

2026 Zavala County Junior Livestock Show Association

Non-Animal Project Rule Book

January 8-10, 2026

Approved:

Age Divisions:

Junior Division: Ages 8 - 11

Intermediate Division: Ages 12 - 14

Senior Division: Ages 15 – 18

General Rules:

- Entry forms must be turned in to your County Extension Agent of Agriculture Science Teacher by October 31, 2025. Entry forms must be submitted along with payments.
 - A \$20 family fee will be collected along with a \$5 fee per entry
- Participants are limited to 2 entries per category (Photography, Food, Arts & Crafts, Fashion, and Ag Mechanics).
 - Clover buds are limited to 1 entry per category
- All participants must be in good standing with their 4-H Club or FFA Chapter
- All participants must reside in Zavala County or go to a school in Zavala County
 - Exception: Transfers to Zavala County 4-H Clubs
- All entries must be made, built, or constructed solely by the Exhibitor.
 - The contest is for individual participation unless it is entered as a team project in Ag Mechanics.
- Projects must be made during the period of January 1st, 2025, through January 9, 2026.
- Contestants are responsible for their own entries.
- Entries must be in the Quonset Hut building by 10am Friday morning of the show.
- All entries must be left in place until the pickup time.
- All non-finalist entries must be picked up by 8pm on Friday, after Non-Animal Project Awards.
- Exhibitors are not allowed to take projects that do not belong to them.
- The committee will not be responsible for any item left past 8pm pick-up time.
- One record book is required by each exhibitor. Exhibitors can choose what project to do their record book on (ex. Goat, lamb, photography, food and nutrition).

Photography- (7 Categories) Photos must be submitted in an 8x10 size with a foam board back. Color and Black & White photos are allowed in all categories. Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, or otherwise violate any decency standards or laws are strictly prohibited.

- **Animals -**
 - Animals- Domestic- (have been domesticated and made fit for a human environment.)
 - Animals-Wildlife (not typically tamed and commonly found in the wilderness.)
- **Design -**
 - Elements of Design- (showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc.)
 - Enhanced- (technically manipulated to be abstract, stitched/composite image.)
- **Details -**
 - Food- (Attractive photographs of food for use in such items such as advertisements.)
 - Macro- To zoom in close on an object to see its finer details.
- **Nature-**
 - Landscape- (focus on the beauty of the outdoors)
 - Plant/Flora- (interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora)
- **Movement –**
 - Motion- (The capture of movement.)
 - Long Exposure- (capture stationary elements while blurring, smearing, or obscuring the moving elements.)
- **People-** (People from all walks of life.)
- **Other -**
 - Shadow/Silhouette- (Recording patterns of light and shade for a desired effect or emphasis)
 - Leading Line- (features lines that draw the viewer's eye from point A to point B)
 - Catch All – (Photos that do not fit into one of the other categories.)

Food (4 Categories) Recipes must be submitted with each entry before 10am Friday. Recipes should include ingredients and preparation steps to be typed or written on an 8x10in paper. No refrigeration or ovens will be available. Food must not be expired. Preserved goods must be labeled with date of production on the container.

- **Appetizers** -(Traditionally an appetizer is a small dish or food that is eaten prior to the main course. *For example; dips, salsa, breads/crackers, preserved goods.*)
- **Main Dishes** -(The main dish is usually the heaviest, heartiest, and most substantial dish in a meal. In a meal consisting of several courses, the main dish is served during the main course and is the featured dish of the meal. The key ingredient is usually meat or another protein food, but they may contain other foods. *For example; Meats, casseroles, pastas, soups.*)
- **Side Dishes** -(Foods that are usually served along with a main dish or as accompaniments to the main course. *For example; salads, cooked vegetables, cooked fruit, pasta or rice dishes, different types of breads, and/or combination vegetable dishes.*)
- **Desserts** -(Dishes in this category should be served at the end of the meal or for special occasions. *For example; pies, cakes, muffins, cupcakes, cookies, brownies, bars, candy, or chocolate.*)

Arts and Crafts (6 categories) Must be done on proper art display format of canvas/sketch paper/etc. Must not be on regular notebook paper or have folded creases. Project must appear finished. Handmade with functional use and purpose.

- **Painting** -(For example; watercolor, acrylic, oil, tempera, etc.)
- **Drawing** -(For example; pencil, pen, color pencil, charcoal, markers, crayons, etc.)
- **Mixed Media** -(For example; collages)
- **Needlework** -(For example; crocheting, knitting, macrame, embroidery, quilting, Dolls/stuffed animals)
- **Creative Art** -(multiple skills and products used to create something specific/ smaller scale) Sculpting / pottery/ clay, Paper crafting, Carving/Engraving, Recycled/Repurposed, Textiles/ Fiber art (yarn, rope, string)
- **Other/ Interior Design** -(Crafts that may not be listed above but do not necessarily fall under Ag mechanics due to complexity of project.)

Fashion (4 Categories) Must be wearable and completely handmade.

- **Clothing** – (For example; Shirts, dresses, sweaters, pants, skirts, shorts, blouses, etc.)
- **Outfit Accessories** – (For example; scarves, eyewear, purses, belts, shawls, gloves, etc.)
- **Footwear** – (For example; Shoes, sandals, boots, socks, etc.)
- **Jewelry** – (For example; Necklaces, bracelets, earrings, rings, etc.)

Ag Mechanics or Industrial Arts (5 Categories) Requires equipment use. It can be entered as individual projects or team projects. All projects must be painted, properly treated, cleaned, and in presentable condition even though they have been used or they will be dropped a ribbon grade. All trailers must follow DOR regulations and must have a license plate at the time of showing.

Display Safety:

- Appropriate and safe display stands are to be provided for gates, panels, and other projects that need support. This is to be no more than (2) gallons of fuel in any fuel tank; the fuel tank ap is to be in place and sealed with tape; and the battery, if equipped, is to be disconnected. All oxygen and acetylene tanks must be empty and capped. **PROJECTS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND SIFTED FROM THE SHOW IF SAFETY GUIDELINES ARE NOT MET AT THE TIME OF CHECK IN.**
- **Woodwork**
- **Metal work**
- **Leather work**
- **Glass work**
- **Plastic work**

Peewee Non-Animal Projects Show Participation. Children aged 4-7 can now participate in Non-Animal Projects. All exhibitors receive a participation ribbon. **(Must be signed up by October 31, 2025, due to ribbon ordering) (Only 1 entry per category, per participant)**

- Photography – 1 entry of 3*5 in. photo
 - Favorites (animals, food, people, places, things)
- Food – 1 portion
 - Favorite Snack
- Arts & Crafts- 1 project
 - Handcrafted item
- Horticulture-1 projects
 - Favorites (foliage plant, succulents/cacti, herbs, flowering plants, tomato plant, pepper plant, other vegetables)

Entrepreneur Kid's Corner

- Pop-Up shops for non-animal project entrepreneurs to sell their handmade merchandise. Members will be allowed to set up Friday all day, and Saturday in the morning before buyer's lunch and live auction.
 - For small businesses establishment and purposes.
 - Must interview with ZCJLSA in December to answer questions about proposed business.

Overall Placing:

- Photography- 7 categories
- Food – 4 categories
- Arts & Crafts – 6 categories
- Fashion- 4 categories
- Ag Mechanics – 5 categories

Judges will pick 1 top winner of each project type for all age divisions. The 1st place winner has automatic right to auction. If they choose an animal project auctioning over the non-animal project, the 2nd place winner will not have to option to auction. If an exhibitor places 1st place in more than 2 categories, they will only be allowed to sell 2 projects in the auction.