

Rules & Regulations For Exhibits & Exhibitors

SECTION 1. RULES FOR MERCHANTS AND MERCHANT RENTAL

- A.** Merchants may not call attention to their displays in a noisy or disorderly manner.
- B.** Persons coming onto the grounds for the solicitation of funds, etc. must be in an established booth area. There will be no soliciting on grounds. Activities of the merchant or organization must be confined to the area that has been registered for and reserved in agreement with the Manistee County Agricultural Society (Fair Board).
- C.** Merchants must contain their exhibit/display to the area that has been registered for and reserved in agreement with the fair board.
- D.** Every precaution will be taken for the safe keeping of every article but the Fair Board will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur, and upon these conditions these entries will be accepted.

SECTION 2. RULES FOR EXHIBITORS

A. Exhibitors: for "Open Class" and may come from anywhere in the State of Michigan and may enter items. In "4-H Class," Livestock and Horse and Dog Show classes are open to currently registered Manistee and Benzie county 4-H youth only. All other departments are open to 4-H and non 4-H youth. Minimum age for exhibitors is 5 years old. However, in accordance with Mich. Dept. of Ag. Regulation 811, those showing animals in Open Class must be 6 years old by January 1, 2011, in order to receive premiums. **ALL EXHIBITORS** in "4-H Class" who are less than age 9 on January 1, 2011 are ineligible for premiums. Maximum age for "4-H Class" is no older than 19 on January 1, 2011. (Exceptions are participants no older than 26 years of age by January 1, 2011, who are eligible for special education services in their school district).

B. REGISTER YOUR ENTRIES BY CIRCLING THE APPROPRIATE CLASS NUMBERS IN THE COLUMNS LOCATED AT THE BACK OF THIS BOOK. Additional booklets are available at the fair office. To register your items, mail or deliver the entry form to: **Manistee County Fair, P.O. Box 398, Onekama, MI 49675. Forms must be received by 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 20, 2011.** Call (231) 889-5566 for more information. All Entries may be brought to the fairground on **Monday, August 22, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

C. All exhibits not previously shown at the Manistee County Fair are eligible for entry (livestock are excluded from this rule).

D. In order for entries to be eligible for the fair, all exhibitors shall have recorded them on the proper entry forms by the registration deadline indicated for that department. All entries must be made according to the premium listing, as they will be judged accordingly. **The judges will rule out any article or animal not properly classified.**

E. The Fair Board reserves the right to refuse any entries offered, particularly those requiring an unreasonable amount of room. All allotment of space is determined by the Division Superintendent. Space needed for Department 49 – "Organizations & Educational Exhibits" must be arranged prior to entry day.

F. Note: Entries may be removed from the fairgrounds **Sunday, August 28, between 8:00 a.m. and 12 Noon. Livestock and horses must note specific exit times established. There are no exceptions without permission from the General Superintendent.** Earlier removal will incur forfeiture of any premium awarded. **ITEMS WILL NOT BE HELD AFTER EXIT DAY, UNLESS SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE BEFOREHAND WITH THE FAIR OFFICE.**

G. All Livestock/Horses shall be removed from the fairgrounds no earlier than 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 28. Early removal may only occur with written permission of the Fair Board President or Barn Superintendent. Arrangements must be made in advance so that a 4-H Livestock Council or Horse Show Committee member is present at time of removal. Failure to follow this procedure will result in immediate forfeiture of all animal premiums awarded.

H. ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE INSIDE ALL FAIR BUILDINGS BY 7:00 P.M. ON AUGUST 22, 2011.

I. Entry Day: Exhibits in the Pavilion must be in place and exhibitors out of the building by 7:30 p.m. Exhibits in the barns must be weighed in/checked in by 7:00 p.m. on entry day. Exhibitors must leave the area once the Barn Superintendent and 4-H Livestock Council and Horse Show Committee have determined that all entries are securely in place.

J. All entries must be made in the name of the owner. No article or animal shall compete for more than one premium. **A person shall not enter more than one item under any one class number.**

K. Entries in "Open Class" are judged by the American judging system, which means that a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placing are determined out of all the entries in a particular class. Entries in "4-H Class" are judged by the Danish judging system, which means that *all* entries in a particular class receive a premium and/or ribbon in the form of an A, B, or C placing.

L. All animal entries must be handled and shown by the registered exhibitor only. Exhibitor may only bring one entry at a time to the judging area (unless judge requests more). No pen judging.

M. The names of the exhibitors and class numbers of exhibits will be entered in the Fair Board secretary's records, and entry tags will be furnished on Entry Day.

N. Every precaution will be taken for the safe keeping of every article, but the Fair Board will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur, and upon these conditions the entries for exhibit are received.

O. All complaints must be in writing and accompanied by a fee of \$25.00. If complaint is determined to be legitimate, deposit will be refunded. Exhibitors have 10 days from close of fair to file complaints/protests with the Fair Board, and 45 days from date of that complaint to file an appeal with the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture. The Fair Board will address complaints at their September meeting.

SECTION 3. GENERAL RULES FOR LIVESTOCK, HORSES AND COMPANION ANIMALS, ETC.

A. Housing for livestock and horses is at discretion of Superintendent. The Manistee County Fair Board reserves the right to limit quantities of Open Class animals. 4-H member entries take priority.

B. Superintendent will make decisions regarding removal of animals that pose a safety threat due to evidence of threatening behavior or lack of training. Any animal determined to be improperly or illegally medicated in any way, or artificially, fraudulently, or deceptively prepared or tampered with or misrepresented in any way before coming into the judging arena will be disqualified.

C. Each animal will be required to be placed on the grounds in the division to which it belongs.

D. Stalls are provided for livestock and horses, but when insufficient to accommodate the entries, the best possible provisions under the circumstances will be provided.

E. Livestock and Horse Entries will not be accepted after **June 24, 2011**. **ANY ITEM OR EXHIBIT IN OPEN OR IN 4-H CLASS MAY NOT COMPETE OR BE JUDGED IN BOTH OPEN AND 4-H CLASS. THERE WILL BE NO DOUBLE ENTRIES.**

F. **COMPANION ANIMAL INTERVIEWS** – A Later registration (in August) will be allowed for all entrants, but only until Friday, August 12, as this event does take some advance planning. Current shot records must be attached to registration forms

G. All feed and bedding will be furnished by the exhibitor. Exhibitor will be responsible for the cleaning of stalls, pens, etc. Infractions of these rules will result in penalties. **DAILY PEN INSPECTIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED. A \$10 DAILY FEE WILL RESULT FOR ALL UNCLEAN PENS. A \$5 DAILY FEE WILL RESULT FOR MISSED FEEDINGS.**

H. Water **MUST** be available to livestock at all times.

I. The following species will **NOT** be allowed on the fairgrounds for any reason unless they have been tested for the following and show **negative** results:

Cats: Current rab/dist/pneum vaccinations

Dogs: Current rabies/distemper vaccinations

Horses: Proof of negative Coggins

Cattle: Current RFID tag and proof of current PIN

Sheep: USDA Scrapie tags required

Goats: USDA Scrapie tags required, all goats must be dehorned

Swine: “Direct to Slaughter” rules may apply (not for 2010)

Poultry: Entry Day Pullorum testing required

All: Proof of origin papers/statement filed with fair registration

J. Minimum age to show any animal in Open Class is 5 years old by January 1, 2011. (See “Section 2. A.” for premium info). 4-H youth ages 5 to 8 may show in 4-H Cloverbud classes or Open classes, but they are ineligible for premiums in 4-H classes and must not engage in any form of competition. **ALL YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 9 EXHIBITING ANIMALS WILL HAVE A PARENT OR DESIGNATED ADULT IN THE SHOW AREA WITH THEM AT ALL TIMES.**

K. In order for 4-H Horse Show exhibitors to receive premiums, ribbons, and trophies, they must complete a stall shift by keeping one of their show horses (used in the show) in the horse barn during fair week. This includes fulfilling a **Barn Duty** shift also. Horse exempt from this would require documented proof that the animal has a serious physical condition that would make this impossible.

SECTION 4. FEES

Livestock – OPEN CLASS ONLY – Pay at time of registration

A. Rabbits and Poultry: 25¢ per animal - open class only.

B. Goats, Sheep and Swine: 50¢ per animal - open class only.

C. Cattle and Horses: \$1.00 per animal - open class only.

D. Pullorum test (for poultry): 25¢ per animal - open class only.

Open Class exhibitors of Livestock must also complete a Pen & Stall form – available at the Extension office (889-4277). This must be submitted with fair registration.

Open Class Non-Animal Projects – Cancelled Entry Fee

A. A maximum of 10 registered items may be dropped at no charge. For more than 10 items dropped, a \$3.00 “records maintenance fee” will be charged for every 1- 10 items dropped.

4-H Non-Animal Projects – Cancelled Entry Fee

A. A maximum of 10 registered items may be dropped at no charge. For more than 10 items dropped, a \$3.00 “records maintenance fee” will be charged for every 1- 10 items dropped.

SECTION 5. PREMIUMS

A. The awarding of premiums shall be designated as follows:

First premium by blue ribbon, card or sticker

Second premium by red ribbon, card or sticker

Third premium by white ribbon, card or sticker

Judges will only award premiums on exhibits deemed worthy. Ribbons or rosettes will be awarded for all places as listed for class, unless otherwise specified.

B. ALL PREMIUM CHECKS MUST BE CASHED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF ISSUE. AFTER THAT POINT, ALL UNCASHED PREMIUMS WILL REVERT TO A SPECIAL 4-H SCHOLARSHIP FUND AS ESTABLISHED BY THE MANISTEE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

C. Any exhibitor known to interfere with the awarding committee in the discharge of their duties shall forfeit all premiums. In case of inclement weather and/or unforeseen circumstances, it may be necessary to make a pro-ration payment on premiums if the fair receipts are not sufficient to apply in full. All entries will be mutually taken on the basis of this understanding.

SECTION 6. GATE ADMISSION

A. All persons (except children) will be provided with tickets or stamped for admission. Passes will be issued as may be necessary.

B. The gatekeeper is directed to admit no one who does not show a stamp or authorized ticket.

C. Children through age 12 will be admitted free, except at the Grandstand

D. General admission (13 and over) \$3.00 per day.

E. Individual Season Pass ticket \$10.00.

F. Parking in vicinity of South Gate - free.