



DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD- SHOW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2022 AT 5:30 PM

JAMES R. SULLIVAN EVENTS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOMS

MINUTES

Meeting

Staff Update: None

CSU: Working to establish a 2023 calendar. Setting up some project oriented educational clinics. 11/29 and 12/17 is 4H Leader Training – all 4H Leaders encouraged to attend one of the training sessions. Extension office will be Closed 11/11 for Veterans Day and 11/21-11/25 for Thanksgiving.

Superintendent Applications: Applications for identified Superintendents or Assistants are due tonight. Several have been received. Call for any additional applications. The Show Management Committee will be looking to for applicants to fill a few open Superintendent/Assistant positions; those applicants identified by the Show Management Committee will be permitted to apply after the deadline.

Judge Recommendations: The Show Management Committee has received some recommendations for show judges for the 2023 Fair. The Show Management Committee will forward these names to the full Fair Board for approval unless any specific names are objected to for reasons to be discussed by the committee. The recommended names of the judges were read aloud by department for discussion as follows:

Goat (Non-Market and Market): Judge names read aloud. No objections noted.

Swine: Judge names read aloud. No objections noted.

Sheep: Judge names read aloud. No objections noted.

Llama and Alpaca: Judge names read aloud. No objections noted.

No new judges were recommended for departments not listed above.

Competition Rules: The Show Management Committee received only a couple of proposed rules changes from Superintendents prior to the deadline which has passed. The proposed rules changes were discussed and will be forwarded to the Rules Committee for further review.

Swine: A rule change has been proposed to eliminate the “Born on or After” date. Reason provided is the rule is ineffective and nearly impossible to enforce with birth dates difficult to obtain or verify. There was some discussion on the proposed change which will be forwarded to the Rules Committee for further review and consideration.

Release of Livestock: A rule change has been proposed to allow Breeding Sheep to be released following their show, through and until noon on Friday. Limited discussion. Rule will be forwarded to the Rules Committee for further review and consideration.

Ag and Flora: Multiple proposed rule changes have been submitted. Majority of proposed changes add clarifying information. Rules not discussed. All proposed rule changes for Ag and Flora will be forwarded to the Rules Committee for further review and consideration.

Beef: A rule change has been proposed to increase the minimum weight for market beef from 1000 pounds to 1050 pounds. The objective is to reduce the number of lower weight animals for the beef show – improve quality of the show. The initial proposed rule was an increase to 1100 pounds. It was agreed to limit the proposed increase to 50 pounds for the 2023 fair to provide a modest incremental increase. There will likely be a proposal for 2024 to increase the weight an additional 50 pounds to make the minimum 1100 pounds for the 2024 fair. The proposed rule change for the 1050 pound minimum will be forwarded to the Rules Committee for further review and consideration.

Workday: Discussed the concept proposed by the Admin Committee for having food available prior to the start of Workday to promote gathering and social interaction of the 4H community. Discussion occurred. The Show Management Committee is generally not in favor of this proposal since the Workday is designed to be a focused and productive morning for setting up barns and show rings rather than a social gathering. There was general consensus that having food available after the work is completed is appreciated, particularly by those who may be at the fairgrounds working for many hours. It was recommended to keep the food offering in place, whether it is “grab and go” or “grab and sit”.

Other: Discussed the release time for animals on Sunday. The rules say animals will be released at 4:00 pm on Sunday. This time has been moved up (earlier on Sunday) in recent years for good reasons but this has created unplanned impacts for other areas of the fair. The Show Management Committee wants to put more thought into this and come up with a very intentional and thought-out approach to the release time for animals, and how that impacts other areas of the fair. Related to this topic, there was additional discussion on what time to close the barns for the public on Sunday. There is currently no rule or requirement to close the barns on Sunday prior to animal loadout for processing. The loadout typically begins around 1:00 pm. A number of 4H Exhibitors and their families (represented at the 11/2/22 meeting by Brayden Sawyer) have asked for the barns to be closed to the public approximately 1 hour prior to and through loadout. This would provide private preparation for loadout which can be an emotional event. There was good discussion by all, and general agreement that separation from the public during this period makes sense. How to accomplish this will require more thought and planning, i.e., when to

close, when/if to reopen (might be best to leave closed), impact to the public in closing barns early of Sunday (Free Day at the fair), etc.

Next Meeting: January 4, 2023

Comments: