

2023 MONTANAFAIR

GENERAL INFORMATION/RULES & REGULATIONS

THE PRESS: Please contact our Marketing Department at 256-2400 for information and credentials.

MAIL FACILITIES: Exhibitors and others may have their mail addressed in care of MontanaFair, PO Box 2514, Billings, MT 59103 or MontanaFair, 308 6th Avenue N, Billings, MT 59101. Postage due or COD deliveries will not be accepted.

EMERGENCY MESSAGES: Emergency messages for exhibitors should be directed to the MontanaFair Entry Office at (406)256-2400 or the Yellowstone County Sheriff at (406)256-2441.

ADVERTISING: Under no circumstances will any person or firm be allowed to place any advertising matter upon buildings, fences, trees or any place on the grounds, nor will it be permitted to distribute any advertising or sell articles outside the space assigned. No political advertising, petition solicitors, subscription or sheet writers.

INTERPRETATIONS & LIABILITY: MontanaFair Management reserves the right to interpret all rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto, arising out of and not covered by them. Any person who violates any of the rules as published on the MontanaFair website www.montanafair.com will forfeit all privileges and premiums and may be subject to such penalty as ordered by MontanaFair management. Submission of written or online entry serves as agreement from exhibitor to comply with this statement.

In the event of General and Department Special Rules conflict, the Department Special Rules will govern.

MontanaFair, MetraPark and Yellowstone County, MT, their employees, agents or board members thereof will assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, death or theft, sustained by person, property or livestock of any exhibitor, exhibitor's family or employees, concessionaire or spectator. Every animal and article upon the grounds shall be under the control of MontanaFair management.

Management will put forth every effort to ensure the safety of articles after their arrival, but in no case will it be responsible for loss, theft, damages, livestock injury or death which may occur while in transit or during the time of exhibition.

DOGS: No dogs, except certified service dogs and dogs entered into competition will be allowed in any exhibit building, arenas or on the carnival midway. All dogs on the grounds must have proof of current vaccinations and health requirements as per Yellowstone County. All dogs must be on a leash at all times. Dogs, small and large animals shall not be left in vehicles or trailers or be unattended in the any parking lot or other area of the MontanaFair grounds. Unleashed dogs or dogs left unattended will be reported to the Yellowstone County Animal Control Department.

SERVICE VEHICLES: The use of private motorized service vehicles (golf carts, all-terrain vehicles, etc.), ARE NOT ALLOWED at the 2023 MontanaFair.

DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENTS: Each Superintendent will have charge of the department assigned and listed on the departmental information materials. The Superintendent will have charge of the building display spaces, stalls and equipment within the department. Rearrangement of stalls and spaces will be done only with supervision and as agreed by the Superintendent.

ENTRY INFORMATION

ALL DEPARTMENTS & EXHIBITORS:

1. MontanaFair accepts online entry only. www.montanafair.com
2. Entries are not considered complete until all applicable fees have been paid.
3. Should an individual enter either an animal or article in the name of another than that of the bonafide owner, or attempt to perpetrate a fraud by misrepresentation of any fact, the entry thus made must be removed from exhibition and all fees paid and premiums or awards must be forfeited.
4. Any entry which may have been inadvertently or erroneously entered may, at the discretion of the Department Superintendent or Judge, be transferred to the proper class prior to judging.
5. Exhibitors will cooperate at all times to conduct the best possible fair.
6. **Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated** and the offending exhibitor will forfeit all premiums due and exhibit may be immediately dismissed from the fairgrounds.
7. MontanaFair is not responsible for errors in website information.

CHECKS RETURNED/DENIED CREDIT CARDS: Any exhibitor issuing a check for payment of entries, stalling or gate admissions which does not clear their account for any reason, will have five days to make payment to keep entries eligible to participate in competition. This applies to credit card transactions that are denied. A \$30.00 fee will be assessed to the exhibitor. This fee must be paid in cash, money order or cashier's check prior to competition. If MontanaFair has not been notified of transaction denial or returned check prior to judging, any premiums earned will be withheld.

REFUNDS: MontanaFair has a firm no refund policy. While recognizing that illness or injury of an exhibitor or livestock occurs, and other events or reasons can come up between entry online and exhibits are received, no refunds of any fees are permitted. Submission of online entry acknowledges the NO REFUND POLICY.

CODE OF ETHICS: MontanaFair is a member of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) and will abide by the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics when conducting MontanaFair 2023 as printed at www.fairsandexpos.com/pdf/ShowRingCodeofEthics.pdf

EXHIBIT RULES & REGULATIONS

JUDGES: Every effort is expended to provide competent judges. No exhibitor or spectator will be allowed to interfere with a judge in the performance of his/her duties. Exhibitors, owners, agents or representatives should not converse with judge until all judging of applicable exhibits has been completed. Under no circumstances should anyone converse during class judging.

DELAY OF JUDGING: Exhibitors must arrange for the prompt showing of all exhibits at the call of the judge. At the judge's discretion, any exhibit not presented promptly when called may be disqualified. Call for "closing of the gate" is at the Department Superintendent's discretion.

UNWORTHY EXHIBITS: Judges must not award a prize to an unworthy exhibit. No premiums will be awarded to undeserving exhibits where there is competition or not. Judges are allowed to award premiums as they feel worthy. The decision of the judge shall be final and no appeal will be considered except in cases of formal protest. As ribbons and awards can be given in error at time of exhibit pickup or dismissal from a class after judging, please be aware that premiums are not paid by ribbons received. The judge's placing in the official judge's book designates the premium paid.

PROTESTS:

1. Protests (whether formal or informal) must be submitted in writing, signed and accompanied by \$50.00 cash or certified check (refundable if the protest is sustained). The protest must plainly state

the cause of the complaint or appeal and must be delivered to the Department Superintendent immediately after the occasion for the protest. A protest pertaining to eligibility is most suitable when submitted prior to judging.

2. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation.

3. Depending on the basis of the protest, interested parties may be notified and given the opportunity to submit evidence. A decision may be withheld until a complete investigation can be made.

4. No complaint or appeal that a judge overlooked an entry will be considered.

5. Consult 4-H Livestock (A) & Non-Livestock (N) departments for 4-H grievance policy.

PREMIUMS:

- Exhibitors receiving premiums in excess of \$600.00 must provide a completed, signed and dated W-9 with the personal social security number or federal taxpayer identification number. Name on W-9 must match the exhibitor as stated on the official entry form or online entry submission.
- Provided there are judged exhibit(s) in a class, all placings and premiums may be awarded except as otherwise provided in rules in any department.
- **Premiums will not be paid according to tags or ribbons, but by the awards as recorded in the judge's book. The judge's record is final.**
- Fair Management does not guarantee the payment of special premiums offered by merchants or private parties. These special premiums are accepted in good faith by MontanaFair.
- Combined or cancelled classes are at the discretion of the Department Superintendent. Combined classes will receive only one premium for placings.
- Ties for placing will result in split premium.

• **Premium checks not cashed within 90 days from date of issue will become stale-dated & void.**