
JUDGING AT THE FAIR

Judging at the Tanana Valley State Fair is accomplished through a network of volunteers. Judges are recruited & chosen for their expertise in a particular area, and it is through their generous donation of time & knowledge that we are able to showcase your achievements. Judges are trained by the superintendent & through the Fair Office to follow the guidelines set down by the Fair Association. They are expected to:

- be fair & consistent in their judging;
- provide positive comments and constructive criticism to the exhibitor;
- follow the Fair Association's mission to educate participants through their evaluation.

Each exhibit must have a completed score sheet. These score sheets are for the education of the exhibitor only & are not for public view. An exhibitor may request to see a score sheet for any of their entries by asking the exhibit attendant on duty, asking the superintendent, or requesting assistance through the Office.

Although our judges work hard to provide a positive experience for the exhibitor, sometimes there can be discrepancies or inconsistencies. If so, the exhibitor is encouraged to contact the superintendent who can investigate the problem. If necessary, the exhibitor may file a protest through the Fair Office. A \$25.00 fee must accompany any protest filed. Please refer to the Exhibitor's Guide for more information regarding this procedure.

SECURITY

You are encouraged to enter your best work. The Competitive Exhibits team (staff, superintendents, judges & volunteers) all recognize the value these hold & all effort is made to provide for their security. Each building has a team of volunteers to watch over the exhibits & to make sure they are not handled or stolen, but because of the volume of entries we get each year, we cannot guarantee the safety of each exhibit.

QUESTIONS

We have tried to create a lot for everything, but if you cannot find an appropriate lot in which to enter an item, please contact the Division Superintendent. They can help you in selecting a lot, or can add any lots as needed. Superintendents' names and telephone numbers are listed in the Exhibitor's Guide. Be sure to contact them before Entry Day.

If you are unable to reach the superintendent, the Office is here to help. Call us anytime between the hours of 9 am & 5 pm, Monday through Friday at: **452-3750** or e-mail exhibits@tananavalleyfair.org

The Tanana Valley State Fair seeks to highlight and enhance appreciation for Interior Alaska by showcasing competitive & commercial exhibits. The Fair educates and entertains all participants by providing opportunities to share a rich variety of individual and community endeavors. The Fair encourages and welcomes involvement by all.

Tanana Valley State Fair Association
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452-3750 www.tvfsfa.org



DIVISION 12 EXHIBITOR'S HANDBOOK

Welcome to the world of Competitive Exhibits! As an exhibitor at the fair, you are entering into a long standing tradition of education & competition that began in the Tanana Valley in 1924.

Your primary source of information about entering an exhibit is through the Exhibitors Guide, available online or at the Fair Office. This handbook will provide you with some additional information as well as judging criteria and sample judging sheets.

ENTRY RULES

- Get your Fair I.D. number & exhibit tags from the Fair Office. Fill out Exhibit Tags before you arrive on entry day.
- Pick your Best: You may enter only one exhibit per lot. Note any other entry restrictions listed in the Exhibitors Guide.
- Know your entry days & pick-up days.
- Prepare your entry: Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible.
- Tell us about your entry: If a class has special instructions, be sure to include this information on a 3" x 5" card attached to your entry.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- **Pick your Best:** You may enter only one exhibit per lot, so choose that item which best demonstrates your skill or knowledge;
- **Choose quality over quantity;**
- **Prepare your entry:** Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible. Don't wait until the last minute - know what you will enter & have your exhibit tags ready well before entry day;
- **Tell us about your entry:** If your division has special instructions, be sure to include this information on a 3" x 5" card attached to your entry.

PREPARING YOUR ENTRY

The emphasis is on quality, which includes the preparation you take to properly display your work.

Prepare your entry by mounting, framing, or providing containers if appropriate. If the exhibit is wall-hung, it should be framed or matted (please, NO GLASS due to the possibility of breakage). Refer to the Exhibitor's Guide Division 13A or 13B for instructions on hanging.

Small items such as jewelry, fishing flies, magnets, etc. (less than 3" x 3" in size) should be mounted. This means attached to some type of card or board.

Some items need to be put in containers, (stationary in a box, flowers in a vase,

etc.). The container will be judged as part of the entry.

Some exhibits are free-standing. They will not lose points because they aren't mounted.

JUDGING CRITERIA

All articles in the division will be judged on each of the following areas. If there is a specific area for the class, that will be included in the workmanship score.

Workmanship

How well you did the work in the exhibit. For example, if it is a wooden exhibit, is it sanded well? Is the glue neatly applied? Is the painting neat?

Design

The hardest to explain but very important. The design is what makes the piece attractive. For example: is the piece colorful? Does it make you feel good? Design is the beauty of the exhibit.

Creative Effort

Creative effort means how well you applied the idea. Is the material appropriate for the article? It is hard to judge the originality of an exhibit made from a kit or pattern; therefore we judge what use you made of the kit or pattern. Effort will be judged on originality.

Complexity

How difficult, intricate, and involved the exhibit appears. This would mean the amount of time and skill it took you to make the exhibit.

Presentation/Preparation

Not all entries need be mounted, matted or placed in a container. The presentation, however, should be neat, and done in such a way as to show off the quality of the exhibit.

Samples of the judges' scorecards are included in this handbook.

SAMPLE JUDGING SHEETS

Division 12 Creative Arts

ID # _____ Exhibit Tag # _____ Class _____ Lot _____
Judge's Initials _____

	POOR JUDGE'S	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT
SCORE					
Workmanship	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Design	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Creative Effort	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Complexity	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Presentation	1	2	3	4	5 _____
TOTAL (25 = perfect score)					_____

COMMENTS _____

