they placed.

4-H & FFA Dairy Judging: TBD

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration via JudgingCard

4-H & FFA Poultry Judging Contest: Wednesday, March 5

- Location: Gerald D. Young Agricultural Sciences Center – LD Robinson Pavilion
- Registration via JudgingCard

4-H & FFA Livestock Quiz Bowl: Friday, March 7

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration via JudgingCard

4-H & FFA Floriculture Contest: Saturday, March 8

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration via JudgingCard

4-H & FFA Nursery Landscape Contest: Saturday, March 8

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Meat Judging Contest: Sunday, March 9

- Location: Martin Foods
- Registration via JudgingCard

Ag Science Fair: Sunday, March 9

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration: via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Horse Judging: Monday, March 10

- Location: Great Southwest Equestrian Center
- Registration: via JudgingCard

Ag Public Speaking Contest: Saturday, March 15 – Sunday, March 16

- Preliminary Rounds: Saturday, March 15 at Houston Community College – Alief Hayes Campus
- Finals: Sunday, March 16 at NRG Center
- Registration: via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Wildlife Judging: Saturday, March 15

- Location: Long Acres Ranch
- Registration: via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Plant ID: Sunday, March 16

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration: via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Livestock Judging: Monday, March 17

- Location: NRG Arena
- Contests will park at Dick Graves Park Parking Lot located at Reed Road and will be bussed to NRG Park.
- Registration: via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Wool Judging: Monday, March 17

- NRG Center
- Registration: via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Food Challenge: Tuesday, March 18

- Location: TBD
- Registration: via JudgingCard

Ag Product ID: Wednesday, March 19

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration: via JudgingCard

Ag Robotics: Wednesday, March 19

- Location: NRG Arena
- Registration: via JudgingCard

4-H/FFA Vet Science Contest: Thursday, March 20

- Location: NRG Center
- Registration: via JudgingCard

Ag Mechanics:

- **Trailer Build-Off Contest**
 - October 24, 2024, at HLSR Pavilion at 11645 Almeda Rd., Houston, TX 77045
 - Limited to the first 20 teams to enter (link will be posted on our exhibitor page)
 - Registration opens at 9am on Sept 5 through Sept 13 or until spots are full
 - Credit Card Payments ONLY
 - Equipment drop-off the night before until 9pm.
- **State FFA Tractor Tech Contest:** Sunday, March 9 – Monday, March 10
 - Location: Day 1 – Bayou Events Center, Day 2 – NRG Center
 - Teams must qualify at Area competitions for state contest.
- **Ag Mechanics Project Show & Tractor Restoration Contest:** Friday, March 21 – Sunday, March 23
 - Location: NRG Center
 - Registration: Jr. Show Entry Portal via rodeohouston.com

Calf Scramble

Calf Scramble

- **Current Scrambler Deadlines**
 - Monthly Reports are due on the 10th of every month for the following month. Exhibitors who fail to submit reports every month may become ineligible for the completion bonus.
 - August 5: Steer exhibitors must enter validation EID Tag Number in scramble system & Initial Assessment of the Business Plan is due
 - September 1: Scramble Certificates, heifer registration papers, and breed essays are due.
- **Progress Show:** November 2 -3 at the Washington County Expo
 - Open to all current exhibitors in the calf scramble program
 - No fee to attend
 - Heifers are shown by division, steers are shown by weight
 - Entry will be taken via the calf scramble portal; more information will be sent out directly to scramblers and AST/CEA's in early Fall.
- **Super Scramble**

19 scramblers will compete for \$42,000 in prize money. The first catch winner from the first 19 rodeo performances will be eligible to return on the last Sunday during the rodeo finals. 9 out of the 19 scramblers will have the opportunity to catch a calf. The prize money will be distributed as follows:

 - 1st Catch: \$10,000
 - 2nd Catch: \$6,000
 - 3rd Catch: \$4,000
 - 4th – 9th Catch: \$2,000 each
 - Non-Catchers: \$1,000 each

New Scrambler Reminders:

- Calf Scramble:
 - Open to 4-H/FFA contestants that have reached their 14th, but not their 18th birthday on Jan. 1, 2025 and not enrolled beyond the junior year of high school
 - Certificate Amount: \$2,500 (\$2,000 used toward purchase of a Breeding Beef Heifer or a Market Steer, \$500 will be awarded at donor social the following year once the project is complete.)
- Judging Contests: Certificates are awarded in the Dairy Judging and Livestock Judging Contests. Contestants must adhere to all rules set forth in Scramble rules if they accept certificate.
- **NOTE:** Scramble Certificate winners who initially accept and then decline their Scramble Certificate, may be barred from exhibiting/participating in HLSR competitions/shows. This is at the discretion of Show Management.

Important Dates & Deadlines

Handbook & Entry Forms: Available online 1st part of October

Online Entry: opens October 15th

Entry Deadline: Online entries must be submitted by December 1st

- Late fees apply after this date

Show Entry Forms

Individual Show and Contests entered via the HLSR Junior Show Entry Portal:

- Indemnities: Notorized indemnity forms are required for all shows and contests. **Note:** *Indemnity forms for Ag Mechanics contestants should be brought to the show on the day of move-in.*
 - *Current Calf Scramblers will complete the Jr Show indemnity.*
 - *New Calf Scramble entries will complete the 2025 Calf Scramble indemnity attached to the 2025 Calf Scramble application.*
- Entry Forms: All exhibitors/contestants will need to use the Junior Show Entry Form, for some contests including Ag Mechanics, Poster Board, and Video Contest, an additional form will need to be completed as well.
- W-9's: A paper W-9 will be required for all exhibitors/contestants.

Judging Contest Entry via judgingcard.com:

Entry for judging contests will be taken via judgingcard.com. Entries will open on October 15th and are due on Feb. 1st. **No Late Entries will be accepted!** No paper entry form is required. **Indemnity forms should not be mailed to the show, please bring the completed indemnity forms to the contest.**

Scholarships

Each year, more than 800 scholarships are awarded to Texas students by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™. Please visit rodeohouston.com to learn more about scholarship opportunities for graduating seniors.

Scholarship Alumni

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Scholarship Alumni Association was started in 2015 as a way to build a community of past scholarship recipients. Since then, we have grown to roughly 2,282 members and are continuing to grow. Our alumni benefit from a complimentary life membership, networking and volunteer opportunities, social engagement, and much more. Any recipients of a four-year undergraduate scholarship are welcome to join at no cost. Our mission is to further develop the relationship between the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and its Scholarship Alumni, encourage continued involvement with the Show, facilitate networking with fellow Alumni, and build relationships with current scholars via events and outreach. Please contact alumni@hlsr.com for more information.