



2023 Hillsborough County Fair

Rabbit Show

November 2-12, 2023

Hillsborough County Fair Grounds- 215 Sydney Washer Rd., Dover, FL 33527

Entry Deadlines:

All Rabbit Show Entries Due (Online) October 1, 2023

Important Dates:

Rabbit Educational Clinic TBD
Fair Prep and Pen Set-up October 21, 2023 @ 9am

Show Schedule:

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Arrival/Check-in 4-6pm
All Educational Posters due by 6:30pm

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Rabbits will be judged, time TBD (you do not have to be present for this)
Rabbit Booth 5:30pm – 8:30pm

Friday, November 3, 2023

Rabbit Booth 5:30pm – 8:30pm

Saturday, November 4, 2023

Rabbit Booth 10am – 8:30pm
Showmanship Beginning at 11am

Sunday, November 5, 2023

Rabbit Booth Noon – 4 p.m.

Monday, November 8, 2023

Rabbit Costume Contest 5:30pm

Tuesday, November 9, 2023

Clean –up and Release 2:00pm-4:00pm

December 4th, 2023

Youth Livestock Banquet 5:30pm

INTERPRETATION OF RULES: The management of the Greater Hillsborough County 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.

SHOW COMMITTEE: Chair- Nick Hammer contact via email nhammer02@gmail.com

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELIGIBILITY

- To be eligible to show in the 2023 Hillsborough County Fair, youth must be in grades K-12 and either enrolled in Hillsborough County Public or Private Schools, homeschooled in Hillsborough County, or a member of Hillsborough County 4-H or FFA. Though we encourage all youth to be involved in the 4-H or FFA programs, it is not required if all other eligibility requirements are met.
- Anyone having currently graduated from or dropped out of high school or currently enrolled in an Agriculture Class, but not attending class, shall be ineligible to show.
- Both FFA Chapter and 4-H Club entries will be accepted. Chapters and Clubs must be valid clubs and in good standing with their local & state organizations.
- Rabbits must be owned by the exhibitor by July 31, 2023 and must be entered by breed, age group, variety and sex.
- **All rabbits must have a legible tattoo in their left ear.**
- This is an educational show. It is the expectation of the Greater Hillsborough County Fair that the exhibitor entering each animal is the primary caretaker, with parental oversight as age appropriate.
- Only purebred animals are eligible for entry. Space is limited so entries will be on a first come, first served basis according to postmark.
- All animals will be judged in accordance with the appropriate standards issued by ARBA. Non-recognized breeds and/or varieties may be shown, but will only be eligible to be judged to Best of Breed/Variety and only 1st place will be awarded.
- Exhibitors must be present at check-in unless special permission has been requested in writing by October 10, 2023 and granted by the Rabbit Show Chair.

Rabbit Herd Manager Extraordinaire Program

Exhibitors will earn points towards special prizes for actively participating in various projects and tasks. Points can be earned by attending the small animal education seminar (50 pts), assisting with fair clean-up day (50 pts), completing entry forms correctly (40 pts), attending to the Rabbit Booth (10 pts/session), feeding and watering (10 pts/session), completing an educational poster (25 pts) and general good citizenship at the fair. Bonus point certificates will be given for those "Caught Doing Good". Examples of good citizen deeds are cleaning up trash, keeping rabbit area tidy, and assisting fair visitors. Prizes will be awarded to the top two exhibitors in each age group and announced at the Youth Livestock Banquet.

ENTRIES

- Entry Due Date - **All entries must be done online by OCTOBER 1, 2023.** It is advisable to make entries earlier so that any questions may be cleared up before closing date.
- A registration/entry fee of \$5.00 per rabbit must accompany each entry. Entry Fees are nonrefundable.
- Each exhibitor will be limited to a maximum of **8 rabbits.**
- All entries must be made online through Showworks. The link for online entries is on the website at Hillsboroughcountyfair.com.
- Unavoidable changes in entries, which an exhibitor finds necessary to make, must be in the hands of the Rabbit Show Chair no later than 8pm, October 10, 2023. **NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE AFTER 8pm on October 10th.** All changes **MUST** be received in writing to either the GHCF office or via email at nhammer02@gmail.com.
- All rabbits must be entered as singles.
- Exhibitors **MUST** indicate on entry whether or not they plan to keep their animal(s) at a location other than the home place of the exhibitor or the Land Lab for FFA Chapter animals. Failure to provide this information may result in disqualification.
- Accuracy on the entry is of the utmost importance. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to correctly enter each rabbit. Every effort will be made to verify missing or incorrect information prior to and at check-in; however, there are no guarantees that rabbits can be moved after the October 10th deadline.

GENERAL RULES:

- General Livestock Rules apply to all species. Please read carefully for any changes.
- Due to health and safety issues, food and drink should not be consumed in animal areas, and exhibitors should wash hands after handling animals.
- The Greater Hillsborough County Fair will take every precaution to see that rabbits are fed and watered and will give the best possible care in accident prevention for the rabbits.
- The Greater Hillsborough County Fair Rabbit Committee reserves the right to move rabbits to different coops as needed.
- Carrying cages cannot be left on the Fair premises.
- Any person who violates any of the general rules or special rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums won. Failure to cooperate with Fair Officials may result in premium forfeiture and immediate dismissal from the Fairgrounds.
- Only animals being shown at the Greater Hillsborough County Fair are permitted on the Fairgrounds.
- **NO DOGS ALLOWED INSIDE THE BARN.**
- **Smoking is not permitted in the barns.**
- Show room problems will be addressed by the Rabbit Show Chair.

YOUTH RESPONSIBILITIES:

Youth exhibitors are expected to care for, prepare, and show their own animals while on the grounds of the Hillsborough County Fair. This includes maintaining the cleanliness of the cages during the fair.

- Feeding of all rabbits will be managed by the Rabbit Show Committee. Rabbits will be fed once a day in the evening. Feedings will begin at 6pm. If an exhibitor would like to volunteer to assist with the feeding process, please see the Rabbit Show Chair.
- Exhibitors wishing to feed their own animals must place an “owner will feed” tag on the animal’s cage. Exhibitors will be required to keep a supply of feed at the fairgrounds. **Failure to feed animals will result in a \$1.00 fine. Fines will be deducted from premiums at check-out.**
- In addition to the stated feeding times, volunteers will be refreshing water multiple times throughout the day.
- When performing daily checks on their rabbits, exhibitors are expected to clean water cups, refresh water, and tidy cages.
- For the safety of the animals, all cages are to be zip-tied at all times. Please see the Rabbit Show Chair or designated volunteer to have cages unlocked.
- All exhibitors are expected to assist with the care and maintenance of the rabbit area. This includes volunteering for two sessions during the fair; one hour at the Rabbit Education Booth and one hour of feeding/watering/cleaning. Exhibitors may also satisfy the hour of cleaning by assisting with set-up or tear down of the Rabbit show.

HEALTH REGULATIONS:

- Any rabbits with external parasites will not be allowed in the show and must be removed from the fairgrounds immediately.
- All rabbits will be examined upon arrival for any external parasites.
- All sick rabbits will be isolated and not eligible for competition or awards. **Rabbits must be removed from premises immediately.**

ARRIVAL:

- Rabbits will be received from 4pm to 6:00pm on November 1, 2023. The rabbit tent will close at 8 p.m.
- Rabbits will be cooped by breed, class, variety and sex.
- All exhibitors are required to water and feed their rabbits upon arrival.
- Do not remove unused coop cards.
- Exhibitor Rabbit Educational Poster is due at check-in, but no later than 6:30 pm.
- Exhibitors must sign up for 1 hour Rabbit Education Booth session.
- Exhibitors must sign up for 1 hour of feed/water/barn clean-up.

JUDGING:

- The judging of all rabbits will be held on Thursday, November 2nd, time TBD.
- Judging will be conducted in consideration of the American Rabbit Breeder's Association (ARBA) standards and rules.
- Exhibitors do not have to be present for judging.
- The decision of the judge shall be final, and no appeal will be considered.

LIABILITY FOR LOSS OR THEFT:

- 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.
- The GHCF, its officers and 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 exhibitor, vehicles on the grounds and articles left therein or any other property of any nature whatsoever.

PREMIUMS AND AWARDS

- Premiums will be paid on the basis of the judging reports.
- Premiums will be given to the exhibitor at Fair check-out once all exhibitor obligations have been satisfied.
- **All exhibitors** are required to write a thank you letter to the sponsors of the show. This letter is due at pick up. **No premiums will be distributed until the letter is received by the Rabbit Show Committee.**

Premiums:

1st Place	\$5.00
2nd Place	\$3.00
3rd Place	\$2.00

Best of Breed (There must be a minimum of 3 rabbits in this category to award BOB)

Best of Breed – Rosette	\$10.00
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Best of Variety (There must be a minimum of 3 rabbits in this category to award BOV)

Best of Variety-Rosette	\$10.00
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Overall

Best in Show	\$15.00 and Banner
Reserve in Show	\$10.00 and Banner

RABBIT EDUCATION BOOTH:

The purpose of the Rabbit Education Booth is to offer the public an opportunity to meet and speak with rabbit exhibitors regarding the care and benefits of owning rabbits.

- Exhibitors must sign up for two separate 30-minute Rabbit Education Booth sessions in order to receive premium payments.
- Exhibitors can sign up for a time-slot at Arrival/Check-in or at the Rabbit Education Booth when time/space is available.
- No food or drinks allowed in booth.
- Rabbit Education Booth is worth 10 points per session towards the Rabbit Farmer Extraordinaire program.
- The Rabbit Education Booth will be open to the public as follows:
 - November 2nd: 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
 - November 3rd: 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
 - November 4th: 10 am – 8:30 pm
 - November 5th: 12 pm – 4:00 pm
 - November 6th: 5:30 pm- 8:30pm

RELEASE:

- Once checked-in, no rabbits may be removed, except by the consent of the Rabbit Show Chair.
- Rabbits will be released starting at 2pm on Tuesday, November 7th. Rabbits removed prior to this time forfeit all premium monies won.
- Rabbits must be picked up prior to the fair opening at 5pm.
- Request for early release **MUST** be submitted in writing at check-in.
- Rabbits will not be released until the coops are cleaned. All coop cups and clips must be turned in for proper disposal.
- Thank you letters must be turned in prior to check out.
- All rabbits will be verified against the entry and ear tattoo by the Rabbit Show Committee.
- Premiums may be picked up **ONLY** after exhibitors have satisfied all requirements.
- Any rabbits left after 7 p.m. will be disposed of by the Rabbit Show Committee.

Youth Showmanship General Rules

- A Youth Rabbit Showmanship Contest will be held on Saturday, November 4th. The competition will begin at 11:00am.
- Exhibitors wishing to participate must sign up during check-in/arrival times.
- **Official FFA or 4-H attire is REQUIRED for showmanship.** At a minimum, exhibitors should wear a tucked, white collared shirt, black slacks or dark blue jeans, and closed toed dark colored shoes.
- Exhibitors will demonstrate showmanship skills on an individual basis to a judge.
- Exhibitors must use and be able to handle their **OWN** animal. Only animals exhibited may be used.

- Judging will be in accordance with 4-H rules. All exhibitors will receive a Blue, Red or White Ribbon.
- Awards and Judge Talk will take place following the competition.
- Age Divisions:
 - Pee Wee Division (under age 7 as of September 1, 2023)
 - Junior Division (between ages of 8 and 10 as of Sept. 1, 2023)
 - Intermediate Division (between ages of 11 and 13 as of Sept. 1, 2023)
 - Senior Division (14 and over as of Sept. 1, 2023)

Educational Display Competition General Rules

EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY - Optional (Strongly encouraged)

- The purpose of the display is to educate the public about the benefits of owning and raising rabbits.
- Displays may be a poster, pamphlet, or model.
- All displays must be turned in during designated check-in.
- Unless otherwise requested, the displays will become the property of the Hillsborough County Fair and may be used as displays in future exhibitions.
- Exhibitors will be judged based on age groupings as follows:
 - Pee Wee Division (under age 7 as of September 1, 2023)
 - Junior Division (between ages of 8 and 10 as of Sept. 1, 2023)
 - Intermediate Division (between ages of 11 and 13 as of Sept. 1, 2023)
 - Senior Division (14 and over as of Sept. 1, 2023)
- A rubric will be used to grade the exhibit.

Topics:

Exhibitors are asked to create informative items that can be shared with the general public. It is our goal to educate others of the importance of agriculture and demonstrate the proper methods of caring for their own backyard flock.

- Internal or External Anatomy of Rabbits – Poster or Model
- Internal and External Parasites of Rabbits– Poster or Pamphlet
- Breed Identification and Common Traits – Poster or Pamphlet
- Nutritional Needs of Rabbits – Poster or Pamphlet

Poster Requirements:

- All posters must relate to one of the topics identified.
- Posters should be done on a 22" x 28" poster board or a 20" x 30" foam board.
- Poster must have a title.
- Poster must have the exhibitor's name on the back

Pamphlet Requirements:

- All pamphlets must relate to one of the topics identified.
- Pamphlets should include pictures and information that is accurate and informative to the new rabbit owner.

- Pamphlet must have a title.
- Pamphlet must have the exhibitor's name on the back panel.

Model Requirements:

- All models must relate to one of the topics identified.
- Model must have a title.
- Models should be 3-dimensional
- Models must have the exhibitor's name on the bottom.

Rabbit Show Educational Display Rubric

Category	4 (10-8)	3 (7-6)	2 (5-3)	1 (2-0)
Creativity	The exhibitor created a project that includes a variety of colors, textures, and pictures. The information is visually appealing and attracts and engages the audience.	The exhibitor created a project that includes some color, textures, and pictures. The information is visually appealing and attracts the audience.	The exhibitor created a project that may not include color or textures. Pictures are present, but may be in black and white.	The exhibitor created a project lacks the use of color or textures. Pictures are absent.
Effort	Project demonstrates that the exhibitor spent time to research and plan for a final product that is appropriate to the chosen audience. Minimal adult assistance is apparent as is appropriate for the age group.	Project demonstrates that the exhibitor spent time to research and plan for a final product that is mostly appropriate to the chosen audience. Some adult assistance was needed as is appropriate for the age group.	Project demonstrates that the exhibitor spent time to research, however the final product may not be appropriate to the chosen audience. Some adult assistance was needed as is appropriate for the age group.	Project demonstrates that the exhibitor spent minimal time to research and plan for a final product. The product is not appropriate to the chosen audience. Adult assistance was apparent as is appropriate for the age group.
Presentation	The project is neat, well-organized, and visually appealing.	The project is neat, well-organized, and visually appealing with only minor issues with appearance.	The project contains smudges, obvious erasures, stay marks.	The project contains smudges, obvious erasures, stay marks. It lacks visual appeal and fails to engage the audience.
Information Accuracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All facts, details, definitions, and visual aids are accurate. Information is complete and easy for the reader to understand. Minimal spelling and grammar errors. Exhibitor has identified sources of information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most facts, details, definitions, and visual aids are accurate, with only minor errors. Information is mostly complete and easy for the reader to understand. Few spelling and grammar errors Exhibitor has identified sources of information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several errors with facts, details, definitions, and visual aids. Information may be incomplete or written in a way that is difficult to understand. Multiple spelling and grammar errors. Exhibitor may not have properly identified sources of information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several errors with facts, details, definitions, and visual aids. Information is incomplete or lacking and is difficult to understand. Several spelling and grammar errors. Exhibitor did not identify sources of information.
Required Elements	All required elements are included and accurate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name in the appropriate location. Project adheres to specified topics. Project was one of the approved types. Project has a title Models are 3-dimensional Pamphlets are bi- or tri-fold Posters are the correct size 	All but 1 of the required elements are included and accurate. If project is off-topic it will be scored as a 1 in this category	Two or three of the required elements are not included. If project is off-topic it will be scored as a 1 in this category	Project is off topic.

