PRE-JUNIOR RABBIT SHOW
FEBRUARY 3 - 8, 2027

The Pre-Junior Rabbit Show will be held in conjunction with the Youth Rabbit Show. Please note: This is separate from the Youth Rabbit Show, and Pre-Junior Exhibitors do not qualify for the Champion Youth Program and will not need to do the additional activities.

Show Coordinator ..... BJ Fernandez
Secretary ..... Cheryl Thompson
Educational Outreach ..... Brittany Huston & Laurie Millard

Entry Due Date.....Dec. 11, 2026
..... (Postmark or Hand Delivered)
1st Late Entry Period.....Dec. 18, 2026
.....(Double Entry Fees)
Final Late Entry Period.....Jan. 11, 2027
.....(Double Entry Fees plus $100.00)
Deadline for Corrected Entries.....Jan. 11, 2027

SHOW SCHEDULE

Arrival/Check-in ..... Feb. 3, 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Judging of Pre-Junior Rabbit ..... Feb. 4, 10:00 a.m.
Judging of Pre-Junior Rabbit ..... Feb. 5, 10:00 a.m.
Pre-Junior Rabbit Showmanship.....
..... Feb. 6, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Release..... Feb. 8, after Champion Youth Announcement

INTERPRETATION OF RULES

The management of the Florida State Fair reserves the right to amend, add to, and interpret the following Rules and Regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all questions and differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incident to the Fair.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Only Florida residents who are between the ages of 4 and 7 years old as of September 1, 2026, will be eligible to enter.
2. Leased animals are not permitted. Anyone leasing animals will forfeit all premiums. All animals must be in the possession, ownership, and care of the exhibitor as of December 1, 2026.
3. Exhibitors must be present at the check-in of rabbits unless special permission has been requested in writing by January 11, 2027. Exhibitors will be notified if permission is granted.
4. Any exhibitor from a family with an outstanding balance owed to the Fair will not be eligible to show at the Florida State Fair.

Please note: The Florida State Fair will furnish a 16% Rabbit feed that will be fed to all animals while they are cooped in the Rabbit Barn during the 2027 Florida State Fair Youth Rabbit Show.

ENTRIES

1. Entry Due Date - All entries must be submitted and paid online on or before December 11, 2026. Hand-delivered or mailed entries WILL NOT be accepted this year.

It is the policy of the Florida State Fair to abide by all Rules and Regulations as posted on the Florida State Fair Agribusiness website at www.floridastatefairag.com.

Entry fee will be determined by the date entries are submitted online.

The 1st Late Entry Period for entries submitted online between December 12 and December 18, 2026, is subject to space availability and will incur double entry fees.

The Final Late Entry Period for entries submitted online between December 19, 2026, and January 11, 2027, is subject to space availability and will be charged double entry fees plus a $100.00 fee (for Youth).

2. Exhibitors are limited to one rabbit.
3. All animals must be at least 3 months of age or older.
4. If your animal needs tattooing, contact the Show Secretary at Cher2Lyn@gmail.com
5. An entry fee of $5.00 will be charged and must be paid at the time of entry. Entry Fees are Non-Refundable.
6. The Florida State Fair reserves the right to limit entries based on pen availability. Entries will be accepted in chronological order based on the postmark.
7. All changes must be made to the Show Secretary at (941) 920-0961 (call or text) or email Cher2Lyn@gmail.com on or before January 11, 2027. There will BE NO CHANGES made after this date. Substitutions/Changes, if necessary, must be ear number only and be of the same breed, sex, and classification.
8. All entries must be made on the Official Florida State Fair Entry Form, which is available on the website. Only one Exhibitor per entry form. Send all entries and fees to Pre-Junior Rabbit Show, Florida State Fair, P.O. Box 11766, Tampa, Florida 33680.
9. The rabbit entered in the Pre-Junior Rabbit Show must be permanently and legibly tattooed for entry purposes in the left ear before bringing it to the Show Room. Tattooing will not be allowed in the Showroom or on the Fairgrounds. Non-compliance with this rule will result in the elimination of the animal from the show and forfeiture of the entry fee. Note: This rule will be strictly enforced**.**

HEALTH

1. All animals must meet health requirements as specified in the Rules for Exhibition as required by the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services.
2. No sick or diseased stock will be allowed in the Showroom—the Show Superintendent & Asst. Superintendents have the authority to refuse animals. Every animal must be checked for the disease at the check-in table before being cooped. Any entry rejected on entry day for sickness, disease, underage, or badly underweight will not be allowed to return to the Showroom during this show.
3. Any rabbit showing signs of disease or pregnancy after arrival will be quarantined and cared for by an experienced rabbit breeder at the owner's expense. The owner will be notified to pick it up.
4. No refunds will be made on rejected animals.
5. Contact the Florida Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry, District 4 Office at (863) 578-1863 with questions

pertaining to Health Regulations and/or Rules of Exhibition.

GENERAL

1. Please note: Due to health and safety concerns, cooking is not permitted in the barns. Food and drink should not be consumed in animal areas. Exhibitors are required to wash their hands after handling animals.
2. Rabbits may not be bred in the Showroom.
3. Any rabbit that is obviously a crossbreed and which does not conform to a Breed Standard will not be accepted in the Showroom.
4. Rabbits will be fed and watered daily. If your animal requires special feeding, then you must take care of this yourself. Special 'Do Not Feed' signs can be picked up from the Show Secretary upon arrival of the rabbits. Only Florida State Fair signs can be on cages.
5. Only animals being shown at the Florida State Fair are permitted on the Fairgrounds.
6. Any person who violates any of the general rules or special rules as posted in this premium list will forfeit all privileges and premiums won.
7. The physical condition of an entrant, which the appropriate committee considers to be a problem for that entrant to participate in the show, may result in the committee not accepting entry or not allowing that entrant to participate in the show.
8. Failure to cooperate with Fair Officials may result in premium forfeiture and immediate dismissal from the Fairgrounds.
9. Smoking is not permitted in the barns.
10. The use of alcohol is prohibited in barns and livestock areas.
11. No dogs allowed in barns.
12. No toys or other paraphernalia in cages with rabbits.

ASSISTANCE

1. Pre-Junior exhibitors are expected to care for, prepare, and show their own animals while on the grounds of the Florida State Fair.
2. Adults (other than parents) or similar unauthorized persons are strictly prohibited from providing direct assistance in the preparation or showing of pre-junior animals while on the grounds of the Florida State Fair.
3. All preparation will be done in a designated area.
4. Exceptions to the above rule must be approved by the committee in writing and submitted before the Fair.
5. Violations can result in the exhibitor's disqualification, and all premiums, Achievement premiums, etc., will be forfeited.

LIABILITY FOR LOSS OR THEFT

1. The owner or custodian of property of any kind brought to the Fairgrounds, either for exhibit or for other purposes, assumes as a condition of its admission to the grounds all risk and/or responsibility for its loss, damage, or theft.
2. The Fair, its officers, and its employees cannot and will not accept responsibility and liability for any damage or injury resulting from theft, fire, the elements, accidents, or other conditions or causes; whether to exhibits, property of the exhibitor, vehicles on the grounds and articles left therein or any other property of any nature whatsoever.

ARRIVAL

1. Rabbits will be received on Wednesday, February 3, 2027, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. only.
2. All possible care will be taken in receiving, cooping, feeding, caring for, and returning animals.
3. Management reserves the right to reject any entry.
4. Exhibitors are expected to feed and water animals once caged.
5. The rabbit must be in a carrier upon arrival. The rabbit may not be handheld.

ADMISSION

1. Each exhibitor will be issued three (3) armbands for the duration of the show. These are intended for use by exhibitors and parents. The exception will be made when more than one exhibitor is from the same family showing in the Pre-Junior **or** Youth Rabbit Show. Any additional exhibitors from the same family will be issued one armband.
2. Armbands will be picked up at check-in. Additional armbands CANNOT be purchased. Single-day admission tickets can be bought in advance at discount prices. See the Advance Ticket Form on the website for details. Tickets will be for sale at the gate.
3. Vehicle/Trailer Parking Passes: All Trailers will be parked in the designated areas within the interior of the grounds. Exhibitors will receive a Vehicle Pass for the duration of the show, allowing them to park in the Ag Lot outside Gate 3. Only vehicles with the appropriate tags are permitted in this area.
4. Each passenger must wear an armband or have an admission pass.
5. Red Gate Drop-Off Times (In addition to arrival): Vehicles will be allowed to enter through the Red Gate between 6:00 am and 10:00 am and 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm to drop off necessary feed and/or supplies. After unloading supplies, vehicles will proceed to the Ag Lot for parking.
6. A parking map and Detailed Instructions will be posted on the Agribusiness Website before the Fair.
7. Reserved parking is provided; exhibitors must park in the assigned Ag Lot. Failure to do so will result in your vehicle being subject to towing.
8. Champion of Champions Lot: Limited Parking Spaces can be purchased by Exhibitors within the interior of the grounds. All information will be posted on the FSF Agribusiness website. Spaces will become available for purchase on January 1, 2027. All proceeds will go towards the Youth participating in the Champion of Champions program

JUDGING

1. Judging date is February 4 and 5, 2027, at 10 a.m.
2. Judging and entry classifications of the American Rabbit Breeders Association will prevail; check A.R.B.A. Standards of Perfection for class and weight.
3. A remark card with the judge's remarks, special awards, etc., will be posted as soon as possible after the judging.
4. Judges will not award premiums to any article, product, or animal that is not deserving. It must be judged individually worthy.
5. The judge's decision is final, and no appeal will be considered except in cases of written protest (see General Disputes Policy).
6. Any exhibitor who interferes with the judging will be promptly excluded from the competition; if, after judging, the premiums awarded will be withheld.
7. All animals must be evaluated by the judge to receive premiums.

Please note: Any rabbit sent home will not be judged but will receive a participation ribbon.

GENERAL DISPUTES POLICY

With respect to any disputes that may occur with respect to an exhibitor at the show, such disputes shall be handled by the appropriate Livestock Committee (the "Committee") in accordance with the following:

1. An exhibitor may file a protest with respect to another exhibitor for violation of the rules and regulations of the Committee and/or the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) National Code of Show Ring Ethics by submitting a written protest (a "Protest") on a form (the "Protest Form") which will be available at the Agribusiness Department. The Protest must include the exact basis, cause, and description of the dispute, the name of the protesting exhibitor, the name of the exhibitor being protested, and any materials in support of the Protest as well as any other matters which may be required in the Protest Form and shall be accompanied by payment of $50 which shall be refunded only if the Protest is sustained by the Committee. The Protest Form must be signed by the exhibitor (as the protesting exhibitor), and if the exhibitor is a minor, the Protest Form must also be signed by the exhibitor's guardian or parent, unless the parent or guardian is not available under circumstances that warrant, as determined by the Agribusiness Department in its sole discretion. Failure to properly sign the Protest Form shall deem the Protest Form incomplete and nullity, and in such an event, the Protest will not be considered. Any Protest must be submitted (and received by the Agribusiness Department) at least two (2) hours prior to the time that the show is scheduled to occur in order to be considered prior to the show. If a Protest is submitted less than two (2) hours prior to the time that the show is scheduled to occur ("a "Late Submittal"), then the Committee will handle the Protest after the show in accordance with its rules and regulations and the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics, but the Late Submittal shall not affect the award of ribbons for the show. In order to minimize disruption to the show, an exhibitor who intends to file a Protest should do so at the earliest feasible time. In any event, a Protest must be filed with the Agribusiness Department prior to the scheduled release hour for the protested exhibitor's animal in order to be considered.

2. The Agribusiness Department will forward any Protest Form which is duly signed (by an exhibitor as the protesting exhibitor, and if the exhibitor is a minor, the Protest Form must also be signed by the exhibitor's guardian or parent) and any accompanying materials submitted by the protesting exhibitor in support of the Protest to the Committee for its consideration. The Agribusiness Department will also notify the exhibitor being protested of the Protest as soon as reasonably practicable after the Protest has been duly submitted and make available a copy of the written Protest to the exhibitor being protested. The exhibitor being protested may, but shall not be required to, provide a written response to the Protest (a "Response") by submitting a Response to the Agribusiness Department, including any materials in support of the response to the Protest, and the Agribusiness Department shall provide the Response to Committee. A Response shall be on a form obtained from the Agribusiness Department and must be signed by the protested exhibitor, and if the protested exhibitor is a minor, the Response must also be signed by the protested exhibitor's guardian or parent, unless the parent or guardian is not available due to circumstances that warrant, as determined by the Agribusiness Department in its sole discretion. The Agribusiness Department shall make available a copy of the Response to the protesting exhibitor upon request by the protesting exhibitor, but it shall be the protesting exhibitor's responsibility to monitor the Protest and to obtain a copy of the Response. The Agribusiness Department will attempt to notify the protesting exhibitor and the exhibitor being protested of the time of the Committee's review and consideration of the Protest by calling their respective cell phone numbers if provided on the Protest Form and/or the Response Form, but it shall be the protesting exhibitor and protested exhibitor's responsibility to monitor the Protest and obtain the time of the Committee's review and consideration of the Protest and to be available at the time scheduled for the Committee's consideration of the Protest. For any Late Submission, the Committee will handle the process for review of the Protest after the show.

3. The Committee members present will review the Protest and the Response, if any, in the context of its rules and regulations and the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and will make a decision to resolve the Protest by a majority of the Committee members present. In the event of a tie vote, the Protest shall be deemed denied by the Committee. The decision of the Committee will be final.

4. The Committee also may apply and enforce its rules and regulations and the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics, with respect to exhibitors at the show.

5. By entering the show, all exhibitors, and their respective parents and/or guardians, shall be deemed to have acknowledged and accepted this General Disputes Policy.

RELEASE

1. Rabbits will be released after the announcement of Champion Youth on Monday, February 8, 2027. All rabbits must be removed by 8 p.m., February 8, 2027, or the exhibitor will forfeit their ownership of the rabbit(s). Release times will be strictly enforced.

2. No animal may be removed from the showroom before 5 p.m., February 8, 2027. Exhibitors violating this rule will forfeit all premiums won, all fees paid, and the right to future participation in the fair. If the Rabbit Show Officials deem it necessary, the entire family member's future entries will be rejected.

3. Animals will be released only to the Pre-Junior Exhibitor unless special written permission has been supplied and approved by the Show Superintendent. The letter must include the following information: the exhibitor's name, Address, and Phone number, as well as the name and phone number of the person picking up the animal. The person picking up the animal will need to supply a copy of their photo ID before release is granted. Additionally, the letter must include the breed, Variety, Tattoo, and coop number of the animal.

4. Release Procedure - Vehicles will not be permitted to line up for release until 4:30 p.m. At that time, vehicles can line up at the security station along the perimeter road. A limited number of vehicles will be allowed behind the barn at a time. As soon as you are finished loading your animals, please move your vehicle so that others can load them out.
If you arrive before 4:30 p.m., you must park outside the gate until 4:30 p.m.

5. Rabbit must be in a carrier upon release. Rabbits may not be handheld.

PREMIUMS AND AWARDS

1. Premiums will be paid based on the judging reports, which must be signed by both the judge and the department superintendent.

2. Premiums will be mailed to the exhibitor after the Fair to the address given on the entry form. Errors in premium statements will not be corrected after April 1, 2027.

Checks will be void six months from the date on the check. After six months, all uncashed checks will be voided, and replacement checks will not be issued.

3. If a Social Security Number or Federal ID number is not provided, the Fair will not issue a premium check.

PREMIUMS FOR PRE-JUNIOR JUDGING

Blue.....$5.00
Red.....$4.00
White $2.00

PRE-JUNIOR RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP

1. The Pre-Junior Rabbit Showmanship Contest will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2027, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

2. Exhibitors will use Sign Up Genius to sign up for showmanship at the 2027 Fair. Registration will be open from January 1, 2027, to January 31, 2027. Times will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Any changes, corrections, or adjustments to the selected time slot can be made online during the active registration timeframe or at Arrival/Check-in.

3. Exhibitors will demonstrate showmanship skills on an individual basis to a judge.

4. Exhibitors must use their own rabbit. The rabbit must be entered in the Show.

5. Participation Awards will be awarded to all exhibitors.

6. Age Division: between the ages of 4 and 7 as of Sept 1, 2026.

7. Showmanship guidelines will be posted on the website.

IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS) NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open-class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial, and national levels.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards, and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibitions in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership, and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.

2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.

3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.

4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of drugs. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state, and provincial statutes, regulations, and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state, and provincial statutes, regulations, and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.

If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other samples taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample or urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the approved laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved, and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise at any hearing in regard to the matter conducted by the fair or livestock show.

At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or irritant substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.

6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.

7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation, and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individuals to disciplinary action.

9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.

10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have any disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including *Fairs and Expositions* and any special notices to members.

11. The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

FLORIDA STATE FAIR AUTHORITY LIVESTOCK ADDENDUM

OWNER represents to Florida State Fair Authority ("AUTHORITY") that no animals that are exhibited or otherwise transported onto FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS will in any way be suffering from any contagious or infectious disease. In addition, OWNER shall defend, indemnify, and hold the AUTHORITY, the applicable Show Committee and each of their respective officials, officers, directors, employees and agents harmless of and from all losses, damages, claims, expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees at the trial and appellate levels, actions and causes of action arising out of, or in any way connected with, or by reason of this Agreement, the presence of OWNER's livestock at FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS, and/or use of FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS including, but not limited to any claim for the death of, or injury to any person or livestock, or damage to, theft of, or destruction of any property arising out of any act or omission of

OWNER, OWNER's officers, agents, employees, trainers, drivers, riders, handlers, contractors and livestock, violation of any Federal, State and Local environmental laws, rules, ordinances and/or regulations, actions for negligence, wrongful death, torts, defects in the real and personal property at FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS and from any alleged liability, cause, litigation or proceeding whatsoever, even if such injury, death, loss or property damage results, in whole or in part, from the negligence of AUTHORITY, or the applicable Show Committee and their respective officials, officers, directors, employees and agents or otherwise. Neither AUTHORITY nor such applicable Show Committee shall be liable to OWNER, or any officer, agents, employees, trainers, drivers, riders, handlers, or other contractors, invitees, or guests of OWNER for any injury or damage to livestock, person, or property. AUTHORITY, its officers, or agents, assume no liability for any loss or damage to property (including but not limited to livestock) on account of fire, theft, or any other cause including infectious or contagious diseases. In addition, OWNER acknowledges receiving and agrees to abide by the applicable rules and regulations of the AUTHORITY titled FLORIDA STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK RULES & PRIZE LIST, and same are incorporated by reference herein.

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