



WHIP CRACKING CONTEST

Rules and Entry Form

Saturday, March 14, 2026

7:30 PM

Houser Show Arena

WHIP CRACKING RULES

1. The Whipper Snappers, Junior and Senior age divisions are open to Sarasota County residents that meet school eligibility criteria as stated in the Sarasota Fair General Rules and Regulations. (copies available On-Line)
2. The Open Division is for residents of Sarasota County.
3. To **qualify** for tee shirts, registration forms are due in the fair office on Friday, March 13, 2026, before 5:00 P.M. (Tee shirt availability is the responsibility of the organizers and sponsorships- not SCAFA.)
4. Entry forms may be turned into the Fair office up until Friday, March 13, 2026, or at the Houser Show Arena from 5:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. the day of the event before the contest begins. (May not be eligible for tee shirts)
5. The Whip Cracking Contest will be on Saturday, March 14, 2026, at 7:30 P.M. in the F.T. Houser Show Arena.
6. If the number of Whip Cracking contestants exceeds 60, there will be a qualifying round at 5:30 pm before the competition.
7. Whip Cracking contestants will wear long pants or leg coverings, safety goggles, and closed toe shoes (boots and jeans recommended).
8. Exhibitor Conduct: Any unbecoming behavior of exhibitor will disqualify them, and all awards and premiums will be forfeited.
9. A warm-up session outside with a committee member present will be held between 6:35 P.M. and 6:45 P.M.
10. Each contestant will have forty-five (45) seconds to perform their whip cracking ability.
11. Whips can be at lengths up to 14 feet.
12. In case of a tie, there will be a Pop-off to determine the winner.
13. Contestants will be disqualified from the contest and removed from fairgrounds if found cracking or popping whips at any time before or after they enter the arena or during the fair.
14. Judges will score on the 1 to 10 scale with 10 being the highest score. Contestants will be judged on the most original, sharpness, loudness, and best overall performance.
15. Final interpretation and administration of the rules will be vested in the management of the Sarasota County Fair and their decision will be final.
16. A participant may compete in only one (1) division.

Divisions: Age will be calculated as of September 1, 2025.

- A. Whip Snappers Division: 5-8 year old
- B. Juniors Division: 9-14 year old
- C. Senior Division: 15-18 year old
- D. Open Division: 19 +

Premiums: Blue= Ribbon/ \$10.00

Red= Ribbon/ \$8.00

White= Ribbon/\$5.00

Division Winner= Rosette

(Additional Prizes may be given depending on sponsorships and donations.)

**ENTRY FORM
WHIP CRACKING CONTEST
SARASOTA COUNTY FAIR 2026**

Exhibitor's Last Name: _____ **First:** _____
Age as of 9/01/25: _____

Address: _____ **City** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Phone Number: _____ **E-Mail Address:** _____

Age is determined according to contestant's age as of 09/01/25:

Division: *(Please check one)*

Whipper Snappers: 5 – 8 year old: _____

Junior Division: 9 – 14 year old: _____

Senior Division: 15 – 18 year old: _____

Open Division: 19 + : _____

Please circle T-Shirt Size: YL S M L XL

I certify that the above information is correct and that I have received and read the Rules and Regulations governing Whip Cracking participation in the Sarasota County Fair and will abide by them. (A copy of the Rules and Regulations are available in the Sarasota County Fair Office or on the fair web-site: sarasotafair.com). I hereby hold harmless the Sarasota County Agricultural Fair Association, Inc., its directors, officers and agents from any self-inflicted injuries arising from my participation in the Whip Cracking Event.

Date: _____ **Exhibitor's Signature:** _____

Parent/Guardian: _____