

2025 Rules & Regulations of Premiums and Exhibits

General

- 1. Information and rules are subject to change without notice as a result of changing mandates, guidelines, and best practice recommendations.**
- The 2025 Cabarrus County Fair hours **September 5-13** are: Fridays 4:00 pm – Midnight, Saturdays 1:00 pm – Midnight, Sunday 1:00 pm – 10:00 pm, and Monday - Thursday 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm.
- The rules and regulations apply to every department of the Fair. Exhibitors must read and comply with all rules. **See additional rules outlined within each department in Livestock and Poultry, which are governed by special rules.**
- All exhibits must be registered by the deadlines specified to be eligible for competition. Physical entries will be received in the lobby of Gold Hall on Tuesday, September 2 from 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm and again on Wednesday, September 3 from 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm, except for Departments D, F, G & H. The Fair reserves the right to place exhibits in their proper class if they have been entered incorrectly.
- Fair Management reserves the right to reject any entries offered.**
- No article or animal shall be entitled to space until proper entry has been made by the deadline herein.
- Fair Management shall have supervision and control of all exhibits and exhibitions for the Fair, whether in the building or on the grounds, and reserves the right to prescribe the dimensions and regulate the position of all signs, to control the distribution of advertising matter and generally direct the articles on exhibition insofar as same may be necessary to secure harmony and attractive appearance.
- Premiums may be withheld for misrepresentation or failure to comply with the rules.**
- Fair Management reserves the right to amend or add to the rules provided within the Fair Catalog as they deem fit without prior notice to exhibitors.**
- The Fair will not be liable for typographical errors in the Fair Catalog.

Entry

- In making entries, it is required to submit a completed entry form and Cabarrus County W-9 form with signatures. **Entry form and W9 are due by Wednesday, August 20th at noon** unless specified otherwise on the individual department page.
- No exhibitor will be permitted to exhibit more than one article or animal having the same entry code.** The same article/animal cannot compete for more than one premium in any department unless otherwise noted on the individual department rules. **All entries must be new entries, created since the last operating Fair (September 6, 2024). Exhibitors are urged not to exhibit any items having personal or sentimental value.** Personally owned materials or equipment to be utilized for the purpose of displaying exhibit(s) are strongly discouraged unless coordinated/approved prior to the Fair.
- All entries must be in place in the exhibit hall by 6:00 pm Wednesday, September 3 and exhibits must be removed Sunday afternoon, September 14 between Noon-4:00 pm.**
- ANY COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT ENTRY, WHICH INCLUDES EDUCATIONAL BOOTHS, REMOVED PRIOR TO SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF PREMIUMS AND RIBBONS.**
- All Livestock entries including Poultry and Rabbits must be removed by 12 noon on Sunday, September 14.**
- All Competitive Exhibits must be removed by 4:00 pm Sunday, September 14.**
- Any entries including livestock not removed will be considered abandoned and will be disposed of. Please see additional information outlined within each department regarding Livestock and Poultry entries which are governed by special rules (Departments D, F, G & H) due to health and safety concerns.**
- Adult Departments (M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T) are open to adults 19 and older.
- All articles which are products of the soil must be entered in the name of the producer. Those showing handiwork or skill must be entered in the name of the one whose skill they exhibit. Unless article is of good quality, premium will not be awarded. All other property including livestock must be entered in the name of the actual owner/exhibitor.
- Exhibition of Articles Not Listed: The exhibition of articles not enumerated in the regular schedule of premiums are invited and they will be placed in the proper department and displayed to visitors.

Judging

- Exhibits are compared against a standard of perfection, as well as against the other entries in the class. All exhibits in a class are looked at and ranked with only one selected for first place, second place, third place, etc. If there are no high-quality exhibits, at the judge's discretion, exhibits may be placed in the appropriate position, even if it is second or third place. Judging will be influenced by the quality, condition, defects, and uniformity of the exhibit. *(Continued next page)*

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2. Decision of the Judges shall be final.
3. Judges must not permit consolidation or change of exhibits.
4. No exhibitor shall be within hearing distance of any judge during judging exhibits. Violation of this rule shall disqualify any exhibitors so acting, in the discretion of the judge. Premiums will not be paid to exhibitors when it is proven that they accompanied the judges when awarding the premiums.
5. The judge's sheets, when completed, will be reviewed for any discrepancies or incomplete or unclear results, and signed by the department judge(s), then respectfully submitted as the official and final results to the Fair Office.
6. Premiums are designated by ribbons, blue-first; red-second; white-third; and in some departments pink-fourth. These ribbons will be attached after judges have made their awards. All young children in Dept. K will receive a green participant's ribbon and a \$1.00 honorarium per exhibit. **Premiums are paid in accordance with official judges' sheets ONLY and not from ribbons that may be attached to the exhibits.** They are payable according to the department schedules. First year exhibitors will receive one "First Time Exhibitor" ribbon, not per item. **It will be the responsibility of the participant to alert staff at entry drop off if they are a first-time exhibitor.**
7. First, second, and third premiums will be offered. When three or more quality entries are made in a class, first money will be paid first winner, second money second, third money third winner. When only one or two entries are made, the awarding of premiums will be left to the discretion of the judges.

Conduct

1. All fair exhibitors are expected to demonstrate positive sportsmanship and family-friendly behavior. Be courteous to all. Know the rules, abide by and respect Management and judges' decisions. **There is zero tolerance for ANY conduct deemed inappropriate by the Fair whether it be in-person, electronically, and/or via telephone.** Those demonstrating behavior deemed inappropriate may be required to leave the fairgrounds and risks loss of premiums, future participation and/or any ribbons and trophies.
2. Exhibitors' business cards, pamphlets, circulars, etc. may be distributed after judging is complete if materials have been pre-approved by Fair Management.
3. Fair Management reserves the right to remove from the grounds any exhibit, concession or objectionable exhibit or item that may be falsely entered or may be deemed unsuitable by them without assigning any reason, therefore.
4. Drunkenness, quarreling, or the use of profane or obscene language will not be permitted on the grounds. The Fair reserves the right to expel any objectionable person or persons from the grounds without the refund of admission price or entry fee(s).
5. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 14-208.18(a)(4), it is unlawful for sex offenders, as defined by the Article, to be on any agricultural fairgrounds while in operation.

Payment of Premiums

All exhibitors receiving premiums will receive a Cabarrus County issued check. **It will be mailed to the name and address designated on the exhibitors W-9 form** within 60 days of the close of the fair. If exhibitor has not received their check by December 1, contact the Fair Office at 704-920-3992.

Liability

In no case shall Cabarrus County of the Cabarrus County Fair be held responsible for any loss, theft, injury, death by disease or damage of any character, to any property, while same is at the Cabarrus Arena & Events Center at any time or place, regardless of the cause of such loss or damage. All entries are made subject to this rule, and there are absolutely no exceptions.

The Fair and Cabarrus County will not be responsible for any claims, losses, injuries, or damages done to, occasioned by, or arising from any animal or item exhibited and the exhibitor shall release, indemnify, and hold harmless the Fair, Cabarrus County, its agents, employees, officers and contractors from all claims, losses, injuries, and damages including, but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees.

Any person or persons obstructing any passage or roadway on the Fairgrounds with automobile or other vehicle shall be removed at owners' expense and will be subject to the penalty of a misdemeanor. Parking space does not insure against theft or fire hence the Fair is not responsible in case of theft or fire.

Notice

WARNING - Under North Carolina Law, a farm animal activity sponsor or farm animal professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in farm animal activities resulting exclusively from the inherent risks of farm animal activities. Chapter 99E of the North Carolina General Statutes.