National Bison Association's 2027 Gold Trophy Show & Sale - Rules and Regulations
Auction on Saturday, January 23 at 10:00 a.m. National Western Stock Show – Denver, CO

ENTRY DEADLINE: December 18, 2026. Entries must be submitted and paid online – https://nationalbison.org/2027-gold-trophy-show-and-sale-consignment-form/. No exceptions. Consignments are accepted on a first come, first serve basis upon full payment of entry fees.

ELIGIBILITY: Consignors must be a current Life, Active, or Supporter member of the National Bison Association to enter animals in the Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS).

ENTRY LIMITS: Total entry limit of 110 head. Consignors are limited to two entries per class, except for the single calf classes, where each consignor may have up to three entries per class. There will be a class limit of 20 head in the yearling heifer class, where one can consign up to three animals, but the third will be put on a waiting list until the consignment deadline and then added to the class on a first come, first serve basis until the class is full. The heifer calf pen of three class is limited to one entry per consignor. There is a class limit of 20 yearling bulls, and 14 two-year old bulls in which one can consign two animals per class, but the second animal will be put on a waiting list until the consignment deadline and then added until the class is full on a first come first serve basis. Entries may be reduced at the discretion of the GTSS Committee Chairperson(s) if class sizes become an issue due to pen space. The NBA reserves the right to cancel any class with less than three entries after the entry deadline. If a class is cancelled or entry numbers are reduced, affected consignors will have entry fees refunded.

ENTRY FEES: All fees, in US funds, must be paid with the entry. Fees are not refundable, unless the animal is not allowed in the show due to space limitations or class cancellations.

Single Animal Entries, per head	$110
Pen of Three Heifer Calves	$200

COMMISSION: A 10% commission is taken from the animal sale price, with 9% going to the NBA's general account and 1% contributed to the NBA's Growth Fund program to support promotional efforts in the bison industry.

EAR TAGS: GTSS ear tags will be mailed as soon as possible after consignments are received. **NEW THIS YEAR: We are providing double tags for each animal.** One tag to be placed in the animal's left ear and one in the right ear. **All other ear tags must be removed**, except permanent metal ID tags, EID or RFID tags, NABR (North American Bison Registry) tags, Source Verification (SVP) tags and trichomoniasis tags. Two show tags plus any government issued tags.

SORTING FOR DELIVERY: If possible, animals should be separated into groups of bulls and heifers and sorted by age group when they are delivered to the sale grounds. We understand that is not always possible, but if it is, it's appreciated!

LOAD IN AND OUT: The loading facilities are located at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, CO. Visit https://nationalbison.org/event/2027-gold-trophy-show-and-sale/ for updates on directions. National Western Stock Show will use the Suncor staging area and all livestock trailers must check in at the staging area before entering the NWSS grounds.

REQUIRED CHECK-IN — ALL LIVESTOCK MUST REPORT TO OFF-SITE STAGING (SUNCOR, 58th & York)

- All livestock are REQUIRED to check in at the new off-site staging location before entering NWSS grounds.
- The Suncor lot streamlines arrivals and improves flow and unloading efficiency.
- Easy access directly from I-25 → 58th Avenue → York.
- Do not proceed to NWSS grounds without first going through staging.
- Check NWSS social channels, website, and your email for upcoming detailed arrival instructions, staging maps, and traffic flow updates.

• Animals may begin unloading at the pens at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, January 19. All bison must be unloaded by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20.
• Load out times are from the end of the auction until dark on Saturday, January 23 and from 7:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon on Sunday, January 24.
• Delivery instructions, maps, and other information will be emailed directly to all consignors and posted on the NBA GTSS event page as they become available.
If you encounter delays, please contact Yard Supervisor John Graves at 303-887-9677 or GTSS Coordinator Karen Conley at 605-381-3738.

HEALTH CERTIFICATES: All single animal entries require a separate health certificate. **Pen consignments should have all animals in the pen listed on one certificate**. GTSS tag numbers MUST be listed on the health certificate and should correlate with the animal's permanent ID. When you deliver your animals, please bring each original certificate(s) plus one copy of each certificate and ALL your original testing paperwork**. Prior to delivery date, email karen@nationalbison.org a copy of your health certificates before you arrive to expedite offloading and processing.**

Each consignment must meet the following health requirements:
All animals:

- Negative Brucellosis test on all animals after 12/25/26, with the USDA metal (if applied before November 4, 2024) or USDA 840 RFID ear tag in place. See included animal ID sheet for reference and information.
- ALL females from the US must be Official Calfhood Vaccinates (OCV) with a legible vaccination tattoo and, if they are over 18 months of age, they must have a negative Brucellosis blood test within 30 days of sale date. Canadian females of any age can come to Denver and sell if they have a negative test within 30 days, however, it will be announced at the sale that this is a non-OCV female and cannot go to certain states.
- Negative TB test (caudal fold) on all animals after 11/25/26.
- Negative Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) PI test prior to arrival. Acceptable tests include immunohistochemistry (IHC), antigen-capture ELISA (ac-ELISA), polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and virus isolation (VI). Please note: BVD serology or titers are not accepted.

Specific to Bulls:

- Negative trichomoniasis PCR T. foetus test on all male animals 12 months and older after 12/25/26.
- Breeding Bulls Verification: Your vet must verify your bull's semen test on all males that are not in a calf class on the NBA's Semen Evaluation form after October 25, 2026. Required values: Morphology score 70% or better and Motility score 30% or better.

Specific to Females:

- Yearling heifers – Females less than 24 months old shall not be pregnant, must be "open" and listed as such on the CVI.
- Bred Females - Females over 24 months of age shall be at least 90 days pregnant.
- Pregnancy Test Verification: Your vet must verify a positive pregnancy test on all two-year-old females and that yearling heifers are open and noted on health certificate. Palpation, ultrasound or BioTracking are all acceptable pregnancy tests.

AGE VERIFICATION (REQUIRED FOR YEARLING & OLDER ANIMALS)
Prior to yearling or older animals' arrival, the consignor's veterinarian will verify age by mouthing the animal (see included tooth chart). Veterinarian will note on animal's health certificate the age and method used.

Mouthing: All animals in yearling and older classes can be mouthed after November 1, 2026, by the consignor's veterinarian and WILL BE AGE VERIFIED AS PER THE FALL TOOTH CHART (Refer to Mouthing Chart). Animal ages will be determined by looking at the adult incisors.

SPECIES OR SUBSPECIES CLAIMS: If you are including any language that identifies your animals as a specific bison subspecies, plains or woods, or a percentage thereof, they must be tested using the Neogen bison subspecies composition test with the resulting score provided to the Karen Conley, **karen@nationalbison.org**, and reported in the catalog. Test results must be provided by January 1, 2027 for inclusion in the sale catalog.

Animals will not be allowed to unload if the health certificate requirements are not met.
OPTIONAL TESTS: ANAPLASMOSIS and/or BLUETONGUE tests, while not required at the 2026 GTSS, are required for entry into some states. If tested, the test must be negative and recorded on the Health Certificate after 12/25/26.

COMMON ERRORS - The most common omissions from the health certificate include:

- Failure to record "negative' in the proper column under the test.
- Not recording full tattoo properly.
- Failure to include the date tests were run.
- Not recording on the health certificate the GTSS tag number that correlates with the permanent ID.
- Lack of Consignors/Owner's signature.

WEIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LIVE ANIMAL CLASSES
While there are no minimum weight requirements for the GTSS, the guidelines below are meant to assist producers in selecting quality breeding stock that will allow them to be competitive in both the show and sale ring. Weights shown are minimum weight guidelines for animals entering each class.

Two Year Old Bulls – 1,200 pounds
Two Year Old Bred Heifer – 900 pounds
Yearling Bulls – 900 pounds
Bull Calves – 450 pounds
Heifer Calves – 400 pounds

JUDGING GUIDELINES FOR THE LIVE ANIMAL SHOW: While the GTSS Consignor Committee does not set forth any guidelines for live animal judges to follow, consignors should be aware that animals are judged with the following in mind: structural soundness and good confirmation; soundness and ability to travel without any lameness; overall health of the animal; good fleshing without being overly conditioned and carrying too much weight; overall appearance of the animal. Additionally, for the Pen of 3 Heifer Calves, please note that uniformity of the group of heifers will not be a main judging point but could be used to break a tie between one or more pens being considered for an award.

SIFTING OF ANIMALS
Animals will normally be sifted only because of not meeting the previously stated GTSS requirements. However, the GTSS-Consignor Committee Chairman, reserves the right, in accordance with National Western Stock Show General Rules and Regulations, to appoint a committee, if necessary, that shall decide if any additional entries lack the necessary merit to be included in the Gold Trophy Show & Sale. The GTSS-Consignor Committee Chairman's decision will be final. Bleeding horns upon arrival will be evaluated by the GTSS Consignor Committee Chairman and the horn(s) may be removed at that time. If, on arrival or during its stay in the yards, an animal appears to be unhealthy, the GTSS Consignor Committee Chairman reserves the right to have that animal examined by a licensed veterinarian. If an animal is determined to be unhealthy by the Veterinarian, that animal shall be removed from the Show & Sale. Costs of examination shall be borne by the NBA if the animal is deemed healthy or borne by the consignor if the animal is deemed unhealthy. If an animal is rejected from the Show and Sale, at the consignor, owner, or agent's discretion, that animal can be penned in a separate, non-judged area at a cost to the consignor for a flat fee of $150. These animals will not sell at the GTSS sale.

SCRATCHING OF ANIMALS
If you scratch any of your entries for any reason, please notify Karen at karen@nationalbison.org immediately so we can keep those animals out of the catalog if possible and to assist the yard crew with penning. In case of classes with a cap on them, notifying the NBA of any scratches may open room for another consignor to bring animals.

LIABILITY: The consignor assumes all responsibilities regarding the terms and conditions. The NBA acts only as an agent and assumes no responsibility in the event of injury or death to any animal or for any discrepancy between the buyer and the consignor.

CONSIGNOR'S MEETING: A consignor's meeting will be held on Friday, January 22 at 7:30 a.m. at the Hilton Denver City Center Hotel. All consignors are encouraged to attend and bring forth any concerns and suggestions to help better the GTSS.

AWARDS: For classes with up to 9 entries, first through third place will be awarded. For classes with 10-14 entries, first through fourth place will be awarded. For classes with 15 or more entries, first through fifth places will be awarded. Judges may award Honorable Mentions in each class at their discretion. An overall grand and reserve champion male and female will be selected from the winners of each class.

Upon completion of the judging and after the Grand and Reserve Grand winners have been selected, the committee will use the following criteria to determine the Producer of the Year award.

1) Points and Qualifying Classes

Points will be awarded as follows for all GTSS classes:

1-9 class entries: First - 3; Second - 2; Third - 1

10 – 14 class entries – First 4; Second – 3; Third – 2; Fourth – 1

15 or more class entries - First 5; Second – 4; Third – 3; Fourth – 2; Fifth – 1

Grand Champion - 2; Reserve Grand Champion -1

No points will be awarded for Honorable Mentions. Points will be awarded to each trophy winning entry and the consignor with the most points will be awarded the Producer of the Year.

The committee will use the following criteria to determine the Rookie of the Year award.

Eligibility: Consignors are eligible for either Rookie award only if the individual or farm/ranch has never entered animals in the Gold Trophy event. Only those consignors who are first time entrants are eligible for this award.

1) **Points and Qualifying Classes**

Points will be awarded as outlined above for the Producer of the Year information. The first-time consignor in a respective category with the most points will be awarded the Rookie of the Year.

All forms and detailed GTSS information are also available on the NBA's website at www.nationalbison.org.

General Health Guidelines and Testing Requirements:

SUBJECT	2 Yr. Bred Females	Yearling Heifers	Heifer Calves	2 Yr. Bulls	Yearling Bulls	Bull Calves
Neg. BVD Test Prior to Arrival	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Neg. Trichomoniasis Test After 12/25/26	N/A	N/A	N/A	Required	Required	N/A
Neg. Brucellosis Test After 12/25/26	Required	Required	NOT Required if OCV'd	Required	Required	Required
Official USDA ID Tag or RFID for US animals or Official RFID Tags for Canadian	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Negative Tuberculosis Test after 11/25/26	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Anaplasmosis& Bluetongue	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional
Pregnancy verification (Palpation, Ultra sound, Blood test.)	Required (Specify Bred on Health Certificate)	Document Open on Health Certificate	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Semen Test on or after 10/25/26	N/A	N/A	N/A	Required	Required	N/A
Aging	Vet to document on certificate	Vet to document on certificate	Vet to document on certificate	Vet to document on certificate	Vet to document on certificate	Vet to document on certificate
GTSS Floppy Ear tag	White Left Ear	White Left Ear	White Left Ear	Yellow Left Ear	Yellow Left Ear	Yellow Left Ear

National Bison Association's 2027 Gold Trophy Show and Sale
Bison Semen Evaluation Form

This form must accompany the health certificate for all Yearling Bulls and Two Year Old Bulls consigned to the NBA's Gold Trophy Show & Sale (GTSS). Testing must occur on or after 10/25/26. Failure to provide this information on arrival will disqualify the animal from the GTSS event.

Owner:_____ Operation:_____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Country:_____ Zip/Postal: _____
Phone: _____ Fax:_____

Examination Date: _____

Bull Name: _____ GTSS Ear Tag No.: _____

Home Ear Tag No.: _____ Brucellosis Metal Test Tag No.:_____

Morphology Score: _____ (GTSS minimum morphology score allowed =70%)

Motility Score: _____ (GTSS minimum motility score allowed = 30%)

Interpretation of data resulting from this examination would indicate, to the best of my knowledge, that this bison bull is in satisfactory physical condition, has satisfactory semen quality, and would be a satisfactory potential breeding bull. Unless otherwise indicated below, this bison bull has been examined only for physical soundness and quality of semen. No special diagnostic tests were made for possible venereal disease or other infection.
Additional remarks:

_____ _____
Signature of Veterinarian Veterinarian name (please print)

Address_____

City/State/Country_____Zip/Postal Code_____

Phone_____Fax_____

Attach this form to the animal's Health Certificate

National Bison Association's Gold Trophy Show and Sale

Mouthing Chart

to be used in age verification process

Front view of Bison Incisors identifying the range of acceptability

Symbols: = Baby teeth; = Adult tooth partially erupted; = Adult tooth fully erupted

Calf up to 12 months following birth



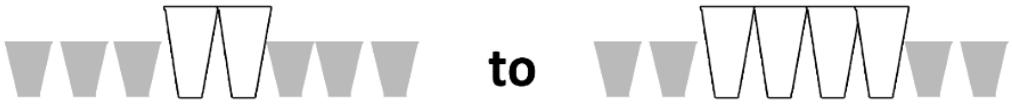
Yearling: Fall (Nov 1 to Jan 31)
18 months following birth



Yearling: Spring (Feb 1 to May 1)
20-24 months following birth



Two Year Old: Fall (Nov 1 to Jan 31)
30-33 months following birth



Three Year Old: Fall (Nov 1 to Jan 31)
42-45 months following birth



Four Year Old: Fall (Nov 1 to Jan 31)
54-58 months following birth

