



2024

**NORTH EAST
AG FAIR**

JANUARY 12 – 13, 2024

NEISD AGRISCIENCE MAGNET PROGRAM

AMP COMPLEX

5005 STAHL RD

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78247

2024 North East Ag Fair Schedule of Events

Thursday, January 11, 2024

- 4:30 PM Turn-in Photography Contest entries (AMP Administration Office)
- 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM Fastest Torch in the West Preliminary Rounds (AMP Engineering Lab)

Friday, January 12, 2024

- 5:00 PM Market Rabbit Show (AMP Arena)
- 6:00 PM Market Broiler Show (AMP Arena)

Saturday, January 13, 2024

- 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM Ag Mechanics Build-Off Project Judging (AMP Patio)
- 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM Turn-in Baked Goods Contest entries (AG130)
- 9:00 AM Market Goat Show (AMP Arena)
- 10:30 AM Breeding Sheep Show followed by Market Lamb Show (AMP Arena)
- 12:00 PM Fastest Torch in the West Finals (AMP Patio)
- 12:30 PM Results – Ag Mechanics Build-Off, Baked Goods, Fastest Torch in the West, and Photography (AMP Arena)
- 1:00 PM Breeding Swine Show followed by Market Swine Show (AMP Arena)
- 3:00 PM Market Steer Show (AMP Arena)
- 4:30 PM All-Around Showmanship Contest (AMP Arena)

Friday, January 19 – Monday, January 22, 2024

Northeast Ag Fair Premium Auction online at: <https://www.stockshowauctions.com>

2024 North East Ag Fair Premium Auction

The 2024 North East Ag Fair Premium Auction is a virtual event hosted online by StockShowAuctions.com on Friday, January 19 – Monday, January 22, 2024.

Eligible Projects: This opportunity is available to James Madison FFA members that exhibit a project in the following divisions at the 2024 North East Ag Fair:

- Breeding Sheep
- Breeding Swine
- Market Broilers
- Market Goats
- Market Lambs
- Market Rabbits
- Market Steers
- Market Swine
- Ag Mechanics Build-Off (Champion and Reserve Champion only)
- Creative Arts (Champion and Reserve Champion Baked Goods and Champion and Reserve Champion Photography only)

Auction Format: The auction format that is being utilized is a Premium Auction. A Premium Auction is defined as follows:

Registered users of StockShowAuctions.com understand that a Premium Auction acts as a fundraiser for the student exhibitor. THE HIGH BIDDER DOES NOT PURCHASE THE RIGHTS OF LEASE OR OWNERSHIP TO THE PROJECT BEING OFFERED. The student exhibitor may keep the project or sell it to a market buyer through a negotiated sale or separate auction. Premium Auction buyers desire to financially assist student exhibitors ONLY. No transfer of lease or ownership is implied when a lot is designated as a "Premium Auction" item. Premium Auction prices are to be strictly considered a gift to the student exhibitor.

Managing Agent: The James Madison FFA Booster Club (JMFFABC) will serve as the managing agent for the 2024 North East Ag Fair Premium Auction. The JMFFABC is recognized as a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization as a subordinate in good standing of Parent Booster USA, Inc., Group Exemption Number: 5271, EIN# 27-1546608. The JMFFABC will be responsible for the collection of all bids submitted by registered users of StockShowAuctions.com for student projects in the 2024 North East Ag Fair Premium Auction and payment of premiums to those students with a project in the auction.

Number of lots: A student exhibitor in the 2024 North East Ag Fair may not have more than one lot (unit) in the Premium Auction. A lot (unit) may be one livestock animal, one pen of broilers, one pen of rabbits, one ag mechanics build off project, or one creative arts project. If a student has more than one project in a division or divisions that is eligible for the Premium Auction, the student will have the ability to choose which one project they want to be included in the Premium Auction.

Sales Commission: There will be a sales commission of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the total premium (sales) value that will be deducted on all Premium Auction lots for the online auction service provided by StockShowAuctions.com. Also, donors that pay their auction invoice using a debit or credit card will be charged an additional fee of three and nine-tenths percent (3.90%) to cover charges by the payment processor.

Thank You Notes: Students that participate in the 2024 North East Ag Fair Premium Auction will receive a list of all registered users that submitted a bid on their Premium Auction lot. After the Premium Auction, a date will be determined, and all participants will be notified of when they must provide Thank You notes to all registered users that submitted a bid on their Premium Auction lot. A student must provide Thank You notes before they receive any payment of premium from the JMFFABC.

Add-On Premiums: Student participants in the 2024 North East Ag Fair Premium Auction are encouraged to promote their individual lot to potential supporters by inviting them to submit an Add-On bid for their lot at StockShowAuctions.com from Friday, January 19 – Monday, January 22, 2024. The student will receive the total dollar amount of Add-On bids received during the online Premium Auction minus the sales commission detailed above. Students will not be limited in the minimum or maximum amount that they can receive through Add-On premiums. If a registered user that submitted a bid or bids during the Premium Auction does not pay their invoice to the JMFFABC, their Add-On premium to any student lot will be deducted from the total premium payment that the student receives.

Points System: Funds raised by the JMFFABC for the purpose of supporting the 2024 North East Ag Fair Premium Auction will be distributed to participants utilizing a points system. The points system will determine the JMFFABC contribution for each student lot in the Premium Auction based on the total dollars fundraised prior to the Premium Auction. This contribution amount is not intended to repay the cost of the project, but it is designed as a reward for the student's effort. Because projects have varying costs and time commitments involved in completing them, the points system is used to fairly distribute funds raised by the JMFFABC to students. The points system is as follows:

- Cattle – 4 points
- Goats – 2 points
- Sheep – 2 points
- Swine – 2 points
- Broilers – 1 point
- Rabbits – 1 point
- Ag Mechanics Build Off – \$50 maximum premium for Champion and \$30 maximum premium for Reserve Champion
- Creative Arts - \$25 maximum premium for Category Champion and \$15 maximum premium for Reserve Champion

At the conclusion of the 2024 North East Ag Fair Livestock Show, a Premium Auction list and lot order will be determined by the staff of the Agriscience Magnet Program (AMP). From the Premium Auction list, the total number of points will be calculated from the livestock projects in the auction. For example:

- 15 cattle projects in the Premium Auction
 - 15 X 4 points = **60 points**
- 30 goat projects in the Premium Auction
 - 30 X 2 points = **60 points**
- 30 sheep projects in the Premium Auction
 - 30 x 2 points = **60 points**
- 25 swine projects in the Premium Auction
 - 25 X 2 points = **50 points**
- 10 broiler projects in the Premium Auction
 - 10 X 1 point = **10 points**

- 5 rabbit projects in the Premium Auction
 - 5 X 1 point = **5 points**
- Total points for all livestock projects in the Premium Auction = **245 points**

The total points for all livestock projects in the Premium Auction will be used as the denominator in the following equation to determine the value per point:

(Total Funds Raised by the JMFFABC for the Premium Auction) – (Premium monies for Ag Mechanics and Creative Arts projects) / Total Points for all Livestock Projects in the Premium Auction

Example: $(\$15,000.00) - (\$200.00) / 245 \text{ points} = \mathbf{\$60.41 \text{ per point}}$

Cattle - $\$60.41 \times 4 \text{ points} = \mathbf{\$241.64}$ contribution from the JMFFABC

Goats, Sheep, Swine - $\$60.41 \times 2 \text{ points} = \mathbf{\$120.82}$ contribution from the JMFFABC

Broilers, Rabbits - $\$60.41 \times 1 \text{ point} = \mathbf{\$60.41}$ contribution from the JMFFABC

2024 North East Ag Fair Judges

Market Rabbit Show – Jacob Clay
 Market Broiler Show – Jacob Clay
 Market Goat Show – Dwight Sexton
 Breeding Sheep Show – Dwight Sexton
 Market Lamb Show – Dwight Sexton
 Breeding Swine Show – Dwight Sexton
 Market Swine Show – Dwight Sexton
 Market Steer Show – Dwight Sexton
 All Around Showmanship – Dwight Sexton

2024 North East Ag Fair Awards

Thank you to the generous support of our sponsors, the following awards will be provided to the exhibitors and participants of the North East Ag Fair.

Market Rabbit Show

1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Grand Champion
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion
 - c. Champion Showmanship

Market Broiler Show

1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Grand Champion
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion
 - c. Champion Showmanship

Market Goat Show

1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Grand Champion
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion
 - c. Champion Showmanship
 - d. Reserve Champion Showmanship
2. Banner
 - a. Division Champions

Breeding Sheep Show

1. Banner
 - a. Champion
 - b. Reserve Champion

Market Lamb Show

1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Grand Champion
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion
 - c. Champion Showmanship
 - d. Reserve Champion Showmanship
2. Banner
 - a. Breed Champions

Breeding Swine Show

1. Banner
 - a. Champion
 - b. Reserve Champion

Market Swine Show

1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Grand Champion
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion
 - c. Champion Showmanship

- d. Reserve Champion Showmanship
- 2. Banner
 - a. Division / Breed Champions

Market Steer Show

- 1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Grand Champion
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion
 - c. Cattle Champion Showmanship
 - d. Cattle Reserve Champion Showmanship
- 2. Banner
 - a. Division / Breed Champions

All-Around Showmanship Champion

- 1. Trophy Belt Buckle

Ag Mechanics Build-Off

- 1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Grand Champion

BBQ Cook-Off

- 1. Banner
 - a. Grand Champion Team
 - b. Reserve Champion Team
- 2. Banner
 - a. Food Category Champions

Creative Arts

- 1. Trophy Belt Buckle
 - a. Baked Goods Division Grand Champion
 - b. Photography Division Grand Champion
- 2. Banner
 - a. Baked Goods Category Champion

Fastest Torch in the West

- 1. Banner
 - a. Champion
 - b. Reserve Champion

2024 North East Ag Fair General Rules

1. Only students in good standing with the Agriscience Magnet Program (AMP) and enrolled in at least one semester of an AMP course during the 2023 – 2024 school year may participate.
2. All students must pay FFA dues and be in good financial standing with the AMP to participate.
3. All students that participate in the North East Ag Fair must be academically eligible at the time of the Ag Fair to exhibit a project.
4. The NEISD AMP staff shall assume no responsibility for loss of life or harmful cause to an animal or student, whether manmade or acts of nature.
5. All livestock must be housed on the AMP Complex facilities.
6. Eligible students may compete in the following divisions of the North East Ag Fair:
 - Breeding Sheep
 - Breeding Swine
 - Market Broilers
 - Market Goats
 - Market Lambs
 - Market Rabbits
 - Market Steers
 - Market Swine
 - Ag Mechanics Build Off
 - BBQ Cook-Off
 - Creative Arts (Baked Goods and Photography)
 - Fastest Torch in the West
7. Each participant is responsible for seeing that his/her animal is properly cared for before, during, and after the show. Any violation will result in the removal of the participant's animal from competition or AMP Complex, forfeiture of any premium money, or barring said participant from further livestock competitions.
 - The Livestock Project Supervisor (AMP Staff) is responsible for helping students manage the health and well-being of livestock.
8. No medication should be administered to any livestock animal without the knowledge of the appropriate Livestock Project Supervisor.
9. Livestock with external parasites at the time of the show will not be allowed to be exhibited.
10. All livestock must be clipped and/or groomed by the exhibitor, the exhibitor's parents, or AMP staff. No artificial coloring may be used on any species. Students should perform as much of the work as possible, as this is part of their personal learning experience.
11. The North East Ag Fair will be held during the month of January and will be the venue for the North East Ag Fair Livestock Show.
12. North East Ag Fair Livestock Show judges will be secured by members of the AMP staff and all judges' decisions will be deemed final and beyond contestation.
13. All participants must show their own livestock project; substitutions will be allowed only at the discretion of the AMP staff.
14. The number of animal classes and the weight breaks will be determined by the AMP staff after official show weights have been recorded. The weight breaks will be posted for students in the corresponding project centers prior to the show.
15. Showmanship classes for North East Ag Fair Livestock Show participants may be divided into two divisions: Novice and Experienced.
16. Participants and/or parents are not to become argumentative, openly hostile or act in any threatening manner toward show judges, AMP staff, other students and/or parents, or any NEISD representatives because of decisions made during the course of the livestock show competition. Violations of this policy, whether by a student or parent, may result in

disqualification of the exhibitor and banishment from future participation in livestock competitions or the Agriscience Magnet Program.

17. Concerns and/or suggestions regarding the North East Ag Fair must be submitted to an AMP staff member in writing, signed by the originator, no later than January 31st following the show in order to be considered for the next year.

Market Broilers

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per pen of broilers.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Maximum Entries: Each exhibitor is limited to entering only 2 (two) pens of broilers. For example, 2 pens of cockerels, 2 pens of pullets, or 1 pen of cockerels and 1 pen of pullets. A pen of broilers will consist of 3 birds.
4. Order / Delivery: All broilers will be ordered by the agriculture teacher from the same location and hatch date. Broilers will be ordered from the Bexar County Poultry Superintendent and tagged with a wing band for identification purposes. Hatch and delivery dates will be set by the agriculture teacher. **The delivery date for the 2024 North East Ag Fair will be late November 2023.** Broiler chicks will be purchased in lots of 25 for each student and will be ordered as straight run. Straight run means there is a mixture of pullets and cockerels.
5. Ownership: Students must take ownership on the delivery date. Broilers may be raised at the AMP livestock project center or at home in an approved facility. Broilers kept at a student's home are subject to being checked throughout the project duration by the agriculture teacher. All broilers must be owned and fed by the exhibitor from the hatch date through the show.
6. Weight: There will be no weight limit, but only quality broilers will be accepted with a preliminary judging prior to the show. All broilers will be checked prior to judging for proper identification wing bands.
7. Champion: The champion pullet and cockerel will compete against each other for overall grand champion.
8. Showmanship: All exhibitors will compete for showmanship. The showmanship portion will incorporate handling of the broilers, as well as a knowledge-based component selected by the broiler judge. Study materials will be given to students on the day they take ownership of their broilers.
9. Disposition: After the show, exhibitors are responsible for transporting their animals to the processor. All broilers must be removed from the school premises within 5 days of showing.

Market Steers

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per market steer entry.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Breeds: The market steers shall be exhibited in three divisions (instead of by breed) grouped as follows:
 - a. American Breed Division (American Breeds Cross, Brahman, Brangus, Santa Gertrudis, and Simbrah)
 - b. British Breed Division (Angus, Hereford, Polled Hereford, Red Angus, and Shorthorn)

- c. Exotic Breed Division (Charolais, Limousin, Maine Anjou, Simmental, Black Cross, Red Cross, Other Cross)
4. Weight: The minimum weight is 900 pounds and there will be a 5% tolerance at the official weigh-in. There is no maximum weight limit.
5. Classes: All market steers will be shown by Breed Division. Breed Divisions will be divided into weight classes if there are 5 or more steers in the Breed Division. If there are 3 or more of a specific breed, they will show as a breed class within their specified Breed Division (example: 4 Charolais steers would show as one class in the Exotic Breed Division).
6. Grooming: The market steer show is a hair show in accordance with the Fort Worth Stock Show rules. It will be a “blow and go” show. Any violation will result in the disqualification of the animal. No show day grooming products that alter the appearance of the animal (adhesives, paint, leg builder, etc.) shall be permitted, or any product that can be wiped off on show day.
7. Drenching: No pumping of water or liquids via oral tube into the stomach. Drench guns are allowed.
8. Showmanship: Any exhibitor may return for showmanship providing they participated in the North East Ag Fair Livestock Show and will compete in the cattle showmanship (includes breeding heifer exhibitors). The showmanship competition may be divided into two divisions as deemed appropriate by the project supervisor: Novice (first year cattle exhibitor) and Experienced (more than one year of experience exhibiting cattle).
9. Validation: Market steers must be validated in accordance with rules in the state/county validation program. All market steers must have a state validation tag in its ear.

Market Goats

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per market goat entry.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Breeds: Both wether and nanny/doe goats may be shown in the market goat show. The show is open to any breed or crossbreed market goat.
4. Weight: The minimum weight is 50 pounds and there will be a five (5) pound tolerance at official weigh-in. There is no maximum weight limit.
5. Classes: There will be three (3) divisions by weight. The number of classes per division will be determined after official weigh-in, as necessary. The weight divisions will be:
 - a. Light Weight
 - b. Medium Weight
 - c. Heavy Weight
6. Grooming: Goats must be shorn slick, with no indication of blocking, to the skin above the knee and hock joints to include the head, excluding the tail switch. Unshorn goats will not be exhibited.
7. Fitting: Foreign material including painting, powdering, artificial coloring is prohibited.
8. Guidelines: Exhibitors may show their goats with chains, collars, or halters.
9. Showmanship: Exhibitors must be called back by the goat judge to compete in the goat showmanship competition. Market goat exhibitors will compete with breeding goat exhibitors for showmanship awards.
10. Validation: Market goats must be validated in accordance with rules in the state/county validation program. All market goats must have a state validation tag in its ear.

Breeding Sheep

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per breeding sheep entry.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Breeds:
 - a. Dorper, Dorset, Hampshire, ORB (Other Registered Breeds), Rambouillet, Registered Finewool Breeds (Columbia, Corriedale, Delaine-Merino, and Targhee are the only breeds allowed in the Registered Finewool Breeds Class), Royal White, Shropshire, Southdown, Suffolk, and White Dorper.
 - b. Commercial Breeding Ewe (unregistered breeding females).
1. Classes: The following will apply regarding the ages of breeding sheep: Tothing of sheep to determine the age class in which they are shown will be determined by the barn supervisor and the student before the show.
 - a. Lambs must be carrying all milk teeth. Lambs showing either or both of their first pair of permanent incisors may not show in the lamb classes.
 - b. Sheep eligible to compete in the two-tooth breeding classes must show only the first pair of permanent incisors. Sheep that have dropped their central pair of milk teeth and show one or both teeth of the first permanent pair may show in the two-tooth classes of their respective breeds.
 - c. Sheep showing the first two pairs, or three pairs of permanent incisors may show.
 - d. Sheep with more than six permanent teeth may not exhibit in the show.
4. Grooming: Sheep may be shown in any length fleece unless the Breed Association specifies fleece length.
5. Drenching: No pumping of water or liquids via oral tube into the stomach. Drench guns are allowed.
6. Showmanship: All breeding sheep exhibitors are eligible for lamb showmanship and will compete against the market lamb exhibitors.
7. Validation: All breeding sheep must be validated in accordance with rules in the state/county validation program.

Market Lambs

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per market lamb entry.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Breeds: Both wether and ewe lambs may be shown in the market lamb show. Lambs will be shown by breed in the following order: Dorper, Southdown, Finewool, Finewool Cross, and Medium Wool.
4. Weight: The minimum weight is 80 pounds for Dorper and Southdown breeds and 90 pounds for Finewool, Finewool Cross, and Medium Wool breeds. There will be a five (5) pound tolerance at official weigh-in. There is no maximum weight limit.
5. Classes: Breeds will be divided into weight classes as deemed necessary after official weigh-in.
6. Grooming: All lambs must be slick sheared to the skin above knee and hock joints, with no more than ¼ inch wool in length on the day of the show.
7. Drenching: No pumping of water or liquids via oral tube into the stomach. Drench guns are allowed.

8. Showmanship: Exhibitors must be called back by the lamb judge to compete for lamb showmanship awards.
9. Validation: Market lambs must be validated in accordance with rules in the state/county validation program. All market lambs must have a state validation tag in its ear.

Market Rabbits

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Special Rules: Rabbit classes will be governed by the current rules of the ARBA Standard of Perfection. No crossbred or mixed breed rabbits will be allowed in the show.
4. Weight: The minimum weight on market rabbits is 3.5 pounds each and a maximum weight is 6 pounds each.
5. Meat Pens:
 - a. Entries will consist of a pen of three rabbits
 - b. No individual rabbit may weigh less than 3.5 pounds and no more than 6 pounds
 - c. Rabbits may not be over 85 days of age
 - d. All rabbits must have been raised to fryer size by the exhibitor
6. Tattoos: All rabbits will be permanently earmarked in the left ear, using two or more number(s)/letter(s) combination. No two market rabbits from the same exhibitor shall have identical earmarks.
7. Substitutions: No substitutions or changes on entries will be allowed after the judging begins.
8. Sift: A sift will be conducted at check-in. Rabbits will be free of ARBA disqualifications and meet weight requirements. Sifted rabbits will be clearly marked with a point stick and may not be presented again for sift.
9. Showmanship: Exhibitors in the market and breeding rabbit shows are eligible to participate in rabbit showmanship. Rabbit showmanship may consist of a written exam and/or hands on demonstrations. Rabbits used in showmanship must be owned by the exhibitor.
10. Validation: All market rabbits must be validated. Rabbits will be validated per family. Only eligible exhibitors in the family may exhibit these animals. Exhibitor may validate as many rabbits as they wish. Meat Pen Validation dates will be scheduled by the rabbit project supervisor.

Breeding Swine

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per breeding swine entry.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Breeds: Only the following purebred swine breeds can be exhibited: Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace, Poland China and Spotted Poland China, and Yorkshire.
4. Classes: Breeding swine will be exhibited by breed in alphabetical order.
5. Showmanship: Exhibitors must be called back by the swine judge to compete in the swine showmanship competition. Breeding swine exhibitors will compete with market swine exhibitors for showmanship awards.
6. Ownership: Breeding swine must have original registration of ownership by December 1st.

Market Swine

1. Entry Fee: \$20.00 per market swine entry.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Breeds: Both barrows and gilts may be shown in the market swine show. Swine will be shown by breed in the following order: Berkshire, Black OPB (to include Poland China and Spotted Poland China), Duroc, Hampshire, White OPB (to include Chester White and Landrace), Yorkshire, and Crossbred.
4. Weight: The minimum weight is 100 pounds and there will be a ten (10) pound tolerance at official weigh-in. There is no maximum weight limit.
5. Classes: Breeds will be divided into weight classes as deemed necessary after official weigh-in.
6. Grooming: No powder, oil, etc. may be used on swine when exhibited in the show ring.
7. Showmanship: Exhibitors must be called back by the swine judge to compete in the swine showmanship competition. Market swine exhibitors will compete with breeding swine exhibitors for showmanship awards.
8. Validation: Market swine must be validated in accordance with rules in the state/county validation program. All market swine must have a state validation tag in its ear.

All-Around Showmanship

1. The Champion Showmanship winner from each of the livestock divisions (broilers, cattle, goats, lambs, rabbits, and swine) is eligible to compete for the All-Around Showmanship title.
2. Exhibitors will be evaluated as they exhibit cattle, goats, lambs, and swine. Livestock Project Supervisors will assist exhibitors in securing livestock to show for the All-Around Showmanship contest.

Ag Mechanics Build-Off

The Ag Mechanics Build Off contest is open to all James Madison FFA members regardless of enrollment in an Applied Agricultural Engineering Pathway course.

1. Entry Fee: \$10.00 per entry.
2. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
3. Guidelines:
 - a. Students must develop a unique project plan to the Applied Agricultural Engineering instructor prior to the start of construction.
 - b. Students must provide their own materials for fabrication.
 - c. Students must have constructed their project under the supervision of the Applied Agricultural Engineering instructor prior to the date of the show.
 - d. Students must record their projects construction in a project book which will be presented alongside their project at the show.
 - e. Any violations or disregard for the above written rules will result in the disqualification of the student and project from the show and any prizes therein.
4. Resources: Exhibitors will need to join the following Google Classroom for additional information, resources, and materials - class code: **566lws5.**

BBQ Cook-Off

The North East Ag Fair BBQ Cook-Off is an activity to encourage FFA members training in the Texas tradition of preparation of fine cowboy cuisine. This is an activity intended for paid FFA members of the James Madison FFA Chapter to develop their skills, have fun, and show off their talents.

Teams can consist of a head cook and up to 4 other team members that will cook meats from scratch within the time constraints of the event. Teams will cook whole chicken, pork loin, beef skirt steak for taco, and a chili in a Dutch oven to be judged on aroma, color, texture and taste.

1. Entry Fee: \$ 20.00 per person on team
2. Entry Deadline: **January 5, 2024.**
3. Head Cook's Meeting: Head cooks must attend the meeting at 9:00 AM on the day of the competition. Each team will receive final instruction and the turn in containers at this time.
4. Cooked On Site: All meat and tortillas will be furnished the day of the cook-off. No pre-marinating, pre-soaking, or pre-spicing prior to the official START time is allowed. Meat will be prepared from scratch within the time constraints of the cook-off. NO meat will be allowed to leave the team's site area. Teams will be advised of the "START" time.
5. Cook Area: The cook area will be 20'x20'. The area will be roped off and only students will be allowed to be in this area while the competition is taking place. No adults will be allowed in the cook area. If an adult is seen in the cooking area during the competition the team will be disqualified from the competition. The only exception will be if there is an emergency that requires the attention of an adult.
6. Sanitary Conditions: The team must maintain the cooking area in a clean and sanitary condition. The head judge or designee may disqualify a contestant for unsanitary conditions or entries.
7. Turn-in Times: Prior to the cook-off, the head judge and the organizer will determine the turn-in times. The turn-in times will be posted on site and announced during the head cook's meeting.
8. Meat Presentation:
 - a. Chicken: Each team will turn in ½ chicken, fully jointed with skin on, and meat side up with the wing tip on or off. The chicken must fit in the tray with the lid closed. If it does not fit, it is acceptable to cut the backbone out of it.
 - b. Pork loin: Each team will turn in 2 boneless pork chops for judging.
 - c. Beef Skirt Steak Taco: Team members will turn in 8 beef skirt steak tacos without garnishing.
 - d. Chili: Team members will fill a 16 oz plastic container with chili.
 - e. Markers and Garnish for the Meat: When preparing meat products for turn-in, nothing may be added to the meat after it has been placed in the tray. Cooks will be asked to correct their turn-in if sauce or juice is added to the meat. There should be no "pudding" of juices or sauces in the tray. All garnishes are prohibited. There is to be no markings on the tray or the foil; nor should the box or foil have any folding, tearing, etc.
9. Cooking with Sauce: Cooking with sauce is when a meat is cooked with the sauce on it. DO not confuse it with "saucing" which is when a product is coated with sauce while "warming" it in the pit and calling that cooked with sauce. Sauce should not be "wet" when placed in the box and must be cooked on.

10. Wood Fire: All fires for cooking meat must be wood or wood products. You can use gas or electric to start the wood or wood product but may not use it for cooking! Once the meat has been placed on the cooker, you cannot restart your fire with gas or electric starters. Electric rotisseries which hold the meat and allow it to be cooked over wood are permitted.
11. Pit or Smoker: Any type of commercial made, homemade, or shop made pit may be used. All pits must use only wood or wood products for cooking. No electric fire assistance will be allowed. Pellet grills may be used. Use of propane for cooking is NOT allowed.
12. Chili and Tortillas may be cooked or heated up using propane grill.
13. Judging Format: Only the approved judging sheets will be used. The judging area will be set up and managed by the head judge. The head judge's decision will be final.
14. Double Blind Judging: All entries will be submitted in identical containers which have been assembled and provided by the head judge. The container is a 9 X 9 hinged foam tray with a matched pair of identically numbered tickets; One ticket will be affixed to the tray. One ticket must have the team's name written on it in ink, when trays are picked up. The signed ticket will be the ONLY ticket used to match to the ticket number on the ticket taken from the box during the awards ceremony. Each team will be provided with a piece of foil for each turn-in. That foil will be supplied by the head judge and may not be substituted with any other foil. The foil supplied is to be placed in the bottom of each tray. The meat or dessert is placed on the foil inside the box.
15. Tie Breaker: Chili will be the tie breaker. If there is a tie in points, the team that finishes higher in the chili category will be the one who places higher. Example teams A and B have 35 points each and are tied for 2nd place. Team A placed 3rd in chili and Team B placed 2nd in chili. Team B now becomes 2nd overall and Team A becomes 3rd overall.
16. Window: Window is an all-inclusive period. There will be a twenty (20) minute window which breaks down to ten (10) minutes before and ten (10) minutes after the designated turn-in time. This allows anyone who is a great distance from the turn-in point to have enough time to have their product checked and correct any mistakes before the window closes. If a team misses the window, the product will not be accepted and will not be judged.

Creative Arts

There will be two categories of competition within the Creative Arts Division: Baked Goods and Photography.

1. Baked Goods Division
 - a. Entry Fee: \$5.00 per entry.
 - b. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023.**
 - c. Maximum Entries: Students are limited to three (3) entries, one (1) per category.
 - d. Categories:
 - i. Cookies (1 dozen minimum)
 - ii. Pie (1 whole pie) / Tarts (1 dozen minimum)
 - iii. Bread (1 large loaf or 3 small loaves)
 - iv. Cake (1 whole cake) / Cupcakes (1 dozen minimum)
 - v. Brownies (1 dozen minimum) / Bars (1 dozen minimum)
 - vi. Candy (1 dozen pieces or full recipe)

- vii. Gluten Free (1 full recipe)
 - e. Guidelines:
 - i. A complete recipe of the baked good must be included with the entry form. The recipe may be handwritten or typed.
 - ii. All entries must be made by the exhibitor.
 - iii. No pre-packaged mixes allowed.
 - iv. All baked good entries should be on a disposable plate or container.
 - v. No items containing **RAW** eggs or needing refrigeration will be accepted as entries.
 - f. If you have questions regarding a recipe, amounts, or approved items, contact Mr. Anderson in AG130 prior to entering.
 - g. Submission Date: Baked good entries must be delivered to room **AG130** on **Saturday, January 13, 2024** between **8:30 AM and 9:30 AM**.
 - h. Judging: All entries will be awarded and categorized with a blue, red, or white ribbon recognition based on the quality of the submission. Baked goods receiving a blue ribbon will be evaluated to select a Champion and Reserve Champion entry. Champion and Reserve Champion winners will be eligible for the Premium Auction.
2. Photography Division
- a. Entry Fee: \$5.00 per entry.
 - b. Entry Deadline: **December 1, 2023**.
 - c. Maximum Entries: Students are limited to three (3) entries.
 - d. Theme: Entries are limited to subjects related to horticulture, flower arrangements, gardens, and landscapes. The theme for the 2024 North East Ag Fair will coincide with the theme chosen by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo for their photography contest – **2024 Theme: “New Beginnings”**.
 - e. Guidelines: All photographs should emphasize the theme and must include flora. Photographs should not prominently feature people. Each photograph that is submitted must be titled.
 - f. Finish Requirements:
 - i. Minimum size is 8” X 10” (do not mount or frame)
 - ii. Maximum size is 11” X 14” (do not mount or frame)
 - iii. The surface finish of the photograph is the choice of the exhibitor
 - iv. Printing may be done professionally
 - v. Mounting and framing of photographs is not permitted
 - vi. Photographs must include the exhibitor name and title of the photo on a label affixed to the back of the photograph
 - g. Submission Date: Photographs must be submitted to the **AMP Administration office** no later than **4:30 PM** on **Thursday, January 11, 2024**.
 - h. Judging: All entries will be awarded and categorized with a blue, red, or white ribbon recognition based on the quality of the submission. Photographs receiving a blue ribbon will be evaluated to select a Champion and Reserve Champion entry. Champion and Reserve Champion winners will be eligible for the Premium Auction.
 - i. Photograph submissions and awards may be picked up on Tuesday, January 16th from the AMP Administration office.

Fastest Torch in the West

The “Fastest Torch in the West” is a cutting torch contest designed to showcase students with cutting torch skill. This most essential metal fabrication skill is measured in head-to-head competition between students with speed and accuracy advancing students to the final rounds in a tournament format.

1. Students participating in the contest will be paired by a drawing that will randomly place participants in a bracket that will remain the same for the entire contest. Bye slots may be used to complete a bracket with an odd number of competitors.
2. In each round, students will light their own torch, adjust to a neutral flame, and make the required cut in that round. Regulators will be preset by contest official. The student whose metal falls to the ground first advances to the next round and the other student is eliminated.
3. Any attempt to force the cut to fall by any action other than gravity will result in that student being disqualified.
4. Safety equipment will be provided. Students choosing to use their own may do so. One high cuff glove, safety glasses, a face shield must be worn while cutting. Eyewear must meet minimum Z87 standards. Students must wear long pants, closed toe shoes, and a long-sleeved cotton shirt. Judge’s decision on appropriate clothing will be final.
5. If a judge determines that a tip is dirty, both competitors’ tips will be cleaned by contest officials prior to the next round. Equipment malfunctions that cause an unfair advantage to one contestant may result in a rerun if judges deem it necessary.
6. Metal to be cut will be provided by the contest. Preliminary rounds will cut flat metal. As the contest progresses, contestants will be expected to make cuts on pipe, angle iron, channel iron, etc. Piercing cuts may be required in later rounds.
7. Prior to making cuts, contestants will be allowed to arrange metal, hoses, and strikers on their worktable for their own comfort. Cut lines will be pre-marked by the judges. Judges will announce “go” to begin cuts in each round.
8. If during the contest a student is called for and is not present for their turn, the student will be eliminated and the other competitor in that round will advance.
9. Students may choose the torch/table they use to cut on. If both students choose the same station, a coin flip will determine student placement.
10. Decisions of the contest officials are final.