

FREQUENT QUESTIONS FOR THE ALAMO AREA RABBIT SHOW

DO I NEED TO BE A MEMBER TO SHOW?

While there are many benefits to being a member of the American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA), the Texas Rabbit Breeders Association (TRBA), National Breed Clubs, and the Alamo Area Rabbit Club (AARC), membership is NOT required.

DO I NEED ANIMAL REGISTRATION PAPERS OR A PEDIGREE TO SHOW?

Registration papers and pedigrees are NOT reviewed at the show. Judges evaluate the animals as presented. Rabbits must show the breed characteristic, as defined in the ARBA Standards of Perfection, for the breed they are entered. Crossbreed animals that do not show the traits that they are entered, will be disqualified. There are no classes specific to crossbreed animals.

HOW DO I ENTER THE SHOW?

Entries are normally taken **starting about 3 weeks before the show**, and close on the date and time posted on the show flyer which is normally the Tuesday before the show.

- 95% of the entries are received by e-mail, and most in the last 3 to 4 days before the due date to:

AARC.Entry@yahoo.com

- We discourage submitting entries more than three weeks before the show, as we see lots of changes and cancelations from Exhibits entering in far before the show.

WHERE DO I GET AN ENTRY FORM?

Entries forms can be found at our Club's Wix Website:

<https://aarcsecretary.wixsite.com/alamoarearabbitclub>

HOW DO I COMPLETE THE ENTRY FORM?

- We do require all the information on the entry form to be complete. We provided the entry form in pdf, Word, and Excel.
- **We would rather have entry typed into the body of an e-mail rather than a low-quality photo of an entry form handwritten with poor penmanship.** Please include the exhibitor information followed by the rabbit information in the following order: Tattoo; Breed; Variety Class (see below); Age Class (See below); Sex as that is the order in the entry form because that order data is input into the show program
- E-mail addresses is a must as check-in sheets and results will be e-mailed back to you.

WHAT IS MY VARIETY CLASS?

Variety refers to the color classification. Entry information is not complete without including the Variety. Refer to the Standards of Perfection for details.

- 14 breeds only come in one color, and they are all called Standard
- Belgian Hares, Dwarf Hotots, and Rhinelanders have multiple colors that show together as "Standard Class"

- ALL LOPS show as either “Solid Pattern” or “Broken Pattern” with the latter being a random mixture of white and another color
- Angoras (Expect for Giant) show as either “White” or “Color” with Giants only as “White”
- Jersey Woolies are sorted into 6 color groups
- The remaining 27 breeds show by fur color known as Show Room Variety ranging from 2 colors to 22 colors in a breed.

WHAT IS MY AGE CLASS?

Age refers to the age of the rabbit. Entry information is not complete without including the Age Class. Refer to the Standards of Perfection for details.

- For 4 class Rabbits (See below) Age Class is “Junior” is under 6 months or “Senior” over 6 months of age
 - 31 Breeds are known as 4-class. These are smaller breeds of rabbits having a minimum ideal senior weight under 9 pounds
- For 6 Class Rabbits (See below) Age Class “Junior” is under 6 months, “Intermediate” over 6 months, but less than 8 months, or “Senior” over 8 months of age
 - 19 Breeds are known as 4-class. These are smaller breeds of rabbits having a minimum ideal senior weight 9 pounds or over

*Remember to also check weights as most breeds will allow rabbits to bump up classes if over the Junior or Intermediate weight limits

HOW WILL I KNOW IF MY ENTRY WAS RECEIVED?

Starting about a week before the show, we will begin to send out Check-In Sheets. This is sent for the exhibitor to confirm that the information submitted matches to data input into the show program. Sometimes the exhibitor catches mistakes on their part, and other times data is input incorrectly. Either way, e-mail us back the corrections needed. We appreciate it if you include the Exhibitor Number from the Check-In Sheet as that is the order data is sorted. In the last two days, we normally receive over 150 e-mails, so it takes about two days to process. We will post on Facebook when all check-in sheets have been sent out. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR CHECK-IN SHEET BY 5 PM ON THURSDAY, please check Facebook of any delays, check your spam folder, and then contact us. Rest assured that providing a good experience to our exhibitors is important to us, and we will try our best to take care of you.

HOW DO I PAY FOR MY ENTRIES?

Payment is made at check-in at the Show. We take cash and checks.

WHAT AGES ARE ALLOWED TO SHOW?

WHAT IS A YOUTH?

Youth from age 5 until their 19th birthday can participate in youth shows. Anyone can participate in the Open Show. Any rabbit entered in a youth show, can NOT also be entered into the SAME open show. Youth can enter DIFFERENT rabbits in the same youth and open

show. We automatically enter exhibitors in OPEN if not indicated. CHANGING between Youth and Open IS A BIG DEAL.

DO I HAVE TO ENTER ALL THE SHOWS?

As a triple show, exhibitors can show their rabbits 3 times, and each time under a different judge. We call the Friday night show "Show A", and the Best Of Breeds (BOB) will compete for Best-In-Show (BIS) at the end of Friday Night. The Shows on Saturday are called "Show B" for the morning and "Show C" for the afternoon. The Best Of Breeds (BOB) will compete for Best-In-Show (BIS) at the end of the day. While most exhibits (95%) enter both "Show B" and "Show C", we understand not everyone can take off work or school to arrive by check in time for "Show A." Normally, about 70% of the "Show B" exhibitor participate in the Friday "Show A." We also understand that some may need to leave early, and forgo the Saturday afternoon "Show C."

CAN I SHOW MY CAVY?

We do have two dual judges and we will have a double cavy show on Saturday. Many of the Cavy exhibitors

WHAT IS A FUR ENTRY?

In addition to the normal class, exhibitors can enter their rabbits into the fur class where the rabbit is judged solely on their fur/wool. These are divided by breed into White Breed/Wool Class and a Colored Breed/Wool Class with no breakdown for age or sex. Disqualification in the normal class is an automatic disqualification in the Breed Fur class. The Breed Fur Class is judged immediately following the judging for the Best Of Breed. If you leave the judging area, the Breed Fur will be called once, and the entries will be scratched if you are a no show.

WHAT IF I NEED TO CHANGE MY ENTRY?

Changes or additions can be e-mailed until Thursday night. We print the show information on Friday morning, and we charge \$1 per change per show to make changes after that date. We do accept additional enters for exhibitors who already entered after the deadline for \$6. If you missed the deadline for a legitimate reason, call us and we might be able to add you.

MY BREED IS NOT SANCTIONED, CAN I SHOW IT?

All 50 ARBA recognized breeds can be shown, sanctioned or not. AARC sanctions breeds based on the number of entries in prior shows. When a breed is not sanctioned, it means that there has not been a large number shown in the past. When only a few rabbits of a breed are shown, it becomes uneconomical for the Club to pay sanctions. Sanctioning is a process where fees are paid to be recognized by the National Breed Clubs. Following the show, the Club reports results back to the National Club. Each National Breed Club has its own criteria for a National sweepstakes system.

CAN I SPONSOR A BREED SANCTION?

Yes, we do allow exhibitors to pay for National Breed Sanctions. Normally this is done at least 30-days before the show, although some may allow for sanctions closer to the show. No breed

allows for sanctioning after the judging begins. Each National Breed Club sets their own rules fee for Sanctions from \$5 to \$15 per show. Open and youth can be sanctioned separately.

WHAT IS THE RAFFLE FOR?

With the cost of sanctions, rent, awards, judges, travel, and hotels; rabbit shows run on a thin margin. We accept donations into our raffle to help offset some expenses and make enough money for Club expenses, repairs, and to put on the next show. We greatly appreciate any donations or purchasing tickets.

WHAT TIME WILL MY RABBIT SHOW?

WHAT IS THE SHOW ORDER?

There is not a preset order in which rabbits breeds will be scheduled. The order is set by the Show Superintendent. We will do our best to start the show on time, and that may mean we start with the Breed where the check-in paperwork is done. Assuming all the paperwork is done, we will normally start with the Breeds with the largest number of entries, working down to the smallest entries. This allows flexibility to shift breeds as needed to attempt to have all the seven judges complete about the same time. If you have a legitimate pressing schedule item, please let the Show Superintendent know. This could be a flat tire on the way to the show, or other engagement.

WHAT TIME WILL THE SHOW BE OVER?

We expect the show to run until 10:30 or 11 PM Friday night and around 5 PM Saturday, but a lot depends on the number of entries received. We normally do not take a formal lunch break.

CAN I GET A TATTOO AT THE SHOW?

Normally there are several people offering services for tattooing at the show for a few dollars. Please plan to arrive early if you need a tattoo as there are a lot of people who get their rabbits tattooed prior to the show.

WHAT IS THE BARN LIKE?

Our Show is held in the Dance Pavilion of the Seguin Event Center. It has a concrete floor and good lighting. It is isolated to moderate temperatures, but not air-conditioned or heated. We have overhead doors and large overhead fans. Please watch the weather forecast and dress accordingly.

WHAT TO BRING?

We recommend bringing chairs, a grooming table, and some entertainment for the kids. We will have a concession stand that we try to keep reasonably priced. We will serve dinner Friday night, breakfast, and lunch. Plus we have drinks and snacks. We normally do not stop for a lunch.

DO WE HAVE A HOTEL BLOCK?

Hotels are normally plentiful and reasonably priced in Seguin, so we do not block rooms. None are pet-friendly without a pet deposit or fee.

DO YOU HAVE RV SPOTS?

Seguin has about 10 spaces for RV hook-ups across the parking lot from the show barn. We have never filled all of them, but they are available on a first-come basis. Please book with the show entries.

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY RABBITS FRIDAY NIGHT?

Rabbits may be left in the barn Friday night at your risk. Typically, we have close to 1,000 rabbits left overnight, as most hotels are no longer pet-friendly. Please make sure they are secured, as it is not uncommon to find escaped rabbits in the morning, and a surprised litter of strange crossbreeds about 30 days later. No security is provided, and an unforeseeable event may be possible.

CAN I SHOW MEAT PENS OR SINGLE FRYERS?

Meat Pens and Single Fryers can be shown at our show and most ARBA shows, but with age and weight requirements, they are normally only in their prime one weekend. So we do not see them frequently in any significant numbers. There are other shows that specialize in them and maybe better events.

WILL THERE BE A REGISTRAR AT THE SHOW?

We have a few registrars that will be working shifts on Saturday to register rabbits.

WHERE CAN I SEE THE LATEST INFORMATION?

AARC has a Facebook page open to the public. The latest information is posted on the page. We will post when entries open, the status of data input, when check-in sheets are sent and when results are put out.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

It is very important to have a knowledge of your breed's requirements published in the Standards of Perfection. This is available at the ARBA Online Store for \$23 + S&H

www.arba.net/store/

We also recommend you read the governing ARBA Show Rules that can be found at:

www.arba.net/official-arba-show-rules/

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR CLUB?

The San Antonio Rabbit Breeders Association was once one of over 25 local All-Breed Clubs in Texas. In 2012, due to a lack enough of volunteers to spread the work, the Club folded. In 2017, the Alamo Area Rabbit Club was formed with about 25-family members. **As of 2021, we are one of the six active All Breed Clubs affiliated with TRBA in Texas.** We have dwindled to about 7 families that do most of the work. We can NOT cover all the activities of the rabbit show by ourselves. We rely on volunteers to help. If you have time, step up and help out at the show, we will train you. It will make the day go by fast.

YOUR QUESTION NOT ANSWERED?

If you have more questions, e-mail us at:

AARC.Entry@yahoo.com