

## COMPETITIVE ENTRIES GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board or their representative reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and settle and determine all matters, questions, and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the Fair.
2. Any exhibitor suspected of fraudulent or deceptive practices toward Fairground officials or other Fair participants may be barred from exhibiting and/or showing of animals at the Arizona State Fair. Anyone barred from exhibiting may be at the sole discretion of the Executive Director and any decision made by the Executive Director shall be final.
3. The Board or its representative reserves the right to amend or add to these rules, as it deems necessary.
4. Any person who violates any of the rules may forfeit all privileges and premiums and be subject to such penalty as the Board or its representative may order.
5. The Fair Board does not guarantee the payment of Special Premiums and awards offered in the Exhibitor's Handbook by merchants or breeders' associations. These prizes are usually secured by the Fair Board with a promissory statement in good faith and must be contested under these conditions.
6. The Fair agrees to assume full responsibility for all entries and to insure against loss and damage to repair or pay fair market value for the entry from the time the entry is dropped off or picked up. In the event of loss or damage the Fair's maximum liability will be limited to the agreed value as stated on the entry until returned to Entrant. For those items mailed back to exhibitors, the item is deemed returned when the fair places the item with the United States Post Office or other qualified mail carrier. The Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board will not be responsible for any loss or damage caused by or arising out of strikes, riots, lockouts, or acts of God.
7. Entries not picked up in Departments on release day will be subject to a \$1.00 handling charge and a \$.50 per day storage fee. Items will be held for 60 days then destroyed.
8. Under no circumstances will the Department Superintendents or any State Fair personnel handle money transactions for the sale of any exhibit or article.

### Entry Requirements

1. All applications for competitive entries must be made on Official Entry Forms and in accordance with instructions thereon and rules of the Exhibitor's Handbook.
2. Entry Forms may be obtained by calling the Entry Department, (602) 257-7142, or writing Entry Department, 1826 W. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85007.
3. Complete entry forms and required payment must be received by the Entry Department on or before the published deadline, OR postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before the published deadline AND received by the Entry Department within seven days following the deadline. Upon receipt of official Entry Forms, identification tags will be prepared and held in department entered, unless otherwise specified in the Special Rules.
4. No article may be entered for more than one premium, and only one article may be entered in each class, except where specified otherwise. **An article may not be entered for competition more than one year**, unless specified otherwise in Special Rules of Department. Articles deemed by the Superintendent as having been entered more than one year will be disqualified.
5. No entries will be accepted on which carrier charges have not been prepaid and sufficient postage and instructions for return included.
6. There will be **NO REFUNDS OF ENTRY FEES**, either for overpayment, not showing or failure to bring in the entry.
7. Onsite entries will be accepted and are subjected to an additional onsite entry fee that is equal to the department's original entry fee.

### Premium Checks

1. The Board WILL NOT PAY PREMIUMS on any article not specifically mentioned in the Exhibitor's Handbook.
2. **Judges books are the only evidence regarding judging placement and the payment of premiums. No Ribbons or cards are accepted for placement purposes.**
3. Voucher checks for premiums will be mailed as soon after the Fair as possible. If check is not received within 60 days after the close of the fair, the Director of Entries should be notified.
4. **February 1** following the fair is the deadline for reporting any error in premium check or checks not having been received by the exhibitor. After that date, no changes will be made nor checks issued.
5. Premium checks not cashed within the 6-month period will not be reissued.
6. Premium checks will be made payable either to the owner or the exhibitor as stated on the entry form. Total premiums of \$600 or more to any individual will be paid only after the Entry Department has received a complete IRS form W-9.
7. The Board will deduct any fees remaining unpaid at the conclusion of the Fair from premiums payments and will additionally deduct a \$25 administrative fee.

### Exhibitors

1. The right is reserved to reject any exhibit offered for exhibition.
2. The Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board reserves the right to limit entries to facilities available and may limit the number of entries made by an exhibitor. Any return of entries under this rule will be done generally and without discrimination. In all cases the Entry Department reserves the right to reject entirely or accept conditionally any entry or application. The right is reserved to reject any exhibit offered for exhibition.
3. Any exhibitor who for the purpose of defrauding or misrepresentation, makes any fraudulent entry in the name of another exhibitor for the purpose of exhibiting, may be permanently barred from the show or any future participation in any event held in connection with Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board and proof of ownership may be demanded at any time at the discretion of the general superintendent.
4. No participant shall be eligible to make an entry compete, or having competed, be eligible to win a premium if he/she has been disqualified from competition or has had a premium withheld or withdrawn on the grounds of rule violations involving deception, misrepresentation, fraud, sabotage, tampering, or unethical behavior.
5. Competitive Entry Buildings will be open to the public daily at 12:00 noon Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Closing Sunday through Thursday at 10:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday at 11:30 p.m. In departments other than livestock, entries must be uncovered and ready for inspection of visitors during the above hours. The Fair will be closed to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays.

### Judges and Judging

1. The decision of the judges shall be final in all cases, except where mistake, fraud, misrepresentation or collusion, not discovered at the time of award, is apparent. In such cases the judge may make decision or, with his approval, the matter may be referred to the Board or their representative, from whose decision there is no appeal.
2. Any exhibitor that publicly takes exception to the findings of a judge may be excluded from competing or exhibiting on the grounds.
3. Judges shall read carefully the general and special rules in the department or class in which they serve, and are instructed not to award premiums unless entries are deemed worthy of merit. In signing their "Claim", judges acknowledge their willingness to accept any "Division" & "Class" needing

to be judged. If competition does not justify the prize monies offered for any Class, the judge retains the right to omit such prizes.

**Protests**

1. In livestock departments, all protests from a decision of a judge must be made to the Board or its Designee and filed within five hours after the award has been made, it being considered that an award is made when the notation of the decision of the judge is entered in the department record book. In smallstock and competitive departments, all protests from a decision of a judge must be made to the Board or its Designee and filed by 5:00pm on the closing day of the fair.
2. All protests must be made in writing and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00 in any of the livestock and smallstock departments and \$25.00 in the competitive departments, which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. This deposit is to cover administrative costs in handling the protest. Protest must state the cause of complaint, with specific charges and recital of the facts relied upon or the rule violated naming witnesses.
3. The right of an exhibitor to protest the decision of a judge to the Board will lie only when it is charged that the award has been made in violation of the rules governing the exhibition; or, when it is charged that the decision of the judge has been influenced or interfered with by another. The Board's decision is final.
4. No protest based upon the statement that the judge or judges are incompetent or have overlooked an animal or article will be considered by the Board.
5. All questions in dispute or differences not covered by these rules shall be referred to the Board or their representative, whose decision shall be final.

**Definitions of Terms Used in Exhibitor's Handbook**

- Amateur .....A person who engages in an event or activity as a pastime rather than as a profession (does not apply to junior organizations and horse shows). Anyone who derives less than 10% of their income from the sale of their articles.
- Class.....A group of like entries that are judged together; a sub-category of a division.
- Competition .....Contest between two or more entries.
- Competitive Entries .....Any item entered in the 4-H, Agriculture, Culinary Arts, Creative Crafts & Collections, Fine Arts, Photography, Student Art & Technology, Floriculture, or Minerals & Jewelry Department for competition.
- Division .....A generalized category of entries; a group of classes.
- Entry .....An eligible animal or exhibit which is entered to be judged.
- Entry Fee .....The fee an exhibitor pays to enter the entries in the Fair.
- Exhibit.....An object or a collection of objects shown in a division/class/lot (synonymous with entry).
- Exhibitor .....The owner of the entry.
- Exhibitor's Handbook .....An entry book, prize list, handbook, contest book or other publication that includes rules regarding fair contests.
- Judging .....1) American System: The judging process to rank entries against one another and award one first placing, one second placing, etc.  
 (2) Danish System: The judging process to compare each exhibit on its own merit against the scorecard or recognized standard and award as many first (blue) placings, etc. as merited.
- Juried .....Competition wherein the juror(s) determine which entries will be displayed and judged for awards.
- Premiums .....Monies paid to successful contestants (synonymous with cash awards).