

GENERAL RULES FOR ALL EXHIBITORS AND FAIR VISITORS

**ADMISSION: *FREE ENTRANCE GATE ADMISSION ALL WEEK THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS*
*FREE PARKING***

NO DOGS ALLOWED ON GROUNDS EXCEPT ON RENTED CAMPSITES.

OUTSIDE & INSIDE VENDOR SPACE RENTAL:

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GENERAL RULES:

- Rule 1: **Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or marijuana on the fairgrounds.**
- Rule 2: **Firearms are prohibited on the fairgrounds** with the exception of on duty law enforcement officers and antique firearms being exhibited.
- Rule 3: **All entries in the fair must be pre-registered.** Pre-registration may be done through on-line entry by going to loscoCountyFair.com (the fair website), or by mailing pre-registration forms to the address on the forms. Pre-registration forms mailed in by U.S. Postal Mail must be post-marked on or before July 1st, 2023. Those pre-registering on-line through the fair website will have until midnight on July 10th, 2023 to pre-register.
Pre-registered Open Class & Youth still exhibit entries may be dropped off either Sunday, July 23rd from 1 to 4pm, or from 8am to 12 pm of opening day - Monday, July 24th. Youth Still Exhibit entries should be dropped off in the Samson Building. Open Class Still Exhibit entries should be dropped off in the Dooley Building.
Livestock entries may begin arriving at 8 a.m. on opening day (Monday) and have until 4 p.m. to get all entries exhibited with the exception of the Poultry Department. All Poultry Department entries are required to be checked into the fair on Sunday, July 23rd, 2023 between 2p.m. and 6p.m. All other livestock department entries may only haul in on Sunday if approved in advance by the Superintendent of the department.
- Rule 4: Still exhibit and Livestock entries may be removed Sunday, July 30th from 8 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Rule 5: Awards will be paid according to the record of the Judge's book, not ribbon on exhibit.
- Rule 6: No unauthorized fires allowed on fairgrounds.
- Rule 7: All animals must remain in their designated areas.
- Rule 8: The Iosco County Agricultural Society will not be responsible for injuries and property stolen or lost, at or during the Iosco County Fair.
- Rule 9: The management will not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury to any animal exhibited or article destroyed or in any way injured. Each exhibitor will be responsible for an injury that may be occasioned to any person or to the property of any person by any animal owned or exhibited by an exhibitor; and shall indemnify the Iosco County Agricultural Society against all claims or injury occasioned by an animal owned or exhibited by him/her or arising from the acts of negligence of the person in charge of any such exhibit.
- Rule 10: Dogs are not allowed on the fairgrounds with the exception that dogs will be allowed in camping areas & at specified locations for scheduled dog shows, but only at the time of, and for those, specific showing or entertainment events. These dogs must be the animals of the registered camper or dog exhibitor - no guest dogs. **All dogs in the campground must be registered at the time of campsite registration.** You must present proof of a dog license, the breed and coloring of the dog. All dogs must be leashed or tied at the campsite and must stay on the assigned lot. The dog's owner must clean up all dog droppings. Those not obeying these rules will forfeit the opportunity to camp in the future and have the potential to loose any premiums earned during the current fair year. Dogs causing disturbance to neighboring campers will be required to leave the grounds.
EXCEPTION:
Seeing-eye (Service) dogs will be allowed in all parts of the fairgrounds but must be cleaned up after. Proper paperwork must be presented verifying a dog as a Service Dog to be on the grounds.
- Rule 11: The Iosco County Fair Board reserves the right to remove any person and/or their exhibit from the grounds for any unsportsmanlike behavior, or for displaying any inappropriate exhibits.
- Rule 12: **Golf carts, UTV's and ATV's are not allowed for use within the fairgrounds unless written permission is given expressly by the Iosco County Agricultural Society's Board of Directors.**

OPEN CLASS DEPARTMENTS

These classes are open to all who wish to exhibit, youth & adult. The American Judging System shall be used to judge exhibits in all open classes. Entries will be placed in rank order according to quality (i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd)

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

These classes are open to all youth who wish to exhibit. Age categories are found in the rules sections below, and in the livestock & horse department descriptions. The Danish Judging System shall be used to judge youth exhibits. See Youth Class Rule #4 for more information.

RULES APPLYING TO BOTH OPEN & YOUTH EXHIBITS- *per MDARD regulation 811*

PERTAINING TO ALL EXHIBITS:

- Rule 1: In all categories other than animal, antique or tractor, the exhibitor shall be the creator of the article, item or project.
- Rule 2: State-funded premiums shall not be paid to a class in an antique category that contains an item that has been entered for competition in the previous 3 years. (Items can be displayed but not judged).
- Rule 3: a. Judging shall occur during or not more than 3 days before the opening day of the fair, unless otherwise approved by the director or his or her designee.
b. All exhibits shall be judged by using the American or Danish system for judging in competition; however, if there is only 1 entry in a class, then the exhibits shall be judged against standards accepted by the fair board.
c. Judges shall not have a supervisory role at the fair or have an ongoing and direct relationship with any participating exhibitor or employee in the class where he or she is to serve as judge.
- Rule 4: Any fair exhibitor may file a complaint regarding any of the following concerns: A. Conflict of interest of the judge. B. Disqualification of an exhibit or exhibitor. C. Exhibitor, group leader, or superintendent behavior. D. Eligibility of the exhibit. In accordance to the annual appropriation act, exhibitors are allowed to file a written complaint to the Iosco County Fair Board within 10 days after the end of the fair.
- Rule 5: An exhibitor filing a complaint in Rule 4 above may make an appeal to the MI Department of Agriculture & Rural Development within 45 days of filing the initial complaint if the exhibitor is not satisfied with the fair's action. The department shall have 60 days after receipt of any appropriately filed appeal to investigate the complaint, and shall issue a finding of fact and notice of department action and a recommended action for the fair.

PERTAINING SPECIFICALLY TO ANIMAL EXHIBITORS:

- Rule 6: State-funded premiums shall not be awarded in an animal class where an exhibitor is under 6 years of age by Jan. 1 of the fair year, and who participates as an individual. Youth exhibiting animals under the age of 6 by Jan. 1 of the fair year shall be eligible for state-funded premiums only where separate classes for their age bracket occur, and when youth are accompanied by a parent or guardian during the handling & showing of their animal(s).
- Rule 7: Ownership is not required for an exhibitor to show in any animal classes other than market classes.

OPEN CLASS RULES:

PERTAINING TO ALL OPEN CLASS EXHIBITS:

- Rule 1: ENTRY FEE must be submitted with pre-registration form - as listed under each department heading.
- Rule 2: Premiums offered in each class. There will be one first, one second, one third place paid in each class. If classes are created the day of entry, ribbons only will be awarded - NO premiums.
- Rule 3: Exhibits may be eligible for premiums in more than one class if properly qualified.
- Rule 4: No more than two entries from one exhibitor will be accepted in each class.
- Rule 5: In any class where there are fewer entries than premium placings offered, the placing of the entry (or entries) will be awarded at the discretion of the judge.**
- Rule 6: The judge's decisions are final.**
- Rule 7: In case the receipts of the fair are insufficient to pay the expenses and premiums, the Iosco County Fair Board will prorate the premiums.
- Rule 8: The American Judging System shall be used to judge exhibits in all open classes. Entries will be placed in rank order according to quality.

PERTAINING SPECIFICALLY TO OPEN CLASS ANIMAL EXHIBITS:

- Rule 9: Each purebred animal must be accompanied by its registration papers in order to be eligible.
- Rule 10: All livestock must be shown to be free from disease before entering the grounds.

YOUTH CLASS RULES:

PERTAINING TO ALL YOUTH CLASS EXHIBITS:

- Rule 1: This division is open to any girl or boy 19 years of age and under as of January 1st of the fair year. Refer to livestock age divisions and horse (equine) age divisions indicated within the headings of their respective departments.
- Rule 2: For classes under the educational projects or demonstration projects categories, participants are limited to youth 19 years of age and younger by Jan. 1 of the fair year. Participants 26 years of age by Jan.1 of the fair year or younger, who have been determined to be eligible for special education services by the local school district, may participate in classes under the educational and demonstration projects of the youth department. *(as per MDARD Regulation 811)*
- Rule 3: No entry fee is required in youth classes.
- Rule 4: The Danish Judging System shall be used to judge youth exhibits. Entries will be judged against an established set of standards. All entries meeting the standards may receive the same or differing awards. Placing will be in the form of A, B, C Award ribbons.
- Rule 5: Exhibitors may enter no more than two entries per class.
- Rule 6: All state sanitary and health regulations must be adhered to.
- Rule 7: In case the receipts of the fair are insufficient to pay the expenses and premiums, the Iosco County Agricultural Society will prorate the premiums.
- Rule 8: Still exhibits and Livestock entries may be removed between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 30th

PERTAINING SPECIFICALLY TO YOUTH STILL EXHIBITS:

- Rule 10: No article or work previously exhibited at the Iosco County Fair will be accepted for competition until at least 2 years have passed.
- Rule 11: All vegetables and flowers exhibited must be raised by the exhibitor.
- Rule 12: Baking food exhibits should be shown on 9 inch plates.
- Rule 13: For flowers, fruits, and vegetables: if these produce items are not available at the time of the fair as pre-registered for then another exhibit may be substituted.
- Rule 14: Still exhibit entries may only be entered in one class per item.

PERTAINING SPECIFICALLY TO YOUTH LIVESTOCK EXHIBITS:

- Rule 15: All exhibitors with animals are responsible for feeding and caring for them during the fair. Exhibitors are responsible for keeping, animals, pens, etc. clean at all times.
- Rule 16: Exhibitors are to fit, show and take care of their own animals.
- Rule 17: Showmanship awards based on: Showmanship of Owner, Fitting of animal, and Training of animal. Showmanship classes are divided by exhibitor ages as indicated in the livestock departments.
- Rule 18: All livestock exhibits, and the area occupied by them must be kept in order by the exhibitors as directed by the Superintendent in charge. Each youth is responsible for his/her own clean-up equipment (rakes, forks, shovels, etc.)
- Rule 19: No bulls shall be shown in the Youth Division.
- Rule 20: All livestock shall be shown at halter in the ring in a manner prescribed by the judge.
- Rule 21: Exhibitors must completely clean their pens/stalls at the end of the fair or forfeit their premium monies.