
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 & 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 Fair Office is here to help. Call us anytime between the hours of 9 am & 5 pm, Monday through Friday or e-mail exhibits@tvfsa.org.

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DIVISION 18 DOLLS

EXHIBITOR'S HANDBOOK

Exhibiting at the Tanana Valley State Fair

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 Exhibitor's Guide, available online or at the Fair Exhibit Office.

General Rules:

- Get a Fair I.D. number from the Exhibit Office
- Pick up & fill out Exhibit Tags & Entry forms at home.
- You may enter only one exhibit per lot, except where noted.
- Know your entry days & pick-up days listed in the Exhibitor's Guide.

Entry Guidelines

- 1 Pick your Best:** You may enter only one exhibit per lot, so choose that item which best demonstrates your skill or knowledge;
- 2 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;
- 3 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

When preparing an exhibit, try to choose your best quality item and make your exhibit as attractive as possible. Although entries are not required to include a display background, some (such as collections) will be partially judged on how they are displayed. It is always a good idea to include a 3" x 5" card explaining your entry, such as any special modifications, additions, or explanations that will give the judges more information. Bring your entry to the Fair on the appropriate day. You should have your exhibit tag filled out and secured to the item in some way. (Attaching with rubber bands, string, or staples is better than using tape, which often doesn't hold and will pull off paint.)

DEFINITIONS

Kit: A kit is a pre-cut, manufactured item that has come with materials and instructions for completion. These are items that you have constructed, following directions. Although you may have made certain simple changes in the color or exercise, basically you have made the item as instructed.

Original: An original item is one that you have designed and put together. Parts of the entry may be from pre-manufactured pieces, but the finished product should be unique. If you have a diorama entry, an original may contain items that you have made from a kit, but again, the total display should be designed and built by you.

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.

Judging Criteria

Each entry will be judged in its proper class and lot on a scorecard (example below). Scores range from zero to 100 points. If there is only one item in a lot and it must be judged alone, the judge has the option of giving the item whatever seems proper, according to the total on the scorecard. In other words, there may be a second place ribbon awarded when there is no first.

Workmanship

Judges will look at neatness in sewing, especially seams, finished edges, and accessories.

Complexity

The judges will compare the level of difficulty of each item in a lot.

Attractiveness

Is your entry attractive? Are the colors coordinated? Are the accessories appropriate and realistic?

Originality

For kit entries, you get extra points by adding original touches or accessories. For original entries, you will be judged on the uniqueness of the materials you use and the item selected.

Sample Judging Sheet

Division 18 Dolls

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

| | POINTS POSSIBLE | SCORE |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Workmanship | 30 | _____ |
| Complexity | 20 | _____ |
| Attractiveness (neatness) | 30 | _____ |
| Originality | 20 | _____ |
| TOTAL (100 = perfect score) | | _____ |

COMMENTS _____

