



2026 Santa Barbara County Fair Livestock Show Barn / Ready-Ring Steward

Job posting and position description

Event	2026 Santa Barbara County Fair
Dates	July 3-12, 2026
Status	Paid internship or volunteer, depending on circumstances and experience

Job Posting

The 2026 Santa Barbara County Fair is seeking a dependable Barn / Ready-Ring Steward to help coordinate exhibitors, animals, staging areas, and barn communication during livestock shows held July 3-12, 2026. Depending on assignment, duties may begin up to two weeks prior to the Fair for preparation, training, setup, or coordination.

This position plays a key role in keeping the show on schedule by making sure exhibitors know when and where to report, upcoming classes are ready, and animals move safely from the barn to the show ring.

The Barn / Ready-Ring Steward helps with barn organization, class staging, exhibitor communication, aisle safety, animal welfare observation, and coordination with the Ring Steward, Announcer, Clerk / Recorder, Awards Assistant, and show management.

The ideal candidate has livestock show experience, communicates clearly, stays organized in busy barn conditions, and works well with youth exhibitors, parents, leaders, volunteers, and fair staff. This position requires patience, firmness, professionalism, and a strong focus on safety and show flow.

This position may be a paid internship or volunteer assignment depending on circumstances, experience, availability, and assigned responsibilities.

Position Description

Position Title	Barn / Ready-Ring Steward
Event	2026 Santa Barbara County Fair (July 3-12, 2026)
Species	Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, or other livestock species as assigned
Reports To	Livestock Superintendent, Show Manager, Livestock Office, Fair Manager, or other designated event official.

Barn / Ready-Ring Steward



Position Purpose

The Barn / Ready-Ring Steward supports safe, organized barn operations and prepares exhibitors and animals for timely entry into the show ring. This position serves as the main link between the barn area and the ring team.

Works Closely With

- Ring Steward
- Announcer
- Clerk / Recorder
- Awards Assistant
- Gate staff
- Barn crew
- Species leads or superintendents
- Exhibitors, parents, leaders, and volunteers

Essential Duties

- Assist with barn and ready-ring organization before and during the show.
- Help exhibitors understand show order, staging location, class timing, and movement expectations.
- Prepare upcoming classes and confirm exhibitors are present.
- Communicate scratches, missing exhibitors, substitutions, or delays to the Ring Steward and Clerk / Recorder.
- Coordinate with the Announcer for upcoming class calls, on-deck calls, and schedule reminders.
- Maintain safe movement through barn aisles, alleys, gates, staging areas, and holding areas.
- Monitor barn cleanliness, aisle clearance, wash rack usage, public access areas, and general herdmanship expectations.
- Report animal health, welfare, safety, facility, electrical, water, ventilation, or overcrowding concerns to the proper official.
- Help organize class winners for callbacks or champion drives when directed.
- Assist with release, checkout, cleanup, and post-show barn procedures as assigned.

Qualifications

- Experience around livestock and livestock exhibitors.
- Ability to communicate clearly and respectfully in a busy barn environment.
- Able to read and follow class schedules and show orders.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Comfortable giving directions to youth exhibitors and adults.
- Able to stay calm when classes are moving quickly or schedules change.
- Able to stand, walk, and work in barn conditions for extended periods.



Authority and Limitations

The Barn / Ready-Ring Steward may direct exhibitors to staging areas, communicate show flow instructions, report missing exhibitors, and pause movement when needed for safety. The Barn / Ready-Ring Steward may not change the official show order, resolve protests, make eligibility decisions, or release animals without show management approval.

Conduct Expectations

The Barn / Ready-Ring Steward must remain respectful, organized, safety-focused, and professional while working with exhibitors, parents, leaders, volunteers, and fair staff.

Work Period

The 2026 Santa Barbara County Fair runs July 3-12, 2026. Depending on the assigned responsibilities, duties may begin up to two weeks prior to the Fair and may continue through post-show cleanup, records completion, award reconciliation, animal release, or final checkout.