

Welcome to the North Idaho State Fair

North Idaho State Fair welcomes our community to exhibit, compete and display your work. All are welcome, but residents of Kootenai, Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce, and Shoshone counties are eligible for additional special awards. This Handbook contains guidelines and rules for residents wishing to enter the Open Class Competitive Exhibits, Open Class Livestock and the Youth Stock Show.

With more than 20 departments to enter, there are plenty of opportunities to show off your favorite hobby. If you can make it, take it, grow it, or show it, we have a place for you!



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NORTH IDAHO STATE FAIR

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Email: fair@northidahostatefair.com | Phone: 208-765-4969 | www.NISFair.FUN

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- **NO PETS OF ANY KIND ARE PERMITTED AT THE FAIR AT ANY TIME!** This includes dogs, cats, ferrets, etc., on a leash, in a carrier, purse or large bag, or held in a person's arms. The only exceptions are service animals or animals that are part of an attraction, exhibit, or demonstration. Visitors found with pets will be asked to take them home. Animals are not to be left in unattended vehicles in the parking lot under any circumstance. This policy is in place not only for the safety of other visitors, but for the welfare of the animal.
- Soliciting on the Fairgrounds, distribution of hand bills, literature, or advertising by any individual or organization is strictly prohibited. No tacking or posting of advertising bills, cards, etc., will be permitted on any building, power pole, car or elsewhere. All individuals, organizations, religious groups, and commercial exhibitors wishing to solicit, pass out literature or advertising matter must rent exhibit space at the going rate and must confine solicitations, distribution of all hand bills and literature to the space rented. No walking exhibits will be allowed on the grounds.

COMPLETE COPY OF ALL FAIRGROUNDS POLICIES IS AVAILABLE AT THE FAIR OFFICE

BANK SERVICES:

ATM's are available at each admission gate, north end of the grandstands, food court, Buildings 1 and 4, and at the carnival. The Fair does not have a check cashing service.



ENTER NOW!



SIMPLY SCAN
THE QR CODE WITH YOUR
SMARTPHONE'S CAMERA,
TAP THE LINK, AND ENTER
TODAY!



NEED HELP CHECKING IN? OUR STAFF IS READY TO ASSIST!
GIVE US A CALL AT 208-765-4969

- Smoking is not allowed on the Fairgrounds. NO EXCEPTIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION – DURING FAIR					Opening Day!	
The fair office is open during fair 8 PM to 8 PM, Friday, August 15 – Sunday, August 24 Gates open at start time, and exhibit buildings are open daily until 9 PM.					Friday August 15 2 PM – 10 PM	Saturday August 16 11 AM – 10 PM
Sunday August 17 11 AM – 10 PM	Monday August 18 2 PM – 10 PM	Tuesday August 19 11 AM – 10 PM	Wednesday August 20 11 AM – 10 PM	Thursday August 21 11 AM – 10 PM	Friday August 22 11 AM – 10 PM	Saturday August 23 11 AM – 10 PM
Last Day! Sunday August 24 11 AM – 7 PM	GENERAL INFORMATION – NON-FAIR TIMES The fair office is located in the southeast corner of building 1 and is open year-round. Non-Fair Hours: 9 AM – 4 PM, Monday – Friday					

ADMISSIONS

Tickets are single use, one scan per entry. Valid hand stamp required for re-entry. Overnight Fair guests, exhibitors, or vendor/concessionaires must have a valid entry ticket, each morning before Fair opening. A daily stamp will be maintained at all gates for patrons wishing to return within the day.

Fair Gate Admission

Advanced ticket prices will remain available at the same price if purchased online through the fair week.

- Adults (13-59 years old) \$14
- ADVANCED/ONLINE** Adults (13-59 years old).....\$11
- Seniors (60+ years old).....\$10
- Military (with valid ID)\$10
- Youth (6-12 years old)..... \$10
- ADVANCED/ONLINE** Senior / Youth /Military\$9
- Kids 5 years old & underFree

Parking

- One-day Parking.....\$7
- Ten-day Parking\$47

Carnival

- Carnival POP (Pay One Price)
Unlimited wristband-1-person, 1 day\$45
- ADVANCED POP** (sales through 8/15)\$40
- Golden Ticket*: unlimited wristband-1 person for all
10 days, and 32 oz. souvenir cup (\$2 refills)\$140
- *Golden Ticket pre-sale purchase only.*
- NOT available for purchase on-site.**
- MEGA PASS: 4 POP Passes, 4 Admission Passes, 1
Day Parking\$165



GRANDSTAND EVENTS

Pre-sale Grandstand event tickets available for purchase online or at the Fair Office. Guests are encouraged to purchase in advance due to limited seating capacity. Onsite tickets may be available for purchase at the Findlay Arena Box Office on a first come, first serve basis.

Grandstand events are rain or shine. No rain checks, refunds, or tickets exchanges. All sales are final.

*Pre-sale grandstand event tickets include fair admission

Aug 15	Tractor Truck Pulls with Mini Monsters - 6:30 PM	
	Grandstands or Lower Sections (1-8)	\$32
	Bleachers Sections (9-14)	\$24
Aug 16	Tractor Truck Pulls with Mini Monsters - 6:30 PM	
	Grandstands or Lower Sections (1-8)	\$32
	Bleachers Sections (9-14)	\$24
Aug 17	Demolition Derby - 4:00 PM	
	Grandstands or Lower Sections (1-8)	\$32
	Bleachers Sections (9-14)	\$24
Aug 18	Concert: Midland - 7:30 PM & Mackenzie Carpenter	
	PIT	\$85
	Arena Floor (Standing Room Only)	\$55
	Reserved Grandstands (1-5)	\$45
	Lower GS Bleacher (6-8)	\$45
Aug 19	Concert: Josh Turner - 7:30 PM & Colby Acuff	
	PIT	\$85
	Arena Floor (Standing Room Only)	\$55
	Reserved Grandstands (1-5)	\$45
	Lower GS Bleacher (6-8)	\$45
Aug 20	Wednesday PRCA Rodeo - 6:30 PM	
	Grandstands or Lower Sections (1-8)	\$34
	Bleachers Sections (9-14)	\$28
Aug 21	Xtreme Bulls - 6:30 PM	
	Grandstands or Lower Sections (1-8)	\$34
	Bleachers Sections (9-14)	\$28
Aug 22	Draft Horse Show - 11:00 AM	
	Grandstands and All Bleachers	Free
Aug 22	Friday PRCA Rodeo - 6:30 PM	
	Grandstands or Lower Sections (1-8)	\$34
	Bleachers Sections (9-14)	\$28
Aug 23	Draft Horse Competitions - 9:00 AM	
	Grandstands and All Bleachers	Free
Aug 23	Saturday PRCA Rodeo - 6:30 PM	
	Grandstands or Lower Sections (1-8)	\$34
	Bleachers Sections (9-14)	\$28
Aug 24	Sunday PRCA Rodeo - 2:00 PM	
	Grandstands or Bleachers Sections (1-11)	\$34
	Bleachers Sections (12-14)	FREE

OPEN CLASS ENTRY DEADLINES

Pre-registration: Friday, August 1, 12 PM

Entry Days:

- All Non-perishable Entries: Tuesday & Wednesday, Aug 5 & 6, 2 PM – 7 PM
(Home Arts, Industrial Arts, Culinary Arts)
- Culinary perishables: Wednesday, August 13, 12 PM – 7 PM
- Fruits, Honey, and Vegetables: Thursday, August 14, 7AM – 12 PM and 1 PM – 7 PM
- Flowers: Thursday, August 14, 7 AM – 12 PM
Wednesday, August 20, 7 AM – 10 AM
 - Enter **Clayton Gate** on Government Way

THREE WAYS TO ENTER!

1. Pre-register on-line at NISFair.fun by **12 PM, August 1.** (FREE for general static pre-entry)
2. Submit a completed entry form to the Fair office by **12 PM, August 1.** (FREE for general static pre-entry)
3. Bring ALL your exhibits in on their designated entry day. You can register the day of for \$1 per entry!

EASY TO ENTER!

If you have any questions, please call the Fair Office at 208-765-4969, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. We are happy to assist you in entering your exhibit into the fair!

- **Register online** by August 1. Go to www.NISFair.fun and you will find all departments within the Exhibits tab. Click on the link to enter exhibits. Each exhibitor must have their own account, and renew each year. Create an entry for each item that you plan to exhibit, repeating until finished. You can always go back into your account to make changes or additions. If you are unsure of what class to enter please contact your Department Superintendent to verify you are entering the correct class. Pre-registration online is free for general static exhibits (excludes Professional Divisions and Livestock Departments).
- **Complete and submit a paper Entry Registration Form** before August 1. You can find the form online, in the Exhibitor's Handbook or stop by the Fair Office. Pre-registration by form is free for general static exhibits (excludes Professional Divisions and Livestock Departments).
- **Bring ALL your exhibits in on their designated entry day.** Entry days are listed by department, on the entry form, online, and for your convenience listed under Entry Deadlines. Departments 1 and 18-26 must pre-register; all other departments allow day-of entry. All exhibits registered day of are subject to a \$1/entry fee.

If you cannot enter online or physically fill out a form, please make an appointment to register in the Fair Office by July 11.

EXHIBIT REMOVAL

Open Class exhibits cannot be, under any circumstance, removed from the buildings until Monday, August 25 between 3 PM and 7 PM. Removal of exhibits is not allowed, any violation of this rule will be banned from future exhibiting. Exhibits may be moved to the Fair Office on Tuesday, August 26 and can be picked up from 9 AM to 4 PM. All exhibitors must have item's claim ticket to pick up. Exhibits will be held at the Fair office until September 8, 2025. **Items may be disposed of without notice.**

OPEN CLASS GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

EXHIBIT ENTRY

1. All open class departments, divisions and classes are open to all United States residents. **Limit one (1) entry per class per exhibitor** unless specified in department rules. If one exhibitor enters more than the allowed amount for a single class, all their entries for that class will not be considered for placings.
2. Open class exhibits that require pre-registration include Dept. 1-Vintage Agricultural Equipment, Dept. 18-Draft Horses, Dept. 19-Poultry, Dept. 20-Rabbit, Dept. 21-Swine, Dept. 22-Open Goat, Dept. 23-ADGA Dairy Goat, Dept. 24-Cattle, Dept. 25-Sheep, and some culinary contests in Dept 6. All other departments allow day-of entry.
3. Entry tags will be available for pick up on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 5 and 6. New entries will register at Building 1. Pre-entered exhibits can pick up tags at the appropriate building. **To avoid fees and waiting in line, we strongly recommend pre-registering.** **If you cannot enter online or physically fill out a form, please make an appointment to complete the form in the office by July 11.**
4. Some entry days and times have changed, please refer to the Open Class Static Exhibits Calendar and the calendars for each department. Times and locations vary according to department.
5. Allotment of space and management of each department will be in the hands of the Superintendent. A new class may be added if 5 or more entries of likeness are in the "other than listed" class. Superintendents have the right to refuse any soiled or distasteful entries.
6. **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. Entry should be registered in the name of the producer.
7. "Professional" classes only offered in specific divisions of Flowers, Culinary Arts, Fine Arts and Photography. Anyone who refers to themselves as a professional can enter under the Adult division unless otherwise stated in the Department rules.
8. **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. Fair Management will not be responsible for loss, damage, or injury to any property or person.**

AWARDS (also see Award Listing):

All exhibitors are eligible for standard awards and premium payouts. Special Awards will only be paid to residents of the northern 10 counties of Idaho. **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. Individual exhibits are limited to one cash award in any one class. Open class cash awards will be available for pickup on Saturday, August 23 from 4 PM to 7 PM and Sunday, August 24 from 11 AM to 4 PM at the south end of Building 8. Beginning Monday, August 25 awards are paid at the Fair Office. Hours are as follows; Monday 3 PM – 7 PM, Tuesday through Friday August 29, 9 AM – 4 PM. Exhibit awards are only paid to the entry record returned to the Fair Office by department Superintendents. **Award premiums not claimed by August 29, will be considered a donation to the Fair's general fund.**

WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR

- Entry schedule: Multiple departments have schedule changes so be sure to check the corresponding Calendar for dates and times of entry and judging that may have changed.
- Class lists: Check out your corresponding department for any new or combined classes.
- **Various Departments:**
Find the theme logo throughout the Exhibitor's Handbook to take part in theme related Special Contests! We hope everyone has fun **Keeping Tradition Alive in 2025!**
- Agricultural Education: We work hard to increase ways to educate the public about agriculture so check out our Everyday Ag that interactively enhances the connection of each exhibit department to agriculture including an audio tour, AGtivity book, and other educational materials throughout the grounds.
- New ribbon system! Our exhibits will be judged in a combination of American and Danish systems! The top 3 exhibits for each class will still earn a premium, but every entry will receive a ribbon. So exciting!
- Updated entry system! The new ShoWorks 2024 will allow for easier access to entries and results. Be sure to download the ShoWorks Passport app on your phone to see what awards and premiums you've earned.
- New Sponsors! Check out the Special Premium Awards list for new sponsors and continued support. We always have additional sponsorship opportunities.



OPEN CLASS LIVESTOCK RULES & REGULATIONS



1. All entries are taken on a first come, first serve basis; Cattle, Sheep, Swine and Goats must include the appropriate fees per entry.
2. Exhibitors are responsible for entering animals in proper department, division and class. Incorrect or late entries are subject to a \$10 processing fee to correct entries or withdraw that entry from the show.
3. All animals must be stalled in the designated barn.
4. Only exhibitors, clerks/ring stewards, superintendents and judges are allowed in the Show Ring.
5. The decision of the judge is final.
6. Entry fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.
7. Fair management, official fair veterinarian or superintendents reserve the right to refuse acceptance of any entry based on health. Animals will be inspected upon arrival by the superintendent and/or veterinarian. Please note if the exhibitor wishes to dispute the management or superintendent's decision, they may opt for another veterinarian inspection and signed clearance at the cost of the exhibitor. Fair Veterinarian's decision supersedes all others.
8. Any exhibitor that removes an entry from the grounds prior to the published release time, without written authorization from Fair management will be banned from future exhibiting at the North Idaho State Fair and forfeit all prize money.
9. Open Class livestock and small animals will not be permitted to have "For Sale" signs on pens.
10. Exhibitors shall furnish hay and other feeds at his/her own expense. Shavings will be provided. All barns/cages are to be cleaned by 10 am each day and maintained throughout the day.

11. By exhibiting at the North Idaho State Fair, you are verifying you have read "The National Show Ring Code of Ethics" and understand the consequences of the penalties involved for illegal, unethical, inhumane, and unfair practices of competition. You agree to comply with show practices and ethics and understand the violation and consequence procedures within.
12. Open class livestock cash awards will be available for pickup open class premium pickup times.

Findlay Arena

2025 EVENT LINEUP

AUG 15	TRUCK PULLS with Mini Monsters	6:30 PM
	TRUCK PULLS with Mini Monsters	AUG 16 6:30 PM
AUG 17	DEMO DERBY	6:30 PM
	7:30 PM MIDLAND	AUG 18
WITH MACKENZIE CARPENTER		
AUG 19	JOSH TURNER	7:30 PM
WITH COLBY ACUFF		
AUG 21	XTREME BULLS	6:30 PM
AUG 23	PRCA RODEO	6:30 PM
	PRCA RODEO	AUG 22 6:30 PM
	PRCA RODEO	AUG 24 2:00 PM

NISFAIR.FUN

THE COMMUNITY'S GATHERING PLACE SINCE 1954

Where tradition and fun meet

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can enter exhibits?

All open class departments, divisions and classes are open to all United States residents. Special Awards and their premiums are reserved for residents of the northern 10 counties in Idaho. Limit one (1) entry per class per exhibitor. Pre-register for free entry (registration during day of entry is subject to \$1 fee/entry with no limit).

How do I register my entries?

How do I get an entry tag?

Entry tags for all pre-registered entries will be available for pick up during entry in the building where your exhibit will be displayed. Entry tags for

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

Entry information is shown at the beginning of each department. Check out the Open Class Competitive Exhibit Calendars for dates, times and locations. **ENTRY TIMES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED AND LATE ENTRIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

Can I enter more than one item?

There are twenty-five departments to choose from! However, only one item can be entered in a specific class with no limit on the number of entries per person.

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

Department 5-Flowers offers class 210 for professionals. Department 6-Culinary offers specific classes for professionals, classes 351-353. Department 16-Fine Arts offers division 1620 and Department 17-Photography offers division 1760 for professionals. Exhibitors who consider themselves professionals can enter the adult division unless otherwise stated in the department's rules.

We've changed to the Danish system!

Previously, the North Idaho State Fair's Competitive Exhibits Program used only the American system of judging, in which exhibits were awarded 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place. To better recognize the efforts and talents of our exhibitors, we have adopted a blended approach that incorporates both the American and Danish systems of evaluation.

In the **Danish system**, exhibits are judged based on established quality standards rather than in direct competition with one another. Exhibits that meet these standards receive a **blue ribbon**. Those that fall slightly short are awarded a **red ribbon** and exhibits that are moderately satisfactory receive a **white ribbon**. This system is already used by the Kootenai/Shoshone 4-H Program, local FFA chapters, and the NISF Youth Stock Show.

Under the new combined system, **premiums will continue to be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners**, while all remaining exhibits will now also receive a **quality award** based on Danish system standards.

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

The North Idaho State Fair uses the American system of judging, all exhibits in the department are evaluated and judged against each other. After determining premium winners, the remaining exhibits will be judged on their quality. Depending on the department, judging typically takes place the morning after or immediately after entry closes. All judging is closed to the public, except for the

Chocolate Extravaganza, Apple Pie Contest, BBQ Contest and Livestock Shows.

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

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

Can I win anything?

Typically, ribbons and cash premiums are given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Grand and Reserve Champion, and Special Premium awards are available for specific departments and other special awards, such as the Best Cook or Green Thumb Gardener may be offered as well. Check the award listing and each department for complete list of eligible special awards. Special awards and their premiums are reserved for residents of the northern 10 counties in Idaho and youth exhibitors.

When can I see if I won anything?

When you come to the Fair! Exhibit buildings are open daily till 9 PM. Be sure to check out the discounted rates we offer for pre-sale tickets! If you aren't able to make it, be sure to download the ShoWorks Passport app on your phone for easier check-in and access to your results.

How do I pick-up my winnings?

Open class cash awards will be available for pickup on Saturday, August 23 from 4 PM to 7 PM and Sunday, August 24 from 11 AM to 4 PM at the South end of Building 8. Premiums may also be picked up from Building 1 Monday, August 25th 3 PM to 7 PM and in the fair office Tuesday, August 26th through Friday, August 29th during regular Fair Office hours, 9 AM to 4 PM daily. Exhibit awards are only paid to the entry record returned to the Fair Office by department Superintendents, possession of ribbons does not entitle the holder to awards. **Award premiums not claimed by August 29, will be considered a donation to the Fair's general fund.**

When can I pick up my entry?

Open Class exhibits cannot, under any circumstances, be removed from the buildings until **Monday, August 25** between **3 PM and 7 PM**. Remaining exhibits will be moved to the Fair Office on Tuesday, August 26 and can be picked up from 9 AM to 4 PM.

Exhibits will be held at the Fair office until September 5, 2025.

Items not picked up will be disposed of without notice.

All exhibitors must have each item's claim ticket to pick up.

