



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000
Governor Asa Hutchinson
José R. Romero, MD, Secretary of Health

September 4th, 2020

Carrol Mercer
Garland County Fair Association
4831 Malvern Ave.
Hot Springs, AR 71901

RE: Garland County Fairgrounds—Demolition Derby/Rodeo/Livestock Show/Car Show

Dear Carrol Mercer:

The plan submitted to the Department of Health is reviewed and can be implemented as submitted, with the following comments:

- This review covers the above captioned events and similar events. For future events, please send an email to adh.ehs@arkansas.gov advising of the date of the event and the intention to follow this plan. For dissimilar events, a plan should be submitted specific to that event.
- To the extent that this even is a large outdoor/indoor venue gathering, we are reviewing your plan submitted regarding the same.
 - The wearing of face coverings must comply with Executive Order 20-37 and the Face Coverings Directive. This directive requires face coverings at all times, except for persons actively participating in athletic activities when a six (6) feet distance is not achievable and when a face covering is inhibitory to the activity or active exercise. Face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth are required for everyone 10 years of age or older for indoor and outdoor sports while not actively participating. Children between ages of 2 years and 9 years are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering.
 - Spectators
 - For indoor events, face coverings are required at all times unless attendees are actively eating or drinking
 - For outdoor events, once attendees are seated and maintaining 6 feet physical distance from others, face coverings may be removed. However, if moving around where social distancing is not achievable, such as in food and beverage areas, or any area where there is confinement such that 6 feet distancing cannot be maintained, the face covering must be put back in place.

- For general admission seating, event capacities are determined by the ability of attendees to maintain 6-foot physical distance at all times. For example, you indicate that seating capacity is 6500 in the main arena, however, once you have removed every other row from occupancy, 50% of your seating has been removed (3250). The remaining seating capacity will be further limited by group size and maintaining 6-foot distance between family groups. This will likely put actual capacity between 25-40%. Since the event does not control the size of family groups, the event must monitor seating and once the facility is at maximum capacity (with physical distancing) access to the event should be restricted.
- For open space venues, such as the arena floor or exhibit buildings, capacity should be determined by calculating the total square footage available, less the square footage occupied by the event and dividing by 36 square feet. This will give you the maximum number of people who could occupy that space and maintain 6-foot physical distance. You would then figure 66% of that number to ensure attendees have the ability to move freely and maintain physical distance. For example, the main arena floor (125'X375') has a maximum capacity of 1302 with 6 feet physical distance between each person. The 66% capacity would be 859 persons.
- Each event should have adequate staff to monitor and ensure physical distancing and mask use is maintained.

Adherence to the plan as well as the Directives of the Arkansas Department of Health is the sole responsibility of the Garland County Fair Association.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Jackson R.S.", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Jackson, R.S.
ADH Environmental Supervisor-Retail Food Section
Arkansas Department of Health

GARLAND COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION

4831 Malvern Avenue Hot Springs, AR 71901

Garland County Fairgrounds Safety and Wellness Plan - Revised 9-3-2020

The Garland County Fair Association wants you to know that we recognize the concerns for safety and wellness of the COVID-19 pandemic and plan to take every possible measure to protect all of our performers and the community and to help slow the spread of the virus. We intend to comply with and follow all CDC, federal, state or county guidelines that have been implemented to slow the spread of the virus.

We will be implementing new Safety and Wellness Guidelines to help us carry out these changes.

- Attendance: The total number of people permitted on-site will be determined based on the current CDC guidelines and conditions at the time of the event. These numbers will be monitored on a continual base. The total number of people included in attendance will be all performers, their assistants, all spectators and all workers on the grounds. Currently in phase II, 9/3/2020, the permitted capacity is 66%. Once numbers have reached the total number permitted the gates will be closed.

- Safe Distancing: We will be marking distances of at least 6' off for people to stand at entrances, bathrooms and concessions. In addition, we will be blocking off every other row of seating and marking seating areas 6s apart. Maintaining social distancing of at least 6' will be enforced and we will also be monitoring these areas for compliance. Families that have been quarantined together or those traveling together are permitted to sit with each other during events in groups of 10 or smaller; all others will comply with the 6' distance requirement. Performers will be a minimum of 12' away from the spectators.

- Restrooms: Only 6 people will be permitted at the same time. Antibacterial soaps and hand sanitizer will be located inside the restrooms.

- Concessions: Available concessions will have lines marked 6' apart for waiting. There will be no self-service available. Workers will have masks and will be encouraged to wash hands often. Once you have received your food, you are encouraged to return to your seat, maintain social distancing and not gather around the concession area.

- Health checks: All fair workers will be screened before each event. If you feel that you are running a fever, please seek medical attention immediately. Fair workers will be checking each person for fever and screening them just before entering. If they have a fever or do not pass the screening, they will not be allowed entry and will be encouraged to seek medical attention.

- Sanitation Stations: Sanitation Stations will be located at the entrance and exit to the buildings and/or arenas that are being utilized during the event. There will also be other stations set up inside and antibacterial soap and sanitizer in the restrooms.

- Face Coverings: Face coverings are requested for everyone over the age of 10. The performers, if 12' away from spectators, are not required to wear them but encouraged to. Fair workers will monitor entrances making sure that everyone entering has a face mask if over 10 years of age.

- Signs: There will be signs posted at entrances and throughout the buildings/arenas. They will include guidelines for entry as well as other health information.

- Cleaning/Sanitizing Facility: The facility will be disinfected before and after each event. Bathrooms will be disinfected during the event.

- Sign-in Form: Each person will be asked to sign in with their contact information in the event that we need to contact them to notify them of an outbreak.

- Responsibility: Anyone who has a fever, exhibits, tested positive, or has been in contact with anyone that has tested positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed to enter. It is the responsibility of each individual on the property to comply with all

safety practices and CDC recommended guidelines, including social distancing at all times. Everyone is encouraged to sanitize all personal items, wear CDC approved masks and sanitize/wash hands regularly.

From: [CARROLL MERCER](#)
To: [Jeff Jackson \(ADH\)](#)
Subject: Re: Garland County Fair revised Safety Plan
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 8:22:35 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Describe what activities will occur during this event and what specific modifications to these events will be in place. For example, many livestock shows are bringing in different classes on different days and not allowing animals to be kept overnight. Thereby limiting the number of contestants on any given day.

 [0148_200903143029_001.pdf](#)

- **What is 66% of the venues maximum capacity and how is this capacity calculated?**
 - **If multiple events are anticipated, please describe the capacity of each activity and how capacity, physical distancing, etc. will be ensured during these events.**

All capacities are determined by the Morning Star Fire Chief.

Main Arena

103,125 Sq. Ft.

Total Capacity 10,500 (Grandstands - 6500, Arena - 3125 (allowing 15 Sq. ft./ person),
Concession Area/ restrooms - 875)

125' x 375' Arena floor

Grandstands on both sides

2 Concession stands under grandstands

2 restrooms under grandstands

Multi-purpose Arena

150' x 250' - 37,500 Sq. Ft.

Capacity - 2,500

2 - 50' x 125' attached cattle barns - 12,500 Sq. ft. - Capacity - 833

Can be used for horse barns with 100 10' x 10' Pens

Wash pans

Power and water

125' x 100' attached hog / goat - 12,500 Sq. ft. - Capacity - 833

½ has concrete floor with a smooth finish

Portable hog and pens available

Wash pens

Power and water

We will have a Demolition Derby on September 11 & 12 and a Rodeo on September 18 & 19, in the Main Arena. The maximum capacity of the grandstands and concession area is 7,375. At 66% capacity, we can allow 4,868 people in the grandstands and concession area. An additional 3125 can be allowed on the arena floor. 66% would equal 2,063 on the arena floor

and outside Pit/ warm up area. This will allow 6,229 people for events in the Main arena.

We will also have a car show on Tuesday night on the opposite end of the fairgrounds from the livestock show to allow social distancing. This will occur in the south parking lot, approximately 2.5 acres, and allowing 15 square feet per person to social distance, would allow 7,260 people. 66% would equal 4,792 people.

All Livestock shows will be held in the Multi-purpose arena. The Multi-purpose arena capacity is 4,166 which will allow 2,750 people.

The livestock show will be specific to each species, each night, and released at the end of the show.

Goat show will be on Monday night, Sept. 14.

Hog and sheep show will be on Tuesday night, Sept. 15. These two are the smallest shows with the fewest combined exhibitors.

Cattle show on Wednesday night, Sept. 16.

Horse show on Thursday night, Sept. 17.

The Youth premium sale will be held on Friday, Sept. 18 at 12:00 pm. Only those animals and exhibitors selected will return on Friday to exhibit.

Please describe how many staff will be provided to ensure the physical distancing/mask requirements are maintained.

There will be at least 2 staff present at each entrance/ exit to monitor that everyone is following CDC guidelines for face mask and Social Distancing. One staff will monitor each bathroom to maintain cleanliness and sanitizing equipment. Staff will also monitor events to ensure distancing and mask requirements. Hand sanitizer and Risk signage will be posted at each entry point and public gathering areas. Signage will be placed at each gate entrance explaining the risks, notices, and who should not enter.

- **Please provide a layout of each facility. This layout should include:**
 - **Square footage of each building**
 - **All entry and exit points and how pedestrian traffic will flow within the event.**
 - **Locations of required hand sanitizer stations. These are required at or near the facility entrance and other areas where there is frequent public gathering.**
 - **Seating areas and description of how seating areas will be restricted to ensure 6-foot physical distance is maintained between all attendees.**
 - **Location of signage at each entrance explaining the risks, notices, and who should not enter.**

Main Arena is 103,125 Ft square

Multi purpose arena - 56,250

All seating areas have been marked with Yellow tape for no seating and blue tape every six feet for seating. Every other row has been skipped for forward and rear spacing.

On Thu, Sep 3, 2020 at 1:38 PM Jeff Jackson (ADH) <Jeff.Jackson@arkansas.gov> wrote:

Thank you. Please provide additional information regarding your event. Specifically, please

address the following:

- Describe what activities will occur during this event and what specific modifications to these events will be in place. For example, many livestock shows are bringing in different classes on different days and not allowing animals to be kept overnight. Thereby limiting the number of contestants on any given day.
- What is 66% of the venues maximum capacity and how is this capacity calculated?
 - If multiple events are anticipated, please describe the capacity of each activity and how capacity, physical distancing, etc. will be ensured during these events.
- Please describe how many staff will be provided to ensure the physical distancing/mask requirements are maintained.
- Please provide a layout of each facility. This layout should include:
 - Square footage of each building
 - All entry and exit points and how pedestrian traffic will flow within the event.
 - Locations of required hand sanitizer stations. These are required at or near the facility entrance and other areas where there is frequent public gathering.
 - Seating areas and description of how seating areas will be restricted to ensure 6-foot physical distance is maintained between all attendees.
 - Location of signage at each entrance explaining the risks, notices, and who should not enter.

You may respond to this email directly, there is no need to resubmit a completely new plan. I can attach any additional information to the original submission.

Once we have received your revisions, we will attempt to complete our review within 24 hours.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Jackson, R.S.

“Human health is first linked to environmental conditions”

~Florence Nightingale~

