

Dear Potential Sonoma County Fair Market Steer Exhibitor,

Included in this email is important information regarding the Sunday, March 24 mandatory Market Steer Pre-Weigh. There will be no make-ups; all steers must be present on Sunday, March 24 to be eligible for the 2019 Sonoma County Fair. The steers will be weighed, ear tagged, photographed and breed determined. DNA samples will be due at pre-weigh. All steers must be broke to lead and will have their breed determined at the March pre-weigh.

LOCATION: Enter fairgrounds through gate 7 and follow the signs.

Pre-Weigh Schedule: Sunday, March 24, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. ~ FFA steers

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. ~ 4-H and Independent Junior steers

1. Check-in with fair personnel
 2. Breed Determined
 3. Photograph Steer
 4. Ear tag and weigh steer
 5. Collect/Submit DNA Sample*
- *DNA is due at pre-weigh

Rules:

- It is mandatory that all market steers that are to be entered in the 2019 Sonoma County Fair be brought to the Sunday, March 24 pre-weigh-no exceptions.
- All steers will be weighed, ear tagged, photographed and have their breed verified.
- All steers that go through the pre-weigh must be halter-broke and able to lead. Any steer brought to the pre-weigh that is not under control of the exhibitor or their representative may be disqualified and therefore ineligible to be shown at the fair.
- Exhibitors are limited to (2) market animals at fair time, however, more may be brought to the pre-weigh. Each steer must go through the entire procedure to be eligible at fair time. If you plan on bringing a steer intended for the Healdsburg Fair please let us know.
- No dogs are allowed in the receiving area or arena (to ensure safety of the animals).
- Spectators are not allowed in the receiving area.

DNA Requirement:

All steers are required to have DNA samples on file. DNA packets are available beginning March 1 at the fairgrounds or can be completed during pre-weigh. (A DNA packet includes: DNA Form, SCF Collection Envelope, UCD Collection Envelope, 2 Integrity Seals and Instructions.)

- DNA collection is the responsibility of the exhibitor and their parent or leader.

- DNA paperwork requires that both the exhibitor and their parent or leader be present for the collection.
- If you choose to collect the DNA samples at home bring the completed collection kit with you on March 24.
- DNA is due the same day as pre-weigh. No late samples will be accepted.
- We will have an area for DNA collection available at the pre-weigh.
- It is extremely important to properly record the ear tag that matches the sample in the envelope. Animals with DNA test discrepancies will be disqualified.

Breed Verification:

These breed divisions will be offered at the 2019 Sonoma County Fair:

- Angus (Black & Red)*
- Charlaois *
- Hereford*
- Shorthorn *
- All Other Breeds*
- Crossbred

*** PLEASE NOTE:** Angus, Hereford, Shorthorn, Charlaois & AOB cattle must have letter from the breeder stating breed eligibility standard.

The Sonoma County Fair will have an official at the pre-weigh to determine the breed of your steer. The fair will reserve the right to re-evaluate steers at fair time during weigh-in if deemed necessary. Please indicate the breed you think your steer is best suited on your DNA form, however, keep in mind that the official may change the breed.

Entry Forms:

Reminder - in addition to the DNA form you are required to complete an official entry online to qualify for judging. Guidebooks will be available beginning May 1. Entries close June 30 ~ this is your responsibility ~ don't forget!

To be eligible for Sonoma County [Bred and Born Entry Form](#) must be submitted by June 28, 2019. Please view the entry form for 2019 rules.

NEW FOR 2019: QUALITY ASSURANCE & ETHICS TRAINING:

To participate in the Sonoma County Fair youth livestock program (excluding horse, cavies & dogs), all exhibitors 9 years of age and older, must obtain annual certification in the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program. Certification number must be submitted at the time of entry. Course can be completed at <https://yqca.learn-grow.io/Account/Login>.

The Sonoma County Fair Board has approved the national program, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA), to meet the new state requirement. This program was designed by agricultural universities as well as partners in the agriculture industry. By the end of 2018 over 50,000 youth across the nation have taken a YQCA course. YQCA courses are age and level

specific which allow for changing content each year. The program is offered in both online and in-person options. The online course is available for \$12 and the in-person option for \$3. All registration, fees, and certification are managed through YQCA. Both options will take approximately one hour to complete. The Sonoma County Fair has partnered with Sonoma-Marin Fair to offer in-person courses. As local course dates are selected and more information is available from the state, it will be sent to all exhibitors. A local policy regarding leaders/advisors has yet to be determined.

Awards

Don't forget to apply for the Sonoma Marin Cattlewomen's awards! These are available for both market and breeding beef exhibitors. [Follow link](#) for details and application.

Questions? Call the Entry Office: (707) 545-4203 or email us at:
Livestock@sonomacountyfair.com