

Georgia National Fair

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Check each department for early registration deadlines and exhibit receiving times.

NO SUNDAY RECEIVING - NO SUNDAY RELEASE!

RELEASE BEGINS ON TUESDAY AFTER THE FAIR

NOTICE: All exhibitors are cautioned to carefully read the following rules and regulations.

The Georgia National Fair will be held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter in Perry, October 6-16, 2016.

ELIGIBILITY

1. **All exhibitors are required to read and abide by the Georgia National Fair General Rules and Regulations.** *PLEASE NOTE: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO READ AND UNDERSTAND THE RULES.* *If you have questions, you may certainly e-mail us at contests@gnfa.com. Please help us prevent entry disqualifications.*

2. Entries are limited to bona fide residents of Georgia unless stated otherwise in a particular Department or Division. Entries must be made by individuals only, unless specifically exempted. No entry fee is required in most departments. Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter Employees and Volunteers may not enter any live competitions.

3. Divisions in each department refer to either a skill level or age level and are usually self-explanatory. The Open division, where offered, is for the professional exhibitor and for the amateur exhibitor whose work is competitive at the highest level of his/her art.

The Georgia National Fair uses the honor system with regard to the proper division placement for exhibitors. It will be left to the exhibitor to determine under which Division he/she should exhibit, but superintendents reserve the right to move work where merited .

4. There are special categories for youth competition in most departments. Students may not enter open adult competitions where youth categories are offered. Categories in youth competitions will follow the same time schedule for receiving and judging as the adult divisions. Youth exhibitors must have reached their 12th birthday before October 1, 2016, to compete, unless stated otherwise in a contest.

5. The Georgia National Fair Youth Art Exhibition uses guidelines established by Georgia art educators with regard to proper age limits for competition. They recommend that children below age 12 should not have their work juried. Our rules comply with their recommendations and we

have adopted their philosophy to govern competitions throughout the Georgia Living Program. Exceptions to this rule apply only to “live” contests on site where parents are nearby to lend support, such as the Soap Carving Contest. **Creative arts by children under age 12 may be entered in the “Budding Artist” category.**

6. If an exhibitor has been disqualified from competition in a show or has had a premium withheld or withdrawn on the grounds of rule violation, misrepresentation, fraud or deception, he/she will not be allowed to compete at the Georgia National Fair.

7. To be eligible for entry, exhibitors must meet and adhere to the requirements of Department Rules listed under the appropriate department.

8. An exhibit may be entered only once for competition (i.e., an exhibit may not be re-entered at a future Fair or in another Department).

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

9. Exhibitors may enter as many classes as they wish, but only one entry per class unless specifically stated otherwise. Multiple entries are permitted in “Other Not Listed” classes as long as each entry is different by design, purpose, or materials used, and items do not fit in another category. **If items have a class and category assigned, they may not be entered in “Other Not Listed” as a means to exceed the limitation of items**

per class.

10. Exhibits must be the work of the exhibitor and must have been completed within the past five years, except where specifically stated otherwise. **No copy work; EXHIBITOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING PERMISSION FOR USE OF COPYRIGHTED OR TRADEMARKED CHARACTERS OR LOGOS (Spiderman, Batman, Spongebob, Harry Potter, Disney characters, video game characters, College logos, Coca Cola, etc.).**

11. All entries must be clean and in good condition. Entries should not be too fragile that shipment or public display is potentially harmful to the work or to the viewer. If there is more than one article in any exhibit (such as place mats, clothing sets, containers with lids, etc.), they should be fastened together securely and labeled (1 of 2, 2 of 2).

12. Items to be hung must have sturdy wire and hangers properly attached; no sawtooth hangers.

13. No articles may be shown in this department with a “For Sale” or “Want to Buy” tag attached. Any sales made of articles exhibited in this department will be between the owner and prospective purchaser.

14. All entries must be printed on current official entry forms of the Georgia National Fair in accordance with instructions on same, giving Division and Class Numbers and all other necessary information (or made online).

Entry forms, after being signed by the exhibitor, are to be mailed or brought to the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building, Georgia National Fair. Online entries are strongly encouraged.

15. Competitions with a pre-registration requirement must be entered by 11:59 p.m. on the deadline date. Online registration for those competitions without required pre-registration will end at 11:59 p.m. two days before the receiving date, or 11:59 p.m. two days before the contest date for live contests.

16. Each exhibitor (and exhibitor's parent or legal guardian, if exhibitor is a minor) must sign a statement acknowledging that he/she understands and will abide by the liability requirements and rules and regulations of the Georgia National Fair. If the exhibitor does not sign this statement (contained on the front of the entry form), his/her application for entry may not be accepted. Forms must be filled out completely. Incomplete entry forms will be returned to exhibitors. Online submission of entries signifies that you agree and will abide with the terms as defined in the published rules and regulations.

17. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED IN SOME DEPARTMENTS, AND IS ENCOURAGED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS. Failure to pre-register ENTRIES will result in long waiting times for processing

of entries on receiving day. Check each department for early registration information. When delivering pre-registered entries be sure to bring a copy of entry form or online confirmation.

18. Exhibitors should retain duplicate part of entry tag (claim check) to identify and reclaim articles at close of the Fair.

19. Due care and diligence will be taken to prevent loss or damage to exhibits and security will be in the building to give reasonable protection at all times during the Fair, but in no event will the management be responsible for any injury or loss which may occur while in transit or while at the Fair.

20. The Georgia National Fair patrons consist largely of families with children and all exhibits should be suitable for family viewing.

21. The Georgia National Fair reserves the right to reject any exhibit offered if it is objectionable in any way, if it requires an excessive amount of space or if the capacity of the department has been reached. For these purposes, the definition of "objectionable" includes, but is not limited to: representations of nudity, graphic violence, profanity, or any depictions of a sexually explicit nature. Decisions of the Georgia National Fair will be final.

22. ARTICLES MAILED OR SHIPPED should be addressed to the Georgia National Fair, Georgia Living Department, 401 Larry Walker Parkway, Perry, GA 31069. Packages should be labeled with

the Department that the entries are registered in. Articles should be shipped to arrive at least two days prior to receiving dates for the appropriate department. Shipping costs must be prepaid and return postage/shipping costs and an address label must be included.

Exhibits for which sufficient shipping charges have not been paid or provided will not be returned. Shipped entries must be securely packed in REUSABLE PACKAGES. Masking tape may be used to protect glass from breakage in transit. Package must include a copy of entry form or online confirmation of registration.

23. HAND DELIVERY BEFORE FAIR OPENS: Enter WEST GATE (facing the Interstate), drive to the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building. DELIVERY NOTE: If you are hand delivering to the Fairgrounds and have items that have later delivery dates, you may bring those items with your entries that have the earlier delivery date.

24. HAND DELIVERY FOR CONTESTS DURING THE FAIR: Walk through ANY TICKET GATE. Your entry (baked goods, etc.) will serve as your ticket.

25. Entries must remain on display for the duration of the Fair. Early removal of exhibits will result in forfeiture of prizes and disqualification from future shows.

26. ALL EXHIBITS WILL BE RELEASED TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 12 P.M. - 8 P.M. AND WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. THERE

WILL BE NO EARLY RELEASE OF EXHIBITS. No items will be released without exhibitor claim tags.

27. A Fair employee will work with one exhibitor at a time in releasing the entries.

28. Articles submitted by mail or delivery service will be returned to the sender the week of October 24, 2016. If proper postage or shipping fees have not been provided, articles will not be returned.

29. The Georgia National Fair will dispose of any articles not picked up by Oct. 22, 2016.

JUDGES AND JUDGING PROCEDURES

30. Every effort will be made to obtain qualified, impartial judges in every area.

31. No one will be allowed to act as judge in a class in which he/she exhibits or in which he/she may hold an interest.

32. **Judging will not be delayed for late entries.** Any exhibit not presented promptly at the scheduled time is barred from competition in the class. Protests that the judges overlooked exhibits will not be considered.

33. Should any article be entered in the wrong class and the error discovered before the judging, the superintendent may make proper correction in the entry.

34. Judging will be based upon recognized standards of quality, skill, and workmanship. The criteria/guidelines listed in the premium book under various

sections are utilized by the judges in making decisions. However, certain areas, such as creativity, may be viewed differently.

35. Where there is competition, all prizes may be awarded as long as there are worthy entries. Where articles are not worthy of first prize, judges may, at their discretion, award a prize or prizes of such a grade as the article deserves. Any article not up to standard in the class in which it is entered may be ruled out by the judge(s).

36. An item receiving between 90 to 100 percent is eligible for a blue ribbon (1st); 80 to 89 percent is eligible for a red (2nd); 70 to 79 percent is eligible for a white (3rd). However, only the three highest scoring items in each class may be placed; the placings will be determined by the percentage points. In other words, if the four highest scores fall into the blue ribbon range, then they may be placed first, second, and third according to their scores. If no item scores above the third-place level, then the first, second, and third places will not be awarded. **A sliding scale will be used for Youth divisions.**

37. Articles without competition will be judged on their own merit and will be placed first, second, third, etc., or no award, as the judges see fit. Honorable Mention ribbons may be awarded to items of merit that do not place.

38. The decisions of the judges shall be final in all classes and no appeal will be considered except

in cases of written protest.

39. If any exhibitor or his/her representative interferes in any way with the judges or shows disrespect to them, or to the show, the management may withhold from such exhibitor any premium monies that may have been awarded, or take any other steps deemed desirable.

40. Limitations of staff and time prohibit the release of judging results on the telephone or via e-mail. Please do not call or e-mail to request results. Results will be posted on the website after the Fair is over.

PROTESTS

41. Protests against any award(s) and/or eligibility must be made in writing to the Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority and be accompanied by an affidavit and a deposit of \$50.00 within 24 hours following the designation of such award.

42. In cases where fraud, misrepresentation, error or collusion is discovered after awards have been given, the Georgia National Fair management or such referee as may be appointed (the Advisory Committee), may make a decision regarding final placement.

43. The Superintendent shall notify the exhibitor of the protested article in question, and both parties shall then have 10 days in which to bring testimony in the case to be submitted to the Advisory Committee. The protested award will be held in abeyance until

the final action of the Advisory Committee from whose decision there will be no appeal.

44. In case the protest shall not be sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Georgia National Fair.

45. No other protest will be considered.

PREMIUMS

46. Premium money will be paid from the judges' record sheets and not from ribbons that may be attached to the exhibits. Premium checks will be mailed to the winners within six weeks after the Fair is over. Please notify the Fair if you have not received your premium check by December 31, 2016.

47. Premium checks issued by the Georgia National Fair are valid until 90 days after the check issue date. Checks not cashed by that time may not be reissued. In the event that a premium check is lost in the mail, request must be made before the 90 day period has lapsed to have the premium check reissued.

48. SWEEPSTAKES (where offered) will go to the winner of the most blue ribbons. If a tie exists, ribbons will be counted for second place, or one place at a time until the tie is broken. Exception: Photography Sweepstakes is awarded to winner of most ribbons in each Skill Level.

49. AWARD OF EXCELLENCE, in Divisions where offered, may be selected by the judge as

outstanding from among the blue ribbon winners.

50. SWEEPSTAKES and AWARD OF EXCELLENCE ribbons will only be awarded for Divisions where they are listed.

ADMINISTRATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

51. The Georgia National Fair reserves to the Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with or incident to the Fair, and the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgement may determine.

52. An exhibitor who violates any of the stated rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums and be subject to such penalty as the Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority may order.

53. Department rules or special conditions are published in each department where necessary. Any conflict between the special rules of any department and the general rules and regulations, will be governed by the special rules.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITY

54. All exhibits will be under the direction of the Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority, but the Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority will in no case be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Each

exhibitor will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to, or occasioned by, or arising from any article exhibited by him/her and shall indemnify the Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority against all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto, as well as damage or injury to any other person or property caused by the exhibitor.

55. The Fair reserves the right to remove from the grounds any exhibit that may be falsely entered or may be deemed unsuitable or objectionable, without assigning reason therefore.

ADMISSION TICKETS AND PARKING

56. Most exhibits are delivered to the Fairgrounds prior to the opening of the Fair. No tickets are required at this time. Enter the WEST GATE (facing the Interstate) and proceed to the designated exhibit entry area.

57. All vehicles must be moved to the parking lot prior to the opening of the Fair.

58. Except for live culinary contests, an entry in a competition does not gain exhibitor free entry into the Fair.

59. General admission during the Fair is \$10. Children ages 10 and under are admitted free and parking is free.

OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

60. Individuals competing in the Georgia Living Programs agree to have their photo taken which may subsequently be used for promotional purposes in publications and social media.

61. Dogs will not be allowed on the Fairgrounds, except guide dogs.

62. No demonstrators, trophies, decorations, portals, fountains, signs, banners, advertising matter or exhibits of any kind or character will be allowed in the aisles or public passageways or attached to the buildings' walls, posts or doors.

63. Use of roller blades, roller skates, scooters, or other unauthorized forms of transportation is prohibited on the Fairgrounds at all times.