



## Competitive Entries Department

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## General Rules and Regulations

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September 20 -October 27, 2024  
Closed Monday - Wednesday

1826 W McDowell Rd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
[www.azstatefair.com](http://www.azstatefair.com)

# 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. Any rule changes or exceptions may only be authorized by Executive Director and/or Director of Entries.**
2. Violation of any rule is subject to disqualification of entry, disqualification of exhibitor, forfeiture of premium money, forfeiture of sale proceeds, reporting of actions to other fairs or livestock shows and ineligibility to participate in future Arizona State Fairs.
3. 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 shall be at the sole discretion of the Executive Director and any decision made by the Executive Director shall be final.
4. The Board or its representative reserves the right to amend or add to these rules, as it deems necessary.
5. 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. The Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board or their representatives reserve the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and settle and determine all matters, questions, differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with an incident to the fair.
6. The Fair Board does not guarantee the payment of sponsored premiums and awards offered in the Exhibitor's Handbook by merchants or associations. These prizes are usually secured by the Fair board with a promissory statement in good faith and must be contested under these conditions from the time the entry is dropped off or picked up.
7. Exhibitor must be an Arizona resident for at least six months of the calendar year.
8. Entries not picked up on release day(s) will be subject to a \$25 handling charge and a \$1 per day storage fee. Items will be held for 60 days and then destroyed.
9. If entering online (some departments require online entry), entry money must be received at the Arizona State Fair offices within 5 days.
10. All applications for competitive entries must be made on official entry forms (or online) and in accordance with instructions thereon and rules of the Exhibitor's Handbook.
11. Completed entry forms and required payment must be received by the Competitive Entries Department on or before the published deadlines, or postmarked by the USPS on or before published deadline and received by the Entry Department within seven days following the deadline.
12. No article may be entered for more than one premium, and only one article may be entered in each class, except where stated 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 Coordinator as having been entered more than one year will be disqualified.
13. No entries will be accepted on which carrier charges have not been prepaid and sufficient postage and instructions for return are included.
14. There will be no REFUND on Entry Fees, either for overpayment, not showing or failure to bring in the entry.
15. Onsite entries will be accepted and are subject to an additional onsite entry fee as listed within each department.
16. All premium money listed within the exhibitor handbooks will be awarded and paid within 90 days of the last day of fair.
17. The right is reserved to reject any exhibit offered for exhibition.
18. The Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board reserve the right to limit entries to facilities available and may limit the number of entries by an exhibitor. Any return of entries will be done generally and without discrimination. In all cases the Competitive Entries Department reserves the right to reject entirely or accept conditionally any entry or application.
19. Any exhibitor who for the purpose of defrauding or misrepresentation, make 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 Coordinator.

20. 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.
21. Under no circumstances shall a director, department head, Coordinator and/or their spouse be eligible to collect awards.
22. Department heads, judges, staff, anyone directly involved in the judging process and their spouses are not allowed to exhibit or sign entry forms in any division in which they or their spouse are directly involved.
23. Minor children of department heads, Coordinators, staff and/or committee members may exhibit animals or articles which are the result of the child's own earnings or a gift made to the child, provided the requirements of pertinent rules are met. All other requirements for exhibiting must be met.
24. 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 a decision or, with his approval, the matter may be referred to the Board or their representative, from whose decision there is no appeal.
25. Any exhibitor that publicly takes exception to the findings of a judge may be excluded from competition or exhibiting on the grounds.
26. 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.
27. The judge may not waive state rules.
28. 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 small stock and competitive departments, all protests from a decision of a judge must be made to the Board or its designee and filed by 5:00 p.m. on the closing day of the fair.
29. All protests must be made in writing and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00 in any of the livestock and small stock 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.
30. The right of an exhibitor to pretest 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.
31. 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.
32. All question in dispute or differences not covered by these rules shall be referred to the board or their representative, whose decision shall be final.
33. Unless specified in the Exhibitor Handbook agricultural and horticultural products must have been produced by the exhibitor and exhibits must be at the state of ripeness in order to be considered for award.
34. At the first sign of wilting, fruits, vegetables and/or plants will be discarded without prior notification. No exceptions.
35. Upon entering your item(s) in the Arizona State Fair, you authorize permission to Arizona State Fair and its publicity staff to post and use any and all photos taken of your entry and yourself without prior written permission for use in promoting and advertising the Arizona State Fair.