

2026 State Holstein Show RULES

* All exhibitors attend at their own risk, and do not hold the CA Holstein Association or its directors for any health risks to humans or animals.

* Entries due March 27- INCLUDES youth contests. All entries shall be made online.

*Tents will be allowed in and around the barns IF THEY HAVE MANUFACTURER LABELS meeting CPAI-84 specifications and NFR 702 and a fire extinguisher is on hand. Be aware that Fire Marshall inspection may require removal of tents.

Reminder, that when submitting online entries, you as the owner/exhibitor of the animal are agreeing to adhere to the published event rules, and that your employees or members of your string will adhere to the rules as outlined in the Holstein USA Show Ring Code of Ethics.

There is an **Ethics Committee** in place that will handle any behavior not in accordance with the code, and will determine **consequences of violations- including but not limited to disqualification from the show or ineligibility to exhibit at future events.**

Stall Chart will be created after entry deadline. 5 ft per milk cow and 3 ft per heifer will be allocated. Please indicate on your entries any stalling preferences or who you will be tying with. Event committee makes every effort to accommodate requests, but cannot guarantee.

ALL cattle are released at the conclusion of the cow classes Friday afternoon.

Futurity: The Futurity class will take place on Friday immediately prior to the Junior 3 Year Old Class. First and Second Place winners are eligible to compete for Intermediate and Grand Champion without showing in the Open 3-Yr Old Classes. In the Futurity classes, points for Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor will be awarded only in the Open Division. A 3-Yr Old competing in both a Futurity Class and an Open 3-Yr Old Class will be awarded Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor points in only ONE CLASS- NOT BOTH. **Futurity animals must pay an entry(stall) fee equal to open show entries, to cover overhead costs.**

Owner and Exhibitor of Animals: At the time entries are submitted, the exhibitor of the animal must be listed. An animal owned in joint partnership must designate who is exhibiting the animal- either the partnership OR a member of the partnership. The same holds true for Junior members that want to exhibit their animal under the family unit in the Open Show. A partnership or a Junior member must select who the exhibitor is on the entry form prior to the Spring Spectacular. If applicable, the program will list both the owner of the animal and the exhibitor of the animal.

Bred and Owned Awards: The owner of the dam at time of service shall be considered the breeder of the animal. Where a herd is registered in the names of different members of a family, and where the herd is one unit, all entries may be considered as exhibits of one breeder. PLEASE NOTE: To qualify for the Bred and Owned Awards, one of the original owners must be listed as one of the current owners and exhibitors of the animal, or one of the current owners must share the same family prefix with the animal winning the award. For family units, all members must be listed that share the same prefix at the Holstein Association.

Best Bred & Owned: BBO Champion will NOT be a separate lead-out class. Judge will select from highest placing Bred & Owned cows as recorded by clerks.

Premier Breeder: Awarded to the Breeder winning the most points on 5 animals or less in the Open Division or Futurity with the same prefix and breeder. Points will be awarded to the breeder listed on the registration paper. Individuals with 1 prefix (family units) will be considered as one unit on the entry card; all names that share the same prefix must be listed.

(Junior Division: same as above, except individuals must have bred and owned the animal that is being shown. Family unit does not apply.)

Premier Exhibitor: Awarded to the exhibitor winning the most points on 5 animals or less in the Open Division or Futurity. Exhibitor points will be awarded to the herd unit exhibiting the animal provided the exhibitor has an ownership interest in that animal. In the case of multiple ownership, exhibitor must show proof of ownership as denoted on the entry form. (Junior Division: same as above, except individual must own the animal that is being shown. Family unit does not apply.) **Please see show management regarding specific questions and examples of what may or may not qualify an animal/exhibitor for above awards.*

Premier Point System:

Placings:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Milking Females:	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2
Heifers:	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

NEW in 2025: A Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor of the Heifer Classes will be awarded. (Same rules as overall Breeder & Exhibitor apply)

Breeder Recognition:

- * Special awards will go to the highest placing animal in each class bred by the exhibitor.
- * \$50 for heifers, and \$75 for milking females
- * \$250 will also be awarded for the Senior Best Three Females

Eligibility:

1. Exhibitors both senior and junior must be paid members of the California Holstein Association in order to exhibit at the Spring Spectacular. Dues must be paid by 5:00 pm on check-in day in order to participate. *Animals owned in partnership must have at least one listed owner who is a paid CHA member.*
2. All animals must be 87% Holstein on the Certificate in order to be eligible. ***If animal is registered with photo ID- you MUST have physical paper present. All other animals must be verified ownership online Holstein USA. ANY conflict must be solved on check-in day.***
3. The management reserves the final and absolute right to interpret the above rules and regulations, and to arbitrarily settle questions and differences thereto, or otherwise arising out of, or connecting with, or incident of the exhibit.

Junior Participation:

1. Junior entries must be registered in the junior exhibitor's name, or a partnership consisting of all junior-age members.
2. Junior leadpersons must be at least seven years of age (with the exception of the Winter Calf Class, where leadperson must be at least five years of age) ***AND handle their animal independently.***
3. Junior exhibitors must show their own animal, unless an Alternate Junior Leadperson Form is filed on or before May 6.
2. Leased animals will be allowed- Lease registration papers must be dated prior to April 1, 2026 and prior to the animal's first birthday.
3. Juniors and seniors will show together at the State Show.
4. Juniors must use their own animals for showmanship (except Peewee) and that animal must be entered in the age class. CA Junior Holstein members who are not exhibiting, may borrow an animal for showmanship.

Junior All-California Recognition:

1. The highest placing junior owned animal in each class will be designated as Junior All-California and the second highest will be Reserve Junior All-California.
3. Statewide recognition of winners will be featured in the Annual issue of the California Holstein News.

Substitutions:

1. An exhibitor may make substitutions at the State Show for an animal on a one-for-one basis. **Such substitutions may only be made within a class.** (ie. a 4-Yr Old may be substituted for a 4-Yr Old, but a 5-Yr Old may not be substituted for a 4-Yr Old.) Late entries are \$200/head

2. Substitutions may be made at the exhibitor's discretion in the group classes, provided there are no violations of other rules.

3. Groups may be formed with animals eligible for individual classes, provided there are no violations of other rules.

Production Awards: All official production records must accompany entries online. Late entries will not be considered for production awards. No Exceptions. The original DHIA production sheet is due at the time the clerks check the animal in. The production awards will be calculated on the ECM formula= Milk x .327 Fat x 12.95 Protein x 7.2. Only actual records 305 days or less should be used.

Herdsmanship Award: This award is for exhibitors demonstrating exemplary organization, cleanliness, and cooperation with fellow exhibitors and management. Judged by an impartial panel of industry professionals.

Lifetime Production Class: Can be a cow of any age that has produced 150,000 lbs of milk on standard DHI tests. Verification of production must be available at check-in. An animal can be exhibited in either the individual age class OR the Production class- NOT BOTH.

Group Classes: Members of each group must first have been shown in their respective individual class, with the exception of futurity entries.

Young Herd- Juniors Only: This group consists of 3 females, Senior Yearling and younger. All owned by the exhibitor, solely or in partnership.

Junior Best 3 Females: Open Division Only: 3 heifers Senior Yearling and younger and bred by the exhibitor. At least one animal must be owned by the exhibitor, solely or in partnership.

Senior Best 3 Females: 3 females, older than Senior Yearling, all bred by the same prefix, and at least one owned by the exhibitor, solely or in partnership

Dairy Herd: 3 cows all owned by the exhibitor.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

California State Holstein Association will coordinate and host activities for all interested youth under the age of 21 as of January 1, 2026 who are members of the California State Holstein Association, California State Jersey Association, and/or California State Brown Swiss Association. **Entering online by deadline is required. Only exception is pee wee showmanship**

Fitting Contest

Open to all youth members. **Bring your own calf and supplies** to fit her 'showring ready' in 60 minutes. See attached regulations and scorecard.

PeeWee Showmanship is open to ages 8 and under, with 2 classes- 1) showing independently, 2) showing with a helper.

Youth Challenge Contest

Age divisions are as follows:

Novice: 10 and under Junior: 11-12 Intermediate: 13-15 Advanced 16-20

Awards will be given to top three in each age division overall **AND** for each component contest

Youth Challenge will consist of 4 required components, (Showmanship, Judging, Written Exam, Interview). Each is weighted equally, to select an overall champion.

**** In entering the 'Youth Challenge' online, participant is automatically entered in those 4 contests.**

Showmanship

Class lists will be posted Tuesday at check-in.

Judging

Four classes and one set of reasons (not required for novices)

Written Knowledge Exam

Reference Holstein Foundation workbooks- Milking & Lactation, Repro, Nutrition, Showring Ready; and practical dairy project facts. Novice exam will have 30 questions, Junior 50, Int/Sr 75

Interview

Present and describe your show string to visitors at your pack on either Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning. Schedule will be posted Tuesday at check-in.