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Greetings Pride of the Heartland Exhibitors,

The American Gelbvieh Junior Association thanks you for submitting your entries for this summer's Junior Classic. As expected, this year's show is set to break records with 175 exhibitors and 335 entries!

As you are making your final preparations, there are a few things to note:

- The host committee will be ordering T-shirts for junior participants. If you would like to make sure you get the right size shirt, please email Tina Cibula at tnmcibula@yahoo.com before **Thursday, June 25**. In your email please include your name and the size of shirt you would like. Thank you in advance for your quick response.
- When arriving at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, follow the signs for Gate 6 on Dean Avenue. Please note, **NO CATTLE OR TRAILERS MAY ARRIVE ON THE FAIRGROUNDS BEFORE 3:00 P.M. ON SUNDAY, JULY 5. Another event on the fairgrounds will be moving out Sunday. Please make travel plans accordingly.**
- Bedding in the barns as well as tie-outs will be provided by the Iowa Junior Gelbvieh Association. Hay has been donated and will be available in both tie-outs and the barns.
- Stalling is assigned by state. For example, all cattle from Iowa will be assigned space based on the number of head entered from Iowa. Check with your state advisors or participating families to work out stalling needs. Even with our expanded entries, there will be ample room in the barns for cattle and tack.
- Sponsored meals will begin on Monday evening and will be served through Saturday at noon with one exception. Thursday night has been left open for families to experience Des Moines following the Fun Day activities.
- If you have not purchased banquet tickets, you are encouraged to purchase them prior to arriving onsite. You may call the AGA office at 303-465-2333 to reserve your tickets. There will be tickets available for purchase onsite until Tuesday evening.
- The Iowa State Fairgrounds has a rule prohibiting glass or glass bottles on the fairgrounds.
- Due to schedule constraints, the impromptu speaking contest will not be offered in 2009. However, the contest will appear in the contest lineup again in 2010.
- There is a correction in the rules packet regarding the All-Around and Rookie of the Year winners. The opening sentence should read: All-Around Champion is open to all participants in the AGJA Pride of the Heartland Classic. Rookie of the Year is open to Junior and Intermediate AGJA members participating in their first AGJA Classic.
- Attached is an updated schedule. While it is subject to additional changes, there are a couple of notable changes. First, note that the Fun Day trip has been extended on Thursday evening. While this allows for a longer stay at Adventureland, it does move the Annual Meeting to Friday evening following the Balancer show.



- Another important change in the schedule occurs on Friday afternoon and Saturday. Because of expanded show numbers, particularly in the Balancer Female show, the AGJA Board of Directors has voted to move the Steer show and Bred & Owned Gelbvieh Bull show to Saturday morning, prior to the Gelbvieh Female show. This balances show numbers and accommodates the AGJA Annual Meeting on Friday evening.
- The American Gelbvieh Association Board of Directors will be holding a Gelbvieh Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, July 9. AGA Staff will be on hand to discuss several issues in an open forum. Topics such as genetics, technology, and marketing will be discussed. This is an excellent opportunity for parents and AGA members to voice their ideas and concerns.
- The host committee has reserved transportation to and from Adventureland theme park on Fun Day. Adventureland has a water park within the theme park, so pack accordingly and remember your sun screen! For more information, visit <http://www.adventureland-usa.com>. A sign up sheet will be available at check-in for Fun Day. All exhibitors will receive free admission. Parents and pee-wees will be offered reduced rate tickets.
- There is a possibility for a ladies shopping trip on Thursday afternoon during the Fun Day time. If you are interested in a shopping trip (with transportation provided), please contact Wendy Sperfslage at slogefrm@netins.net
- The cost for the Scott Gemar Memorial Golf outing is \$35. Transportation will be provided, with buses leaving at 11:00 a.m.
- Don't forget to bring can tabs for the weigh-in. Remember that proceeds from this competition benefit the Ronald McDonald house in Des Moines.
- If you are bringing silent auction items, you may contact me prior to Classic with the name and donor of each item so that pre-made signs will be available when you drop off your item.
- If you will have additional family members attending or did not sign up family members, please contact the AGA office at 303-465-2333 or email me at danas@gelbvieh.org before June 29. Not only will we make name tags, but this provides a better count for meals. Name tags will be required for meals.
- As a reminder to state associations, if you are interested in hosting either the Eastern Regional show or Western Regional show next summer, please contact an AGJA Board Member or me.

I am looking forward to a great week in Des Moines. The Iowa Junior Gelbvieh Association and their host committee members have done an excellent job preparing for a record-breaking show.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. You may reach me at the office until Friday, July 3 at 303-465-2333 or until then by email at danas@gelbvieh.org. After that time, you may reach me on my cell phone at 501-278-9132.

I wish everyone safe travels and good luck in Des Moines!

Sincerely,

Dana Stewart
Director of Member Services