

3/7/2025

Hello exhibitors and Family Members,

Fair is upon us. I'm so excited about it to get underway and see all your projects at their final stages. I wish you all a fun filled week. Get out there and create memories that will last a lifetime.

Your Executive board and Committee are committed to having a fair show with qualified judges for each species. The superintends did an amazing job of finding and securing our judges. However, a concern was launched with the PCJLC executive board about the lamb and goat judge under contract, Mr. Montana Beck. Although Mr. Beck was hired by PCJLC in December of 2024, we are canceling his contract and replacing him. In March of 2025 the SAILA organization hired Mr. Beck to be their judge at their Premier Show right here at the Fair Grounds, March 1st and 2nd. The announcement said he was going to judge the Beef and Swine shows. The executive board met to discuss the issue. If he **was not** going to judge the lambs and goats, could he be viewed as fair and unbiased? On Sunday, March 2nd, the SAILA organization had Mr. Beck judging Lambs and Goats. The executive Board felt that the Exhibitors that showed to Mr. Beck now had an advantage over others not participating in SAILA. Mr. Beck gave them pointers in Showmanship and told them possible ways they could improve their animal in 9 days. Again, the Board is committed to having a fair show for everyone in PCJL. In our current rules Mr. Beck did nothing wrong. We had no rules around not being able to judge another show in our county, much less in our backyard. The executive board decided to pay out Mr. Beck's contract and go on the hunt for another judge. I believe it was the right thing to do for our Organization and Exhibitors. I tasked two members of the executive board that do not have any children showing this year, to quickly find a replacement judge. I just received a report this morning that they have a verbal commitment from a judge. The Team is moving forward with contract and final paperwork.

Moving forward, I feel it is important for the committee to make some rule changes and have more detailed contracts with our future judges. My goal is to be fair, transparent, and available to all. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In closing, as a good friend of mine once said "when you know better you should do better". I will work to make sure we do better. Every challenge should be a learning experience. I know this was a challenge for me and the organization and we will be better for it.

Exhibitors, please take advantage of all the activities going on at the fair. We have a livestock judging contest, skill-a-thon, exhibitor dance, cornhole tournament, carnival rides and so much more. If I haven't met you in person, please stop me and say hi. This is your organization, and I would like to hear your thoughts on how we can serve you better in the future.

Gary Dale

PCJLC President