East Texas Goat Raisers Association Youth Membership Guidelines

***Mission:*** The East Texas Goat Raisers Association Youth, established in 2012, has been organized to reward and support Young goat exhibitors and/or producers that are competitively involved in exhibiting, raising, or learning about goats. Junior Members will be provided opportunities to raise, show, and experience the goat industry first hand while drawing from the knowledge of the ETGRA members.

1. ETGRA is open to all youth goat exhibitors or producers.
2. The youth member must not have exceeded 18 years of age (18 years, 364 days), or graduated from high school.
3. A member that has graduated from high school will be eligible to receive points up to December 31 of the calendar year of graduation.
4. The ETGRA will divide youth membership into 4 age divisions, determined by member age **JUNE 1** of the point accrual year:
	1. Pewee-7 years and under
	2. Junior-8-12 years of age
	3. Intermediate-13-15 years of age
	4. Senior-16-18 years of age
5. The ETGRA may divide showmanship classes into these same age divisions, *or may divide classes as follows:* ***Peewee*** *(7 years and under)* ***Novice*** *(1st year showing/never placed in showmanship competition)* ***Amateur*** *(2*-*3 years showing, may have placed in showmanship class, no more than 2 overall wins)* ***Open*** *(open to any youth competitor-experienced showmanship competitors encouraged to participate in this class)*
6. The ETGRA point system will be used to determine the ranking of each exhibitor within each age division.
7. In an ETGRA-sponsored youth show, members MUST EXHIBIT THEIR OWN GOATS unless exhibiting more than one goat in a single class. The same rule applies for Grand and Reserve. If youth have more than one animal in a single class, the additional animals MUST be shown by another youth. Adults will only be allowed in the ring for Peewee classes or to assist youth with a disability, as heelers or to help maintain control of an animal-youth must do all showing and set up of animal.
8. The ETGRA will not establish general rules for sanctioned youth shows-the sanctioning body will establish its own set of general rules and the show superintendent will strictly enforce those rules. HIS/HER JUDGEMENT IS FINAL. Any non-sanctioned youth show hosted by ETGRA may establish general rules specific to that event.
9. Each member of ETGRA will pay an annual youth membership fee of $10.00. Members will be awarded points after the dues are paid, NOT before. ***Junior (youth) point accrual will be June 1-May 31 of the following year. Members who join between these dates will only accrue points during their paid membership period.***
10. All points to be considered for year-end awards must be submitted by **June 15** to the youth committee designated member-see the website **ETGRA.org** for updated youth committee member information.
11. Once earned points are posted for year-end consideration, no changes will be made. In the case of a tie, preference will be given to youth who have attended an ETGRA event, meeting, or participated in a monthly conference call. If neither youth has participated in an ETGRA event, the division high-point award value will be divided evenly.