Definitions

Baby poultry: newly hatched poultry that have not been fed or watered.

Board: Board of Animal Health or its authorized agents.

Exhibition: bringing livestock or poultry owned by two or more persons to one location in Minnesota for judging or for display to the public, except when there is only one animal of each species exhibited.

Game birds: any of a diverse group of birds that includes but is not limited to: pheasants, partridge, quail, guinea fowl, and grouse raised in captivity.

Official veterinarian: a licensed and accredited (Category 1 or 2) veterinarian authorized by the Board to act as its representative.

Poultry: livestock that are turkeys, chickens, waterfowl, and game birds raised in captivity, excluding pigeons and doves.

General Requirements

- A Board permit is required to hold an exhibition.
- Petting zoos, pony rides, horse races, and other animal events and/or displays at an exhibition are subject to the Board’s exhibition requirements.
- Prior to entering a public exhibition, all animals must meet requirements for intrastate movement or importation.
- All animals must be inspected by the official veterinarian on the day they are admitted to the exhibition and at least once daily during the exhibition.
- No animal may enter, or be at, a public exhibition that is showing clinical signs of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease.
- Exhibition managers must maintain records for each individual animal exhibited.
- All official identification ear tags must display the U.S. Shield.
- If a sale is to be held during a permitted exhibition, the sale manager must apply for a separate permit and may be subject to additional requirements.
- Check with exhibition management for additional requirements.

Additional exhibition information for all species can be found at the Board’s website (www.bah.state.mn.us) or by calling the Board of Animal Health at 651-201-6826.
RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

An official veterinarian must be present at each permitted public exhibition of livestock.

The official veterinarian of an exhibition shall:
1. Approve the cleaning and disinfection of the exhibition premises prior to the exhibition and during the exhibition if livestock are released and new livestock are brought to the exhibition premises.
2. Inspect all livestock on the day admitted to the exhibition and at least once daily during the exhibition.
3. Refuse admission of livestock showing clinical signs of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease, or of livestock not meeting the exhibition entrance requirements.
4. Maintain tagging records for official identification applied during the exhibition including: tag number, species, sex, age, and type of animal; date of application; and name and address of the premises where the animal was identified.

Poultry-only exhibitions do not require an official veterinarian when the exhibition manager ensures that entrance requirements for exhibition of poultry are met. See “Poultry Exhibition Requirements” for more information.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXHIBITION MANAGER

The manager of an exhibition shall:
1. Retain the services of an official veterinarian.
2. Comply with all orders of the Board or the official veterinarian pertaining to the sanitation of the premises and the health status of all livestock exhibited.
3. Clean and disinfect all building and exhibit areas for the use of livestock prior to the opening date of the exhibition and during the exhibition if new livestock arrive.
4. Maintain the livestock and exhibition areas in a sanitary condition.
5. Ensure that any livestock showing symptoms of infectious, contagious, or communicable disease are removed from the premises or quarantined in a separate facility.
6. Maintain records which include the name and address of each exhibitor along with the species, class, and number of animals the person exhibited.

Poultry-only exhibitions do not require an official veterinarian when the exhibition manager ensures that entrance requirements for exhibition of poultry are met. See “Poultry Exhibition Requirements” for more information.
Cattle must be officially identified prior to exhibition. The following are approved official identification for cattle.

**Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.**

1. **National Uniform Ear Tagging System (NUES)**
   - Begins with the official state number, “41” for Minnesota.

2. **Animal Identification Number (AIN) System**
   - Consists of 15 digits, beginning with “840” for the U.S.
   - Visual or Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).

3. **Breed Registry Tattoos and Tags**
   - Acceptable if accompanied by documentation listing the breed registration number.
   - Pending registrations are not acceptable.
   - Breed registry tattoos valid within Minnesota and for animals imported from Iowa, Missouri, and South Dakota.
All dogs four months of age and older must be accompanied by a certificate of rabies vaccination issued by a licensed veterinarian.

Deer and elk must be officially identified prior to exhibition. The following are approved official identification for deer and elk. Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.

1. National Uniform Ear Tagging System (NUES)
   Begins with the official state number, “41” for Minnesota.

2. Animal Identification Number (AIN) System
   - Consists of 15 digits, beginning with “840” for the U.S.
   - Visual or Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).
HORSE EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS

All horses, except for suckling foals accompanying a negative dam, must be negative to an official test for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) conducted within 12 months prior to the opening date of an exhibition.

POULTRY EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS

Chickens, turkeys, and game birds at exhibitions, except baby poultry, must be individually identified prior to exhibition with a numbered leg or wing band.

Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.

- Young poultry that are too small to band, can be exhibited as a group if the Hatchery Permit number or National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) number is written on the cage, box or enclosure.

- Leg bands are available to the fair manager upon request by contacting the Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory at 320-231-5170.

- All Chickens, turkeys, game birds, and hatching eggs from these birds must originate from a hatchery or breeding flock that is classified U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean under NPIP or be negative to a pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to the opening of the exhibition.

- Chickens, turkeys, game birds, and hatching eggs from these birds must be accompanied by a certificate or test chart approved by the Board that demonstrates compliance with this requirement.

- If a test chart is used to demonstrate compliance, the band number on the bird must match what is listed on the test chart.

For questions related to poultry exhibition requirements, please contact the Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory at 320-231-5170.
No sheep or goat that is within 30 days of giving birth (either before or after) may be exhibited unless the exhibition management has received written approval from the Board prior to the exhibition. For more information, please email: animalhealth@state.mn.us

All sheep and goats at public exhibitions must be officially identified. The following are approved official identification for sheep and goats. **Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.**

1. **Flock identification (ID) Tags**
   - Includes the flock ID number beginning with the state abbreviation (maximum nine characters, including state abbreviation) along with a unique herd management number (maximum six characters).
   - Plastic or metal.

2. **Sheep/Goat Serial Tags**
   - Begins with state abbreviation; eight characters total, last four or five are numerical.
   - Plastic or metal.

3. **Animal Identification Number (AIN) System**
   - Consists of 15 digits, beginning with “840” for the U.S.
   - Visual or Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).

4. **Tattoos**
   - For any tattoo to be considered official identification, it must be legible.
   - **Registered sheep/goats**
     - Breed registry tattoos that are recorded with a sheep or goat registry association.
     - Must be accompanied by a copy of the registration certificate.
   - **Non-registered sheep/goats**
     - State-approved tattoos that are recorded with a state animal health official. Call the Board at 651-201-6809 to record a tattoo or find out if a tattoo is already recorded.
     - Tattoo must include the state-approved prefix beginning with the state abbreviation and include a unique number.
     - The animal must be accompanied by a state-issued document stating:
       - The tattoo prefix is recorded with the state and assigned in the National Scrapie Database.
       - The flock ID number and the complete tattoo number (including the state-assigned prefix and the animal number).
Breeding and feeding swine must be officially identified prior to exhibition. The following are approved official identification for swine.

**Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.**

1. **National Uniform Ear Tagging System (NUES)**
   - Begins with the official state number; “41” or “MN” for Minnesota.

2. **Animal Identification Number (AIN) System**
   - Consists of 15 digits, beginning with “840” for the U.S.
   - Visual or Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).

3. **Ear notching with Breed Registration**
   - Must be accompanied by registration paperwork.
   - Pending registration is not acceptable.

4. **Slap or Ear Tattoos - For feeding class swine only.**