



Youth Sheep Expo Overall Exhibitor

The purpose of the YSE Overall Exhibitor is to recognize the top five YSE exhibitors in each age division for their participation and placing in contests throughout YSE. The point system is broken down below. Exhibitors receive points for participation and additional points for placing in contests. There will be a \$15 entry fee to participate in the contests (one entry fee covers all contests).

Age Divisions will be determined by the age of the exhibitor on **July 31, 2026**. Age Divisions will be:

- a) **Novice** (8 years and younger)
- b) **Junior** (9 - 11 years)
- c) **Intermediate** (12 to 16 years)
- d) **Senior** (17 years and up)

Contest Points will be accumulated in the following contests - **Photography, Promo Poster, Livestock Judging, Sales Talk, Showmanship, and Skillathon:**

1st - 15 pts; 2nd - 12 pts; 3rd - 9 pts; 4th- 6 pts; 5th - 3 pts

Participation Points: 5 points per contest

Ties will be broken based on the number of higher placing contests

Photography Contest

The purpose of the Photography contest is to allow YSE Exhibitors to show their creativity behind the lens while promoting the sheep industry.

- 1) Photography Entries will be judged by age division
- 2) Photos can be displayed vertically or horizontally. Photo itself must be 7 x 9, 8x 10 or 11x14, displayed on stiff backing. Can be matted and mat can be larger than the photo.
- 3) Photos can be ring shots, candid shots, scenic pasture views - any picture featuring the sheep industry will be accepted. A description of where photo was taken should accompany the photo at time of turn in.
- 4) Photography should concentrate on all aspects of good composition and quality photography.
- 5) Judging criteria will consist of: Quality of image (focus, light, balance, etc.), well-positioned center of interest; captures moment well; originality/creativity; overall appeal
- 6) Cropping is ok.
- 7) Captions are not allowed on the pictures.
- 8) Exhibitors are allowed to enter as many as two photos in this contest; however, only one entry per exhibitor will be able to place in the top five.

9) Camera timer settings may not be used; therefore, the junior submitting the entry may not appear in the photo.

Promotional Poster

The purpose of the poster contest is to create a poster promoting the below topics. The posters will be displayed and judged during the Youth Sheep Expo.

- 1) Entries should serve as a promotional tool for the sheep industry.
- 2) Posters may be creative as well as informative. They may feature words, pictures, collages, objects, or any other appropriate item for promoting the contestant's topic.
- 3) All entries should be on regular poster board (22"x 28") with stiff backing. Can be displayed vertically or horizontally.
- 4) Theme – ***"Showing and Raising Sheep is PAR - fection"***
- 5) Judging criteria will consist of: Neatness, clear message, clever verbiage, eye-catching appeal, originality/creativity, overall effectiveness

Livestock Judging Contest

The main objective of the Livestock Judging Contest is to help youth learn how to evaluate sheep – breeding and market.

1) Age divisions (*age on July 31st*):

- a) **Novice** (*8 years and younger*)
- b) **Junior** (*9 - 11 years*)
- c) **Intermediate** (*12 to 16 years*)
- d) **Senior** (*17 years and up*)

2) There will be no talking during the contest. If participants are caught talking, their cards will be taken and they will be asked to leave the contest.

3) The contest will include 4 classes (10 minutes per class). There will be questions.

4) Ties will be split based on the score on the hardest class.

Sales Talk

Sales talk is a mock sales situation – you are selling your animal to potential buyers.

1. Time limit is: Novice and Junior divisions – 3 minutes minimum, not to exceed 5 minutes; Intermediate and Senior - 5 minutes minimum, not to exceed 7 minutes.
2. A live animal or photo can be used to present to your "potential buyers" (judges). This contest is a mock sales situation—you are selling your animal to buyers.
3. Judging criteria - knowledge of the animal; ability to relate important information about the animal; eye contact; appearance; and overall effectiveness in convincing the judges to buy the animal.
4. If using a live animal, another exhibitor is needed to hold the animal for you during your presentation.

Showmanship

The purpose of Showmanship is to evaluate youth on their ability to show their animal.

- 1) Any junior may enter for showmanship. Showmanship contestants do not have to be an exhibitor at Youth Sheep Expo but must use an animal that is entered in the show.
- 2) Judges may switch lambs, ask questions, or use any other method they wish to arrive at their selections.
- 3) Exhibitors will be randomly placed in heats in their age division. The judge will pick 1-3 exhibitors from each heat to return to the finals. An additional 2 points will be awarded to exhibitors being selected from their heats for the overall exhibitor points.
- 4) Any exhibitor who loses control of his/her entry three times in a single appearance in the show ring will be required to remove the animal from the ring.
- 5) Top 5 Exhibitors will be recognized in each age division.
- 6) The same animal must be used for the duration of the showmanship contest. If an exhibitor must exchange an animal due to injury or illness of the animal, approval must be granted from the YSE committee.

Skillathon

Details to come