

FAIR RULES

Dane County Fair Board Executive Committee

President - Darwin Lynde
Vice President -
Secretary - Romaine Ace
Treasurer - Mary Elvekrog
Members - Rachel Meek, Randy Shaver

Directors

Jerome Bollig, Vicki Buening, Ethan Giebel, Susie Herlache, Jamie Morris, Erika Perkins, Beth Putney, Colleen Rhody-Szudy, Dick Straub and Pam VanderSanden

Fair Staff

Fair Manager	Scott Bentley
Office Administration	Ruth Stampfl
Program Assistant	Cassi Miller
Commercial Sales	Kayla Sonnenburg
	Melissa VanderSanden
Entry Department	Ann Marie Magnochi
	Laurie Breuch
Media Relations/Sponsorships	Kristin Olson
Communications Specialist	Katie Schmitt
Attendee Services	Liz Matzke
Accounting	Annette Ziegler

UW-Extension Staff

Jessica Calkins, Kathy Ottem and Lara Miller

This premium book is published by:
Dane County Fair Association, 3310 Latham Drive, Madison, WI 53713, a tax-exempt, Educational Not-For-Profit Organization 501(c)(3).

FAIR REGULATIONS

Fair Management and Extension Staff reserve the final and absolute right to interpret the rules and regulations of the fair and will arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions or differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or in connection with the fair.

Liability

a. Exhibitors of animals, machinery in motion and other exhibits liable to occasional accidents, injury or damage to persons coming in contact with them, shall guard their exhibits and protect the public from coming in contact with them. Every such exhibitor shall indemnify the Fair Association from any and all claims and demands, costs, charges and expenses which may occur, suffer, or be put to, by reason of any exhibit not properly guarded or the public not being properly guarded therefrom. Presentation of entry submission shall be deemed acceptance of this rule.

b. The Fair will take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of the exhibits sent to the exhibition, but the owners themselves must take the risks of exhibiting them. Should any exhibit or portion thereof be injured, lost or stolen, the Fair Association will give assistance towards the recovery of the same, but will not be liable or make any payment for the value thereof.

c. The Fair shall not be liable for any loss to an exhibitor occasioned by fire, accident, condition of structure or the negligence of other exhibitors or officials.

1. Junior Fair exhibitors must be members of a youth organization with adult leadership and an educational program approved by the Fair; and, be residents of Dane County or a neighboring county. Exhibitors must be enrolled in a youth organization by March 1 to exhibit at that year's Dane County Fair. Organizations must be headquartered in Dane County (examples include 4-H, FFA, FHA-HERO, YMCA, YWCA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Pioneers, after school clubs, Youth Civil Air Patrol, Junior Breed Organization, etc.). All 4-H enrollments must be filed at the Extension Office (5201 Fen Oak).

2. Exhibitors must list age & grade as of January 1 of exhibit year on entry form. NOTE: Exhibitors who have learning or physical disabilities may exhibit according to their developmental or functional age. A letter from the parent and adult leader must be emailed to/ submitted to the Fair Office to be considered.

3. Exhibitors must not have reached their 20th birthday by January 1 of the current year to exhibit. Other than Cloverbuds, exhibitors must be enrolled in third grade to participate at the Dane County Fair, as of January 1 of the exhibit year.

4. All exhibits must be the result of exhibitor's work in the current exhibit year.

5. 4-H exhibitors may exhibit only in those departments or classes which correspond to projects in which the exhibitor is enrolled. Project changes (additions/drops) must be filed through the Extension Office and completed by March 1 for that year's Fair.

6. Individual school projects, if enrolled in the corresponding 4-H project, are allowed and will receive no discrimination.

7. Exhibitors from other (non-4-H) youth organizations must exhibit in departments corresponding to the educational focus of their organization.

a. FFA exhibitors may exhibit in departments that correspond with courses taken through FFA or departments in which students have taken courses at school.

b. Other non-4-H organizations may only participate in departments that correspond with the educational focus of the organization.

c. In all cases, entries must be authorized by an advisor or club leader, verifying the departments the exhibitor plans to participate in at the Dane County Fair were in fact part of that exhibitor's educational focus for the current year.

8. Entry deadlines and leader authorization.

Dane County Fair entry forms must be received via the Dane County Fair online entry system by 11:59 p.m. CST on **Friday, June 9**. All entries must be submitted online. No paper entries will be accepted. No entries will be accepted after June 9. Entries must be submitted at www.danecountyfair.org under the Youth Exhibitors page. Specific department supplemental entry info must also be submitted. All entry fees and season pass orders are due from each club at fair entry tag pick-up, around July 3rd. **The June 9 entry deadline will be strictly enforced.** Leaders will be emailed an entry confirmation listing exhibitor, entries and fees due for the club/chapter. Entries must be reviewed for member eligibility and project enrollment by **Noon June 16**. After the 16th, all submitted entries are final. Leaders are required to reply to the confirmation email stating club/chapter entries have been reviewed. Only projects entered by the June 9 entry deadline will be awarded placings and premiums.

a. ****NEW THIS YEAR**** A lot entry within a class may be substituted for an existing entry within the same class.

9. Entry Form Instructions:

a. **Only one item may be exhibited in a lot unless specifically stated in the lot description** (ex. Pen of Rabbits, Pair of Calves).

b. Department is represented by a number (located under the department name). Class is represented by a capital letter. Lot is represented by a number followed by a ")".

EXAMPLE:	DEPT	CLASS	LOT	Description
	5	A	3)	Jr. Showmanship
	26	C	35)	Sportswear

c. Description may be shortened but must match the Class and Lot.

d. Each department has its own regulations. Read carefully.

e. Exhibitors may only enter the number of lots permitted by department. Entries with more than the allowed lots will not be accepted.

f. Other forms, in addition to the entry form, are required for some departments (Dairy, Dog, Horse and Shooting Sports). Please review individual department regulations.

10. Exhibitor Fees

All youth exhibitors, except Cloverbuds, will be required to pay a \$5 exhibitor fee. Youth exhibitors entering animals at the Dane County Fair will also be responsible to pay the following fees:

- a. Large animal fee \$1 per head
Large animals include: Dairy, Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goats, Horses and Donkey
- b. Small animal fee \$0.50 per animal or lot - for pens of animals
Small animals include: Poultry, Rabbit, Dog, Cat, Pocket Pets, Peacock/Peahen, Cavies, Caged Birds & Any Other Small Exotic Animal

These fees will be collected from each club at the time of the Fair entry tag pick-up, around July 3. All fees are non-refundable.

11. The type of judging for each Class or Lot is indicated in the department. The four types of judging are:

- a. **Individual Conference Judging:** Allows a youth exhibitor to bring his or her exhibit directly to the evaluator. Together, the evaluator (judge) and project member look at the results of the member's work, talk (individual conference) about the planning and effort that went into the project and decide what kind of placing the exhibit deserves. This decision is based on the individual exhibit and what the exhibitor has learned, not on comparison with other exhibits. Therefore, any number of exhibitors may receive a blue, red, white or pink placing in a Lot. Friends and family in the vicinity of the judging area are asked to respect the need for quiet and private discussion between the judge and the youth exhibitor.

Any exhibit that is entered in an Individual Conference judging lot, and the exhibitor is not able to be present for judging, will result in lowering the placing by one color and no premium will be paid for this exhibit. Exhibits will also be ineligible for special awards.

- b. **Conference Judging:** Provides an opportunity for the exhibitor to discuss with the judge the qualities of the exhibit, the problems involved and how to make improvements. All exhibitors in the Lot come before the judge at one time. The judge talks to each exhibitor individually, but all present are able to hear what is being said and, thereby, learn. Placement is decided by comparing all the products in the Lot. The Danish Judging system is used to determine the number of blue, red, white or pink placements in the Lot. The major objective is for everyone to learn from each other; therefore, it is important that all exhibitors from the Lot sit and listen as the judging takes place.

c. **Danish Judging:** Exhibits in each Lot are placed into four groupings: 1) Blue - 1st place; 2) Red - 2nd place; 3) White - 3rd place and 4) Pink - 4th place. Exhibitors need not be present as there is no interaction with the judge. The maximum placements as established by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection are listed in this book.

d. **Regular Judging:** Occurs when only one first, second, third and fourth placing is given per Lot. Other exhibits may be placed but do not receive premiums.

12. Any rule or regulations not met will result in lowering ribbon placing by one color, only if the exhibit can be placed into a correct lot. No premium money will be paid. If the exhibit does not fit into any lot, the exhibit will be given a participation ribbon and put on display.

Any exhibit that is not entered in the correct class will be allowed to be given comments from the judge and put on display; however, no premium will be paid for the exhibit.

13. **Tuesday entry check-in deadline is 8 p.m.** Please take into consideration travel time, long judging lines and fair layout. Sheep and Beef must check in by 7:30 p.m., swine must check in by 7 p.m.

Late check-ins will only be allowed in extreme circumstances (ex. hospitalization, death in the family). Circumstances will be evaluated independently by Fair Management.

14. Protests and Appeals.

a. The decision of judges or superintendents shall be final in all cases except where fraud, misrepresentation or collusion not discovered at the time of the decision is apparent. In such cases, an impartial committee composed of a U.W. Extension Agent, a Dane County Vocational Ag teacher and a member of the 4-H Leaders Association, Inc. called together by the Fair Manager shall make recommendation(s) to the Fair Manager.

b. Protests based on fraud, misrepresentation or collusion must be made in writing and accompanied by a \$10 cash deposit which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Such protests must state the reason for the complaint or appeal. It should include facts relied upon or the rule violated and naming witnesses and the witnesses address. The person filing the complaint must sign his/her name and give his/her address and phone number. Protests or appeals must be presented to the Fair Manager prior to the close of the Fair.

c. Other disputes or differences, especially those not provided for under the General Class Rules, shall be referred to the Fair Manager. The Fair Manager may render a decision when it is clear that either the system had failed the exhibitor or the exhibitor had failed the system. When a decision is not clear, the Fair Manager may refer the case to the Education Committee, Executive Committee or Fair Board as deemed appropriate.

d. Decisions made by Fair Management and/or Extension Staff are final.

15. Official forms of identification, including RFID tags, are intended to provide permanent identification of livestock and to ensure the ability to find the source of animal disease outbreaks. Removal of these devices is prohibited except at the time of slaughter and can be heavily fined if illegal removal has occurred. If it is determined a form of identification has been intentionally removed, the Grievance Committee will review the case and determine the appropriate course of action.

16. Special Awards: Departments are encouraged to establish and obtain sponsorship for special awards for the various classes. Special awards must receive approval from Fair Management. The judge's decision on special award winners is final.

17. Premiums offered are at levels governed by established statutes. Actual premiums paid reflect these; or, any statutory revisions that may be made after the publication of this Premium Book. Premiums will be paid after the Fair.

18. All rules and regulations listed within a specific department, class or lot are applicable. Also, management reserves the right to interpret rules and regulations.

19. Animals must be shown by the exhibitor unless the department superintendent grants permission for assistance. Superintendents have authority to designate show people for exhibitors unavoidably absent on show day. ****NEW THIS YEAR**** Any alternate leadman must meet the eligibility requirements of the Department (ie: education member of project area, department regulations, etc.) and be eligible to participate in the Dane County Fair.

20. All exhibitors are responsible for the general housekeeping and clean-up in their area. Tack, equipment and feed may be transferred to and from the barns daily. **All transfers must be done prior to 9 a.m. and after 10 p.m. Sunday transfers must be done prior to 9 a.m. or after 6:30 p.m.** Vehicles will only be permitted for morning transfers.

Livestock exhibitors must clean up after their animals and regularly dispose of waste in an appropriate manner. Exhibitors must completely clean out their spaces at release time. Examples: cages, clean off boards, fold cages and stack in a pile. Exhibitors must provide their own tools and equipment for clean-up. Department superintendents will explain proper procedure for the department. All exhibitors share the responsibility of keeping the grounds neat and tidy.

21. Livestock exhibitors must routinely feed, water and care for exhibit animals. Health care of exhibited animals will remain the responsibility of the owner/exhibitor. In an emergency and in the absence of the exhibitor, contact the Fair Office. Management will make every attempt to locate the owner/exhibitor. However, in the event contact cannot be made, management reserves the right to seek medical care at owner/exhibitor's expense. Those choosing to not routinely/properly care for their animals will forfeit all premiums as determined by the department's superintendent.

22. No portable misting or sprinkler systems may be used. Discretion by Superintendents and Fair Administration will be used based on weather conditions.

23. All animals must display a barn card with their animal's information.

24. All animals on the Dane County Fairgrounds must be entered in the Fair. Companion animals are not permitted.

24. Alteration of any portion of any stalling panel is strictly prohibited. Recommended decoration style is hanging with "J" hooks, zip ties, string, or clamps. Drilling, taping, stapling, nailing, welding, screwing, and adhesives are prohibited from use on any livestock stalling or building surfaces. Altering or damaging of any County owned property will result in financial damage repair or replacement.

25. All animal exhibitors must complete and sign the Dane County Fair Code of Practice to be eligible to exhibit at the Dane County Fair. Failure to sign this form forfeits any opportunity to exhibit. A parent/guardian's name and contact information must be included.

26. Release of Unhealthy Animals Policy (for all departments): Animals must be seen by a veterinarian and a signed health document by a veterinarian must be filed with the Fair Office. Fair Management, together with the Department Superintendent, will then issue a release.

27. No household furniture is allowed in the Pavilions or Arena Building.

28. Overnight Barn Policy. "Sleeping" overnight in any Pavilion or the Arena Building is prohibited. No one under the age of 16 is allowed in the barns after 12 a.m. (midnight) without adult supervision (adult defined as a parent, legal guardian, superintendent or chaperone over the age of 21). Any exhibitor, regardless of age, must request a pass to be in the Pavilions or Arena Building after 12 a.m. midnight.

An overnight pass will be available from the Dane County Fair office for circumstances that require exhibitors to care for animals between 12 a.m. - 5 a.m. Examples of this may include: milking cows prior to show day, tending of animals, veterinary authorization to care for ill animals. Overnight pass requests must come from the exhibitor's parents or legal guardian before 6:00 p.m. on the night the pass is needed. The pass must be worn by the exhibitor at all times between the hours of 12 a.m. midnight and 5 a.m.

Overnight passes must be returned to the Fair Office by 10:00 a.m. the following morning. Each club or chapter will be allotted two (2) youth passes per night per animal species exhibited. Any adult that intends on being in the barn from 12:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. is asked to adhere to the same rules and procedures that youth exhibitors do and obtain an overnight pass. This is necessary so our on-grounds security knows who should and should not be in the barns taking care of animals.

A final ruling on whether or not an overnight pass will be given is up to the discretion of the Dane County Fair Staff, Dane County Extension Staff and Department Chairperson.

29. Other than guide or service animals, only animals registered as exhibits are allowed on the grounds. Service dogs must be identified with an appropriate jacket. All exhibit animals must be kept within their respective exhibition areas or barns. Visitors found in violation will be expelled and/or fined; exhibitors risk expulsion, forfeiture of all premiums and denial from future Fair participation. This rule applies to junior exhibitors, parents and fair attendees.

30. Exhibit Release on Sunday of Fair Week

a. Admission is charged to enter the fairgrounds on exhibit release day. Between 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. one parent/guardian and one youth exhibitor will be allowed to show the exhibitor's claim ticket at any gate and receive free admission. This time will be strictly enforced.

b. No animals may be removed from assigned stalling locations to be housed in other areas without approval by the department superintendents and Fair Management.

c. **Release of Animals:** Animal decorations may be taken down starting at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday night. The Exhibition Hall and Pavilion Prefunction Space will close at 6:30 p.m. to prepare for exhibit release. Exhibition Hall and Prefunction Space projects will be released Sunday 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Animal projects housed in the Pavilions and Arena Building are released Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

d. Trailer parking is prohibited in the South Lot (behind the Exhibition Hall). All trailers must be parked in the upper west parking lot, except during ingress and egress. Trailers may queue in the North Lot on Tuesday and Sunday. Walking animals out to trailers on Willow Island or Olin Ave is NOT allowed.

e. **Release of Projects in the Exhibition Hall:** Enter through the North doors and exit through the West Lobby doors. All other doors will be locked.

f. **Release of Projects in Pavilion 1 Prefunction:** Enter at lobby entrance and exit through south doors into Pavilion 1 or to the outside.

g. Dane County Fair is not responsible for exhibits that are not picked up Sunday evening. Exhibits left in the Exhibition Hall/Pavilion Prefunction after 8:30 p.m. will be discarded.

h. The penalty for departure, without permission from Fair Management, is forfeiture of premiums. The exhibitor will also be barred from exhibiting for at least one year.

GOLF CARTS will be allowed for medical reasons ONLY
All golf carts must be registered once they are on grounds with the Dane County Fair Administration office, upper level of the Exhibition Hall. Golf carts are not permitted in the Midway. All carts are the sole responsibility of the registered user.