

Illinois Hereford Association,

Once again, it is time to start prepping for the Illinois Hereford Association Winter Classic Sale!

The IHA Board has prioritized adding value for the Illinois Hereford Association membership. This now established, annual event is a way for all members to market the best of their herds, and connect with breeders and commercial cattlemen from all over the state.

The Illinois Hereford Association Winter Classic Sale will be held on December 12th, 2026 in Carthage, IL at Carthage Livestock Inc. Brent and Kris Lowderman are incredible hosts, are a huge part of this sales success. They have and will continue to do incredible work for the Hereford breed, making this the perfect spot to continue to build this sale. Once again, Cody Lowderman will be serving as the auctioneer for this event.

I will be handling the screening process again for the IHA this year. The IHA board and I want to ensure quality stays consistent to help everyone turn as much profit as possible. All the nomination forms for the sale will be due on August 1st. Shortly after the first, I will begin planning to travel to farms with said nominations to screen the cattle.

When selecting cattle to nominate, I highly encourage you to select cattle that represent the best your program has to offer. The IHA Board sees the Winter Classic Sale as an annual event for breeders to purchase elite Hereford seedstock. To make this sale a household name, we must continue to improve. Cattle with phenotypic quality, popular pedigrees, and desirable genomic profiles will add value and make this sale a success. The board and I will be placing a big focus on selling quality bred heifers and fall cow-calf pairs. Any bred cows accepted to the sale will need to continue to be very high quality as well. New this year, all animals with a potential genetic defect will need to be tested prior to the sale.

In the rest of this document, you will find the calendar of events, the general rules and requirements for the sale, and the nomination form. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

The IHA Board and I are both looking forward to building this sale for year four. We would love to work with any members of the IHA on consigning to this sale.

Sincerely,

Noah Benedict
IHA Winter Classic Sale Manager
217-327-8009
nojo1132@gmail.com

The Illinois Hereford Association Winter Classic Sale is a screened sale. All cattle must first be nominated by the August 1st, 2026 deadline. All nominations must be accompanied by a non-refundable \$50 per-lot nomination fee. If cattle are accepted after screening and consigned to the sale, this \$50 fee will be credited to the consignor's sale expenses. No cattle will be accepted that have not gone through the nomination and screening process. Any member of the Illinois Hereford Association that has paid their dues in 2026 and been accepted after nomination and screening is allowed to consign to this sale.

Other requirements:

- 1) Membership dues for the IHA Association for 2026 must be paid by the time of nomination.
- 2) No animal will be accepted without actual (individual) EPD's available by the time of cataloging. If EPD's are not available at cataloging time, the animal will be rejected and no refund of fees will be made.
- 3) Any potential carrier of a genetic defect must be tested to confirm result prior to the sale.
- 4) There shall be no substitutions after cataloging and there will be no refund of nomination or entry fees if an animal is not brought to the Winter Classic Sale. Substitutions may be made only prior to cataloging with screener approval.
- 5) Age of cattle:
 - a. All bulls must be at least 12 months of age, and no older than 30 Months of age
 - b. All females in sale must be under 5 years of age with calf at side or confirmed bred
 - A select number of bred cows will be allowed in the sale. Screener will be extra critical on age, quality, AI breeding, ultrasounding, and genomic EPD's
 - c. Open females less than 14 months of age will be allowed in the sale, but in a limited amount
- 6) Bull Requirements
 - a. Must have passed a Breeding Sound Exam (BSE) within 30 days of the sale
 - b. Must have Genomically Enhanced EPD's (GE-EPDS) and DNA on profile with the AHA
- 7) Female Requirements
 - a. Females being sold as bred to be confirmed on health papers within 30 days of sale
 - Females due to calve between the sale and 2/15/25, have the option to provide a health paper within 60 days of sale to confirm pregnancy, alongside their standard health-paper within 30 days of sale
 - b. Females must be bred to have their first calf by 30 months of age
 - c. RECOMMENDED that females are ultrasounded to determine sex of the pregnancy
 - d. RECOMMENDED that females have GE-EPDS and a DNA on profile with the AHA
- 8) Health
 - a. All cattle are required to have separate, official interstate health papers at sale time. Do not place multiple animals on one form.

b. All cattle must have a RFID or metal tag per state regulations. Suggested tests are Bangs, Anaplasmosis, Tuberculosis, and BVD. If your animal(s) sell into a state requiring listed tests, breeders will take the subject animal to its origin, have it tested, and once cleared, arrange shipping to the buyer.

9) Substitutions can be made up until the catalog deadline. They must be approved by the screener before said deadline.

10) Withdrawals made after cataloging are responsible for average sale expense of lot type.

11) All consignors will be responsible for transferring their animals to their new owners once payment has been received.

Schedule of Events - 2026

August 1st – All nominations must be either post marked or emailed along with the \$50 per lot nomination fee. Nomination fees are non-refundable but will be figured into sale expense if the animal is accepted.

August 1st – October 1st – I will be making screening arrangements for all nominations.

October 15th – All information for catalog is due. Footnotes, pictures, breeding information, etc. Substitutions cannot be made after this date.

December 11th – 3 pm – All Cattle in place at Carthage Livestock Inc.

December 11th – 6 pm – Illinois Hereford Association Social

December 12th – 11:30 am – Illinois Hereford Association Winter Classic Sale

Nomination Form

When selecting your animals to nominate, please keep in mind the rules and recommendations listed above in the document. All cattle must be registered and have EPD's by the time the catalogue is produced. Also, remember that your 2026 dues to the IHA must be up to date. Please Contact Buddy Edenburn or Noah Benedict if you have further questions.

Make checks payable to the **Illinois Hereford Association**. The fee is \$50 per lot nominated. This is non-refundable but will be figured into sale expense if your nomination is accepted. Mail checks to Noah Benedict – 165 White Pines Cir Decatur, IL 62521

The nomination form can also be filled out here: <https://forms.gle/7Pt1VC468XQ23EAw9>

Farm Name:

Mailing Address:

Farm Address (where screening will happen) :

Phone Number:

Email:

	Reg Number	Animal Name	DOB	Lot type (Bull, Open Heifer, Bred Heifer, Cow-calf Pair, etc)
1				
2				
3				
4				

Please email nomination form to nojo1132@gmail.com with subject line "IHA Winter Classic"

If printed, please mail to Noah Benedict – 165 White Pines Cir Decatur, IL 62521