

GENERAL RULES

1. All exhibitors agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of the McKean County Fair Association, Inc.
2. The fair management reserves the right to amend or add to these rules and regulations as its judgment may determine.
3. Reasonable care will be taken to protect all exhibits on display from all injury and damage, but the fair is not, in any way, to be held responsible for accidents, loss or damage by water, fire, theft or otherwise; whatever may be the cause or extent of the damage to any personal property of any individual, group or organization caused by any persons, whether known or unknown. Damages will be the sole responsibility of that individual or individuals causing said damage, with the McKean County Fair being held blameless for said actions, The Fair Association will not be responsible for typographical errors.
4. Premiums, as listed, may be given for meritorious exhibits. In cases where there is no competition, judges may give an award such as they deem the exhibit is worthy to receive. Same rule applies where there are fewer entries in any class than the number of premiums offered. The judges may, at their discretion, award a ribbon or rosette. The Fair reserves the right to determine how many entries they will accept from an exhibitor in the same class, in the case of livestock, the same breed, and poultry - - the same species.
5. Unclaimed exhibits become property of the fair after September 15.

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL IN ALL CASES.

6. It shall be the responsibility of the exhibitor to make known the proper name of the article or bred of livestock he or she is entering. Any item entered improperly will be disqualified to receive a prize, but the judges will make the correct name on the entry tag for the benefit of the owner so the mistake in entering need not be made a second time.
7. Superintendents of departments reserve the right of refusing to accept any entry. Furthermore, the superintendents reserve the rights to bar from competition animals, vegetables, flowers, poultry, products and manufactured articles of decidedly inferior quality and those not possessing sufficient merit to warrant recognition.
8. The Fair Management may, at any time, order the removal of any exhibit or part of an exhibit in bad condition and any article unfit to show may be excluded. Food products cannot be polluted with any substance or chemical that causes them to become poisonous and unfit to be used as food. No exhibit may be removed at any time before the close of the fair except by consent of the management and/or superintendent. Unless otherwise specifically authorized in writing by the management or superintendent, all exhibits shall be required to remain on the fairgrounds until 9:00 pm Saturday, being the last day of the Fair. Failure to comply with this rule will result in forfeiture of any prize money won by the exhibitor for exhibits removed.
(PA Department of Agriculture rules). Pen must be cleaned of all manure and bedding within one (1) week of the close of the Fair or forfeiture of all premiums.
9. During the judging, buildings, except livestock arenas, are to be closed to everyone except fair officials, judges, Pennsylvania Fair Fund officials, and necessary attendants.

No exhibitor or his agent shall communicate with the judge during the time of determining the awards except to answer questions proposed by the judges. Any exhibitor interfering with the judges while making awards shall forfeit any premium to which he would otherwise be entitled.

10. The McKean County Fair Association, Inc. **WILL NOT** furnish any type of bedding for any animals.
11. All livestock offered for premiums must have been the property of the owner thirty (30) days or longer.
12. Should any animal awarded a prize be disqualified, the animals gaining the lower prizes shall move into the next higher position, if, in the opinion of the judges, the animals are worthy of such prizes.
13. Grand and Reserve Ribbons will be awarded in Livestock classes.
14. Overfitting of cattle will be discriminated against. Any artificial means used to change the form or shape of an animal will disqualify it from competition.
15. When on exhibition in the ring, each animal must be under halter and in charge of owner or employee. The Fair will have standby attendants available during the Youth judging and showing, men designated if there is trouble with the animals.
PLEASE NOTE: Absolutely no dogs are permitted in the barn area or on the midway. Dogs are permitted in campgrounds, must be on leash and under control at all times. Dogs are permitted on grounds if they are participating in fair sanctioned activities such as but not limited to Monday's pet show. All dogs must have proof of current rabies vaccinations, which must be presented to fair officials upon request. Guide dogs and other service dogs permitted on grounds in accordance with laws pertaining to service animals.
16. Joint ownership considered to be as one owner in accordance with registration papers.
17. All judge's Books shall remain with the Clerk when not in actual use by the Judges. Judges will call at the Clerk's Office at the hours appointed in the program of judging and receive their books, complete their work as soon as possible and return the books to the Clerk's Office.
18. The book of entries will open Monday, June 29th and close Friday, July 24th. Livestock entries will open and close the same dates or when pens are filled.
19. Please make entries early to avoid the confusion and crowds on the closing days of entry. Entries will be accepted at the fair office until the close of books.
20. In the event of stormy weather or other cause whereby the receipts of the association are insufficient to meet the expenses and premiums, the right is reserved to discount the premiums pro rata.
21. All exhibitors are to pay for temporary living quarters facilities.
22. Daily and weekly rates are available for temporary living quarters.
23. Family Day Premiums will be paid only on the day of the event.
24. All Horses and Ponies must be stabled from 11:00 PM to 5:00 AM.
25. Animals must be on the grounds by 9:00 PM on Sunday.
26. 4-H and vocational/FFA school members showing livestock entries will be given priority when assigning stalls.
27. No horses tied in stalls.

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28. All riders 18 & under must wear a helmet when riding.

GUIDELINES FOR CARE OF ANIMALS

29. It is the responsibility for each exhibitor to care for animals in a manner that is responsible and ethical. Following are some guidelines for the treatment of animals at the show.

A. Restraining Animals

- I. Animals should be tied or penned in a manner that will not hurt the animal or restrict its breathing in any way.
- II. Animals should be tied so that all four feet are firmly on the ground and they have enough room to stand comfortably and lie down.
- III. Animals should be tied so that they are not able to injure animals tied near them.
- IV. Animals unaccustomed to each other should not be penned together.

B. Handling

Any type of rough handling which could harm the animals is prohibited. The use of whips, canes, and show sticks should be restricted to showing only, and then be used to guide the animals, not punishing them. Remember, animals will respond quicker and better to quiet, gentle handling than loud, rough handling.

C. Bedding

All animals should have bedding that is dry and clean. Pens should be cleaned regularly to keep the animals clean and comfortable. If non-traditional bedding such as carpeting is used, it should be regularly cleaned (at least twice daily) to keep the pen free from manure.

D. Feeding & Water

Animals should be well fed and have access to clean water regularly. Realizing that many market animals must have restricted amounts of feed to maintain proper weight, animals must be fed adequate amounts of feed to meet the animals' basic requirements. Animals not allowed reasonable access to feed and water will be disqualified from the show.

E. Transportation

Animals should be transported in a way that is both safe and considerate of the animal's well-being.

F. Blanket/Sweat Collars

Any type of material such as blankets or sweat collars should be large enough to permit normal body functions such as breathing, eating, drinking or lying down.

G. Health

It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to provide proper health care for their animals through routine inspection and consultation with health care professionals. The improper or illegal use of drugs or antibiotics is prohibited. If medication is indicated, be sure to follow the label directions and allow more than the stated withdrawal time.

Official identification of animals is required.

All animals must be free of infectious and contagious diseases.

IMPORTANT: ALL HEALTH PAPERS MUST BE CHECKED BY A FAIR OFFICIAL BEFORE UNLOADING.

30. Be sure to use only grooming products that are approved for use on meat and dairy animals when fitting your animals for show. Unapproved products may contain ingredients that

result in unacceptable residues in the meat or milk. If you are not certain that a product is residue safe and approved for use on meat or dairy animals **do not use it!**

****Important** If upon slaughter, treatment with drugs, biologics or any chemical from fitting products is the cause of condemnation of a carcass, the loss of the carcass and other damages will be borne by the exhibitor.**

4-H & VOCATIONAL (FFA) RULES

1. 4-H club members must have passed their eighth (8) birthday, but have not passed their nineteenth (19) birthday by January 1 of the current year.
2. Exhibitors must be 4-H members, carrying a project in the field in which they wish to make entry, and be under the supervision of the Pennsylvania State University Cooperative Extension Service by June 1 preceding the fair.
3. Student enrolled in an accepted vocational/FFA school curriculum must be conducting a project in the class in which they wish to make entry. Students enrolled in general home economics in comprehensive high school are considered as qualifying.
4. All entries shall be approved prior to the fair by member of the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Agriculture or Family and Consumer Science staff or their designated representative.
5. All animals exhibited in any 4-H/FFA market class of any species must be registered with and eligible for sale in the Junior Livestock Auction. Animals exhibited by 4-H/FFA market classes must be sold in the Junior Livestock Auction.

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