

- 2026 -

BUC DAYS

COMPETITIONS HANDBOOK



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Dear Buc Days Exhibitor,

Welcome to **Buc Days**! We're glad you're here and excited to have you join us **April 30–May 10, 2026**, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Buc Days is hosted by the Buccaneer Commission, an organization that's been part of this community since 1938. What started as a small pirate-themed event has grown into an 11-day celebration that includes Rodeo Corpus Christi, parades, the Stripes Carnival, concerts, the STEAM Expo, and the Port of Corpus Christi Leadership Program. Over the years, the Buccaneer Commission has awarded more than \$2.6 million in scholarships and grants to students across the Coastal Bend.

This handbook is here to help you get ready and know what to expect. Inside, you'll find competition rules, schedules, venue maps, and award information. This year, competitors will have the chance to earn over **\$90,000 in awards**, and we're proud to continue supporting the hard work and dedication of everyone involved.

Your participation is a big part of what makes Buc Days special. By being here, you're helping us celebrate tradition, support education, and bring our community together. We appreciate the time and effort you've put into preparing, and we're glad you chose to be part of Buc Days.

We wish you the best of luck and look forward to a great event.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Philipello', with a stylized, flowing script.

Johnny Philipello
President & Chief Executive Officer
Buccaneer Commission

BUC DAYS

1415 North Water Street, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78401

www.BucDays.com

(361) 882-3242

STAFF

Johnny Philipello President & Chief Executive Officer

Denise Shelby Vice President of Finance & Ticketing

Erica DeLuna, CMP Experience & Brand Manager

Lindslee Brunson Operations Manager

Elyse Suckley Competitions & Operations Coordinator

Dierra Goslin Sponsorship & Communications Coordinator

Kristen Givens Membership & Attractions Coordinator

Charlie Ochoa Operations Technician

Alicia Brewer Executive Assistant

GOVERNING BOARD

Floyd Brown, Chair	Pat Horne
Mark Avelar, Chair-Elect	Bill Lathrop, Jr.
Chase Carlisle, Secretary/Treasurer	Michael Longoria
Blake Blanchette	Mike Munoz
Mark Crawford	Philip Skrobarczyk
Fred Dotts	Eric Villarreal
Matt Guzman	

ACTIVE COMMISSIONERS

Matt Adler	Brian DeLatte	Dillon McVay
Bryce Alexander	John Dibala	Roger Mellado
Cole Allen	Larry Dreier	Mark Moeller
Reid Aston	Joe Flores	Payne Neessen

Jonathan Bailey	Morgan Freeborn	Anthony Pederson
Justin Barrow	Alex Garcia, Jr.	Tobin Pennington
Christopher Baugh	Nick Gignac	Sony Peronel
Carter Benkendorfer	Page Gray	Robert Rickett
Jeremy Berry	Brandon Herridge	Stephen Rybak
Bob Bradley	Taylor Hunt	Michael Sasser
Royce Cameron	Mickey Kramer	Michael Skrobarczyk
Clay Campbell	Scott Landreth	Adam Smith
Shane Casady	Jim Lankford	Nowery (Boo) Smith
Derek Chang	Mark Larue	Robby Sterett
Cecil Childers	Rob Leon	JR Turnbull
Daniel Cisneros	Allen Libbe	Lawrence Vera
Don Clark	George Livas	Sean Walker
George Clower	Cooper Lundquist	Kaleb Womack
Matthew (Cash) Crawford	Jonathan McComb	Matt Yankee
Connor Cross	Justin McComb	Kent Young
Matt Crow	Tim Powers	
Gilbert Gonzalez	Justin Ramsey	

ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONERS

Tripp Batey	Clifford Dehnert	Joe Willie Lee
Brian Bridge Joe	Adam Delano	Preston Ley
Grant Bradshaw	Dr. Mark Escamilla	John David Martinez
Kent Britton	Ashton Fine	Zach Narvaez
Eric Brunkenhoefer	Eric Grunwald	Shane Overly
Isaac Camacho, Sr.	Cooper Guetzke	Stephen Pierce
Steve Campbell	Glen Hagler	Michael Rodriguez
Paul Cervantes	Joe Bruce Hancock	Chris Scott
Brett Chapman	Patrick Horne, Jr.	Roger Silva
Steve Chapman	Randy Horrell	Brian Sims
Karl Christmas	Joseph Johnson	
Chase Curry	Jeff Kane	

2025 SPONSORS

Thank you to the sponsors of 2025 Buccaneer Days!



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COMPETITIVE EVENT OFFICIALS

Buc Days 4H Clays Shoot

4H Clays Shoot Superintendent Craig Cook

4H Clays Shoot Assistant Superintendent Jeff Hyde

General Superintendent of Events Jaime Lopez

Official Scorekeeper of Events JT McClellen

Buc Days VEX IQ Competition (VIQC) Superintendent Joseph Beckmann

Buc Days Texas Robotics Academic Conference (TRAC) Superintendent Jason Arms

Buc Days VEX Robotics Competition (VRC) Superintendent Seth Lara

Buc Days RECF Aerial Drone Competition (RECF ADC) Superintendent Randy Ashley

Buc Days VEX University (VEXU) Superintendent Edgar Sifuentes

Buc Days Food Challenge

Food Challenge Superintendent Norma Munoz

Food Challenge Assistant Superintendent Erika Bochat

Buc Days Food Show

Food Show Superintendent Norma Munoz

Food Show Assistant Superintendent Erika Bochat

Buc Days FIRST Tech Challenge

FIRST Tech Challenge Superintendent Patrick Michaud

FIRST Tech Challenge Assistant Superintendent Emily DeMille

Buc Days FIRST Lego League

FIRST Lego League Superintendent Erika Diggs

Buc Days Public Speaking Competition

Public Speaking Superintendent Megan Glidden

Public Speaking Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Handy

Buc Days Ag Product ID Competition

Ag Product ID Superintendent Eric Taylor

Ag Product ID Assistant Superintendent Alyssa Lyssy

Buc Days Horticulture Competition

Horticulture Superintendent Daisy Castillo

Horticulture Assistant Superintendent Teresa Lopez

Buc Days Quiz Bowl Competition

Quiz Bowl Superintendent Laura Reyna

Quiz Bowl Assistant Superintendent Candace Williamson

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP LIST

Buc Days Competitions Chair: Mark Avelar

Buc Days Competitions Co-Chair: Scott Landreth

Buc Days 4H Clays Shoot

4H Clays Shoot Chair Glenn Hagler

4H Clays Shoot Co-Chair Steve Schultz

Buc Days Robotics Competitions

Robotics Competitions Chair Gilbert Gonzalez

Robotics Competitions Co-Chair Roger Silva

Robotics Load-In Chair Steven Pierce

Buc Days Culinary Competitions (Food Show/ Food Challenge)

Culinary Competition Chair Zachary Narvaez

Culinary Competition Co-Chair Page Gray

Buc Days Public Speaking / Ag Product ID Competitions

Public Speaking / Ag Product ID Chair Jonathan Bailey

Public Speaking / Ag Product ID Co-Chair Stephen Rybak

Buc Days Horticulture Competition

Horticulture Chair Isla Lara

Horticulture Co-Chair Cecil Childers

Buc Days Quiz Bowl Competition

Quiz Bowl Chairs Gracie & Joe Flores

Quiz Bowl Co-Chair Connor Cross

2026 COMPETITION EVENTS SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to change

** Time depends on progression of the competition*

OFF-SEASON EVENTS

Saturday, February 21st

Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Qualifying Event Check-In 7:30am-8:30am
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Mandatory Safety Meeting 8:30am-9:00am
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Morning Squads Compete 9:00am-12:00pm
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Lunch 12:00pm-1:00pm
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Afternoon Squads Compete 1:00pm-4:00pm
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Shoot-Offs (*if needed*) *4:30pm

Sunday, February 22nd

Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Championship Round Check-In 7:30am-8:30am
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Mandatory Safety Meeting 8:30am-9:00am
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Championship Round 9:00am-*12:00pm
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Shoot-Offs (*if needed*) *12:00pm
 Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot: Awards Presentation & Lunch *12:30pm

FESTIVAL EVENTS

Thursday, April 30th

VEX IQ Competition (VIQC): 8:30am – 5:00pm

Friday, May 1st

RECF Air Drone Competition (ADC): 8:30am – 5:00pm
 Texas Robotics Academic Conference (TRAC): 8:00am – 5:00pm

Saturday, May 2nd

VEX Robotics Competition (VRQ): 8:30am – 5:00pm
 Texas Robotics Academic Conference (TRAC): 8:00am – 5:00pm

Sunday, May 3rd

VEX University Competition (VEXU): 8:30am – 5:00pm

Monday, May 4th

Tuesday, May 5th

Ag & Industry Days at Buc Days 8:00am- 2:00pm

Wednesday, May 6th

Ag & Industry Days at Buc Days 8:00am- 2:00pm

Thursday, May 7th

Ag & Industry Days at Buc Days 8:00am- 2:00pm

Food Show: Check-In Begins 2:00pm

Food Show: Preliminary Rounds 2:30pm-5:30pm

Food Show: Tie Breakers (if needed) 5:30pm-6:00pm

Food Show: Awards Presentation *6:30pm

Friday, May 8th

Food Challenge: Team Check-In Begins 11:00am

Food Challenge: Preliminary Rounds 11:30am- 4:00pm

Horticulture Competition: Load-In 4:00pm-6:30pm

Food Challenge: Final Round 4:30pm- 5:30pm

Food Challenge: Awards Presentation *6:00pm

Saturday, May 9th

FIRST® Events: Load-In / Pits Open / Check-In Begins 8:30am

FIRST® Tech Challenge: Robot Inspection Begins 8:30am

FIRST® Lego League: Coaches Meeting..... 9:00am

FIRST® Tech Challenge: Drivers Meeting 10:00am

Quiz Bowl Competition: Check-In Begins 9:00am

Quiz Bowl Competition: Preliminary Rounds	9:30am-12:30pm
FIRST® Robotics Events: Opening Ceremony	10:30am
FIRST® Lego League: Practice Round	11:00am
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Qualification Matches Start	11:00am
Public Speaking Competition: Check-In Begins	11:30am
FIRST® Events: Lunch	11:30am
Public Speaking Competition: Preliminary Rounds	12:00pm-3:00pm
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Round 1	12:10pm
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Referee Break	1:10pm
Quiz Bowl Competition: Final Round	1:00pm-2:00pm
FIRST® Lego League: Matches Resume	1:15pm
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Round 2	1:25pm
Ag Product ID Competition: Check-In Begins	1:30pm
Ag Product ID Competition: Preliminary Rounds	2:00pm-5:00pm
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Referee Break	2:25pm
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Round 3	2:35pm
Public Speaking Competition: Senior Division Final Round	*3:30pm
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Awards Presentation	4:00pm
FIRST® Tech Challenge: Load-Out (<i>following awards</i>)	*4:30pm
FIRST® Lego League: Final Judge Decisions	4:30pm
FIRST® Lego League: Alliance Selection & Awards	5:15pm
FIRST® Lego League: Playoff Matches	5:45pm
Horticulture Competition: Awards Presentation	*6:00pm
Quiz Bowl Competition: Awards Presentation	*6:00pm
Public Speaking Competition: Awards Presentation	*6:00pm
Ag Product ID Competition: Awards Presentation	*6:00pm
FIRST® Lego League: Robot Game Winners	7:20pm
FIRST® Lego League: Load-Out Teams / Breakdown	7:20pm

Sunday, May 10th

GENERAL RULES

1. Eligibility

1.1 Invitational Status

This is an invitational event; the Buccaneer Commission reserves the right to extend or withhold an invitation to any participant.

1.2 Social Security Requirement

All exhibitors and contestants must have a personal Social Security Number to be eligible to participate in Buc Days–sanctioned events. International teams/participants may be approved on a case-by-case basis.

2. Registration & Payment

2.1 Online Registration

All entries must be received electronically through the official Buccaneer Commission online registration system by the published deadlines.

2.2 Registration Deadlines

All entries must be submitted online before the respective deadline, with payment and entry signature authorization completed and postmarked on or before the required date.

Registration Deadlines			
<i>Robotics Events</i>		<i>Youth Competitions</i>	
FIRST® Lego League		4-H Clays Shoot	February 11 th , 2026
FIRST® Tech Challenge		Public Speaking	April 1 st , 2026
TX Robotics Academic Conference (TRAC)	April 1 st , 2026	Ag Product ID	April 1 st , 2026
VEX IQ Competition	April 1 st , 2026	Horticulture	March 2 nd , 2026
VEX Robotics Competition	April 1 st , 2026	Food Show	April 1 st , 2026
VEX AIR Competition	April 1 st , 2026	Food Challenge	April 1 st , 2026
VEX University Competition	April 1 st , 2026	Quiz Bowl	April 1 st , 2026

2.3 Registration Forms

Registration for the Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot is available at <https://www.iclays.com/>.

Registration for all VEX Robotics / AIR Competitions held at <http://robotevents.com>.

Registration for the Texas Robotics Academic Conference (TRAC) is at <https://bucdays.com>. Registration for all *FIRST® in Texas* Robotics Competitions held at Buc Days is available at <https://firstintexas.org/>. Registration for all other youth competitions held at Buc Days can be found at <https://bucdays.com/>.

2.4 Payment / Entry Fees

Payment for all applicable competitive events will be accepted through the designated online registration system and must be made by credit or debit card. The Competitive Event Official(s) reserves the right to reject or conditionally accept any entry and to refuse entry to any participant at their discretion.

****If any team or participant would like to pay their mandatory registration fee via check, please call the Buccaneer Commission Office at (361) 882-3242 for more information.*

2.5 Entry Fees

Entry Fees	
4-H Clays Shoot	\$185 per shooter
VIQC Robotics	\$75 per team
VRC Robotics	\$100 per team
RECF Aerial Drone Comp.	\$75 per team
VEXU Robotics	\$100 per team
Public Speaking	\$30 per person
Ag Product ID	\$30 per person
Horticulture	\$25 per class
Food Show	\$30 per person
Food Challenge	\$75 per team
Livestock Quiz Bowl	\$60 per team

No team or participant entry will be accepted unless it is submitted online before the respective deadline, with on or before the required date. The Buccaneer Commission reserves the right to ban any participant from future events if there are ongoing issues with payment of fees.

2.6 Prize Money

All winning teams and/or participants in the Buc Days STEAM Expo must complete a Prize Money Form and submit it to the Buccaneer Commission no later than *June 1, 2026*. If a completed form is not received by this deadline, prize money will be forfeited.

Once the Buccaneer Commission receives a completed and acknowledged Prize Money Form, checks will be mailed bi-monthly to the address listed on the form.

Prize Money Forms must be submitted through Buc Days using one of the following methods:

- Day of Event: Completed forms may be turned in directly to the Event Superintendent on the day of the event.

- Mail: P.O. Box 30404, Corpus Christi, TX 78463
(Must be postmarked by June 1st, 2026)
- Hand Delivery: 1415 N. Water Street, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

3. Passes & Parking

3.1 Pass Distribution

All provided or pre-purchased passes will be mailed to each participant, using the mailing address provided on the registration form, prior to the event. All extra festival grounds passes and/ or competition season parking passes must be purchased during participant or team registration. *Extra passes cannot be purchased separately or after registration has been completed.*

3.2 Festival Grounds Pass

Each participant will be issued one (1) free gate admission pass valid for the duration of the competitive event. For any individual attending the event who is not a registered participant, additional passes may be purchased for \$5 each during online registration. Single-entry festival grounds passes are \$12 at the gate for those who do not pre-purchase additional passes.

3.3 Competition Season Parking Pass

During event registration, each participant may pre-purchase a parking pass at a discounted rate of \$10. Competition parking passes must be fully affixed to the windshield. Partially applied, laminated, wrapped, or taped stickers are not valid. Competition season parking passes grant access to Lot 10. Once Lot 10 is full, parking attendants will direct overflow parking to other designated lots. Parking in any Buc Days–operated lots, without a season parking pass, is \$15 for single-use.

4. Participant Conduct

4.1 Decorum

Buccaneer Days is a family-friendly event. While on the festival grounds, all participants are considered ambassadors of the Buccaneer Commission. As such, a participant's conduct as an exhibitor or patron should be exemplary, and violators may be subject to punishment up to and including disqualification. Participants must refrain from any improper or disruptive conduct, public display of profanity, violence, excessive consumption of alcohol, and inappropriate social media content regarding the Buccaneer Commission or its representatives.

4.2 Objectionable Participants

The Buccaneer Commission reserves the right to remove from the festival grounds any team or participant that may be falsely entered, deemed unsuitable, or objectionable in the sole discretion of Event Official(s), without assigning a reason. All fees will be forfeited.

4.3 Interference

If any participant, in any way, whether in person or by agent or servant, interferes with the judges during their adjudication, or shows any disrespect to them, the show or competition, the Event Official(s) may demand a proper apology from the participant, may exclude him/her from competition, bar him/her from the Buc Days festival grounds, and may also withhold any prizes that may have been awarded.

4.4 Electronic Communication

Unless specifically permitted in the rules of your competition, the use of electronic devices (including cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, etc.) is prohibited during active contest times. Medical exemptions may apply and must be communicated in advance.

4.5 Attire & Personal Appearance

All participants must dress appropriately for their specific competition, following any rules or guidelines provided for that event. Certain competitions may require team uniforms, aprons, hair coverings, or other safety or hygiene gear (e.g., gloves, hats, lab coats, safety glasses). Participants are expected to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the activities in which they are participating.

5. Judging & Protests

5.1 Decisions

The decision of the judges will be final in all cases, except where mistakes, fraud, misrepresentation, or collusion, not discovered at the time of award, are proven.

5.2 Official Protests

All official protests must be submitted in writing to the Competitive Event Official(s) immediately following the incident that prompted the protest. Each protest must be accompanied by a \$300 deposit, which will be donated to the Buccaneer Commission if the protest is denied. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be fully refunded. The protest must clearly state the cause of the complaint or appeal and provide valid and sufficient reasons. Protests not filed within 24 hours of the alleged incident will not be considered. The decision of the Buccaneer Commission is final and not subject to appeal. Judging procedures will not be interrupted while a protest is under review.

5.3 Disqualification

Should any participant who is awarded a prize be disqualified, the lower placing participant will NOT move into the higher position.

5.4 Judging Schedule

Participants are responsible for knowing the times at which they or their team will be judged. Any team or participant not presented promptly will be ruled ineligible and barred from competition.

6. Safety & Liability

6.1 Emergency Evacuation Protocol

At times deemed necessary by local, state, or federal authorities, or by the Buccaneer Commission and its officials, the festival grounds may be temporarily or permanently evacuated. Such actions may result from, but are not limited to, extreme weather conditions, pandemics or other public health emergencies, bomb threats, terrorist acts, or acts and declarations of war. Evacuations will be carried out in coordination with the appropriate authorities, with priority given first to the safety of human life, then to the protection of property. Exhibitors may be required to turn their property over to the Buccaneer Commission or as otherwise directed by governmental authorities. Once the evacuation order is lifted, exhibitors will be permitted to re-enter the festival grounds and reclaim their property.

6.2 Property/Security:

All contestants or persons in charge of property, shall care for, guard, protect, and preserve same, as the Buccaneer Commission (and their respective facilities in use) do not undertake to do so and shall not be held responsible for any loss or damage to said property of contestants thereof. All contestants are responsible for security of their own property. The contestant is the absolute insurer of and is responsible for the condition of their property.

6.3 Liability

All exhibits are under the control and direction of the Competitive Event Official(s); however, the Buccaneer Commission is not responsible for any loss, injury, or damage that may occur. Each participant is solely responsible for any loss, injury, or damage—whether consequential or otherwise—caused by, or arising from, any item they exhibit, as well as for the accuracy of its description in the rules. Participants shall indemnify and hold harmless the Buccaneer Commission from all legal actions, claims, or damages related to their participation, including any injury or damage to other persons or property resulting from their actions or exhibits.

6.4 COVID-19 Warning, Rules, and Acknowledgment of Risk

An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present, including the Buc Days festival grounds or any location hosting a Buc Days–sanctioned event. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can cause serious illness or death. All participants, their family members, and any other individual involved in competitive events during the Buccaneer Days festival must comply with all applicable health and safety guidelines.

7. Grounds & Facilities Use

7.1 Waiting Areas (“Campgrounds”)

Waiting areas will be extremely limited for most competitive events and must be kept clean at all times. Parents, CEAs, ASTs, adult leaders, or their representatives are asked to help minimize the number of chairs, coolers, and other equipment brought by their team. Participants should remain aware of their surroundings and be considerate of others when setting up in these spaces. Exhibitors who misuse or overcrowd waiting areas may be subject to disqualification. While we understand that families may need space for chairs, equipment boxes, etc., please be mindful of others and avoid occupying public walkways or shared spaces unnecessarily.

7.2 Electrical Equipment

All electrical equipment brought onto the festival grounds must conform to all applicable safety regulations. Any team or participant who refuses to cooperate with Event Official(s) in this matter will be immediately removed from the festival grounds. The team or participant will forfeit all fees and premiums.

7.3 Campers / Trailers

Pickup trucks with campers cannot be used as living quarters and cannot be parked in Buc Days–operated parking lots before, during, or after festival hours. House and cook trailers are not permitted to be parked or used on festival grounds or Buc Days–operated parking lots.

7.4 Pets / Service Animals

No pets, including dogs, are allowed on the Buc Days festival grounds. Service animals, as defined by the ADA, are permitted. A service animal is a dog—or, in some cases, a miniature horse when reasonable—that has been individually trained to perform work or tasks for a person with a disability. Service animals are welcome in any area where the public is normally allowed to go. Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered unless doing so interferes with their work or the individual’s disability prevents using these devices. In such cases, the individual must maintain control through

voice, signal, or other effective controls.

8. Special Policies & Laws

8.1 Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code (TABC)

As this is a TABC-licensed facility, no outside alcohol is permitted on the Show Grounds. Violations of this Rule may result in immediate removal from the Show Grounds.

8.2 Photographs & Media

Official photographs and videos taken during Buc Days events are the property of the Buccaneer Commission. By entering competition areas or the Buc Days festival grounds, participants and guests consent to being photographed, filmed, or recorded for use in promotional, news, or commercial purposes. Parents or guardians are deemed to have consented to such uses of their child's likeness by allowing participation.

9. Administrative & Legal Clauses

9.1 Special Rules

Special Rules are published in any department where necessary. If there is a conflict between the Special Rules and the General Rules, the terms of the Special Rules shall supersede the General Rules.

9.2 Force Majeure

The Buccaneer Commission is not liable for any delay or failure to conduct its operations, activities, shows, or events when such delay or failure is caused by a force majeure event. A force majeure event is any occurrence beyond the reasonable control of the Buccaneer Commission that delays or prevents performance, including but not limited to:

1. Breakage or accidents involving equipment, machinery, or facilities
2. Strikes, lockouts, or other labor disputes
3. Statutes, ordinances, regulations, orders, or rules issued by governmental authorities
4. Judicial decrees or orders
5. Acts of God
6. Animal diseases and/or quarantines
7. Wars, riots, or insurrections
8. Civil disobedience, public demonstrations, or sabotage

9. Fires, floods, explosions, or severe weather
10. Inability to obtain necessary labor, materials, supplies, utilities, or transportation
11. Depressions, recessions, or other economic downturns
12. Embargoes or energy shortages
13. Any other causes beyond the Buccaneer Commission's reasonable control

The Buccaneer Commission reserves the right to cancel an event for reasons beyond Force Majeure.

9.3 Refunds

There will be no refunds of fees. In the event of cancellation of a specific contest/show, refunds may be offered in partial or full amounts and will be determined solely by the Buccaneer Commission.

9.4 Interpretation of Rules

All individuals, including participants, are encouraged to report any rule violations to Event Officials immediately so that appropriate action can be taken. The Buccaneer Commission reserves the final and absolute authority to interpret these rules and resolve all matters, questions, and disputes arising from or related to the competition. Any exhibitor found in violation of the rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums and may be subject to any penalties deemed appropriate by the Buccaneer Commission.

Buccaneer Commission Scholarship Requirements

Recipient must begin use of Buccaneer Commission Scholarship within six months of graduation from high school. Recipient must be enrolled as a full-time student at a college, university, trade school or the recipient must show proof of military enrollment. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Recipient must submit the following documents to the Buccaneer Commission at the address below by August 2, 2026:

PO BOX 30404, Corpus Christi, TX, 78463

- i. Completed Buccaneer Commission Scholarship Contract
- ii. Thank you letter to Buccaneer Commission
- iii. Class Schedule for Fall 2026 Semester, substantiating semester hour requirements (i.e., class schedule with total hour reflected)
- iv. Upon meeting all requirements for scholarship disbursement, scholarships will be paid directly to the college, university, or trade school designated by the recipient as follows: Disbursement of Scholarship Amounts: 50% of total scholarship provided for Fall 2026 / 50% of total scholarship provided for Spring 2027.
- v. If the recipient is not attending a college, university, or trade school but has enlisted in the military, payment will be provided after six months of military training/ activity has been completed. Documentation in the form of military service documents, orders, or payroll/ tax records with dates will be required to receive the funds.
- vi. Failure to fully comply with Buccaneer Commission Scholarship Policies will result in forfeiture of scholarship funds.
- vii. Should a recipient not attend college, or fail to maintain academic standards or college enrollment, the balance of the scholarship will be forfeited to the Buccaneer Commission Scholarship Program.
- viii. Any exceptions to these rules must be requested in writing by the Recipient and approved in writing by the Buccaneer Commission.
- ix. The Buccaneer Commission reserves the right to interpret or amend these rules and requirements at any time at its discretion and to settle and determine all disputes, questions or matters regarding, arising from or incident to the Scholarship Program, including but not limited to revocation of a scholarship.



Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot

2026 Special Rules

Superintendent – Craig Cook, Manager at CCGC
 Assistant Superintendent – Jeff Hyde
 Chairs – Glenn Hagler & Steve Schultz

Location – Corpus Christi Gun Club (CCGC)
 2832 FM 763, Corpus Christi, TX, 78415



Total Prize Money / Scholarships Awarded: **\$35,000**

Qualifying Event:	February 21st, 2026 – 7:30am-8:30am
Orientation:	8:30am (Mandatory Safety Meeting)
Tournament Begins: (Qualifying Round)	Shooting starts at 9:00am
Skeet Rounds:	<i>Morning Squads:</i> 9:00am/ 9:45am/ 10:30am/ 11:15am <i>Afternoon Squads:</i> 1:00pm/ 1:45pm/ 2:30pm/ 3:15pm
Lunch:	12:00pm-1:00pm
Sporting Clays:	<i>Morning Squads:</i> 9:00am <i>Afternoon Squads:</i> 1:00pm
Shoot-Offs for the Qualifying Rounds:	Shoot offs will begin promptly after shooting has finished and scores have been confirmed.
Championship Round:	February 22nd, 2026 – 8:30am
Orientation:	8:30am (Mandatory Safety Meeting)
Tournament Begins: (Championship Round)	Shooting starts at 9:00am
Shoot-Offs for the Championship Round:	Shoot offs will begin promptly after shooting has finished and scores have been confirmed.
Awards Presentation:	12:30pm – Lunch and Award Presentation

1. **Participation:** This is a shotgun shooting competition. Contestants in the Buc Days Clays 4-H Shoot (affiliated with Rodeo Corpus Christi and Buccaneer Days) are responsible for knowing and complying with all rules of this competition. This invitational event associated with Rodeo Corpus Christi operates independently of 4-H guidelines for shotgun shooting competitions. This competition will be limited to the first 160 entries based on age and their correlating Male and Female Divisions:

- a. **Male Divisions:**

- i. Junior Division (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders only)
 1. 8 years of age (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and not over 10 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - ii. Intermediate Division (6th, 7th, and 8th graders only)
 1. 10 years of age (in addition to being in the 6th grade) and not over 14 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - iii. Senior 1 Division (9th and 10th graders only)
 1. 14 years of age (in addition to being in the 9th grade) and not over 16 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - iv. Senior 2 Division (11th and 12th graders only)
 1. 16 years of age (in addition to being in the 11th grade) and not over 18 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.

- b. **Female Divisions:**

- i. Junior & Intermediate Open Division (3rd through 8th graders)
 1. 8 years of age (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and not over 14 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - ii. Senior Open Division (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders only)
 1. 14 years of age (in addition to being in the 9th grade) and not over 18 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.

National Skeet Shooting Association and National Sporting Clay Association governing body rules will apply, unless superseded by the Buc Days Clays 4-H Shoot Special Rules. All entries in this competition are subject to the rules that follow.

- c. **Sporting Clays:** <http://nsca.nssa-nsca.org/rule-book/>

- d. **Skeet:** <http://mynssa.nssa-nsca.org/rule-book/>

2. **Eligibility:** Participation in the Buc Days Clays 4-H Shoot is limited to TX resident students, who are members of a TX 4-H Club. Exhibitors must be United States citizens and possess a valid social security number to be eligible for participation in the event. Exhibitors must be enrolled in, and attending, public or private elementary or secondary schools in TX. Students must be between the ages of 8 (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and 18 on or before August 15th, 2025. Each 4-H Club member

must be in good standing with its state and National affiliates. Involvement in international or national events does NOT disqualify otherwise eligible shooters.

- a. Contestants also must have competed in the 2024 and/ or 2025 4-H State Games to enter the Buc Days Clays 4-H Shoot.
 - b. A contestant is not eligible if already graduated from high school.
3. **Ineligible Exhibitors:** 4-H members are eligible by the Buccaneer Commission for participation in the event at the time that entries are received. Any CEA (County Extension Agent) who has a member who becomes ineligible to participate, for any reason, must provide written and signed notification to the appropriate Superintendent at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of any activity in which the ineligible exhibitor was to participate. If an exhibitor is determined ineligible, then the entry is ineligible.
 - a. **Foreign Exchange Students:** Non-United States citizens and Foreign Exchange students are ineligible to compete in the Buc Days Clays 4-H Shoot. All contestants must be United States citizens and possess a valid social security number to be eligible for participation in the event.
4. **Rules of Entry:**
 - a. **Entry Requirements:** The right is reserved, by management, to reject entirely or accept conditionally any entry and to refuse any accepted entry admittance to the grounds or Corpus Christi Gun Club (CCGC).
 - i. Entries are limited to the first 160 entries and will be based on first come, first serve. No waitlist will be offered.
 - ii. Verification will be confirmed with the CEA (County Extension Agent) to validate that each participant is enrolled in Texas 4-H at the time of entry. Should we not receive enrollment notice in a timely manner, the Buccaneer Commission will require the participants assistance to obtain that information.
 - b. **Entry Format:** Entry will open by September 15, 2025 and will close when the maximum entry limit is reached or on February 11th, 2026 at midnight. Each entry will consist of their qualifying events for Sporting Clays (100 targets) and American Skeet (50 targets). Event entry fees will be **\$185.00**. No refunds will be given after January 9th, 2026, unless participant is deemed ineligible, in which a full refund will be granted.
 - i. Everyone will select to compete on Saturday (February 21st, 2026) in both American Skeet and Sporting Clays and the top 5 participants in each Open Age Division (30 total) will continue to the Championship

Round on Sunday, February 22nd, 2026, for the opportunity to win prize money and scholarships.

- ii. At the time of entry, you will select your Sporting Clays Flight which will determine the Skeet Rotations available to you as listed below.
 - a. 9:00am Sporting Clays rotation will be paired with American Skeet Rotations at 1:00pm, 1:45pm, 2:30pm, or 3:15pm
 - b. 1:00pm Sporting Clays rotation will be paired with American Skeet Rotations at 9:00am, 9:45am, 10:30am, 11:15am

5. Event Format:

a. Qualifying Round: (Saturday, February 21st, 2026)

- i. The Qualifying Round will consist of 100 Sporting Clays targets and 50 American Skeet targets.
- ii. The total combined score for both qualifying events (Sporting Clays and American Skeet) will be added together for overall placing for each of the Open Age divisions.
 - a. *Example of scoring totals:*
 - a. If you shot a 95 in Sporting Clays and a 45 in American Skeet your total combined score for placing in your Open Age Division would be 140.
 - b. *Example of shooter placing:*
 - a. Shooter A shoots 149
 - b. Shooter B and C shoots 147
 - c. Shooters D, E, F, G, H, and I shoot 145.
 - d. Shooters A, B, and C will advance to the Championship Round taking the top 3 spots and shooters D, E, F, G, H, and I will shoot off for the final 2 spots.
- iii. Only the top 5 shooters (30 Total) from each of the Female and Male Divisions will advance to the Championship Round.
- iv. NSCA procedures will be followed for any necessary shoot offs/tie breakers in Sporting Clays.
- v. NSSA procedures will be following for any necessary shoot offs/tie breakers in Skeet.

b. Championship Round: (Sunday, February 22nd, 2026)

- i. The top five shooters (30 Total) from each of the Male and Female Divisions will advance to the Championship Round on Sunday, February 22nd, 2026. The list of shooters who advance to the Championship Round will be announced on Saturday, February 21st, following the final score tabulation and shoot offs if necessary.

- ii. *All scores from Saturday's Qualifying Round will not apply during the Sunday, February 22nd , Championship Round. Each contestant will shoot with a clean slate of scoring.*
- iii. Each contestant that has advanced to the Championship Round will compete in Skeet doubles (50 targets) and Whiz Bang (50 targets) for the Championship Round.
- iv. The shooters that advance to the Championship Round must be present and must participate to receive any prize money or scholarship funds.
- v. NSSA and Texas 4-H Whiz Bang procedures will be followed.

6. Shoot offs/ Tie Breakers:

a. **Qualifying Round (Saturdays Round) shoot off format will be as follows:**

- i. Skeet doubles from stations 3/4/5/4/3 (10 Shots)
- ii. Sporting clays (From the 5 Stand Field) 5 pairs from station 2 (10 shots).
- iii. Scores from skeet and 5 stand will be combined, and placings will be established.
- iv. If shooters are still tied, they will shoot the following.
 - a. Sporting clays (From the 5 Stand Field) 5 pairs from station 4 (10 shots)
 - b. Skeet doubles from stations 3/4/5/4/3 (10 Shots)
 - c. Scores from skeet and 5 stand will be combined, and placings will be established.
 - d. If shooters are still tied, they will shoot the following.
 - a. Skeet doubles from stations 3/4/5/4/3 (10 Shots)
 - b. Sporting clays (From the 5 Stand Field) 5 pairs from station 2 (10 shots)
 - c. Scores from skeet and 5 stand will be combined, and placings will be established.
 - d. If shooters are still tied, they will continue the above rotations until all placings are established.

v. **Doubles shoot-offs**

- a. Doubles shoot-offs shall be conducted doubles stations 3-4-5, miss-and-out by station. This means that a shooter must break both targets on a station in order to beat a shooter who only broke one target (i.e. if one shooter breaks the first target and another shooter breaks the second target, they are still tied).

- b. In regular skeet miss-and-out shoot-offs, long run from the front shall determine the winners. Ties shall continue to shoot the round until the tie is broken.

b. Championship Round

- i. NSSA and Texas 4-H Whiz Bang shoot off procedures will be followed for the Championship Round, as well as the same shoot off procedures that are listed for the Qualifying Round.
 - ii. All ties, during the Championship Round, shall be shot off unless otherwise specified by shoot management and published in the program or posted at the registration table.
 - iii. If shoot-offs are held, the shoot-offs must be held on targets or positions not previously shot by any participating competitor in the Sporting Clay Competition.
 - iv. If shoot offs are not possible by conditions, the Buccaneer Commission has the right to use alternative means to determine results.
 - v. The Protest Committee will determine final placings, if necessary.
7. **Check-In:** All shooters are required to check in on Saturday, February 21st (7:30am – 8:30am) and must be present for the mandatory safety orientation. Shooters will be given credentials in the form of a shooter number at check-in that must always be displayed while shooting (attached to their shooting vest, shirt, outerwear, or shooting pouch). **NO LATE ARRIVALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO EXPECTATIONS!**
8. **Safety Orientations:** Safety orientations will be conducted on Saturday, February 22nd at 8:30am for the Qualifying Event and Sunday, February 22nd at 8:30am for the Championship Round. Safety orientations are mandatory for everyone who will participate in the events that day. Failure to attend the mandatory safety orientation for the Qualifying Round or Championship Round will result in disqualification. **NO SPECIAL/ ADDITIONAL ORIENTATIONS WILL BE HELD!**
9. **Squadding:** Squadding for skeet will be assigned on a random basis, within age divisions. Male and female shooters are subject to be mixed based on their age. No special request accommodations will be made. Accommodations for siblings will be considered for sporting clays only. Please add sporting clay requests for siblings in the ‘comments’ section of iClays. Squadding will be posted online at the iClays website after registration is closed. Contestants should check periodically, as updates and changes may be made before the event.

10. Safety Requirements:

- a. **Range Safety:** The safety of all involved is of paramount importance. All range safety rules will be strictly enforced. Any shooter failing to conform to safety standards will be warned or disqualified from the event. Minor infractions will be noted and marked on the shooter's badge. Repeated infractions or major safety violations will result in disqualification from the event.
- b. **Open and Empty:** All firearms will remain open and empty until the shooter is on the shooting station, and it is her/his turn to shoot. The firearm must be open and empty before leaving the shooting station. Over and under's broken open and semis or pumps must have actions open.
- c. **Muzzle Control:** Shooters must always maintain safe control of their muzzles. Regardless of condition, muzzles may not be pointed toward or rested upon any part of the body of the shooter or any person. This includes the use of toe pads. The only exception is the limited exposure required in changing chokes. Violation of this rule may result in warning, disqualification from a round, or disqualification from a match.
- d. **Eye Protection:** Shooting glasses or equivalent prescription glasses are required for all events. All persons on any course are required to have eye protection, including range personnel, and shooters. All spectators on the sporting clays course are required to always have eye protection on. Eye protection for spectators watching the skeet events is encouraged to wear eye protection as well.
- e. **Ear Protection:** All persons on any course are required to have hearing protection. Either ear plugs or earmuffs may be worn at the discretion of the shooter, or range officer; but proper hearing protection is required. *Electronic devices are not allowed while shooting, this includes cell phones, headsets, electronic watches, Bluetooth devices, or any other form of electronic device. NO EXCEPTIONS.* One set of complimentary ear plugs will be in each shooter packet. Observers should provide their own ear protection. All spectators on the sporting clays course are required to always have hearing protection on. Hearing protection for spectators watching the skeet events are encouraged to wear hearing protection as well.
- f. **Firearms:** Any 12 gauge or smaller fired from the shoulder shotgun, which conforms to NSSA/NSCA rules.
- g. **Ammunition:** NO RELOADS – NSCA PERMITTED FACTORY AMMUNITION ONLY – Shooters must furnish their own appropriate ammunition. It is vitally important to allow extra ammunition for shoot-offs, malfunctions, or other contingencies. Ammunition is subject to inspection and verification.
 - i. No load may contain more than 1 1/8 ounces of shot.
 - ii. No load may contain any shot larger than Number 7 1/2

- iii. All loads must contain lead shot.
 - h. **Field and Range Boundaries:** For multiple reasons, control of traffic on and around all fields and ranges is essential. Please respect these boundaries and the directions of the officials.
 - i. **Disruption:** Parents, coaches, and other individuals should remain positive and supportive, being careful not to disrupt or exhibit behaviors deemed detrimental to shooters or the operation of the match. Sanctions ranging from warning to ejection from the grounds or disqualification of shooters may be imposed for interference with the operation of the match or disruption of the events on the firing line or field.
 - j. **Alcohol Policy:** Alcohol will not be allowed on the grounds of the Corpus Christi Gun Club for this specific event. Consumption, use, and possession of alcohol by persons under the age of 21 is prohibited by law and is not permitted anywhere on the grounds at any time.
 - k. **Drug Policy:** Shooting is not allowed while under the influence of any drug or prescription medications that effect judgement and conduct to a degree that a participant is unsafe.
 - l. **Tobacco Policy:** Smoking is not permitted on or near the firing lines or in any area where it would be considered inappropriate or is a situation where the smoke constitutes interference to shooters. Smoking use and possession of tobacco products (including smokeless) by minors is prohibited by law and is not permitted anywhere on the grounds at any time.
 - m. **Weather:** Rain or shine, the event will continue unless officials are made aware of lightning in the area. The Corpus Christi Gun Club will make decisions on the suspension and proceeding of the shoot, if needed.
11. **Official Scores:** The official score is the record kept by the referee/scorer on a sheet furnished him/her by Management. The referee/scorer's decision in whether a target is dead or lost is final. All reported scores are checked for accuracy and corrections will be made when required. Shoot officials maintain the objective of producing timely, accurate and complete scoring records for each event. They do not represent any club, county, team, or individual. The Buccaneer Commission Superintendent(s) will be responsible for conducting any and all aspects of the event pertaining to 'shooting'. Including, but not limited to squadding, scoring, posting of scores, determination and conducting shoot-offs, determination of winners, and rule interpretation.
- i. A Master sheet will be used at each station and will be in possession of the scorer. Scorecards will be carried from station to station by the contestants

and should only be written on by the scorer. Parents, coaches, observers should never have possession of the shooter's scorecard. Fabrication of scorecards will result in disqualification from the event, with no possibility of proceeding to the Championship Round or winning prize money/scholarships.

12. **Appeals:** A shooter may appeal a ruling on the field immediately if he/she feels a referee has missed a call. Once the shooter has called for another target, leaves the station, or the next shooter has fired, such right of appeal is lost. The referee may seek assistance from the scorer or may poll the squad at his or her discretion. The decision of the referee on the field is final and not subject to further appeal. Parent/ coach scoring is not official scoring and will not be consulted.
13. **Protests:** Protest Committee for this particular event will include the Superintendent(s), Assistant Superintendent(s), Director of Competitions at the Buccaneer Commission, and the Corpus Christi Gun Club (CCGC). Protests must follow the guidelines located in the 'General Rules' section of the Exhibitor Handbook.
14. **Accommodations:** Lodging is the responsibility of the shooter's party and will not be arranged by the Buccaneer Commission or the Corpus Christi Gun Club (CCGC).
15. **Coaching:** A participant may not be coached while in the shooting box. Coaching includes any communication between the coach, parent or other spectator and the shooter; verbal or non-verbal. The shooter may request assistance from the range safety officer and the range officer may assign an assistant, in the event of a malfunction.
16. **Dress Code:** Participants and spectators are required to dress appropriately. Wearing eye and ear protection is required and fully enclosed shoes must be worn for safety reasons by both shooters and spectators. All shooters and coaches should consider their dress in that they may be having photographs taken or be asked to interview for the media.
17. **Use of Two-Way Radios:** To assist us in range and match operations, only authorized persons are permitted to use two-way radios on the grounds. Any action by either or adults interfering with the frequencies in use imposes a safety hazard. Deliberate

disruption of range communication by anyone at the event will be considered a safety violation and will be treated as such.

18. **Personal Carts:** Cart rentals from CCGC will be available for \$80 per sporting clay round. For more information or to reserve your cart, please contact Corpus Christi Gun Club at (361) 852-1212 or visit www.corpuschristigunclub.com. Contestants are allowed to bring their own buggy or cart for this event. The Corpus Christi Gun Club will have waivers to acknowledge for those who are renting carts. Cart rental deadline is January 23rd, 2026.

19. **Buccaneer Commission Scholarship Requirements (for qualifying Class of 2026 Senior):**

****If the recipient of the Male Senior 2 Division Scholarship is awarded to an individual in 11th grade, these same rules will apply for that individual when retrieving the funds, the following year****

****If the recipient of the Female Senior Open Division Scholarship is awarded to an individual in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade, these same rules will apply for that individual when retrieving the funds, the following year****

****Male Senior 2 Division and Female Senior Open Division individuals are not limited to one scholarship, meaning a contestant could compete to win the scholarship prize when they are in the 11th grade AND when they are in the 12th grade****

20. **Awards:** The following prizes will be awarded to each Male Divisions (Junior, Intermediate, Senior 1, & Senior 2) and Female Divisions (Junior / Intermediate Open Division & Senior Open Division) to the top 5 individuals from the Championship Round that will be held on Sunday, February 22nd to compete for a grand total of \$35,000 in prize money and scholarships. **ONLY, the total combined scores (Skeet doubles – 50 targets and Whiz Bang – 50 targets) from the Sunday Championship Round will determine the following award placings.** Shoot offs will be conducted if necessary to determine the final top 5 placings for each of the Open Age Divisions.

a. **TOP GUN AWARD**

- i. The Top Gun Overall Shooter (Male or Female) (Combined scores from Saturday's Qualifying Round and Sundays Championship Round) will receive an award chosen by the Buccaneer Commission. This award will be given to the shooter following Sundays Championship Round. If a shooter in the male division and a shooter in the female division score

the same overall score, there will be the option of a shootout for those participants.

b. MALE DIVISIONS AWARDS

- i. A total of \$2,000 will be awarded to the Junior Division (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders).
 - a. Grand Champion- \$1,000 prize money and buckle
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion- \$600 prize money and trophy
 - c. 3rd place- \$400 prize money and trophy
 - d. 4th place- Trophy
 - e. 5th place- Trophy
- ii. A total of \$3,000 will be awarded to the Intermediate Division (6th, 7th, and 8th graders).
 - a. Grand Champion- \$1,500 prize money and buckle
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion- \$850 prize money and trophy
 - c. 3rd place- \$650 prize money and trophy
 - d. 4th place- Trophy
 - e. 5th place- Trophy
- iii. A total of \$5,000 will be awarded to the Senior 1 Division (9th & 10th graders).
 - a. Grand Champion- \$2,250 prize money and buckle
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion- \$1,500 prize money and trophy
 - c. 3rd place- \$1,250 prize money and trophy
 - d. 4th place- Trophy
 - e. 5th place- Trophy
- iv. A total of \$11,000 will be awarded to the Senior 2 Division (11th & 12th graders). The top 2 contestants in the Male Senior 2 Division will receive their funds in the form of a scholarship.
 - a. Grand Champion- \$6,000 scholarship and buckle
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion- \$3,000 scholarship and trophy
 - c. 3rd place- \$2,000 prize money and trophy
 - d. 4th place- Trophy
 - e. 5th place- Trophy

c. FEMALE DIVISIONS AWARDS

- i. A total of \$3,000 will be awarded to the Junior / Intermediate Open Division (3rd through 8th graders).

- a. Grand Champion- \$1,500 prize money and buckle
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion- \$850 prize money and trophy
 - c. 3rd place- \$650 prize money and trophy
 - d. 4th place- Trophy
 - e. 5th place- Trophy
- ii. A total of \$11,000 will be awarded to the Senior Open Division (9th, 10th, 11th & 12th graders). The top 2 contestants in the Female Senior Open Division will receive their funds in the form of a scholarship.
 - a. Grand Champion- \$6,000 scholarship and buckle
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion- \$3,000 scholarship and trophy
 - c. 3rd place- \$2,000 prize money and trophy
 - d. 4th place- Trophy
 - e. 5th place- Trophy

Alternative Plan to Determine Shoot Placings

Buc Days 4-H Clays Shoot

Discussed and approved by the Protest Committee—October 18, 2023

As part of Section 7(b)(iv)

If in the event of inclement weather and or any other act of nature and the result of those conditions impact the shoot during the qualifying round or the championship round, the final placings guidelines will be followed to determine the final shoot results.

Scenario 1: If during the qualifying event on Saturday inclement weather or any other act of nature prevents the qualifying shoot from being able to finish. The shooters that did not complete the qualifying round on Saturday will come back on Sunday morning to complete their qualifying round.

Scenario 2: If the championship round cannot be shot due to inclement weather or any other act of nature, the following will be followed to determine the championship placings.

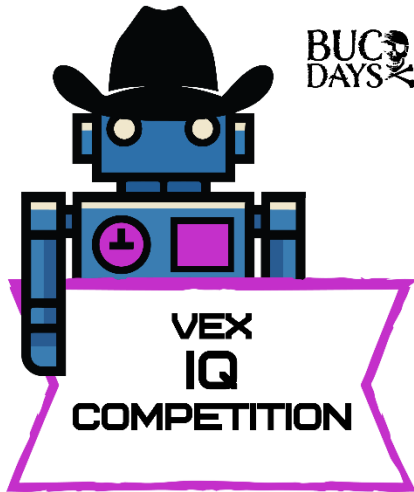
- The final placings will be determined by the qualifying event scores based on the below format.
 - The committee will use the sporting clays scores from the qualifying event with predetermined stations and utilize a station scorecard shoot off format. **(Predetermined stations will be determined by the Superintendent and Co Superintendent of the shoot)**
 - If the final placings cannot be determined by the sporting clays scores, then the skeet long runs will be used to determine the final placings.
 - First long run front, then if needed.
 - Long run back will be used next.

Scenario 3: If during the championship round the shoot cannot be completed due to inclement weather or any other act of nature, the following will be followed to determine the championship placings.

- The final placings for the qualifying event will be determined by the qualifying events scores for sporting clays and skeet based on the below format.
 - The committee will use the sporting clays scores with predetermined stations and utilize a station shoot off format. **(Predetermined stations will be determined by the Superintendent and Co Superintendent of the shoot)**
 - If the final placings cannot be determined by the sporting clays scores, then skeet long runs will be used to determine the final placings.
 - First long run front, then if needed.
 - Long run back will be used next.

Scenario 4: If after the championship round has completed and if shoot offs are necessary but due to inclement weather or any other act of nature the shoot offs cannot be completed, the following will be followed to determine the championship placings.

- The final placings for the Championship event will be determined by the Championship events scores for Whiz Bang and skeet doubles based on the below format.
 - The committee will use the Whiz Bang stations scores to determine the final pairings.
 - The committee will use the stations runs in the order of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
 - If the final placings cannot be determined by the Whiz Bang scores, then skeet doubles long runs will be used to determine the final placings.
 - First long run front, then if needed.
 - Long run back will be used next.



VEX IQ (VIQC) Competition

2026 Special Rules

Superintendent – Joseph Beckmann

Chair- Gilbert Gonzalez

Co-Chairs- Roger Silva & Steven Pierce

Location – Henry Garrett Ballroom

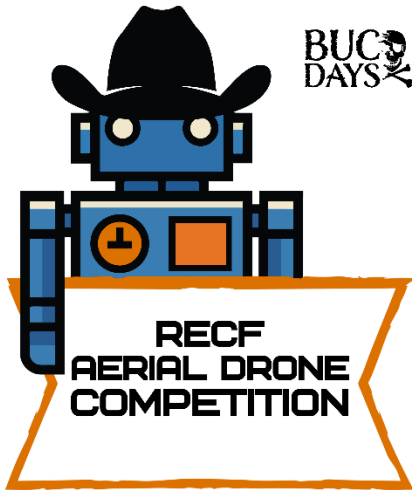
Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$5,000**

Event Date:	Thursday, April 30th, 2026
Load-In / Pits Open / Check-In Begins:	8:30am
Lunch	12:00pm – 1:00pm
Load-Out / Event Closes	5:00pm

Official day-of schedules will be in the 'VEX Team Packet' sent via email two weeks before the event to registered teams. Match schedules will be published in the VEX Tournament Management software day of. Actual end time depends on actual progress of the event.

1. **Participation / Eligibility:** Participation in the VEX IQ Competition at Buc Days is limited to 24 teams with K-5 participants (\leq 11-year-olds). Priority given to local teams.
2. **Registration:** Registration will open January 9, 2026, and will end April 1, 2026. Registration occurs at <https://robotevents.com>. Registration will close once capacity is reached on April 1, 2026. We will maintain a waitlist of 10 teams and will fill the event no later than April 15, 2026, from the waitlist. Each team will pay a \$75 registration fee before being confirmed as an attendee. Registration fees may be waived on a case-by-case basis.
3. **Equipment Load-In / Load-Out Procedures:** All teams must check in at the Buc Days Office (Henry Garrett Center, 1415 N. Water St., Corpus Christi, TX 78401) to receive credentials. No equipment may be loaded onto the festival grounds without these credentials. Teams must load-in together and a committee member will direct you to your zone. Drivers must then park in the designated lot shown on the 'Robotics Parking Map'. The 'VEX Robotics Team Packet' will be sent out to all participants prior to the event and will contain more information.
4. **Pits & Power:** Teams will be provided a 10'x10' space with 110v AC power for their pit. Teams are encouraged to bring a 25' standard three prong extension cord to connect to provided power. Teams are encouraged to bring presentation materials as this is a publicly attended event with awards for team spirit and presentations. More specific information is included in the 'VEX Robotics Team Packet'.
5. **Event Game Play and Customization:** This event will use the 2025 – 2026 "Mix & Match" game rules. There will be a scoring modification to celebrate our pirate themed event. Teams will be scheduled to complete skills. We will evaluate progress during lunch and may add an additional match based on timing. Teams will receive at least 7 qualification matches. After qualifications, we will use single elimination in quarter / semi-finals and then best of three in finals. There will be no head referee appeals for this event. There is no official VEX judging in this event. Specifics will be included in your 'VEX Robotics Team Packet'.
6. **Awards:** A total of \$5,000 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event. Awards will be issued at the end of the event based on robot performance and other specific criteria. Refer to the 'Buc Days VEX/RECF Awards & Descriptions' document.

a. Tournament Champions (x2)	\$1,000
b. Tournament Finalists (x2)	\$750
c. Robot Skills Champion	\$500
d. Robot Skills 2 nd Place	\$300
e. Robot Skills 3 rd Place	\$200
f. Arr-mazing Spirit Award	\$500



RECF ADC Competition

2026 Special Rules

Superintendent – Randy Ashley

Chair- Gilbert Gonzalez

Co-Chairs- Roger Silva & Steven Pierce

Location – Henry Garrett Ballroom

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$5,000**

Event Date: **Friday, May 1st, 2026**

Load-In / Pits Open / Check-In Begins: 8:30am

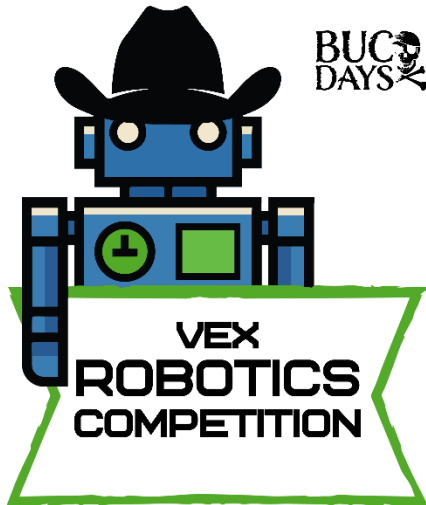
Lunch 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Load-Out / Event Closes 5:00pm

Official day-of schedules will be in the 'RECF ADC Team Packet' sent via email two weeks before the event to registered teams. Match schedules will be published in the VEX Tournament Management software day of. Actual end time depends on actual progress of the event.

1. **Participation / Eligibility:** Participation in the RECF ADC Competition at Buc Days is limited to 24 teams. Priority is given to local teams.
2. **Registration:** Registration will open January 9, 2026, and will end April 1, 2026. Registration occurs at <https://robotevents.com>. Registration will close once capacity is reached on April 1, 2026. We will maintain a waitlist of 10 teams and will fill the event no later than April 15, 2026, from the waitlist. Each team will pay a \$75 registration fee before being confirmed as an attendee. Registration fees may be waived on a case-by-case basis.
3. **Equipment Load-In Procedures:** All teams must check in at the Buc Days Office (Henry Garrett Center, 1415 N. Water St., Corpus Christi, TX 78401) to receive credentials. No equipment may be loaded onto the festival grounds without these credentials. Teams must load-in together and a committee member will direct you to your zone. Drivers must then park in the designated lot shown on the 'Robotics Parking Map'. The 'RECF ADC Team Packet' will be sent out to all participants prior to the event and will contain more information.
4. **Pits & Power:** Teams will be provided a 10'x10' space with 110v AC power for their pit. Teams are encouraged to bring a 25' standard three prong extension cord to connect to provided power. Teams are encouraged to bring presentation materials as this is a publicly attended event with awards for team spirit and presentations. More specific information is included in the 'RECF ADC Team Packet'.
5. **Event Game Play and Customization:** This event will use the 2025 – 2026 "Time Warp" game rules. There will be a scoring modification to celebrate our pirate themed event. Teams will receive at least 6 qualification matches and 3 attempts at skill runs (autonomous / piloting). Teams will be assigned times to complete skill runs. We will evaluate progress during lunch and may adjust +/- based on timing. We will have 8 alliances and will use single elimination in quarter / semi-finals and then best of three in finals. There is no official VEX judging in this event. Specifics will be included in your 'RECF ADC Team Packet'.
6. **Awards:** Awards will be issued at the end of the event based on robot performance and other specific criteria. Refer to the 'Buc Days VEX/RECF Awards & Descriptions' document. A copy will be included in the 'RECF ADC Team Packet'.
 - a. Tournament Winning Alliance Award (x2) \$900
 - b. Tournament Finalist Alliance Award (x2) \$600

c. Teamwork Mission Champions Award (x2)	\$500
d. Skills Mission Champion Award	\$500
e. Skills Missions 2 nd Place Award	\$250
f. Arr-mazing Spirit Award	\$500



VEX Robotics (VRC) Competition

2026 Special Rules

Superintendent – Seth Lara

Chair- Gilbert Gonzalez
Co-Chairs- Roger Silva & Steven Pierce

Location – Henry Garrett Ballroom

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$7,000**

Event Date: **Friday, May 1st, 2026**

Load-In / Pits Open / Check-In Begins: 8:30am

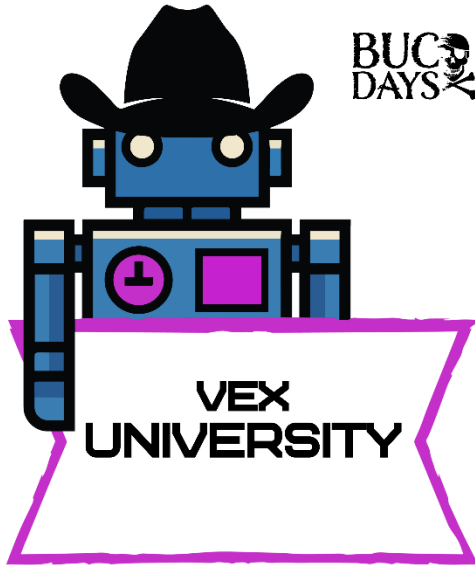
Lunch 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Load-Out / Event Closes 5:00pm

Official day-of schedules will be in the 'VEX Robotics Team Packet' sent via email two weeks before the event to registered teams. Match schedules will be published in the VEX Tournament Management software day of. Actual end time depends on actual progress of the event.

1. **Participation / Eligibility:** Participation in the VEX VRC Competition at Buc Days is limited to 32 teams. Priority is given to local teams.
2. **Registration:** Registration will open January 9, 2026, and will end April 1, 2026. Registration occurs at <https://robotevents.com>. Registration will close once capacity is reached on April 1, 2026. We will maintain a waitlist of 10 teams and will fill the event no later than April 15, 2026, from the waitlist. Each team will pay a \$100 registration fee before being confirmed as an attendee. Registration fees may be waived on a case-by-case basis.
3. **Equipment Load-In / Load-Out Procedures:** All teams must check in at the Buc Days Office (Henry Garrett Center, 1415 N. Water St., Corpus Christi, TX 78401) to receive credentials. No equipment may be loaded onto the festival grounds without these credentials. Teams must load-in together and a committee member will direct you to your zone. Drivers must then park in the designated lot shown on the 'Robotics Parking Map'. The 'VEX Robotics Team Packet' will be sent out to all participants prior to the event and will contain more information.
4. **Pits & Power:** Teams will be provided a 10'x10' space with 110v AC power for their pit. Teams are encouraged to bring a 25' standard three prong extension cord to connect to provided power. Teams are encouraged to bring presentation materials as this is a publicly attended event with awards for team spirit and presentations. More specific information is included in the 'VEX Robotics Team Packet'.
5. **Event Game Play and Customization:** This event will use the 2025 – 2026 "Push Back" game rules. There will be a scoring modification to celebrate our pirate themed event. Teams will receive at least 6 qualification matches. We will evaluate progress during lunch and may add an additional match based on timing. After qualifications, we will use single elimination in quarter / semi-finals and then best of three in finals. There is no official VEX judging in this event. Specifics will be included in your 'VEX Robotics Team Packet'.
6. **Awards:** Awards will be issued at the end of the event based on robot performance and other specific criteria. Refer to the 'Buc Days VEX/RECF Awards & Descriptions' document. A copy will be included in the 'VEX Robotics Team Packet'.
 - a. Tournament Winning Alliance Award (x2) \$1,500
 - b. Tournament Finalist Alliance Award (x2) \$1,250
 - c. Tournament Most Winner Award \$500

d. Top Qualifier Award	\$500
e. Strength of Schedule Award	\$500
f. Autonomous Mastery Award	\$500
g. Consistency Mastery Award	\$500
h. Arr-mazing Spirit Award	\$500



VEX University (VEXU) Competition

2026 Special Rules

Superintendent – Edgar Sifuentes

Chair- Gilbert Gonzalez
Co-Chairs- Roger Silva & Steven Pierce

Location – Henry Garrett Ballroom

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$8,000**

Event Date:	Friday, May 1st, 2026
Load-In / Pits Open / Check-In Begins:	8:30am
Lunch	12:00pm – 1:00pm
Load-Out / Event Closes	5:00pm

Official day-of schedules will be in the 'VEX Robotics Team Packet' sent via email two weeks before the event to registered teams. Match schedules will be published in the VEX Tournament Management software day of. Actual end time depends on actual progress of the event.

1. **Participation / Eligibility:** Participation in the VEX University (VEXU) Competition at Buc Days is limited to 24 teams. Priority is given to local teams.
2. **Registration:** Registration will open January 9, 2026, and will end April 1, 2026. Registration occurs at <https://robotevents.com>. Registration will close once capacity is reached on April 1, 2026. We will maintain a waitlist of 5 teams and will fill the event no later than April 15, 2026, from the waitlist. Each team will pay a \$100 registration fee before being confirmed as an attendee. Registration fees may be waived on a case-by-case basis.
3. **Equipment Load-In / Load-Out Procedures:** All teams must check in at the Buc Days Office (Henry Garrett Center, 1415 N. Water St., Corpus Christi, TX 78401) to receive credentials. No equipment may be loaded onto the festival grounds without these credentials. Teams must load-in together and a committee member will direct you to your zone. Drivers must then park in the designated lot shown on the 'Robotics Parking Map'. The 'VEX Robotics Team Packet' will be sent out to all participants prior to the event and will contain more information.
4. **Pits & Power:** Teams will be provided a 10'x10' space with 110v AC power for their pit. Teams are encouraged to bring a 25' standard three prong extension cord to connect to provided power. Teams are encouraged to bring presentation materials as this is a publicly attended event with awards for team spirit and presentations. More specific information is included in the 'VEX Robotics Team Packet'.
5. **Event Game Play and Customization:** This event will use the 2025 – 2026 "Push Back" VEXU game rules. This event will be 1x1 game play. There will be a scoring modification to celebrate our pirate themed event. Teams will receive at least 8 qualification matches. We will evaluate progress during lunch and may adjust +/- based on timing. We will use single elimination in quarterfinals / semifinals and best of three in finals. There is no official VEX judging in this event. Specifics will be included in your 'VEX Robotics Team Packet'.
6. **Awards:** Awards will be issued at the end of the event based on robot performance and other specific criteria. Refer to the 'Buc Days VEX/RECF Awards & Descriptions' document. A copy will be included in the 'VEX VEXU Team Packet'.
 - a. Tournament Winning Captain Award \$3,000
 - b. Tournament Finalist Award \$2,000
 - c. Tournament Most Winner Award \$500

d. Top Qualifier Award	\$500
e. Strength of Schedule Award	\$500
f. Autonomous Mastery Award	\$500
g. Consistency Mastery Award	\$500
h. Arr-mazing Spirit Award	\$500

Buc Days Food Show Competition

2026 Special Rules



Superintendent – Norma Munoz
Assistant Superintendent – Erika Bochat

Chair- Zachary Narvaez
Co-Chair- Page Gray

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$5,000**

Event Date:	Thursday, May 7th, 2026
Check-In Begins:	2:00pm
Competition Begins:	2:30pm
Preliminary Rounds:	2:30pm-5:30pm
Tie Breakers (if needed):	5:30pm-6:00pm
Awards Presentation: (On the Community Stage)	*6:30pm

1. **Participation:** The contest will be divided into three age divisions.
 - a. **Junior Division** (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders only)
 - i. 8 years of age (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and not over 10 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - b. **Intermediate Division** (6th, 7th, and 8th graders only)
 - ii. 10 years of age (in addition to being in the 6th grade) and not over 14 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - c. **Senior Division** (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders only)
 - iii. 14 years of age (in addition to being in the 9th grade) and not over 18 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
2. **Eligibility:** Participation in the Buc Days Food Show is limited to TX resident students, who are enrolled in a Texas Youth Development program and are actively participating in the Food and Nutrition project. Each 4-H, FFA, and FCLA member must be in good standing with its state and National affiliates.
3. **Registration:** Registration will be open on December 15, 2025, and completed through our website at '<https://bucdays.com/buc-days-food-show/>'. Registration will close when the event has reached capacity of 75 participants. Each participant must pay a \$30 registration fee to participate.
4. **Entry Categories:** There are four entry categories, allowing contestants to present a variety of foods while demonstrating food preparation skills. Many recipes could fit more than one category; contestants should be prepared to explain their choice. When selecting a recipe, contestants should keep good nutrition and healthy preparation methods in mind, consult the [Choose MyPlate](#) website, and work with their County Extension Agent or project leader for guidance.
 - a. **Appetizer** – Small dish served before the main course. Recipes should be lighter options that don't spoil the appetite and are lower in fat, sodium, and calories.
 - b. **Main Dish** – The featured dish of a meal, typically hearty and substantial. Often built around a protein source but may include a variety of foods.
 - c. **Side Dish** – Foods served alongside a main dish, such as salads, cooked vegetables, pasta, rice, fruit, or combination dishes.
 - d. **Healthy Dessert** – Sweet dishes prepared with healthy substitutions, aligning with MyPlate and Dietary Guidelines, and served at the end of a meal or for special occasions.

5. **Preparation & Presentation:** All dishes must be prepared prior to the event. Participants may only add garnishes or stir dishes upon arrival. No on-site preparation is allowed except for last-minute assistance from other 4-H members—no adults. Garnishes must be edible.
 - a. **Dish Display:** Present in a serving dish or the original cooking vessel. Seniors must bring the full recipe; Juniors and Intermediates may bring a single serving. No elaborate placemats, linens, or decorations are allowed. Only necessary utensils may be included.
6. **Contest Format:** Each food show participant will complete/compete in each of the following components. A brief description and/or rules are shown for each.
 - a. **FOOD SHOW DISH PRESENTATION/ INTERVIEW:**
 - i. Contestants introduce themselves and their dish, then give an oral presentation (up to five minutes) on MyPlate, nutrition, food preparation, or food safety. Presentation is required for Seniors; optional but encouraged for Juniors and Intermediates. Judges may follow with up to four minutes of questions on preparation, ingredients, substitutions, nutrients, Dietary Guidelines, calorie content, cost, food safety, or menu ideas. Seniors serve judges a single portion during this time; Juniors and Intermediates do not serve.
 - b. **SKILL SHOWCASE:**
 - i. Contestants demonstrate a food and nutrition skill assigned by judges. All materials provided; scoring based on correct procedures, safety, and knowledge. Examples include knife skills, zesting, table setting, dry & wet measurements, and food safety demonstrations. A time limit will be announced during participant orientation.
7. **Timing:** Juniors & Intermediates have a maximum of 9 minutes per contestant. Seniors have a maximum 10 minutes per contestant (includes one minute for serving).
8. **Tie Breaker:** If ties should occur, the ties shall be broken using scores of various categories on the scorecard. The order followed will be: Interview and Contestant Presentation, Skills Showcase, Communication Skills, Food, and Recipe.
9. **Awards:** A total of \$5,000 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.
 - a. A total of \$1,200 will be awarded to the Grand Champion contestant for each category in the Junior Division (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion – Appetizer: \$300 prize money

- ii. Grand Champion – Side Dish: \$300 prize money
 - iii. Grand Champion – Main Dish: \$300 prize money
 - iv. Grand Champion – Healthy Dessert: \$300 prize money
- b. A total of \$1,200 will be awarded to the Grand Champion contestant for each category in the Intermediate Division (6th, 7th, and 8th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion – Appetizer: \$300 prize money
 - ii. Grand Champion – Side Dish: \$300 prize money
 - iii. Grand Champion – Main Dish: \$300 prize money
 - iv. Grand Champion – Healthy Dessert: \$300 prize money
- c. A total of \$2,600 will be awarded to the top three (3) contestants in the Senior Division (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion – Appetizer: \$650 prize money
 - ii. Grand Champion – Side Dish: \$650 prize money
 - iii. Grand Champion – Main Dish: \$650 prize money
 - iv. Grand Champion – Healthy Dessert: \$650 prize money

Buc Days Food Show | Preparation Scorecard



Contestant Name: _____ County: _____

Entry Category (check one): _____ Appetizer _____ Main Dish _____ Side Dish _____ Healthy Dessert

	Comments	Points	Score
Safety Concerns & Practices			
Exhibited knowledge of how to use equipment safely (heat, utensils, sharps, etc.)		(5)	
Handled ingredients appropriately to avoid cross contamination		(5)	
Personal Hygiene (hair, nails, jewelry, etc.)		(5)	
Preparation			
Practiced correct cooking procedures based upon ingredients provided		(2)	
Completed tasks efficiently and in a logical order		(2)	
Management			
Used workspace efficiently		(2)	
Effective use of time		(2)	
Preparation table was clean at the conclusion of the preparation period		(2)	
Additional Comments:		Possible (25)	

Judges Name: _____ Judges Initials: _____

Buc Days Food Show | Presentation Scorecard



Contestant Name: _____ County: _____

Entry Category (check one): _____ Appetizer _____ Main Dish _____ Side Dish _____ Healthy Dessert

	Comments	Points	Score
I. PRESENTATION			
Theme: • How does the theme fit with the dish?		(5)	
Knowledge of MyPlate: • Food group(s) represented in dish. • Serving amount needed from each group daily for age. • How did MyPlate guide choice of dish? • How does this dish reflect MyPlate?		(10)	
Nutrition Knowledge: • Key nutrients of dish and function of those nutrients		(10)	
Food Preparation: • Preparation key principles and function of key ingredients • Healthy substitutions		(10)	
Food Safety Concerns & Practices: • Knows food safety concerns in preparation and storage of dish • Follows FightBAC principles		(10)	
II. INTERVIEW (category specific)			
Judge's Questions		(15)	
4-H Food & Nutrition Project Activities		(10)	
III. FOOD PRESENTATION/QUALITY			
• Appearance of food (texture, uniformity) • Garnishing		(5)	
IV. EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNICATION			
• Voice, poise, personal appearance		(5)	
V. SKILL SHOWCASE SCORE			
• Proper demonstration of assigned skill.		(10)	
Additional Comments:		Possible (90)	

Judges Name: _____ Judges Initials: _____

Buc Days Food Challenge Competition



2026 Special Rules

Superintendent – Norma Munoz

Assistant Superintendent – Erika Bochat

Chair- Zachary Narvaez

Co-Chair- Page Gray

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$7,500**

Event Date: **Friday, May 8th, 2026**

Check-In Begins: 11:00am

Competition Begins: 11:30am

Preliminary Rounds: 11:30am-4:00pm

Final Round: 4:30pm-5:30pm

Awards Presentation: *6:00pm
(On the Community Stage)

1. **Participation:** The contest will be divided into three age divisions.
 - a. **Junior Division** (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders only)
 - i. 8 years of age (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and not over 10 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - b. **Intermediate Division** (6th, 7th, and 8th graders only)
 - ii. 10 years of age (in addition to being in the 6th grade) and not over 14 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - c. **Senior Division** (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders only)
 - iii. 14 years of age (in addition to being in the 9th grade) and not over 18 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
2. **Eligibility:** Participation in the Buc Days Food Challenge is limited to TX resident students, who are enrolled in a Texas Youth Development program and are actively participating in the Food and Nutrition project. Each 4-H, FFA, and FCLA member must be in good standing with its state and National affiliates.
3. **Registration:** Registration will be open on December 15, 2025, and completed through our website at [‘https://bucdays.com/buc-days-food-challenge/](https://bucdays.com/buc-days-food-challenge/). Registration will close when the event has reached capacity of 75 teams. Team entry fees are \$75, no matter if there are 3 or 4 members on the team.
4. **Contest Format:** Each team will be assigned a contest category and a “key ingredient,” which will be revealed either during team orientation or at the preparation station. Categories include Appetizer, Main Dish, Side Dish, or Healthy Dessert. Teams will work at a designated cooking station equipped with a table and an electrical outlet. Junior Division teams may use a hot plate if desired, but no penalty or bonus points will be awarded based on its use. Only participants and contest officials are permitted in the food preparation areas.
5. **Grocery Store & Pantry:** Teams may use items from their approved pantry supply box, as outlined in the supply list. In addition, a “grocery store” will be available, stocked with common items such as produce, canned goods, crackers, dairy products, and water jugs. Each team must select and use at least two items from the grocery store in addition to their key ingredient. The maximum number of items allowed from the grocery store will be explained during orientation. Teams will not be required to complete a cost analysis of their recipe, as contest currency and cost considerations have been eliminated. Pantry ingredients, listed below, may be used by teams when preparing their dish, if desired:

- a. Salt
 - b. Pepper
 - c. Oils (up to 1 oz)
 - d. 1 jar of chicken bouillon
 - e. 1 medium onion
 - f. 2 cans of vegetables and/or fruit (up to 16 oz) – team choice
 - g. Rice (white or brown) or pasta (up to 16 oz) – team choice
 - h. Cornstarch (up to 1 lb) or flour (up to 1 lb) – team choice
 - i. 3 dried herbs and/or spices (up to 3 oz of each) – team choice
6. **Preparation:** Teams will have 40 minutes to create an original recipe using the key ingredient and grocery store items, prepare and cook the dish, plan their presentation, and clean their work area. Each team must create one complete recipe or dish, not multiple dishes, and the final product must yield at least two or more servings. During their presentation, teams must identify an appropriate individual serving size and the total number of servings the recipe provides. Teams are responsible for determining ingredient amounts, cooking methods, and cooking times and temperatures. The key ingredient and grocery store items may also be used as garnishes. Teams are encouraged to use note cards to record their invented recipe, nutrition notes, and safety reminders.
7. **Food & Equipment Safety:** Teams must maintain a safe and sanitary work environment throughout the contest. Judges will evaluate food and equipment safety practices during preparation and expect safety measures to be addressed in the team presentation. A barrier must always be used when handling food, either in the form of gloves or utensils. When gloves are used, they must be changed between handling raw meats or seafood, cooked items, ready-to-eat foods, and raw vegetables. In addition, each team member must wear a hat, hair net, or other form of hair restraint during preparation. Acceptable hair restraints include hair nets, a bandana with hair pulled back, a chef hat with hair tucked inside, or a cap with all hair secured.
8. **Equipment Malfunctions:** If a team experiences equipment malfunctions, they may not borrow or replace items from other teams, leaders, volunteers, or contest officials. Team members are expected to problem-solve and continue preparation without the malfunctioning equipment.

9. **Nutrition Resources:** Nutrition reference materials will be provided at each station. During their presentation, teams should highlight the key nutrients present in their dish and explain the function of those nutrients.
10. **Presentation:** At the conclusion of preparation, each team will give a five-minute presentation to the judges. Presentations must address the following areas: Knowledge of MyPlate and the Dietary Guidelines, Nutrition Knowledge, Food Preparation Process, Food and Equipment Safety Practices, and Serving Size Information. Judges will also score creativity, food quality and appearance, and the effectiveness of team communication. A majority of team members are expected to participate in the presentation. Presentations are limited to five minutes. Afterward, judges will have three minutes to ask questions, which will cover general topics related to nutrition, health, and chronic disease prevention rather than content teams should have included in their presentation. Following questions, judges will take four minutes to score and write comments. Team members must remain silent and may not write while waiting to present. A first offense will result in a warning, and a second offense will result in disqualification. Team members may not have pens or pencils in their possession while waiting. Once the 40-minute preparation time has ended, team members may no longer communicate with each other but may study their notes individually before presenting.
11. **Clean-Up:** Teams are required to clean their preparation area within the allotted 40 minutes. As no kitchen facilities will be provided for washing dishes, dirty items should be placed in containers or bags to be cleaned later. Leftover food must be disposed of in the trashcans provided and may not be discarded in the bathrooms.
12. **Finished Dishes:** Completed dishes must remain in the preparation and judging areas and may not leave the contest space. To ensure fairness for subsequent teams, all finished dishes must be discarded after judging is complete.
13. **Final Round:** Teams placing first in each category (Main, Side, Appetizer, Dessert) in all three age divisions will advance to the final round. Teams advancing to the final round will be given time to clean their utensils and prepare for the next round.
14. **Tie Breakers:** In the event of a tie, winners will be determined in the following order: first by presentation score, then by preparation score, and finally by the question section of the presentation scorecard.

15. **Awards:** A total of \$7,500 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.

- a. A total of \$2,000 will be awarded to the top three (3) teams in the Junior Division (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$1,000 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$600 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place team- \$400 prize money and trophy
- b. A total of \$2,000 will be awarded to the top three (3) teams in the Intermediate Division (6th, 7th, and 8th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$1,000 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$600 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place team- \$400 prize money and trophy
- c. A total of \$3,500 will be awarded to the top four (4) teams in the Senior Division (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$1,600 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$1,150 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place team- \$750 prize money and trophy

Buc Days Food Challenge | Preparation Scorecard



Team Name: _____ Team #: _____

Entry Category (check one): _____ Appetizer _____ Main Dish _____ Side Dish _____ Healthy Dessert

Team Observation	Comments	Points	Score
Teamwork:			
Effective use of communication among team members		(2)	
Each team member played a key role in the preparation phase, whether cooking or preparing presentation		(3)	
Safety concerns and practices:			
Exhibited knowledge of how to use equipment safely (heat, utensils, sharps, etc.)		(3)	
Handled ingredients appropriately to avoid cross contamination		(3)	
Personal Hygiene (hair, nails, jewelry, etc.)		(3)	
Preparation:			
Practiced correct cooking procedures based upon ingredients provided		(3)	
Completed tasks efficiently and in a logical order		(2)	
Management:			
Used workspace efficiently		(2)	
Effective use of time		(2)	
Preparation table was clean at the conclusion of the preparation period		(2)	
Additional Comments:		Possible (25)	

Judges Name: _____

Judges Initials: _____

Buc Days Food Challenge | Presentation Scorecard

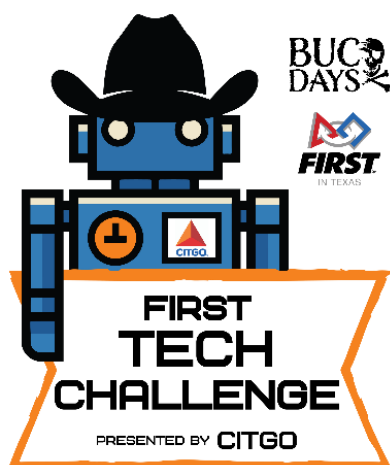


Team Name: _____ Team #: _____

Entry Category (check one): _____ Appetizer _____ Main Dish _____ Side Dish _____ Healthy Dessert

Team Presentation	Comments	Points	Score
Knowledge of MyPlate and Dietary Guidelines:			
Knowledge of MyPlate		(5)	
Knowledge of Dietary Guidelines for Americans		(5)	
Nutrition Knowledge:			
Knows key nutrition in prepared dish		(6)	
Knowledge of nutrient functions, effects, and deficiency risks		(6)	
Healthy substitutions and modifications		(3)	
Food Preparation:			
Explained key steps in how dish was prepared		(4)	
Role of main ingredients in dish		(2)	
Safety Concerns and Practices:			
Explained food safety according to Fight BAC		(8)	
Serving Size Information:			
Demonstrated knowledge of serving size for prepared dish		(4)	
Food Appearance/Quality:			
Food is appealing and appetizing		(3)	
Appeared to be cooked properly		(3)	
Attractive and appropriate garnish		(2)	
Creativity:			
Used ingredients in a creative way		(5)	
Incorporated grocery store items into dish or garnish		(3)	
Effectiveness of Communication:			
Displayed effective communication skills		(6)	
Poise and personal appearance		(4)	
Questions:			
Accurately and appropriately answered questions		(6)	
Additional Comments:		Possible (75)	

Judges Name: _____ Judges Initials: _____



FIRST® Tech Challenge

2026 Special Rules

Superintendents – Patrick Michaud & Emily DeMille

Chair- Gilbert Gonzalez

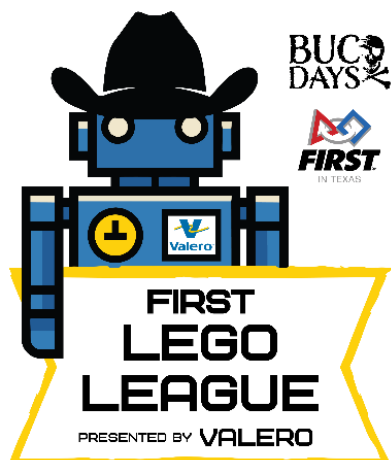
Co-Chairs- Roger Silva & Steven Pierce

Location – Henry Garrett Ballroom

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$7,000**

Event Date:	Saturday, May 9th, 2026
Load-In / Pits Open / Check-In Begins:	8:30am
Robot Inspection Begins:	8:30am
Drivers Meeting:	10:00am
Opening Ceremony:	10:30am
Qualification Matches Start:	11:05am
Lunch:	12:00pm
Matches Resume:	1:15pm
Final Judge Decisions:	4:30pm
Alliance Selection & Awards:	5:15pm
Playoff Matches:	5:45pm-7:20pm
Robot Game Winners:	7:20pm
Load-Out Teams / Breakdown:	7:00pm-8:00pm

1. **Participation / Eligibility:** Participation in the FIRST® Tech Challenge at Buc Days is limited to teams (with participants between 7th and 12th grade) who are in good standing with the FIRST in Texas organization. This is an off-season event under the framework of the 2026 DECODE Game, which teams must have participated in at least once in their fiscal year.
2. **Registration:** Registration will be completed through the FIRST® in Texas website at <https://firstintexas.org/home>. Registration will close when the event has reached capacity of 32 teams.
3. **Equipment Load-In / Load Out Procedures:** All teams must check in at the Buc Days Office (Henry Garrett Center, 1415 N. Water St., Corpus Christi, TX 78401) to receive credentials. No equipment may be loaded onto the festival grounds without these credentials. Teams must load-in together and a committee member will direct you to your zone. Drivers must then park in the designated lot shown on the 'Robotics Parking Map'. The 'FIRST in Texas Team Packet' will be sent out to all participants prior to the event and will contain more information.
4. **Awards:** A total of \$7,000 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.
 - a. Winning Alliance Captain- \$1,250
 - b. Winning Alliance Pick- \$1,250
 - c. Finalist Alliance Captain- \$750
 - d. Finalist Alliance Pick- \$750
 - e. 3rd Place Alliance Captain- \$375
 - f. 3rd Place Alliance Pick- \$375
 - g. Jolly Roger Spirit Award 1st- \$300
 - h. Jolly Roger Spirit Award 2nd- \$200
 - i. Middle School All Star 1st- \$600
 - j. Middle School All Star 2nd- \$400
 - k. Excellence in Robot Design 1st- \$500
 - l. Excellence in Robot Design 2nd- \$250



FIRST® Lego League Competition

2026 Special Rules

Superintendent – Dee Wallace

Chair- Gilbert Gonzalez
Co-Chairs- Roger Silva & Steven Pierce

Location – Henry Garrett Ballroom

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$4,000**

Event Date:	Saturday, May 9th, 2026
Load-In / Pits Open / Check-In Begins:	8:30am
Coaches Meeting:	9:00am- 9:30am
Opening Ceremony:	10:30am
Practice Round:	10:30am-11:30am
Lunch:	11:30pm-12:00pm
Round 1:	12:10pm-1:10pm
Referee Break:	1:10pm-1:25pm
Round 2:	1:25pm-2:25pm
Referee Break:	2:25pm-2:35pm
Round 3:	2:35pm-3:35pm
Awards:	4:00pm-4:30pm
Load-Out Teams / Breakdown:	4:30pm-6:00pm

1. **Participation / Eligibility:** Participation in the FIRST® Lego League Competition at Buc Days is limited to teams (with participants between 4th and 8th grade) who are in good standing with the FIRST in Texas organization. This invitational off-season event runs under the framework of the 2026 UNEARTH Game, while also complying with the competition specific rules and regulations.
2. **Registration:** Registration will be completed through the FIRST® in Texas website at <https://firstintexas.org/home>. Registration will close when the event has reached capacity of 32 teams.
3. **Equipment Load-In Procedures:** All teams must check in at the Buc Days Office (Henry Garrett Center, 1415 N. Water St., Corpus Christi, TX 78401) to receive credentials. No equipment may be loaded onto the festival grounds without these credentials. Teams must load-in together and a committee member will direct you to your zone. Drivers must then park in the designated lot shown on the 'Robotics Parking Map'. The 'FIRST in Texas Team Packet' will be sent out to all participants prior to the event and will contain more information.
4. **Awards:** A total of \$4,000 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.
 - a. 1st Place Champion- \$1,000
 - b. 2nd Place Champion- \$850
 - c. 3rd Place Champion- \$650
 - d. 4th Place Champion- \$500
 - e. Spirit Award- \$200
 - f. Gracious Professionalism- \$200
 - g. Best Buccaneer Costume- \$200
 - h. Peer Award- \$200
 - i. Best Pit Décor- \$200

Buc Days Public Speaking Competition

2026 Special Rules



Superintendent – Megan Glidden
Assistant Superintendent – Cheryl Handy

Chair- Jonathan Bailey
Co-Chair- Stephen Rybak

Location – Buc Days Festival Grounds

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$1,500**

Event Date:	Saturday, May 9th, 2026
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Check-In Begins:	11:30am
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Competition Begins:	12:00pm
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Preliminary Rounds:	12:00pm-3:00pm
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Senior Division Final Round:	*3:30pm
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Awards Presentation:	6:00pm
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1. **Participation:** The contest will be divided into two age divisions.
 - a. **Junior Division** (3rd through 8th grade)
 - i. 8 years of age (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and not over 14 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - b. **Senior Division** (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders only)
 - ii. 14 years of age (in addition to being in the 9th grade) and not over 18 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
2. **Eligibility:** Participation in the Buc Days Public Speaking Competition is limited to TX resident students, who are enrolled in a Texas Youth Development program. Each 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA member must be in good standing with its state and National affiliates.
3. **Registration:** Registration will be open December 15, 2025, and completed through our website at <https://bucdays.com/public-speaking-competition/>. Registration will close when the event has reached capacity of 25 participants per division. Each participant must pay a mandatory \$30 fee to participate in this competition.
4. **Contest Format:** A panel of judges will evaluate and score each presentation. Speaking order will be randomly selected by the Event Officials prior to the start of the contest. Participants must be checked in and ready to go at least 30 minutes before their assigned speech time. Judging will not be based on topic selection. Contestants may use notes; however, excessive reliance on them may result in point deductions at the judges' discretion. The use of props or additional items of any kind is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification. Judges will be using the Texas 4-H Public Speaking Scoresheet version 4.2023: https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/public_speaking_score_sheet_2024.pdf
5. **Speech Topics:** Contestants must present speeches composed of original material and may not reuse a speech previously delivered in this contest. Presentations should aim to educate or persuade the audience regarding a specific issue or concern. Any sources used must be properly cited, and credit must be given when quoting or referencing another individual's words or writings.
 - a. **Animal Science:** Any current or future subject that deals with any aspects of the dairy, equine, poultry, sheep, goat, swine, beef or specialty animal industries.
 - b. **Plant Science:** Any current or future subject that deals with any aspect of the horticulture and/or agronomy industries including floriculture, fruit

and/or vegetable production, nursery operations, turf and landscape management, crop production or specialty crop production.

- c. **Natural Resources:** Any current or future subject that deals with topics such as soil, water, air, water quality, wildlife, forestry, aquaculture, conservation, recreation, recycling or energy environmental issues.
 - d. **Agricultural Policy:** Any current or future subject that deals with topics such as domestic farm issues, international trade, international competition, rural economic development, legal issues, animal right, subsidies or price supports.
 - e. **Industry In The Coastal Bend:** Economic effects/ benefits industry has on the Coastal Bend citizens/ agriculture.
 - f. **Family & Community Health:** Any current or future subject that deals with any aspect of Life Skills Education, Family dynamics and relationships, Financial literacy and management, consumer education and decision making, nutrition and healthy eating, culinary arts and food science, fashion and interior design, home management and organization, parenting and child development, communication and conflict resolution, physical activity and exercise, mental health and stress management, sleep health, substance abuse and prevention, disease prevention, hearth health, preventing to the spread of disease, and body image and self-esteem.
6. **Time:** Each speech shall be a minimum of five (5) minutes in length and a maximum of eight (8) minutes. Judges may stop presenters at ten (10) minutes if they are still speaking. Time point deductions will apply as follows:
- a. Under five (5) minutes – one point per ten (10) seconds
 - b. Over eight minutes – one point per ten (10) seconds
 - c. Junior contestants will be given a discrete, two-minute warning by the timekeeper prior to the eight-minute deadline
 - d. A three (3) minute question and answer period will follow each speech. At the end of three minutes, time will be called, and all questioning will end.
7. **Awards:** A total of \$1,500 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.
- a. A total of \$550 will be awarded to the top three participants in the Junior Division (3rd through 8th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$300 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$150 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place- \$100 prize money and trophy
 - b. A total of \$950 will be awarded to the top three participants in the Senior Division (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders). The final three contestants in the Senior Division will give their speech again in the Watergarden Room and will be placed following that presentation.

- i. Grand Champion- \$500 prize money and trophy
- ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$250 prize money and trophy
- iii. 3rd place- \$200 prize money and trophy

Buc Days Public Speaking Scorecard



Contestant Name: _____ County: _____

Age Division (check one): _____ Junior _____ Senior

Presentation Title: _____ Final Time: _____

Judges' Comments	Judges' Comments	
Delivery & Expression	(circle Quality Scale that applies)	60
Delivery (20 pts) Appearance <i>Grooming and dress</i> <i>Poise and posture</i> Voice clear and understood Appropriate vocal dynamics Correct use of grammar Expression (30 pts) Eye contact with audience Appropriate use of gestures/body language Audience appeal Uniqueness of presentation Educational value (5 pts) Questions (10 pts) Accuracy of answers Poise and self-confidence	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> 1-12 pts 13-24 pts 25-36 pts 37-48 pts 49-60pts </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> Poor Fair Good Excellent Superior </div> Provide constructive feedback:	
Composon & Organization	(circle Quality Scale that applies)	40
Introduction (15 pts) Attention of audience gained Importance of subject established Purpose clearly stated Body (30 pts) One central theme Information accurate-source given Infomation current Logical sequence Summary (5 pts) Major points emphasized	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> 1-8 pts 9-16 pts 17-24 pts 25-32 pts 33-40pts </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> Poor Fair Good Excellent Superior </div> Provide constructive feedback:	
	Total Score	
	(Max 100 points)	
	Overtime Penalty	
	(2 points per 1/2 minute)	
	FINAL SCORE	

Judges Name: _____ Judges Initials: _____

Buc Days Ag Product ID Contest

2026 Special Rules



Superintendent – Eric Taylor
Assistant Superintendent – Alyssa Lyssy

Chair- Jonathan Bailey
Co-Chair- Stephen Rybak

Location – Buc Days Festival Grounds

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$1,500**

Event Date: **Saturday, May 9th, 2026**

Check-In Begins: 1:30pm

Competition Begins: 2:00pm

Preliminary Rounds: 2:00pm-5:00pm

Awards Presentation: *6:00pm
(On the Community Stage)

1. **Participation:** The contest will be divided into two age divisions.
 - a. **Junior Division** (3rd through 8th grade)
 - i. 8 years of age (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and not over 14 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - b. **Senior Division** (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders only)
 - ii. 14 years of age (in addition to being in the 9th grade) and not over 18 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
2. **Eligibility:** Participation in the Buc Days Ag Product ID Contest is limited to TX resident students, who are enrolled in a Texas Youth Development program. Each 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA member must be in good standing with its state and National affiliates.
3. **Registration:** Registration will be open December 15, 2025, and completed through our website at <https://bucdays.com/ag-product-id-contest/>. Registration will close when the event has reached capacity of 75 participants per division, or on April 1st, 2026. Each participant must pay a mandatory \$30 fee to participate in this competition.
4. **Contest Format:** 30 Texas agricultural products are selected and exhibited at separate stations. Products can range from garlic to ribeye steak. Contestants select the correct identification of each product from four possible answers. Each station also has one multiple choice question pertaining to the product on display.
 - a. Questions are general to the industry that produced the product, (i.e. Texas' national ranking, economic impact to Texas, general nutritional content, region of production) or specific to the individual product that is on display (i.e. cooking method, use, growing season, specific nutrition of the cut or variety).
 - b. Contestants are given 30 seconds at each station to answer both questions, (Product Identification and one additional multiple-choice questions relating to the product).
 - c. Contestants must advance from one exhibit to the next when instructed to do so. Contestants must evaluate each exhibit in sequence and will not be allowed to return to any exhibit after advancing.
5. **Scoring:** Contestants will earn five (5) points for each product correctly identified and five (5) points for each related question correctly answered, for a total of 10 points possible per station. To receive points for the question that pertains directly

to the displayed product, the product itself must first be correctly identified. The maximum score possible is 300 points per individual.

6. **Tie Breakers:** Five stations will be selected as tie breakers in advance of the contest. Participants with the highest cumulative scores at these five stations will win any ties. If ties remain, winners will be determined by a method designated by the contest officials.
7. **Study Guide & Resources:** The Texas 4-H Ag Product Identification Study can be found at the following link: https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/agproductid_resource_guide.pdf
8. **Awards:** A total of \$1,500 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.
 - a. A total of \$550 will be awarded to the top three participants in the Junior Division (3rd through 8th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$300 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$150 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place- \$100 prize money and trophy
 - b. A total of \$950 will be awarded to the top three participants in the Senior Division (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$500 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$250 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place- \$200 prize money and trophy

Buc Days Horticulture Competition

2026 Special Rules



Superintendent – Daisy Castillo
Assistant Superintendent – Teresa Lopez

Chair- Isla Lara
Co-Chair- Cecil Childers

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$3,000**

Participant Registration Deadline:	March 2nd, 2026
Project Submitted for Validation:	Monday, March 16 th - Wednesday, March 18 th
Project Photo Submission #1:	Monday, April 6 th - Friday, April 10 th
Project Photo Submission #2:	Monday, April 20 th – Friday, April 24 th
Project Report Form Submission:	Friday, May 1 st – Tuesday, May 5 th
Entry Load-In:	Friday, May 8th, 2026 4:00pm-6:30pm
Competition Day:	Saturday, May 9th, 2026
Private Judging:	10:00am-4:30pm
Awards Presentation: (On the Community Stage)	*6:00pm
Entry Pick Up:	6:30pm-7:30pm

1. **Participation/ Eligibility:** The Buc Days Horticulture Competition is open to Texas resident students enrolled in, and attending public, private, or secondary school and/ or enrolled in a Texas Youth Development program. Each 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA member must be in good standing with its state and National affiliates. Participants must be between the ages of 8 (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and 18 on or before August 15th, 2025. Participants must be United States citizens and possess a valid social security number to be eligible for participation in the event.
 - a. A participant is not eligible if already graduated from high school.
2. **Registration:** Registration will be open on December 15th, 2025, and completed through our website at '<https://bucdays.com/buc-days-horticulture/>'. Registration will close on Monday, March 2nd, 2026, or when the event has reached capacity. Each participant must pay a \$25 registration fee for each entry in this competition.
3. **Entry Categories:** There are eight classes in which participants can enter. Each participant will be permitted to enter plants in each class; however, not two in any one class. Each entry must be registered on or before the deadline to be entered into the competition.
 - a. Class 1 Foliage Plants
 - b. Class 2 Succulents
 - c. Class 3 Herbs (can be single variety or a combination up to 3 varieties)
 - d. Class 4 Flowering plants
 - e. Class 5 Tomato Plant
 - f. Class 6 Pepper Plants
 - g. Class 7 Fruit Class (Strawberries, etc.)
 - h. Class 8 Other Vegetable Class
4. **Pot Regulations:** The pot in which the entry is planted in / transplanted in and submitted for validation must remain the same throughout the entirety of the competition. The participant must choose a pot large enough for the entry to grow in but must not exceed 13.25-in W x 14-in L and the entire entry must not weigh over 28 lbs. Decorative or personalized pots are optional but will not be influential in the judging process.
5. **Entry Timeline:** All entries must follow the (below) timeline of events to be eligible for judging on Saturday, May 9th, 2026. Violation or failure to comply with the timeline or rules could cause an entry or participant to be disqualified. All submissions (including registration, validation, photo submission(s), and the report form) will be done through the Buc Days Horticulture website page at '<https://bucdays.com/buc-days-horticulture/>'.

a. **Participant Registration Deadline:**

Participants must submit their personal information and pay the registration fee before this deadline.

- i. Deadline: **Monday, March 2nd by 11:59pm**

b. **Project Photo Submission #1 (Validation / Plant Start Check):**

This step is used to validate the entry. Validation means confirming that your plant has officially been started and that the same plant will be grown for the remainder of the competition. Once submitted for validation, the project may not be altered, replaced, or manipulated. If starting from seed, there must be visible growth at this time. Photos of only seeds in bare soil will not be accepted.

- i. Submission Window: **Monday, March 16th - Wednesday, March 18th**

- ii. Required Photos (3):

1. Purchased plant / seedling growing.
2. Pot that the entry is planted / has been transplanted in.
3. Participant tending to their entry.

c. **Project Photo Submission #2:**

This submission ensures that the plant is continuing to grow and the participant is caring for the entry.

- i. Submission Window: **Monday, April 6th - Friday, April 10th**

- ii. Required Photos (3):

1. Seedling / plant growth.
2. Plant with same pot pictured in validation.
3. Participant tending to their entry.

d. **Project Photo Submission #3:**

This submission ensures that the plant is still on course and cared for properly.

- i. Submission Window: **Monday, April 20th - Friday, April 24th**

- ii. Required Photos (3):

1. Seedling / plant growth.
2. Plant with same pot pictured in validation.
3. Participant tending to their entry.

e. **Report Form Submission:**

Each participant will prepare an entry report form. Report forms are used for documentation of the projects and any information needed by the judge to break a class tie.

- i. Submission Window: **Friday, May 1st - Tuesday, May 5th**
- ii. Include prior submitted photos (Submissions #1-#3).
- iii. Answer questions about entry.

- f. **Entry Load-In:**
All entries must be checked in on the Buc Days festival grounds between 4:00pm-6:30pm on Friday, May 8th, 2026. Entries must be watered in advance and ready for judging. A photo will be taken with the participant and their entry at this time.
- Please note that there will not be a 'drive-up' option to drop off the entries. All participants are required to park in the Buc Days designated parking lot(s) and bring their entry through the festival gates to the check-in location,
 - The use of a personal wagon (or similar) to transport entries is acceptable but is subject to security inspection.
- g. **Competition Day:**
Judging will begin at 10:00am on Saturday, May 9th. Horticulture specialists selected by the Buccaneer Commission will evaluate all entries. Once judging is complete, an awards presentation will take place on the Community Stage.
- After the awards ceremony, participants must pick up and take home their entries during the designated pick-up window.
 - Any entries not collected at the completion of the event will be removed from the festival grounds by the Event Officials.***
6. **Judging Criteria:** No plant shine or wax may be used to gloss the foliage other than soap and water. Plants should be insect and disease free. Any infested plants are subject to disqualification and removal from the competition. All plants must be living to be turned in for judging. Plants will be judged according to the ideal standards for that species, taking these things into mind in general:
- Maturity Stage
 - New Growth
 - Symmetry, Fullness, and Balance
 - Insect Damage
 - Disease
 - Leaf Color
 - General Appearance and Size (for age)
7. **Awards:** A total of \$3,000 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.
- A total of \$2,000 will be awarded to the class winners from either division.
 - Class 1 (Foliage Plants) \$250 prize money and trophy
 - Class 2 (Succulents) \$250 prize money and trophy
 - Class 3 (Herbs) \$250 prize money and trophy
 - Class 4 (Flowering Plant) \$250 prize money and trophy

- v. Class 5 (Tomato Plant) \$250 prize money and trophy
- vi. Class 6 (Pepper Plants) \$250 prize money and trophy
- vii. Class 7 (Fruit Class) \$250 prize money and trophy
- viii. Class 8 (Other Vegetable Class) \$250 prize money and trophy
- b. A total of \$1,000 will be awarded to the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion of the entire event.
 - ix. Grand Champion \$500 prize money and trophy
 - x. Reserve Grand Champion \$500 prize money and trophy

Buc Days Livestock Quiz Bowl Competition

2026 Special Rules



Superintendent – Laura Reyna
Assistant Superintendent – Candace Williamson

Chair- Gracie & Joe Flores
Co-Chair- Connor Cross

Total Prize Money Awarded: **\$3,000**

Event Date:	Saturday, May 9th, 2026
Check-In Begins:	9:00am
Competition Begins:	9:30am
Preliminary Rounds:	9:30am-12:30pm
Final Round:	1:00pm-2:00pm
Awards Presentation: (On the Community Stage)	*6:00pm

1. **Participation:** The contest will be divided into two age divisions. All team members must be part of the same age division.
 - a. **Junior Division** (3rd through 8th grade)
 - i. 8 years of age (in addition to being in the 3rd grade) and not over 14 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
 - b. **Senior Division** (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders only)
 - ii. 14 years of age (in addition to being in the 9th grade) and not over 18 years of age as of August 15th, 2025.
2. **Eligibility:** Participation in the Buc Days Quiz Bowl Contest is limited to TX resident students, who are enrolled in a Texas Youth Development program. Each 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA member must be in good standing with its state and National affiliates.
3. **Registration:** Registration will be open December 15, 2025, and completed through our website at <https://bucdays.com/quiz-bowl-competition/>. Registration will close when the event has reached capacity of 10 teams per division, or on April 1st, 2026. Each team must pay a mandatory \$60 fee to participate in this competition.
4. **Team Requirements:** Quiz Bowl teams will have four (4) members. Contestants tracking individual high points must remain in the same seat throughout the tournament. Each team may have only one coach, and counties with multiple teams must assign different coaches. Once the contest begins, team members and coaches must remain separated from other teams. Coaches sit in a moderator-designated area and may call one time-out per match to provide positive encouragement only.
5. **Question Types:** The number of questions used per round will include at least eight (8) one-on-one questions, sixteen (16) toss-up questions, and two (2) to four (4) bonus questions. The number of questions may be increased in later matches. When 8 or fewer teams remain in contest, increase number of questions in each set to include at least sixteen (16) one-on-one questions, twenty (20) toss-up questions, and up to five (5) but not fewer than three (3) bonus questions. There will be three types of question used:
 - a. **One-on-One:** One-on-One questions are those to which only one member of each team may respond in a head- to-head match between the acknowledged members of each team. These points will count toward individual and team scores.

- b. **Toss-Up:** Toss-Up questions are open to response by all contestants. These points will count towards individual and team scores.
- c. **Bonus:** Bonus questions are attached to toss-up questions and are given to the team that correctly answered the toss-up question. These points will count towards team scores only and do NOT count towards individual points. No more than 25% of toss-up questions will have a bonus question attached.

6. **Scoring:**

- a. One-On-One Questions
 - i. Correct: +1 individual and team
 - ii. Incorrect: -1 individual and team
 - iii. Wrong contestant responds: -1 individual and team
- b. Toss-Up Questions
 - i. Correct: +1 individual and team
 - ii. Incorrect: -1 individual and team
- c. Bonus Questions
 - i. Correct: +2 team only
 - ii. Incorrect: No points lost
- d. Miscellaneous
 - i. Answering without buzzing in: -1 individual and team
 - ii. Answering without moderator acknowledgement: -1 individual and team
- e. Team Participation Reward Points
 - i. Each member of team correctly answers a one-on-one or a toss-up question: +2 team only
 - 1. Bonus questions do not count towards this reward.
 - 2. No answers will accumulate toward a second team reward for that team until the first team reward points have been given.
- f. Protesting
 - i. Not upheld: -1 team only
 - ii. Upheld: No penalty points lost, original points award to team/individual (if warranted)
 - iii. Abused: Dismissal of team and loss of all points

7. **Match Procedures:**

- a. **Tournament Format:** Typically double-elimination: a team is eliminated after two losses. Single elimination may be used if time or space is limited. Teams are randomly assigned as Team A or Team B; byes are used if an odd number of teams enter.
 - b. **Team Setup:** Designated captains are seated in position one. Teams are seated at their panels, and contestants check their equipment before play begins.
 - c. **Question Reading & Answering:** The moderator reads all questions and indicates eligible respondents. Contestants have five seconds to buzz in after the question is read. Answering before acknowledgment incurs a one-point penalty.
 - i. One-on-one questions: only designated contestants respond; points are awarded or deducted accordingly.
 - ii. Toss-up questions: all team members may respond; bonus questions follow toss-ups, with a 10-second team discussion and 5 seconds for the captain or designee to buzz in.
 - iii. Bonus questions: full answers must be correct to receive 2 points; no partial credit.
 - d. **Team Participation Points:** Awarded when each member answers a one-on-one or toss-up question correctly (not bonus). Teams may earn multiple participation rewards during a match as long as criteria are met.
 - e. **Tie-Breakers:** If tied after all questions, five additional toss-up questions are asked. If still tied, toss-up questions continue until one team gains a point advantage. No bonus or participation points are awarded during overtime.
 - f. **Match Conclusion:** The team with the highest score after the final question is declared the winner. No protests are allowed after the winner is announced. Winners advance to the next round.
8. **Spectators & Contest Room Rules:** Only contestants and officials are allowed during preliminaries; audiences may be allowed for finals. Coaches will not be allowed in the contest room. Contestants and spectators may not bring phones, smart devices, recording devices, or writing materials into the contest room.
9. **Equipment Malfunctions:** Contestants are responsible for ensuring their equipment works properly before the match. If a device malfunctions during play, a time-out may be called by the contestant or moderator. Malfunctioning parts will be replaced and the match resumes with all previously earned points standing. In some cases,

points from the two prior questions may be adjusted and replaced with new questions if deemed necessary. Matches are never replayed due to equipment failure.

10. **Time Outs:** Time-outs may only be called after a question is answered and before the next question begins. Contestants or moderators may request time-outs for equipment failure, rule clarification, or unexpected issues. Team captains are allowed unlimited one-minute time-outs for discussion, morale boosting, or strategy. Abuse of time-out rules may result in dismissal of a team member or the entire team, with forfeiture of points or standing.
11. **Awards:** A total of \$3,000 in prize money will be awarded throughout the event.
 - a. A total of \$700 will be awarded to the top teams in the Junior Division (3rd through 8th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$400 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$200 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place- \$100 prize money and trophy
 - b. A total \$1,400 will be awarded to the top three teams in the Senior Division (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders).
 - i. Grand Champion- \$800 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Reserve Grand Champion- \$400 prize money and trophy
 - iii. 3rd place- \$200 prize money and trophy
 - c. A total of \$900 will be awarded to the Top Senior participant and the Top Junior Participant of the entire event.
 - i. Senior Grand Champion \$400 prize money and trophy
 - ii. Senior Reserve Grand Champion \$200 prize money and trophy
 - iii. Junior Grand Champion \$200 prize money and trophy
 - iv. Junior Reserve Grand Champion \$100 prize money and trophy