

GENERAL RULES

1. EXHIBITOR COMPLIANCE. The rules and regulations contained in the Official Big E Premium Book are the conditions under which all entries are accepted. Exhibitors are urged to study these rules carefully before making application for entries. A signed entry serves as an agreement to comply with all rules and regulations contained within this book and all other official Big E publications (including changes posted within our website). Incomplete (unsigned) entries will be returned with any accompanying payment.

2. LOSS OR DAMAGE. All exhibits will be under the direction of Eastern States Exposition Management, who will exercise every reasonable care in the protection of exhibits. In no case will Eastern States Exposition or Management be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any loss, injury or damage to any animal; or loss, injury or damage done by or arising from any animal exhibited by him/her, and shall indemnify Eastern States Exposition against legal or other proceedings in regard thereto. All consumption of food/beverages in the Mallary Complex by exhibitors and their guests is done at the exhibitor's risk.

3. ENTRIES. A separate entry form is required for each exhibitor and/or herd unit for each breed. Tear-out entry forms are attached within the Premium Book and may be photocopied for your convenience. Entry forms are also available online from the Agriculture page of www.TheBigE.com. The use of certified mail is encouraged to avoid postmark disputes. Faxed entries will be accepted and will be processed when a credit card number has been charged. **Metered mail postmark will not be accepted as proof of deadline compliance.** **Online Entries:** Access to the Eastern States Exposition online entry system is at www.TheBigE.com/agriculture. In the event the number of entries exceeds the allowed barn space capacity, entries will be accepted in the chronological order they were received. Refunds on cancelled entries are granted in extreme circumstances by the Director of Agriculture.

4. INITIAL PASSES. Upon receipt and acceptance of entry, **initial entry passes** will be mailed to the exhibitor. Passes are intended to provide initial entry and parking for people working directly with the animals and owners. Additional passes will be available from your superintendent upon arrival.

5. REDUCED RATE TICKETS are available from the Agriculture Office after July 1 at \$6 per ticket. We invite and encourage you to take advantage of this ticket savings. Please call (800)639-2908, requesting the Agriculture Office, or email a ticket request to aginfo@TheBigE.com.

6. RULE VIOLATIONS. Within the show ring competition the decision of the judge is final in all cases—except where an error or deliberate misrepresentation is discovered. In the case of unintentional error brought to light after placing has been announced but before the end of the breed show, a correction of placing and corresponding premiums will be made by Management. If the error is not discovered until after the completion of the breed show, Management will make an effort to rectify the error but will not be held responsible for exhibitor unintentional error. If, in the opinion of Management, an exhibitor willfully violates any rules governing The Big E, all premiums/prizes won by him/her will be forfeited and he/she may be subject to such other penalties as Management deems appropriate. Other penalties will potentially involve inclusion in the National Show Ring Ethics infraction database.

7. RULE AND DEADLINE INTERPRETATION. The Management of Eastern States Exposition reserves the right to interpret all rules and regulations governing the show and to make such decisions as may be necessary for the successful conduct of the show. Such interpretations and decisions will be final. Questions regarding rule interpretations should be directed to Director of Agriculture & Education, Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield MA 01089, telephone (413)205-5011 or aginfo@TheBigE.com. Requests will receive prompt attention. Request for exception to any rule must be made in written form and must accompany the entry form. This request is not grounds for a late entry. All entries must be made in accordance to the listed dates to be accepted.

8. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE. An exhibitor wishing to protest or appeal any action, condition or circumstance occurring during the show which he considers detrimental to his interests, the interests of his fellow exhibitors or those of the Exposition, may protest, complain or appeal to the Management at any time prior to the release hour for his exhibits, by plainly stating his appeal or protest in writing and attaching thereto a fee of \$100, such fee to be refunded upon settlement of the claim in his/her favor but forfeited if the protest is not

sustained. Protests questioning the competency or fairness of judges will not be entertained or condoned. In all cases of complaint, protest or appeal, the decision of the Executive Committee will be binding and final.

9. VALID REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES. The original registration certificate or association's duplicate or computer printouts (NO PHOTOCOPIES) will be considered as proof of ownership, identity, age and breeder of an entry. The ownership of an entry must appear on the certificate as it will be exhibited, or if owned in partnership, by one or more of the owners. In the case of an animal under one year of age, a photocopy of the registration application with a registration number assigned by the breed association and accompanied by a letter from the breed association stating that the registration on this animal has been applied for, may be presented if the actual registration paper is not processed by show date. We will not accept registration transfers after the show has started. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to be sure animals are registered properly according to their respective breed association rules. Junior exhibitors should check rules under their specific breed for ownership deadlines.

10. TATTOOS. For all breeds requiring tattoos as a means of permanent identification, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to be sure tattoos are clear and easily readable. Animals with questionable tattoos will not be allowed to show. Exception: Llamas and Alpacas must have microchips.

11. EXHIBITOR AND BREEDER. An exhibitor must be the owner or member of a partnership or syndicate owning an animal. Animals owned in partnership or syndicate must be entered in an individual class of the show under the partnership or syndicate's name. In the group classes, partnership or syndicate animals may be entered and exhibited under the name of one of the co-owners, but must be entered in all classes in the same manner. For the purpose of meeting the requirements in all group classes, for premier breeder and exhibitor, and defining numbers of an entry, an exhibitor is further defined as those members of an immediate family residing on one farm and where the herd is one unit. ***Exhibitors are required to list persons qualifying as family members of one unit or all members of a syndicate on the entry form.***

12. SUBSTITUTIONS. An entry may be substituted within or between classes after the entry deadline, providing the owner and/or part owner making the original entry is owner and/or part owner of the entry being substituted. **(See Special Rules in Dairy Goat & Sheep section for exception.)** As described in the definition of exhibitor and breeder, substitutions may be made among different members of the same family on the same farm. There will be no substitutions between breeds. **Use the substitution form in this book.**

13. INSPECTION PROCEDURE. All gates are closed to livestock entrance or exit between 11pm and 6am. Please plan to arrive only during the times listed in each show section, unless otherwise stated.

a. All inspections will be done by official Animal Health Inspectors or Massachusetts State Veterinarians (referred to as AHI). They have the final word of determination and Management will support their decisions.

b. Multiple AHI personnel will be on hand during the pre-determined arrival hours and will remain until all animals have been checked. Specific inspectors will be in charge of specific areas, but all inspectors are qualified to inspect all species of animals and may be called to additional areas as needed.

c. Health papers and official interstate health papers issued from their state of origin, must accompany animals! This means the driver or exhibitor must be in possession of the papers and remain with the animals during the entire inspection process.

d. Arrive at Gate 1

1. Show health papers, if requested to do so.

2. If the gate person requests, please wait patiently until directed to proceed to the next point.

e. Proceed to Gate 10

1. Show health papers, if requested to do so.

2. Be prepared for staff to compare the number of animals being transported with the number of animals listed on the papers. ***All animals being transported must be accounted for on the health papers or driver will be asked to leave without unloading.***

f. Please make contact with your Superintendent before attempting to unload ANY animals. No animals may unload before Superintendent approval. ***Each animal MUST pass inspection before entering the Mallary Complex or tie-out stalls.***

- g. (Bovine, Goat, Camelid) Unload as directed by Superintendent.
1. AHI will inspect each animal as they unload. AHI initials on the health papers prove the animal has passed inspection and may be stalled/penned.
 2. If there is a waiting line, animal safety and welfare is of utmost concern. Weather (heat and humidity) may dictate the animals' need to unload before the inspection process can happen. In this case, the animals will proceed to the nearest wash rack on the perimeter of the Mallary Complex and remain there until inspected. **No animal may enter the Mallary Complex or tie-out stalls before they have passed inspection.**
- h. (Sheep, Swine) Unload as directed by Superintendent.
1. AHI will inspect each animal as they unload. AHI initials on the health papers prove the animal has passed inspection and may be penned.
 2. If there is a waiting line, animal safety and welfare is of utmost concern. Weather (heat and humidity) may dictate the animals' need to unload before the inspection process can happen. In this case the animals will proceed to the holding pens on the East side or East alcove of the Mallary Complex. These animals may unload and wait in relative safety and comfort until their turn to be inspected. **No animal may enter the Mallary Complex before they have passed inspection.**

i. Any animal not passing inspection will be asked to leave the grounds. If leaving would induce unfair hardship on the driver or exhibitor, the animals would proceed directly to the quarantine area directly outside Gate 10 and remain in the quarantine area for the duration of their stay. A reasonable amount of bedding will be provided in the quarantine area; water and electricity are available. Animal care is the responsibility of the exhibitor.

j. Failure to comply with the Arrival and Inspection Procedure will constitute an infraction of the General Rules and Regulations in which case the exhibitor and/or driver and all animals listed within that entry will be asked to leave Eastern States Exposition premises.

14. ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE WAIVER. On rare occasions, exemptions to our published Arrival/Departure times are allowed. (Example: in case of family emergency or to accommodate attendance at other livestock expositions.) To request exemption to the published Arrival/Departure times, a request must be made to the Director of Agriculture and Education. The Director of Agriculture and Education will be contacted by gate security and will handle all nighttime emergency arrivals.

15. RELEASES. All release documents will be issued from the Superintendent's Office. Exhibitors who remove one or more animals without a release will forfeit all premiums won. For times and dates, please see each specific show. **Premiums will be forfeited by the owner if exhibitor of a show string chooses to leave early.**

16. STABLING. Stabling process begins with your accepted entry form; special stabling requests will be entertained if made at the time of entry and space allows. **Final stabling determination** is at the discretion of the Show Superintendent and will be done according to **actual numbers of animals brought to the Fair** (not entered), tack and display of farm signs, banners, etc. **Payment of entry fees does not provide bedding, stabling or display space for animals not brought to the Fair.**

17. DISPLAY STALLS. Displays must not interfere with other exhibitors and must comply with the West Springfield Fire Prevention Codes published in this Premium Book. Exhibitors will be required to maintain their respective area in a reasonably clean and orderly condition at all times. No alleyway fans will be allowed!

18. NIGHT TIE-OUT. (Beef Animals only) A night tie-out area will be provided for use between 8pm and 8am for beef animals. (Hereforuds, see Special Rules for exception)

19. SHARPS DISPOSAL. **Any syringes/needles found in the garbage or manure pits require a biohazard team to be brought in for management and disposal. The cost of this situation management will be deducted from the following year's available premiums for all shows in the barn at the time of infraction. Disposal containers are available in Mallary offices, the milk room and several places throughout the barn. If a container is missing or full, please notify the Agriculture Office immediately! You may also take biohazard waste home with you.**

20. CAMPER POLICY. Because limited camper spaces are provided for open show exhibitors and staff:

- a. **A camper reservation needs to be made and paid for at the time of entry and one unit per firm.**
- b. Camper spaces may be reserved for exhibitors and others working with an open livestock show during The Big E by August 15 of each year. If not postmarked or

received by August 15, ESE reserves the right to use these spaces for other purposes. The following method of communication is acceptable:

1. US Mail: ESE Agriculture Office, 1305 Memorial Ave, West Springfield MA 01089
2. The camper form can be downloaded at www.TheBigE.com/agriculture
3. Campers will be accepted via online entry at www.TheBigE.com/agriculture

Please Note: Reservations will not be accepted via the telephone.

- c. Camper spaces in the Mallary Agriculture Complex area are assessed a \$10 per camper per night fee, and **are limited to dates of your entry activity.**
- d. Campers with telescoping sides in use are assessed an additional \$10 fee per side per camper per night.
- e. No drop awnings are permitted in the Agriculture Complex area.
- f. No cars, trucks or other non-camper vehicles are allowed to be used as overnight accommodations on the grounds of The Big E. Any vehicles used in this manner will be towed.
- g. More information is available regarding the availability of camper parking spaces in our public parking lot. For specific information regarding public parking, camping and pricing, please contact the **Admissions Department of The Big E at (800)639-2908.**
 1. Eastern States Exposition does not encourage the use of tents due to their possible placement near moving vehicles in our public parking lot. Persons wishing to use canvas-sided/pop-up/tent campers must tell the parking attendant upon entering the parking area so they may be directed to the designated areas. For specific information, please contact the Admissions Department of The Big E at **(800)639-2908.**
 2. **No tents are allowed in the Mallary Agriculture Complex parking area.**
 3. Any persons using canvas-sided/pop-up/tent-type campers will be required to accept all responsibility for any theft, safety and/or personal liability.
 4. Management reserves the right to refuse access, and is not responsible for accidents or personal loss, injury or damages to any property.
- h. Space is reserved upon receipt of payment and signed Camper Reservation Form (your check must accompany the reservation form). Your signature is required and by signing the Camper Reservation Form the individual agrees to assume all risks associated with their stay.

21. PREMIUM PAYMENT. The Big E will make an effort to have checks available at time of release; occasionally circumstances will not allow this. Checks will then be mailed in a timely fashion to the exhibitor. The Big E assumes no responsibility for premium checks once they are presented to the exhibitor. All checks must be cashed and missing checks reported prior to December 1. After January 1 the show's books are closed and protests are not valid.

22. EXHIBITOR RESPONSIBILITIES.

- a. Animals quarantined by Animal Health Inspector or Veterinarian must leave the grounds or proceed directly to the quarantine area near Gate 10. No quarantined animal is allowed within the Mallary Complex or show area. Failure to comply is grounds for show ejection and loss of all premium money.
- b. ***Livestock are to be made available for parading and for judging contests as requested or premiums will be forfeited.***
- c. ***Parking of all stock trailers will be at a satellite lot. Maps and directions will be available upon arrival and are available at www.TheBigE.com. Trailers should be removed from the grounds upon completion of unloading. We ask that exhibitors show consideration to fellow exhibitors who may be waiting to unload. (See additional information in Special Rules for the Dairy Goat show.)***
- d. Manure is a recyclable resource. Please assist this process by keeping trash out of the manure pits. **Only ESE approved bedding is allowed. Due to concerns of**

air quality for livestock and exhibitors, mechanical shredding or distribution of bedding by the exhibitor is not allowed in the Mallary Complex.

- e. Cattle may be watered in the stall area or washrack.
- f. Walkways and aisles must be kept dry and neat.
- g. An exhibitor meeting will be held for each individual show at The Big E. It is the responsibility of the Show Superintendent, Breed Representative and Director of Agriculture to concur on a meeting time and place. Please listen for announcements and watch the OFFICIAL SHOW ANNOUNCEMENT bulletin board outside the Livestock Office for the time and place. The purposes of this meeting are:
 - 1. to propose new classes or recommend class deletions;
 - 2. have general input regarding the show;
 - 3. nominate judges for following year's show;
 - 4. elect Breed Representative from current year's exhibitors.
- h. Upon signing of entry the exhibitor grants permission to be photographed/ interviewed by the Exposition in connection with the activity. All photographs are the property of the Exposition and may be used for their purposes.
- i. Exhibitor consumption of alcohol is at their responsibility and should not impact other exhibitors or guests of the Exposition.
- j. Radios or any media players are acceptable at a decibel level that will not impact your fellow exhibitor's Fair experience. Management reserves the right to request you to lower the volume.

23. PET POLICY. The Big E has instituted a **no pet policy**, which is strictly monitored in the Mallary Complex. Exception is made in the following circumstances:

- a. Sheep Dog Trial entries - these dogs are restricted to the agriculture buildings and grounds appropriate for heading directly to and from these buildings (Mallary Complex, Farm-A-Rama and Coliseum), must be under supervision of their owner and on leash when not competing. These dogs must be supervised at all times. No dogs may be left unattended, whether in kennels, out of kennels or in parking lot.
- b. Dogs participating in the 4-H Dog Activity during the Fair - please refer to the Arrival/Departure Schedule for Activity days.
- c. Working Sheep Dog Demonstration dogs and fowl.

Regarding ALL the above dogs:

- a. All dogs must comply with Massachusetts Animal Health Regulations. (Please see entire regulations page)
- b. Any dog found wandering or left unattended will be turned over to Hampden County Animal Control, telephone (413)781-1484. Any ensuing fines or fees will be the responsibility of the dog owner.

24. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM. Quality assurance testing or a survey may be done at The Big E.

- a. All animals are subject to testing at any time:
 - 1. to determine whether the animal has been unethically fitted in any way;
 - 2. to determine whether any false information or representation was made in a competition entry;
 - 3. to determine whether an animal qualifies for competition in a particular breed classification.
- b. Exhibitor's signature on Entry Form acknowledges they have read, understand and agree to abide by the following rules for specific shows (copies are available in the Director of Agriculture's office):
 - 1. **HOLSTEIN ASSN OF U.S.A. SHOW RING POLICY** for the Holstein Show;
 - 2. **PDCA Show Ring Code of Ethics** for all other Dairy Shows;
 - 3. **IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics** for all other Livestock Shows.
- c. Use of drugs in animals not in compliance with manufacturer's label as to dosage, time of withdrawal limitations, or other manufacturer's limitations and show regulations is **PROHIBITED**. The use of tranquilizers or possession of same after arrival at the Fair will be construed as tampering. Canadian exhibitors must comply with US Drug Restrictions.
- d. In the event of testing, violators will be disqualified and will forfeit all premiums and awards, including sale price of animals, if applicable, and future entry of exhibitor and/or family at The Big E.

ENTRY FEES AND PASS INFORMATION

Late entries, when allowed, are double the standard fee (unless otherwise noted). Late entries may not appear in the show catalog. Open show entry fees paid in full, must accompany completed entry forms. PAYMENT MUST BE IN U.S. FUNDS and checks made payable to Eastern States Exposition reflecting the following rates:

	ENTRY FEES	LATE FEE (IF APPLICABLE)
	REGULAR FEE	
BEEF	\$16 PER HEAD	\$32 PER HEAD
CHRISTMAS TREE	NO FEE	
DAIRY**	\$16 PER HEAD	\$32 PER HEAD
DAIRY GOATS	\$4 PER HEAD	\$8 PER HEAD
SHEEP	\$4 PER HEAD	\$8 PER HEAD
LEAD LINE	\$4 PER ENTRY	
SWINE	\$4 PER HEAD	\$8 PER HEAD
FIBER NOOK ENTRY**	\$4 PER ENTRY	
HAND SPUN SKEIN ENTRY**	\$2 PER ENTRY	
MARKET LAMB**	\$4 PER HEAD	\$8 PER HEAD
PRODUCE DISPLAY**	\$5 PER ENTRY	
PUMPKIN AND SQUASH**	\$5 PER ENTRY	
GOURDS**	\$2 PER ENTRY	
PULLING (Oxen and Horses)**	NO FEE	
SHEEP FLEECE**	\$4 PER ENTRY	
SPINNING BEE**	\$4 PER ENTRY	
ALPACA	\$50 PER HEAD	\$75 PER HEAD
Pen Charge	\$65 PER PEN	
Display Stall**	\$50 (limit 1 per exhibiting farm)	
AOBA Show Division Fee	\$6 PER HEAD	
AOBA Fee (if not currently a member or a youth)	\$75 PER FARM	
LLAMA	\$35 PER HEAD	\$70 PER HEAD
Pen Charge	\$15 PER PEN	
Llama Fleece	\$20 PER FLEECE	
Llama Novice Jackpot	\$25 PER HEAD	
Llama Master Jackpot	\$50 PER HEAD	
Display Stall**	\$25 (limit 1 per exhibiting farm)	

****See Specific Department Rules for entry deadlines and procedures.**
REMEMBER: Entry fees are not required for Group classes.

**PASSES ARE SENT FOR
 INITIAL ENTRY TO GROUNDS.
 ADDITIONAL PASSES ARE AVAILABLE
 FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT.
 RECEIPT OF PASSES IS
 CONFIRMATION OF ENTRY.**

EXHIBITOR SERVICES

LIVESTOCK FEED, BEDDING AND SUPPLIES. Eastern States Exposition is the proprietor of the feed and bedding services for the 2011 Big E. While on the grounds orders for feed, hay, straw and shavings should be placed at the Mallary Agriculture office. Pre-orders are encouraged and may be made online at www.TheBigE.com/agriculture. Orders may also be phoned in at (413) 205-5307

Please estimate as close as possible your time of arrival when placing the order. Feed orders will be cash, check or credit card. All feed store bills must be paid before a release will be issued by your Superintendent. The ESE Feed Store is a Nutrena store.

You may bring your own feed and bedding for your entries only or obtain it from the ESE Feed Store. No other vendors of feed or bedding will be allowed on the grounds.

Large square or round bales are not allowed in the barn. However, outside storage for small amounts is available during certain shows. Please check with your Superintendent for further information.

LIVESTOCK SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT. Twist of Fate is pleased to be available at this year's Big E all 17-days. To provide sharpening and custom rope products to exhibitors. If you wish to pre-order anything please call us at 860-759-9335. Feel free to stop by and visit.

VETERINARY SERVICES. Service will be available from Stafford Veterinary Center. Their service will be at the exhibitor's expense and Eastern States Exposition assumes no responsibility. Please call (860) 684-5868 for assistance.

EXHIBITOR LOUNGE. A lounge is provided for exhibitors upstairs in the Mallary Complex. Coffee and donuts are available most mornings. There is a milk machine and soda machine in the lounge. The lounge is also available for exhibitor meetings and other gatherings during the Fair. Please check with the livestock office if you want to schedule a meeting.

EXHIBITOR SHOWER. Showers for livestock exhibitors are available upstairs in the Mallary Complex.

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