

OPEN CLASS GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

EXHIBIT ENTRY

1. Open class exhibits that require pre-registration include Dept. 1-Vintage Agricultural Equipment, Dept. 19-Draft Horses, Dept. 20-Adult & 4-H Alumni Livestock Show, and some of Dept. 99-Community Contests. All other departments allow day-of entry.
2. Entry tags will be available for pick up on Monday & Tuesday August 12 & 13 between 2 and 7 pm in your exhibit buildings. Entry tags for exhibits registered on entry day will be prepared on the spot in building 1. To avoid waiting in line, we strongly recommend pre-registering. If you can not enter online or physically fill out a form, please make an appointment to complete the form in the office by July 26.
3. Non-perishable exhibits come to the Fairgrounds on Monday and Tuesday, August 12 and 13. Perishable exhibits on Monday, Tuesday and Friday, August 19, 20, and 23. For specific entry times and locations, please refer to the Open Class Competitive Exhibits Calendar and the calendars for each department you plan to enter, as times and locations vary according to department.
4. **LIMIT ONE EXHIBIT PER CLASS PER EXHIBITOR UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.** A single exhibit cannot be entered in more than one class, nor may it be entered in both Open Class and 4-H. If one exhibitor enters more than the allowed amount for a single class, all of their entries for that class will not be considered for placings.
5. Allotment of space and management of each department will be in the hands of the Superintendent. ***New classes for exhibits not shown in the Exhibitors Handbook will NOT be added.*** Superintendents have the right to refuse any soiled or distasteful entries.
6. Any article entered for the premium award must be entered in the name of the producer.
7. **USE ONE NAME ONLY ON ALL ENTRY TAGS. DO NOT USE VARIATIONS OF YOUR NAME,** such as your full name on one tag and a nickname on another tag. We cannot and will not assume that all the names you use on your tags belong to you. PLEASE NOTE THAT CORRECTIONS WILL NOT BE MADE AFTER ENTRIES ARE TAKEN. POINTS WILL BE CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THE NAME ON THE ENTRY TAG.
8. The "Professional" division is no longer offered except in Culinary Arts in specific divisions. Anyone who refers to themselves as a professional can enter under the Adult division unless otherwise stated in the Department rules.
9. Any individuals who have been denied the privilege of showing in 4-H will not be allowed to enter in Open Class.
10. **Fair Management will provide attendants/security and take all possible precautions for the safe preservation of all articles on display as well as persons attending the Fair. However, Management will not be responsible for loss, damage, or injury to any property or person.**

AWARDS (also see Award Listing):

11. Awards will be paid to bona fide residents of Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Latah, Nez Perce, Lewis, Clearwater and Idaho Counties only. Residents of Washington and Montana are not eligible to enter. **The possession of ribbons and exhibit cards does not entitle the holder to awards.** The awards on exhibits are paid only on the record of awards returned to the Fair Office by the Superintendents.
12. Individual exhibits are limited to one cash award in any one class.
13. The American System is used and decisions of the judges are final. Judges choose (1) first, (1) second, and (1) third place winner in each class; however, the judges reserve the option to withhold ribbons and awards in a class where there is no deserving entry. Disrespect shown to any award or to any judge by an exhibitor forfeits all awards made to him/her. Violation of any of the rules listed will cause the exhibitor to forfeit all awards.
14. Grand Champion awards are presented to the "best" entries in each department. "Best" is defined as "that which demonstrates the best technique, skill or animal in the eyes of the judge".
15. Special Premium awards are sponsored by local businesses and individuals. A first and second place is awarded to entries that the judges determine warrant special recognition.
16. Open Class cash awards will be paid to those entitled to awards in the Fair Office on Saturday, August 24 from 12 to 6 pm, Sunday, August 25 from 12 to 4 pm, and on Monday, August 26 from 3 to 7 pm. Premiums will be paid from Tuesday, August 27 through Friday, August 30, from 9 am to 4 pm. **If not claimed by 4 pm on August 30, the premium will be considered a donation to the Fair's general fund.**
17. All protests must be in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$25, which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Such protests must state plainly the case of the complaint or appeal and must be delivered to the Fair Manager within six hours after the cause of protest.

EXHIBIT REMOVAL

18. **Open Class exhibits cannot be, under any circumstance, removed from the buildings until Monday, August 26 between 3 and 7 pm.** Remaining exhibits will be moved to the Fair Office on Tuesday, August 27 and can be picked up during regular office hours. You must have your claim ticket for pickup. Exhibits not picked up will be held at the Fair Office for a reasonable amount of time and then disposed of without notice. Removal of exhibits prior to this without written authorization from Fair Management is not allowed, any violation of this rule will be banned from future exhibiting.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can enter exhibits?

Residents of Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone, Boundary, Bonner, Latah, Nez Perce, Lewis, Clearwater and Idaho Counties. Residents of Washington and Montana are not eligible to enter. Also, any individual who has been denied the privilege of showing in 4-H will not be allowed to enter in Open Class.

How do I register my entries?

THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO ENTER YOUR EXHIBITS!

- 1) Register online at www.northidahostatefair.com before August 5.
- 2) Complete and submit an Entry Registration Form by August 5.
- 3) Bring ALL your exhibits in on their designated entry day. Same day registration will be available if needed.

How do I get an entry tag?

Entry tags for all registered entries will be available for pick up beginning Monday, August 12 between 2 and 7 pm in the building where your entry will be displayed. Entry tags for exhibits registered on entry day will be prepared on the spot.

When do I bring my entry? And where do I take it?

Entry information is shown at the beginning of each department. Also check out the Open Class Competitive Exhibit Entry Schedule for dates, times and locations.

ENTRY TIMES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED AND LATE ENTRIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

Can I enter exhibits in more than one department?

Absolutely! There are twenty departments to choose from! However, only one item can be entered in a specific class and some departments have entry limits based on available space.

I've sold things in the past. Do I enter as a PROFESSIONAL?

Department 6-Culinary offers the only specific classes for professionals, classes 363-365. Exhibitors who consider themselves professionals can enter in the adult division unless otherwise stated in the department's rules.

Can I win anything?

Typically, ribbons and cash premiums are given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. There are also Grand Champion and Special Premium awards. Other special award, such as the Best Cook or Green Thumb Gardener are offered as well. Check the awards listing for the different awards that are offered in Open Class Competitive Exhibits.

How is my entry judged? When does it happen? Can I watch?

The North Idaho State Fair uses the AMERICAN system of judging, which means that all exhibits in the department are evaluated and judged against each other. Depending on the department, judging typically takes place the morning after or immediately after entry closes. With the exception of the Chocolate Extravaganza, Apple Pie Contest, and livestock shows, all judging is closed to the public.

What's the difference between the American system and the Danish system?

In the AMERICAN system, exhibits are ranked in the order of quality. Items are placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, and labeled with special awards such as Grand Champion and Best of Show, if applicable.

In the DANISH system, exhibits are evaluated according to quality standards. Items meeting the quality standard are awarded blue ribbons. Red ribbons are given if the exhibit does not meet all the quality standards, and white ribbons are awarded if the exhibit rates only moderately satisfactory for the standards.

What do the judges look for when they're judging?

Each department has one or more sections entitled *What the Judges Look For* that lists the basic criteria.

When can I see if I won anything?

When you come to the Fair! Exhibit buildings are open from 10 am to 9 pm. Be sure to check out the discounted rates we offer for pre-sale tickets!

When and where do I pick-up my winnings?

Open class cash awards will be available for pickup in the Fair Office on Saturday, August 24 from 12 to 6 pm, Sunday, August 25 from 12 to 4 pm, and on Monday, August 26 from 3 to 7 pm. Premiums will be paid from Tuesday, August 27 through Friday, August 30, from 9 am to 4 pm. The awards on exhibits are paid only on the record of awards returned to the Fair Office by the Superintendents.

When can I pick up my entry?

Open Class exhibits can not, under any circumstances, be removed from the buildings until **Monday, August 26** between **3 and 7 pm**. Remaining exhibits will be moved to the Fair Office on Tuesday, August 27 and can be picked up from 9 am to 4 pm. Exhibits not picked up will be held at the Fair Office for a reasonable amount of time and then disposed of. You must have your claim ticket to pick up.