



Fairground Rules

- 1.** All fairgoers, exhibitors, and volunteers are expected to be properly clothed while on the fairgrounds. Absolutely no bare feet, swimwear, or other inappropriate clothing will be tolerated. Violators may be asked to leave the grounds.
- 2.** No person under 18 years of age will be allowed on the grounds after all departments and the midway are closed for the night, except those in the company of their parents or legal guardians.
- 3.** Absolutely no weapons, either real or toy, will be brought on to or sold on the grounds of the Northern District Fair. Violators will be immediately removed and will be subject to action by local law enforcement. A weapon includes, but is not limited to: guns, knives, blow guns, slingshots, pellet guns, and paintball guns.
- 4.** For the safety of animals, no pets, especially dogs, are allowed on the grounds during fair week, unless as an exhibit or at a campsite of an exhibitor on a leash. Service animals protected under the ADA are allowed on grounds with their handlers, however, may be asked to leave the barns if the presence of a canine causes undue stress upon the livestock animals on exhibit.
- 5.** Theft, vandalism, and possession/use of alcohol, legal cannabis, or illegal drugs is explicitly prohibited on the fairgrounds. Anyone participating in or attending fair-sponsored activities who is caught in the act of theft or vandalism, or in possession/under the influence of illegal drugs, legal cannabis, or alcohol, or who is involved in such other offenses will be referred to local law enforcement. The only exception allowing for the purchase and consumption of fair-sold alcohol is located in the beer tent.
- 6.** All of the rules/policies listed in this document may be changed, revised, or reinterpreted at the discretion of the NDF Fairboard and NDF Livestock Committee.

Exhibitor General Rules

- 1.** All exhibits must pre-enter by the last Sunday in July using FairEntry.com or with an official Northern District Fair Book Entry Form. Forms and fees must be returned to or mailed to the office at NORTHERN DISTRICT FAIR, P.O. BOX 131, CADILLAC MI 49601
- 2.** Exhibitor Classes by age of January 1 of current fair year are as follows:

Open Class	Any age
Tykes & Tots	2 - 5
Youth Beginner	5
Youth Junior	6 - 9
Youth Intermediate	10 - 14
Youth Senior	15 - 19
Senior Citizen	62 and up
Shining Stars	5 - 26 *

3. * The Shining Stars class is an optional class for individuals aged 5-26 as of January 1st of the current fair year who have unique needs and may require additional support while exhibiting. Participants in this class should have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or similar documentation. Individuals may participate in the appropriate age class with accommodations in lieu of the Shining Stars class.
4. Northern District Fair encourages persons of all abilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact NDF Livestock Chair, Jennifer Newcomb at NDFLivestock@gmail.com, or calling the office at (231) 444-6409 by or at time of registration. Accommodation requests must be made by the registration deadline.
5. Exhibits entered under an Open, Senior Citizen, or Rising Star* class cannot also be entered in a Youth class.
6. All entries must be paid in full at the time of pre-entry or they will not be accepted.
7. All exhibitors will be given one exhibitor's pass, which will allow free access to the fairgrounds each day. This pass is only for entry at the gate, not to the grandstands, midway, or other events. Lost or stolen passes will not be replaced.
8. The competition is open to all residents of the State of Michigan. No out-of-state entries are permitted unless approved by the fair board prior to the pre-entry deadline.
9. All exhibits, still and livestock, must remain in place at the fairgrounds until the last Sunday of fair unless with prior approval from NDF livestock.
10. Premium checks must be cashed within 30 days of the fair.
11. Exhibitors who wish to protest or appeal a placement must do so in writing within 10 days of the close of the fair.
12. The Northern District Fair Association will not be responsible for any loss, damage, or injury to any animals exhibited, or for damage, theft, or destruction to any article of any kind that is entered into the fair.
13. All judge decisions are final.
14. All exhibitors must abide by the Northern District Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct. When satisfactory evidence has been obtained that a violation, fraud, or deception has occurred in

association with exhibiting at the Northern District Fair, any or all of the following actions may be taken:

- The exhibit in question may be disqualified.
- Any/all exhibits at the fair of the exhibitor may be disqualified.
- All premiums, trophies, awards, and/or monies won by said exhibitor in any Northern District Fair department may be withdrawn.
- The exhibitor may be asked to perform community service activities or other appropriate actions.
- The exhibitor and/or the exhibitor's family may be barred from participation and/or competition at the Northern District Fair for a maximum of three (3) years.

Exhibitor Code of Conduct:

The Northern District Fair expects courteous and orderly conduct by exhibitors and attendants. All exhibitors and their parties are to maintain decorum and respect for all other exhibitors, judges, fair representatives, families, and volunteers. Harassment, profanity, unsportsmanlike conduct, disrespect, or inappropriate behavior of any party, either directly, through digital communication, or on social media, is inexcusable.

Animal & Livestock Rules

1. Stall and cage reservation forms must be filled out and sent to the Northern District Fair Livestock Department, by the last Sunday in July. Reservation forms are in this fairbook and available online.
2. Youth livestock exhibitors must be 5 -19 years of age, as of January 1st of fair year, in order to exhibit in any youth class of the fair. Youth must reside in the State of Michigan, and be a member of a 4H club, FFA club, or other organized livestock/youth organization. Leader/Advisor names must be furnished on request.
3. Tykes & Tots classes are open to youth ages 2-5, and do not need to be in a youth organization to participate. A parent/guardian must accompany the child while in the ring. No tykes & tots class for cattle.
4. All animals must be in place, and checked into their appropriate barns, by 6pm on the first Sunday of Fair.

	Check-in time	Weigh-in time (market animals)
Poultry	8 am - 1 pm	8 am - 1 pm
Rabbit	8 am - 11 am	8 am - 11 am
Sheep & Goats	8 am - 1 pm	3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Steer & Swine	8 am - 3pm	8 am - 3pm

Equine	8 am - 3 pm	N/A
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5. All animals must be in good health, and can be sent home at the superintendent's discretion.
6. All ear tags and identification must be cleaned off and legible at the time of check-in.
7. All exhibitors must attend the mandatory meeting on Sunday at 6 pm in the cattle/swine barn.
8. An adult must accompany Tykes & Tots and Beginner classes at time of show.
9. Exhibitors are to keep their areas clean at all times during the entire week of fair. Sawdust is furnished and available while supplies last. Pens and cages are required to be completely and thoroughly cleaned twice per day, before 10:00 am and again before 6:00 p.m. On show days, pens must be cleaned prior to the start of the show. On auction night, pens must be cleaned prior to 4 pm.
10. Each barn superintendent will check pen cleanliness and animal well-being throughout the day. Those exhibitors not cleaning their areas, or not providing regular feed and water, will be given two written warnings. The warnings will be signed by two superintendents or members of the NDF Livestock Committee. After the second warning with no improvement, as determined by two members of NDF Livestock Committee, the exhibitor may be disqualified and/or forfeit all monies, trophies and/or winnings on this and/or all exhibits.
11. All animals entered and exhibited must be the bonafide property of the exhibitor at the time of entry.
12. Trophies and ribbons may be presented as they are won and must remain in the barn. Other awards earned throughout the week will be presented at the awards banquet on Saturday afternoon.
13. Exhibitors are to provide their own feed and hay.
14. All large animal and goat exhibitors must participate in a mandatory walk around the arena on entry day. With the safety of exhibitors, volunteers and visitors in mind, any animal that can not be controlled will be sent home by their barn superintendent.
15. Questions and concerns must first be addressed by the exhibitor's barn superintendent. If complaint persists, contact the NDF Livestock Committee Chair or another member of the Northern District Livestock council.
16. All projects must adhere to USDA / MDARD rules: michigan.gov/mdard/animals/exhibitions

Market Livestock Rules: To give the buyers a quality product, these rules are absolute.

1. All General Livestock Rules above apply to the Market Livestock department.
2. All market animal exhibits must register with the NDF Livestock Committee using the Livestock Registration Form available on the Northern District Fair website. Dairy/Beef Cattle by the first Saturday in December, Poultry by February 15, all other species by May 1. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to make sure the proper registration forms are on file.
3. All exhibitors are required to participate in barn duty per species shown.
4. The weight requirements for all Market Livestock projects are outlined below. Steers must weigh in on the first Saturday of December before the fair at the Northern District Fairgrounds. Goats and lambs are required to weigh in at the Northern District Fairgrounds in Cadillac on

the first Saturday of May of the fair year, with weigh-in times to be announced. For biosecurity reasons, swine will only be weighed on entry day. Market animal weights from other fairs' weigh-ins may be accepted with prior approval from the NDF Livestock Committee. All dates are subject to change.

Beef Steers	1,000 lbs +	Chicken Broilers	5.5 lbs +
Dairy Steers	1,000 lbs +	Chicken Cornish	2 - 5 lbs max
Market Swine	220 - 314 lbs max	Hen Turkey	20 lbs +
Roasters Swine	150 - 210 lbs max	Tom Turkey	18 lbs +
Heavyweight Swine	315 lbs +	Rabbit Pen of 3	3 - 5 lbs max each
Lamb	90 lbs +	Rabbit Single Fryer	3 - 5 lbs max
Goats	50 lbs +	Rabbit Single Roaster	5 - 9 lbs ma

5. Wash rack use is prohibited until after your animal is weighed-in.
6. Exhibitors may compete with a maximum of any 4 market projects. This rule excludes multiple pens of the same species. For example, an exhibitor may show a single hog *or* a pen of 2 hogs. An exhibitor may show a pen of 3 rabbits *or* a single fryer rabbit.
7. All Market Exhibitors must be present at final weigh-in on the first Sunday of fair with their animals, in order to be allowed to show and sell at the auction.
8. The NDF Livestock Committee representatives will weigh all of the animals, and these recorded weights shall be the official sale weights.
9. Sale order will be the order of judging, with Grand being first to sell, Reserve being second, and the remaining animals selling in placement order.
10. Market checks must be picked up in person for local exhibitors on October 15. Exhibitors have to trade their thank you letter for their check and NDF will mail thank you letters with photos. Out of local kids need to mail/email a letter to NDF and NDF will mail back their check.
11. Market checks will be mailed to exhibitors October 15th. Exhibitors are required to turn in their buyer thank-you letters to their superintendents on the last day of the fair. Alternatively, buyer thank-you letters may be mailed unsealed to Northern District Fair by October 15th. Northern District Fair will mail the buyer thank-you letters with pictures from the auction. Mail to: Northern District Fair, 221 E. 13th Street, P.O. Box 131, Cadillac, MI 49601
12. Market checks will be mailed by October 15. Any exhibitor whose buyer has not yet paid for their market livestock purchase by that time, will receive their check upon receipt of buyer payment. Buyer photos will be included with your market checks. Each exhibitor is required to deliver a buyer photo and a thank-you note to each of their buyers.
13. All market animals need to be washed and in their assigned pens by 5:00 on auction day. All pens are to be completely cleaned by 4:00 pm on auction day.
14. Exhibitors are required to be present to show and sell their animals.

15. Buyer "Thank-You" signs must be placed on all market animal pens immediately after the auction.
16. Exhibitors planning to sell their animals at auction must complete a record book and participate in showmanship for every project.
17. A maximum of 5% of auction revenue will be commissioned by the NDF Livestock committee.

Cattle:

1. Youth exhibitors must be 9 years of age (as of January 1) to exhibit in any cattle department without a parent/guardian in the ring, and to sell a beef project at auction. Youth ages 7 and 8 may show breeding stock with the accompaniment of a parent/legal guardian at all times.
2. All cattle must meet MDARD TB testing and all USDA/MDARD requirements, including RFID tagging requirements.
3. All cattle must be properly dehorned (with the exception of meeting breed standards), and castrated, in order to show and sell at Northern District Fair. Scottish Highlanders, and other special breeds, must have proper protective covering on their horns.
4. All cattle will be tied with a halter and with a neck rope, until removal from the fairgrounds.
5. Beef cattle must have primarily beef characteristics, and dairy cattle must have primarily dairy characteristics.

Market Cattle:

6. All steers must be properly castrated and dehorned before December weigh-in, or they will not be weighed and tagged. All ear tags must be cleaned and legible at every weigh-in day.
7. Exhibitors may weigh-in (2) market cattle projects, but may only exhibit and sell one (1) at the fair.

Swine

1. All swine must meet USDA/MDARD requirements, including all official tagging requirements.
2. All swine MUST have a minimum of ½ inch of hair on the majority of their body to be eligible to show and sell. All swine that do not meet this requirement will be sent home.
3. No oil-based products may be used on swine.
4. No boars will be allowed on NDF property. Only barrows and sows allowed.
5. Hogs must be in your possession no later than May 1st each year.

Market Swine:

6. Pen of 2: exhibitors may choose to exhibit a pen of 2 hogs. A pen of 2 hogs counts as 2 of the 4 available market projects allowed. Both hogs must weigh into the market swine class to show and sell at auction, selling individually. If one or both of the 2 hogs is over or under market weight, the exhibitor may choose to enter a singular market hog. The second hog is allowed to stay on fair grounds, but not be sold or shown, only if space allows.
7. Roaster and heavyweight swine will not be eligible to compete for Grand or Reserve Champion Market Swine.
8. Auction order will go as follows: Grand & Reserve, market swine, heavyweights, then roasters by judge's placings.

Sheep

1. All sheep must meet USDA/MDARD requirements, including RFID/Scrapie tagging requirements.
2. All sheep must be properly dehorned (with the exception to meeting breed standards), and castrated, in order to show and sell at Northern District Fair. Special horned breeds must have proper protective covering on their horns.
3. Lambs must be shorn prior to coming to fair. Spot grooming with shears is allowed.

Market Lambs:

4. All sheep must be properly dehorned and castrated before May weigh-in and fair.
5. Each exhibitor may weigh-in two (2) lambs for their market project, but may only select (1) for exhibiting and sale at the fair. If you bring two (2) lambs to the fair, the first lamb making weight will be the lamb that will be used for show and sale. The remaining lamb may stay on fairgrounds if there is enough space.
6. Lamb(s) must be in possession by May 1st, and born after December 1st of the previous year.

Goats

1. All goats must meet USDA/MDARD requirements, including RFID/Scrapie tagging requirements. Tattooing under the tail with accompanying scrapie paperwork allowed for Lamancha breeds only.
2. All goats must be properly dehorned, with the exception of Angoras, Pygmy, and Boer breeding stock.
3. Goats should be shorn before entry day at fair, spot grooming is allowed.

Market Goats:

4. Goat(s) must be in possession by May 1st, and born after December 1st of the previous year.
5. Each exhibitor may weigh-in two (2) goats for their market project, but may only select (1) for exhibiting and sale at the fair. If you bring two (2) goats to the fair, the first goat making weight will be the goat that will be used for show and sale. The remaining goat may stay on fairgrounds if there is enough space.
6. All market goats must be properly dehorned and castrated before May weigh-in and fair.
7. Breed specific goats with horns allowed in breeding classes.
8. Lamancha or goats with no ears may have a collar with a scrapie tag fused to the collar as an acceptable form of identification.

Poultry

1. All poultry entered must be Pullorum tested on entry day prior to entry into the barn. Testing is provided by the Northern District Fair. No bird will be allowed in the barn before they are tested. Only those birds entered will be tested at no charge. Exhibitors wishing to have extra birds tested will be required to pay \$2 per bird. Pigeons, waterfowl, and doves are exempt from testing.
2. Exhibitors may advertise their non-market birds for sale only after judging has been completed.

3. Exhibitors may only enter one exhibit per section
4. All waterfowl must be legbanded by the exhibitor prior to entry. This is for identification purposes only.
5. Exhibitors provide their own feed and water dishes, water dishes must be attached firmly to the cages so they are not dumped.
6. For the safety of your animals, the Small Animal Barn will be locked overnight. Barn hours will be posted on entry day.
7. Per MDARD regulations, absolutely no transport cages, boxes or cartons shall be left inside barns during fair.
8. All poultry must be clean on entry day. Birds that are excessively dirty will be sent home. Birds must also be clean on show day, or they will not be judged.

Market Poultry:

9. Cornish, broilers, and turkeys are separate market projects and each count as one of the 4 allowed market projects.
10. Cornish must be within the weight limit listed above. Overweight Cornish will be exempt from receiving Grand and Reserve champion winnings. Overweight cornish will sell at auction for 5 lbs after the within-weight birds.
11. Exhibitors must have a cage with a bottom to transport poultry to the butcher in. A dog cage works well. It is encouraged that exhibitors tag their cages to ensure it is returned to the correct owner.
12. Market turkey exhibitors must bring two turkeys to fair. One, of the exhibitors choosing, will be shown, judged, and sent to market. The other will stay at the fair the remainder of fair week.
13. If the turkey exhibitor only has one turkey at time of fair, all the same rules apply. This exhibitor is expected to decorate their cage with images (posters, displays) of their turkey project to fill the empty cage space after the auction.

Eggs:

1. One dozen eggs all from one species. (all chicken, all quail, all duck, etc)
2. Must be shown in a standard egg carton, provided by the exhibitor.
3. Must be clean, unwashed, and fresh
4. Rainbow dozen judged based on quality of eggs and diversity of colors.

Outstanding Poultry Exhibitor

1. An Outstanding Poultry Exhibitor will be chosen based on their overall performance and their entire exhibit quality in the following poultry categories:
 - a. Showmanship
 - c. Poster
 - d. Demonstrations
2. Point system, lowest total score wins: 1st: 1 point, 2nd: 2 points, 3rd: 3 points, 4th: 4 points, 5th: 5 points, 6th: 6 points, 7th: 7 points, 8th: 8 points. Not participating in a division: 25 points. Each cleanliness warning is an additional 5 points.
3. Exhibitor must register to be an Outstanding Poultry competitor.

Rabbits, Cavies, and pocket pets

1. Judging shall be governed by the current ARBA Standard of Perfection. Any rabbit/cavy which does not conform in any way to the Standard for its breed should be shown as a mixed breed.
2. All rabbits must have a permanent tattoo in their left ear on entry day. No exceptions to this rule. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to get their rabbits tattooed prior to entry day.
3. Exhibitors provide their own cages for cavies and pocket pets.
4. No pregnant or nursing does or sows will be allowed in the barn.
5. Exhibitors may advertise their non-market rabbits for sale only after judging has been completed.

Market Rabbits:

6. Pen of 3: must consist of a pen of 3 rabbits of the same breed and variety. They do not have to be from the same litter, but must be the same age (not over 70 days of age). Pen of 3 rabbits must have been born and raised at the youth's property.
7. The Single Fryer project: must consist of one single market rabbit not be over 70 days of age and born and raised at the youth's property.
8. Single Roaster project: must be under 6 months of age. Minimum weight is over 5 pounds, maximum weight is 9 pounds. Roaster class entries must be of one of the following recognized commercial meat type breeds, or a crossbred roaster from two of these breeds: American Chinchilla, Cinnamon, Palomino, American Sable, Crème d' Argent, Argent Brun, Rex, Florida White, Satin, Californian, Havana, Silver Marten Champagne d' Argent, New Zealand. Single Roasters may be purchased from a breeder OR self-raised and finished on the youth's premises 30 days prior to the tattoo clinic.
9. All market rabbits will be tattooed at the designated tattoo clinic for Market rabbits held within a month of fair. Check fair website for complete details.

Outstanding Rabbit Exhibitor

1. An Outstanding Rabbit Exhibitor will be chosen based on their overall performance and their entire exhibit quality in the following rabbit categories:
 - a. Showmanship
 - c. Poster
 - d. Demonstrations
2. Point system, lowest total score wins: 1st: 1 point, 2nd: 2 points, 3rd: 3 points, 4th: 4 points, 5th: 5 points, 6th: 6 points, 7th: 7 points, 8th: 8 points. Not participating in a division: 25 points. Each cleanliness warning is an additional 5 points.
3. Exhibitor must register to be an Outstanding Rabbit competitor.

Equine

1. Proof of current Coggins test (within the last 12 months) is mandatory before unloading any horses onto fairgrounds.
2. The Open Horse Show will follow the youth show on Tuesday. The open show is available as a haul-in haul-out show. Stalls dependent on availability. Registration fee is \$20. This fee will cover all classes. A \$20 deposit for all open horse exhibitors is required, and refunded upon

superintendent's approval of stall or trailer space cleanliness. Please remove all droppings to the manure pile located near the Goat & Sheep barn.

3. You must be stalled all week to show in the Tuesday Youth Show.
4. Stalls must be cleaned daily. Periodic checks will be done on stalls for cleanliness and animal condition.
5. Horses must have water at all times and be fed no later than 9 p.m.
6. Horses are required to be back in stalls at 9 p.m., unless requested by a vet to do otherwise.
7. No horses may be ridden between barns and ring, nor shall any horse be out on the south end of the barns. No run-ins or run-outs from the arena.
8. No horses shall be brought in to replace another horse unless directed by a vet and with approval from the barn superintendent.
9. Halters must be worn at all times by horses.
10. The horse age shall be computed from January 1 of the current year.
11. No premium will be awarded when the animal is not worthy, even with no competition present.
12. Novice classes will be open to exhibitors of all ages, who are first-year show persons in each section. Note: riding classes are walk / trot; for example, if a person is in 2nd-Year Showmanship but a 1st-Year rider, he / she may be a novice in the riding classes only. An exhibitor cannot show more than 2 years in novice classes.
13. Exhibitors may show two (2) horses, pending stall availability.
14. Stallions may show in Open Class horses only, and must be shown by an adult exhibitor. Stallions are only allowed to enter pending stall availability. They will be housed in their own area. Make sure to check with the Horse Superintendent before you enter your stallions

Other Competition Rules

Showmanship Sweepstakes

1. SENIOR: This class is for 15-19 year olds who win first place in a showmanship class. This person can only compete from one species. An exhibitor can only win Senior Showmanship Sweepstakes once.
2. INTERMEDIATE: This class is for 10-14 year olds that win first place in a showmanship class. An exhibitor can only win Intermediate Showmanship Sweepstakes once. They may move up to Senior Sweepstakes class in subsequent years. If an Intermediate wins the Senior Sweepstakes, they are no longer eligible to show in Sweepstakes classes in future years.
3. If the first-place showman is already competing in one species, the second-place exhibitor will be allowed to compete.
4. Species shown for both levels are: Horse, Swine, Beef, Chicken, Goat, Lamb, Turkey, Rabbit. Species may be omitted or replaced if not present at the fair that year.

Costume Contest

1. All livestock exhibitors are allowed to enter the costume contest.
2. One animal may compete per exhibitor.

3. This is a fun-for-all event, and safe silliness is encouraged.
4. Staging of the costume contest will be staggered by species size, starting with poultry and ending with equine.