Heart of Tennessee Junior Meat Goat Classic
Show Rules
Updated 5-25-2017
(Extra forms available @ https://extension.tennessee.edu/rutherford under the 4-H Youth Programs tab or on our Facebook page)

Federal law requires that all goats that are exhibited in junior shows in Tennessee must meet USDA regulations as it deals with Scrapie. All goats must have a federally approved scrapie tag permanently attached in its ear or other approved ID. Exhibitors may contact the USDA vet’s office at 615-781-5310 to order their tags. Animals without proper scrapie identification will not be allowed to exhibit.

Rules:

1. Competition is limited to Tennessee 4-H and FFA members in good standing in their counties or chapters. Both 4-H and FFA members will become ineligible at the end of the calendar year following their graduation from high school or upon their 20th birthday, whichever comes first.
2. All entries must be validated and signed by the county extension agent or vo-ag teacher.
3. All entries must be postmarked by August 1, 2017 and be made on the HOT Jr Meat Goat Classic entry form. An entry fee of $10 per head (up to a maximum of 12 head) must accompany the entry form. Entry fees are non-refundable. Make checks payable to: HOT Junior Meat Goat Show. Entries must be sent to: Dr. Jessica Carter, MTSU P.O. Box 5, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, Attn: Goat Show
4. Youth entering the Pee-wee showmanship class and Costume class are not required to pay an entry fee. (No entry fee will be charged for any showmanship class.) Pee-wee exhibitors must have an entry form completed and submitted for them to the address above. The deadline for Pee-wee entries is August 31, 2017.
5. Any breed or crossbred meat goat can show. The show will consist of three divisions: market wethers, commercial does, and registered does.
6. In the market wether division, animals must have a complete unbroken mouth and milk teeth to show. Wethers will be weighed and placed into classes by weight. Wethers must weigh a minimum of 50 pounds; any weighing less than 50 pounds will be dismissed. A wether exhibiting any testicular tissue will be dismissed.
7. Wethers must be uniformly shorn to a hair length of 3/8” or less above the knee and hock joints.
8. The grand champion and reserve champion wethers will become the property of the H.O.T. Jr. Meat Goat Classic Executive Committee following completion of the show. They will not be returned to the exhibitors. The grand champion and reserve champion wether awards (premiums, sale proceeds and any ribbons or other award items) will not be released to the exhibitors until a DNA match between the animals and their entry hair sample has been confirmed.
9. No bucks or billies will be allowed in or around the barn area.
10. The commercial doe division is for meat doe kids and yearling meat does being raised as herd replacements. Females in this division having all their milk teeth and no adult teeth will be shown as doe kids. Yearling does should have at least one adult tooth, but no more than two sets of adult teeth (four adult teeth). Commercial does will be weighed and mouthed and placed into classes by weight within their appropriate age classification (kids show against kids, yearlings show against yearlings). Commercial doe kids must weigh a minimum of 30 pounds; any weighing less than 30
pounds will be dismissed. Goats in the commercial doe division may not be exhibited in the registered doe division. **As registered goats are required by their breed registries to have permanent identification in the form of ear tattoos or electronic identification chips implanted, a doe with an ear tattoo shall not be exhibited in the commercial doe division.**

11. The registered doe division is for female meat goats registered with their breed association. Goats in the registered doe division may not be exhibited in the commercial doe division. Registered does will be placed into classes by age as determined by their registration papers. Age classes for the registered doe divisions are as follows:
   a. Doe kids age 3-6 mo.
   b. Doe kids age 6-9 mo.
   c. Doe kids age 9-12 mo.
   d. Yearling does 12-18 mo.
   e. Yearling does 18-24 mo.

12. Does in the registered division must be registered in the exhibitor’s name or have a completed lease form by **August 1**. A *copy* of the registration paper or lease form must be included with the entry form.

13. All goats must be polled or have their horns either tipped or cushioned with a material to help prevent injury to the exhibitor.

14. All goats must have either an ear tag or legible tattoo to be able to show. It is recommended that exhibitors use their USDA scrapie tag number as the tag number for all entries. Wethers and commercial does must have a USDA scrapie tag.

15. All goats must be in the direct control of the youth exhibitor on or before **August 1** of the current year. Lease papers must be on file by this date also.

16. Each exhibitor is limited to showing 12 animals maximum with no more than 4 animals in a division (up to 4 market wethers, 4 commercial does, and/or 4 registered does). An exhibitor may enter 6 animals in each division and select the 4 they will show prior to arriving at the show and bring no more than 4 animals per division to the show grounds. An exhibitor will only pay entry fees on a maximum of 4 animals per division when they submit their entry form.

17. Once a junior exhibits the grand champion market wether, they will be ineligible to show in the wether division again (you can only win the market wether show one time).

18. Showmanship Exhibitors must show a goat that is entered in their name and eligible for the 2017 H.O.T. show.

19. All market wethers and commercial does must be weighed prior to the show during the weigh-in times listed in the show schedule and will be divided into classes by weight and weight within age group. Their ear tag number must match the ear tag information supplied on the entry form. Any found not matching will not show.

20. All market wether entries will be required to submit a hair sample along with the entry form on August 1. The purpose of the hair sample is to establish/confirm an animal’s identity via DNA. The hair sample should be collected using the procedure described in the hair sample collection guide. **Place hair samples in paper envelopes, NOT in plastic bags!!**

21. **Bracing goats:** If an exhibitor chooses to brace a wether or doe, all 4 of the goat’s feet must remain on the ground while being braced.
22. **Exhibitors must show the animals they enter. No substitution of animals or exhibitors will be allowed.**

23. Any item that comes up at the show that is not covered by these rules will be decided by the show committee and their decision will be final.

24. Exhibitors must comply with livestock health requirements in Tennessee and health papers are required for all animals.

25. Exhibitors may bring their own shavings for bedding or purchase them from the TN Livestock Center (TLC). Straw is not permitted as a bedding material.

26. Anyone desiring information about camper hook-ups at the TLC should contact the TLC office at 615-898-5575 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Mon-Fri.

27. Premiums will be paid through a designated place in all regular show classes. (This may fluctuate from year to year depending on sponsorship levels.) This does not include champion and showmanship classes.

28. Showmanship classes: Pee-wee (5 years through 3rd grade), junior (4-5th grade), junior high (6-8th grade), and senior (9th grade and above). **Grade refers to the current school grade of the exhibitor, the grade they are in on show day. An exhibitor may compete in only one showmanship class (wether, commercial doe or registered doe).**

29. Premier Exhibitor Awards will be awarded for each of the three divisions in each of the three exhibitor age groups (Jr., Jr. High, and Sr. Premier Exhibitor in wether, commercial doe and registered doe divisions.) Premier Exhibitor awards will be determined by showmanship, skillathon and class placing. **An exhibitor will be awarded only one premier exhibitor award each year.**

30. The reference for the **SKILLATHON** is the **Goat Resource Handbook** from Ohio State University Extension (publication number 4-H 135R). All Tennessee county Extension offices should have a copy. The book can purchased through [www.ohio4h.org](http://www.ohio4h.org).

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Visit [https://extension.tennessee.edu/rutherford](https://extension.tennessee.edu/rutherford) under the 4-H Youth Programs tab if you need additional forms or show related materials.