



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) 2024 AJSA Regional and National Classics

Note: This document does not include full details on all 2024 AJSA Classic Rules. For complete rules, visit [2024 AJSA Regional and National Classic Rules.pdf](#)

Entries

Do I need an active junior membership to enter?

Yes. Each participant must be an active AJSA member and have paid his/her Annual Service Fee for 2023-24. For National Classic, a 2024-25 membership fee will be applied at the time of entry.

I am not currently an ASA member. How do I become one?

Contact ASA at 406-587-4531 or members@simmgene.com to set up a new membership. Please note that membership applications are processed in the order they are received. Waiting until the entry deadline to create a membership may result in you missing the deadline.

What is the entry deadline? Are late entries accepted?

The early entry deadline for all Regionals is May 6 at 4:30 pm MDT. The early entry deadline for the National Classic is May 15 at 4:30 pm MDT. After each of the early registration deadlines, entry fees double until late entries close on May 13 at 4:30 pm MDT for all Regionals and May 22 at 4:30 pm MDT for the National Classic. No late entries will be accepted for any of the AJSA Classics. No exceptions.

Can I enter more than one AJSA Classic?

Yes. There is no limitation on the number of AJSA Classics an individual can enter. However, registration for each Classic must be done separately using Herdbook Services.

What is the ownership deadline?

The ownership deadline is the day you register. When you register for a Classic, the junior exhibitor must be the current owner of record (or an authorized representative of the current owner of record) in Herdbook Services on all of his/her cattle entries.

Why am I being billed for another Membership Fee?

If you are entering the National Classic, you will be billed at the time of entry for your 2024-25 Annual Membership Fee, as the National Classic extends into the next fiscal year.

What are the age divisions?

At Regional Classics: Junior Division contestants are 8 to 14, as of January 1.
Senior Division contestants are 15 to 21, as of January 1.
Novice Division contestants are 5 to 7, as of January 1.
Note: Regionals are not required to have a Novice Division.

At National Classic: Junior Division contestants are 8 to 13, as of January 1.
Intermediate Division contestants are 14 to 17, as of January 1.
Senior Division contestants are 18 to 21, as of January 1.
Novice Division is open to ages 5 to 7, as of January 1.

Are 22-year-olds (as of 1/1/23) allowed to show?

No.

Are Novice Division contestants required to have an AJSA membership?

No. Novice contestants will register for the Classics via Google Forms. Novice entries will open on May 1 and are due on June 1.

If I am unable to attend the event or if I decide not to bring cattle, will my entry fees be refunded?

No refunds will be issued under any circumstances.

Cattle

How many animals can I enter?

Contestants are allowed to enter an unlimited number of head and are allowed to exhibit a maximum of six unique head at each of the AJSA Classics.

What are the breed and age requirements for animal entries?

Animals must be registered with ASA as Purebred Simmental (7/8 Simmental or greater), Percentage Simmental (at least 1/2 Simmental but less than 7/8), Purebred Simbrah (5/8 Simmental 3/8 Brahman), Percentage Simbrah (see Classic rules), or Fullblood Simmental.

- Heifers must be born September 1, 2021 through March 15, 2024.
- Bulls must be born September 1, 2021 through March 15, 2024 and must be Bred & Owned.
- Cow/calf pairs must be shown with the cow's most recent natural calf at side, born on or after November 1, 2023.
- There is no age restriction on the cow in a cow/calf pair.
- Steers must be born January 1, 2023 through March 15, 2024 and will be shown by weight.

Do I need my original registration certificate for cattle check-in?

During cattle check-in, proof of registration must be presented on all entries being shown. Hard copies of registration papers are recommended but not required. Printed digital certificates or electronic records through Herdbook Services will be accepted. *Note: Special requests to scan and email and/or FedEx certificates will incur an additional fee of \$50 per certificate.*

Can I show my Bred & Owned animal twice?

At the Regional Classics, a Bred & Owned animal may only be shown once – either as Owned or as Bred & Owned. At National Classic, a Bred & Owned animal may be entered and shown in both the Owned and Bred & Owned shows.

Why can't my Bred & Owned animal be shown in both the Bred & Owned and Owned Shows at Regionals?

Because there is only one judge at Regional Classics, each animal may only be shown one time.

If I also enter my Bred & Owned animal in the Owned Show, does it count as two head?

No. An animal that is double entered only counts as one head towards the maximum. You will, however, be charged two entry fees. (Note: This can only be done for the National Classic. At Regionals, animals may only be shown in one division.)

My animal was born and raised on our family's farm. Why isn't it considered Bred & Owned?

Per the AJSA Classic Rules, a Bred & Owned heifer, cow/calf or steer must meet all of the following conditions:

- The junior exhibitor is both the owner and the breeder on the current registration certificate.
- The junior exhibitor is the sole and continuous owner of the entry since birth.
- The junior exhibitor is the sole owner of the dam of the entry at the time the entry was conceived.

AJSA allows for junior sibling Bred & Owned animals to be eligible for the Bred & Owned Show, provided they meet all requirements. See the complete 2024 Classic Rules on the AJSA website for more information on Sibling Bred & Owned rules (Section VII, Rule 7).

A cow/calf pair may only be shown as Bred & Owned if both the cow and calf meet the Bred & Owned requirements.

If a Previous Owner is listed, the animal will not qualify for the Bred & Owned Show.

Bred & Owned bulls must be bred by the junior exhibitor but may be jointly owned with an adult/farm, provided that the junior exhibitor is the sole breeder, original owner of record, and is officially recorded as a current owner or co-owner of the bull.

If I'm showing a cow/calf pair, does the calf need to be registered when I make entries?

Unless you are entering the calf in its own class, the calf does not need to be registered at the time of entry. All calves must be registered by the conclusion of cattle check-in and must meet the breed and age requirements.

Does a cow/calf pair count as two entries?

If the calf is not being shown separately, a cow/calf pair counts as only one entry. However, if the calf is being entered and/or shown separately, the pair counts as two entries. Note: The calf must be at least 1/2 Simmental (with some exceptions in the Percentage Simbrah show), be the cow's most recent natural calf, and must be born on or after November 1, 2023 for the pair to qualify. To be shown separately, the calf must be born before March 15, 2024.

In which breed division should I enter my cow/calf pair?

The breed division for cow/calf pairs will be based solely on the breed composition of the cow.

Can I enter an animal that is DNA pending?

No pending DNA entries are allowed. Every animal must be registered with ASA prior to entry and must have a valid registration number. An animal with a pseudo registration number will not be allowed to enter.

Do I need DNA on my animal?

If your animal is already registered, you do not need to do any DNA work. Parental validation via DNA is required on an embryo calf for which the person registering that calf is not the breeder. With specific DNA-related questions, please contact DNA Services at ASA (dna@simmgene.com).

Can I substitute an animal entry?

Animal substitutions are only allowed in event of animal injury, illness or death after the entry deadline but prior to the event and must be confirmed, in writing, by a licensed non-owner veterinarian. Substitution requests may be submitted directly to the ASA Youth and Foundations Coordinator by email (mbayer@simmgene.com).

What are the animal health requirements?

Cattle must be free of ringworm, warts and any infectious disease. Further, all cattle must meet the health requirements for the state in which the Classic is held. All questions regarding health requirements should be directed to your local or state veterinarian.

Is there a Percentage Simbrah division?

Yes. See the 2024 Regional and National Classic Rules for more information.

Contests

How many of the contests am I required to do?

In order to qualify for the Cattle Show and/or Showmanship, each individual must compete in at least three of the five educational contests, one of which must be Sales Talk or Public Speaking (Judging Contest, Sales Talk, Public Speaking, Cattlemen's Quiz, Calvin Drake Genetic Evaluation Quiz).

Does Showmanship count as one of the educational contests?

No.

Can I do Showmanship if I only enter a bull?

Bulls are not allowed in showmanship. However, exhibitors who enter or check in only a bull may apply to use another exhibitor's animal in Showmanship. The proper form is available on the AJSA website and must be received by on-site ASA staff by 7 pm on the day of check-in.

How many sets of oral reasons are required for the Judging Contest?

At Regionals, Juniors will give one set of reasons and Seniors will give two. At the National Classic, Intermediates will give one set of reasons, Seniors will give two, and Juniors can either take part in an Oral Reasons workshop or give one set of oral reasons as scheduled.

How much time do we have to take the Cattlemen's Quiz and Calvin Drake Genetic Evaluation Quiz?

Each quiz will consist of 30 questions plus 5 tiebreakers, and contestants have one hour to complete the quiz.

What are the Public Speaking topics?

Public Speaking is a prepared speaking contest for the Junior Division at all AJSA Classics. Topics can be found on the AJSA website and Facebook page. Public Speaking is an extemporaneous speaking contest for the Intermediate and Senior divisions. Topics will not be made available in advance.

What materials am I allowed to use for Sales Talk?

For detailed information on Sales Talk, review the AJSA Classic Rules. Sales Talk rules can be found in Section XV.

Miscellaneous

What should I do if I need to leave before the awards ceremony?

At National Classic, awards may be given throughout the week or at the awards ceremony. At Regional Classics, awards are given at the awards ceremony.

An Early Release Request is available on the AJSA website (juniorsimmental.org) and must be submitted to the on-site ASA staff at your event at least 24 hours prior to the award presentation. Your request will be reviewed by the AJSA Board for approval or denial. If your release is granted, you are responsible for the shipping costs associated with any awards you earn.

Are substitute exhibitors allowed?

Exhibitor substitutions may be allowed for medical or family emergency reasons only, and a request must be submitted in writing for review by the AJSA Board. A request form is available on the AJSA website.

Additional Deadlines

Hotel Scholarship	April 30	Email to ajsa@simmgene.com
AJSA Board Applications	June 1	Email to ajsa@simmgene.com
Interview Competition Applications	June 1	Email to ajsa@simmgene.com
Merit Award Applications	June 1	Email to ajsa@simmgene.com
Photography Contest	June 1	Mail to ASA Office (1 Genetics Way, Bozeman, MT, 59718)
Herdsmen of the Year Nominations	July 8	Turn in to AJSA National Classic office (or submit via email to ajsa@simmgene.com)

If you have additional questions, contact ASA at 406-587-4531 or ajsa@simmgene.com. For updates, visit the AJSA website (juniorsimmental.org) and follow AJSA on Facebook (@AmericanJuniorSimmental).

Complete 2024 AJSA Classic rules can be found at

📄 [2024 AJSA Regional and National Classic Rules.pdf](#)