

GRAYS HARBOR YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION STEERS, LAMBS, HOGS, GOATS, RABBITS, & POULTRY 2026

The purpose of this livestock auction is to provide an incentive to youth to exhibit and sell quality market stock, which have reached marketable size. Both the sellers and the bidders and/or buyers are reminded that the price paid to the seller may not, in fact, reflect the true market price at the time of the sale. It is the desire of the sponsoring groups that the buyers of the animals featured in this sale will bid sufficiently to cover the individual exhibitor's additional expenses incurred in feeding, fitting, and transporting the animals to this show to gain experience in feeding and the management of market animals.

MARKET ANIMAL OWNERSHIP DEADLINES:

Species	Ownership Deadline	Registration Deadline	Proof of Ownership
Steers	March 31	March 15	Tagged on May 9
Hogs	May 1	March 15	Tagged on May 9
Lambs	May 25	March 15	Tagged on May 9
Goats	May 1	March 15	Tagged on May 9
Turkeys	May 1	March 15	Photo by May 31
Chickens (Pen 3)	45 days prior to first day of fair	March 15	Photo by July 3
Rabbits (Pen 3)	45 days prior to first day of fair	March 15	Photo by July 3

*Ownership: Seller must take possession and have in their care by ownership deadline. Rabbits – see Rule 34.

*Proof of Ownership via Photo: Photo taken of animal showcasing unique markings with exhibitor

AUCTION GUIDELINES:

Topic	
Membership	4-H or FFA member in good standing
Promotion	4-H or FFA member
Paperwork	All GHYLA forms submitted ON TIME <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online registration by 3/15 ALL species • Authorization to Sell Form to Donna Boyer by 7/6 • YQCA Certificate to Donna Boyer by 7/6 • GH Co. Fair Entry Form submitted to GH Fair office by 7/6
Mandatory Annual Information Meeting	Select In-Person time for May 6 at EHS Student Center: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 PM • 6:30 PM
Tagging/Proof of Ownership	Tagging at GH Fair for hogs, steers, lambs, goats: May 9 ~ 8 AM to Noon Photo Proof: turkey by 5/31; pens of 3 by 7/3
Complete Project for Donations	Complete the above list plus: Exhibit at the fair from start to finish including: vet check, weigh-in, market class, fit & show, feed/care project, herdsmanship, raffle pig shift, final clean up, and haul out.

The following rules apply to all species and have been set forth by the GHYLA Committee:

MEMBERSHIP/COMMITMENT:

1. Each exhibitor must be enrolled in 4-H (Junior, Intermediate, or Senior) or be a member of an FFA chapter in good standing with the Washington FFA Association and be actively caring for the animal exhibited as a 4-H project or FFA Supervised Agriculture Experience Project in Grays Harbor County and Mason County. After participating in the GHYLA Livestock Auction during their senior year, a member is no longer eligible to sell an auction animal in future years even if they remain eligible for 4-H and FFA enrollment under state guidelines.
2. Each exhibitor must register their project with the GHYLA via online registration by March 15th for all species.
3. Each exhibitor and/or parent must attend the mandatory annual information meeting in-person. A meeting date for all exhibitors will be set annually by the auction committee and the date specified in the online registration.
4. Each exhibitor must individually complete the online YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) quality assurance certification course designated by the committee and submit the certificate of completion with their Authorization to Sell form. Vouchers for the YQCA course will be distributed at the Annual Information meeting on May 6. The YQCA must be completed at the appropriate age level of the exhibitor.
5. Each exhibitor makes a commitment to complete their project by showing at the fair and selling their animal at the auction. Entry forms must be completed in accordance with the division, section, and class number as listed in the Grays Harbor Fair Exhibitor Guide and are due by the deadline printed in the Grays Harbor Fair Exhibitor Guide.
6. All animals registered for the sale will provide proof of ownership based on species. Ownership must be established by the date listed on page 1 under Market Animal Ownership Deadlines. Steers, hogs, lambs, and goats will be tagged in May. Back-up animals must also be tagged to be eligible as a potential sale animal. Photos of proof of ownership will be required for turkeys by May 31 and pens of 3 chickens and 3 rabbits by July 3.
7. Each exhibitor and/or seller assumes responsibility for securing potential buyers and furnishes the names and addresses to the Livestock Auction Committee by submitting them on the Authorization to Sell Form due July 6 to Donna Boyer. This is so the Grays Harbor Youth Livestock Auction Committee can contact these prospective buyers and provide them the necessary information on the sale.
8. Each exhibitor can register multiple species and may raise more than one animal of each species, however, only one animal or pen of 3 (steer, hog, lamb, goat, turkey, pen of 3 rabbits, or pen of 3 chickens) may be sold through GHYLA. Only one lot per exhibitor will be listed in the final sale catalog and the selection decision for the sale animal must be specified at the weigh-in during fair haul-in day.
9. All exhibitors must “complete” their project in order to receive any donations. The animals must be weighed, vet checked, quality checked, judged, complete herdsmanship, and finish clean-up and haul out of livestock.
10. Individual exhibitors are responsible for the care and feeding of their animals until the animal is loaded to transport for processing. Pens/stall space must be cleaned the day the animals are removed from the fairgrounds. If pen/stall space is not cleaned, the cost of cleaning the pen/stall space will be deducted from their auction check.
11. To qualify for the sale, the animal must be a blue or red ribbon animal based on the judge’s discretion. Animals receiving a white ribbon placing are not eligible for the sale.
12. Youth participating in the GHYLA will be prepared for a professional photo on the day designated by the auction committee. The exhibitor must be present with a clean, fitted project and exhibitor appropriately dressed for a professional presentation.
13. Quality Assurance (QA) form is mandatory. A completed QA form is required at the time of weigh-in at fair.
14. Exhibitors may not withdraw their animal from the auction sale after 7:00 PM of the official weigh-in day.

15. Cause for Disqualification:
 - a. Did not attend the mandatory Annual Information meeting by having a parent or exhibitor present.
 - b. Authorization to Sell Form not received by July 6.
 - c. Did not solicit buyers and submit their names and addresses to the auction committee by July 6.
 - d. Did not complete the online YQCA quality assurance and submit the certificate of completion by July 6.
 - e. Did not make weight or disqualified by the vet check.
 - f. The animal received a white ribbon placing from the judge.
 - g. Did not maintain health/quality standards while in ownership of the exhibitor.
 - h. Entering a non-tagged GHYLA animal or entering an animal not raised by the exhibitor.

FISCAL RULES:

16. A 5% commission consignment fee of the gross sale and 1% commission on all donations will be deducted from the sale of each animal or pen of three. This consignment fee will be used to pay the expenses of the auction.
17. Condemned carcass or loss of animal prior to processing: If an animal is condemned during the slaughter process or is deceased prior to processing, the seller will absorb the loss and the consignment fee will be waived. The buyer's offer becomes void. The slaughter fee will be paid by the Grays Harbor Youth Livestock Auction Committee.
18. Proceeds from the sale will be distributed to the exhibitors after payment has been received from all GHLYA buyers.
19. Donations will be distributed to exhibitors who "complete" their project (listed in rule 8). Anyone wishing to donate to a student can do so. This does not purchase the animal. Donations can only be accepted as bankable transactions (cash or check). Goods and services will not be considered acceptable donations to be recognized in GHYLA advertising. No personal raffles or auctions are allowed.
20. If the project does not meet weight guidelines or quality standards, the student will receive all collected donations if they complete all the GHYLA paperwork requirements and exhibit and show at the fair. Donations will be returned to the donator if the exhibitor does not meet these expectations.
21. Checks will be issued in the exhibitor's name and mailed to the original address input at registration.
22. Any check that is not deposited within 90 days and/or a check that needs to be reissued will be deducted a "stop payment" fee assessed by the bank.
23. A deduction for the cost of the online YQCA quality assurance will be deducted as an expense item from the exhibitor's check total.

GENERAL RULES:

24. All animals are raised for the purpose of slaughter. No advertising is allowed on any female animal regarding the animal's eligibility for registration or pedigree indicating it's use as a breeding animal. No advertising is allowed offering to continue showing the animal after the auction. The animal's show career is over, regardless of ownership, when sold and is not eligible to be shown at any other show or sale beyond the Grays Harbor Livestock Auction.
25. Market animals can be cooperatively raised by a group of members with shared responsibilities identified. It is highly recommended to establish a contract. Sample contracts are available through the 4-H Extension Service and Elma FFA. At final weigh-in, each pen of 3 and/or individual livestock project(s) must be specifically identified and shown by one assigned exhibitor.

AUCTION RULES:

26. How stock can be purchased and how buyers handle stock:
 - a. Anyone can bid and purchase any animal.
 - b. There will be a floor price set by a turn buyer for those buyers who do not wish to take delivery of an animal. In each case, the buyer will pay the difference between this base price and what the buyer bids with the packing house picking up the balance of purchase and taking delivery of the animal.
 - c. There will also be arrangements for the buyer who wants to purchase and have the animals slaughtered and processed for their own use.
 - d. Animals must be paid for at the time of the sale.

27. Recognition for buyers who purchase animals at the sale:
 - a. A banner will be displayed at the GH Co. Fairgrounds highlighting the Hall of Fame Supporters.
 - b. There will also be press releases of the sale for publicity of the buyers in appreciation for their support of the sale and the youth producers.
 - c. Social media and other promotional avenues will be used to promote our buyers and donators.
 - d. Buyer gifts/presents will not be allowed to be presented during the auction itself.

28. All animal lots will only be sold once.

29. A 3% shrinkage will be deducted from the weight of steers, lambs, hogs, and goats to determine the sale weight.

SPECIES SPECIFIC RULES:

30. The following rules apply specifically to **STEERS**:
 - a. Steers will be sold by the pound. All sales are final.
 - b. The age of the steers must be no older than 25 months of age.
 - c. Heifers and bulls are not allowed. Animals must be polled or dehorned. Market steers must be a beef breed recognized by the commercial meat industry. Dairy crosses are not allowed.
 - d. **Market steers (1000 lb. minimum weight – no maximum weight). Steers that weigh more than 1500 lbs. will be sold at 1500 lbs. minus 3% shrinkage.**
 - e. Sellers of market steers must complete a hauling slip. If branded, a Brand Inspection slip must also be completed.
 - f. Sellers of market steers must provide a rope halter which will not be returned to the exhibitor. This halter must be left on the steer in the barn.
 - g. At the weigh-in at the Grays Harbor County Fair, the steer must be leadable by the exhibitor. If the steer is not controllable, it will not sell in the auction.
 - h. Ribbon placing will be at the discretion of the official judge.

31. The following rules apply specifically to **LAMBS**:
 - a. Lambs will be sold by the pound. All sales are final.
 - b. Lambs must be born after January 1st of the auction year.
 - c. Market lambs must be ewes or wethers and must be a recognized meat breed.
 - d. **Market lambs (90 lb. minimum weight and no maximum weight). Lambs that weigh more than 150 lbs. will be sold at 150 lbs. minus 3% shrinkage.**
 - e. All lambs must have Scrapie identification.
 - f. Ribbon placing will be at the discretion of the official judge.

32. The following rules apply specifically to **HOGS**:
 - a. Hogs will be sold by the pound. All sales are final.
 - b. Hogs must be born after January 1st of the auction year.
 - c. Market hogs must be either gilts or barrows and must be a recognized meat breed.
 - d. **Market hogs (220 lb. minimum weight and no maximum weight). Hogs that weigh more than 300 lbs. will be sold at 300 lbs. minus 3% shrinkage.**
 - e. Ribbon placing will be at the discretion of the official judge.

33. The following rules apply specifically to **GOATS**:
- a. Goats will be sold by the pound. All sales are final.
 - b. Goats must be between 6 and 11 months of age.
 - c. Market goats must be either wethers or does. Bucks are not allowed. Market goats must be a recognized meat goat breed. Dairy crosses are not allowed.
 - d. **Market goats (80 lb. minimum weight and no maximum weight). Goats that weigh more than 115 lbs. will be sold at 115 lbs. minus 3% shrinkage.**
 - e. All goats must have Scrapie identification.
 - f. Market goats are to be clipped and not have over ½” hair at the GH Co. Fair.
 - g. Market goats should have all their baby teeth and be dehorned prior to tagging.
 - h. Ribbon placing will be at the discretion of the official judge.
34. The following rules apply specifically to a **PEN of 3 CHICKENS**.
- a. Chickens will be sold as a pen of three. All sales are final.
 - b. The maximum age of Cornish Cross chickens is 8 weeks. The maximum age of all other meat breeds is 12 weeks.
 - c. Chickens must be a recognized meat breed. All poultry in the pen of three must be the same breed. Poultry may be either sex.
 - d. The minimum weight of each bird is 4.5 pounds with no maximum weight.
 - e. All chickens need to have official paperwork indicating hatch date submitted with quality assurance paperwork.
 - f. Ribbon placing will be at the discretion of the official judge.
35. The following rules apply specifically to **TURKEYS**:
- a. Turkeys will be sold by the bird. All sales are final.
 - b. Turkeys must be between 14-18 weeks of age.
 - c. Turkeys may be a tom or hen and must be a broad breasted breed.
 - d. The minimum weight of each bird is 15 pounds for hens and 20 pounds for toms. The maximum weight is 35 pounds for both hens and toms.
 - e. All turkeys must have official paperwork indicating hatch date submitted with quality assurance paperwork.
 - f. Ribbon placing will be at the discretion of the official judge.
36. The following rules apply specifically to **RABBITS**:
- a. Rabbits will be sold as a pen of three. All sales are final.
 - b. The maximum age of the rabbits is 12 weeks.
 - c. Rabbits must be a recognized meat breed by the American Rabbit Breeders Association. Crossbred meat breed animals are allowed. Rabbits may be either sex.
 - d. The minimum weight of each rabbit is 4.5 lbs. with no maximum weight.
 - e. Rabbits must be under the exhibitor’s regular care and management for a minimum of 45 days prior to the first day of fair. If purchasing from a breeder and the rabbits are not yet weaned by this date, you may coordinate with the breeder for the exhibitor to assist with the regular care and maintenance until the rabbits can leave the breeder’s facility.
 - f. Pelt color and quality will not be a disqualifying factor.
 - g. Ribbon placing will be at the discretion of the official judge.