
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 and 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 Exhibit Guide for more information regarding this procedure.

NEW FOR 2021
Department 15, Hobbies, has become a part of Department 12, Creative Arts, and is located in the Badger Building.

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 class for everything, but if you cannot find an appropriate class in which to enter an item, please contact the Department Superintendent. They can help you in selecting a class, or can add any classes as needed. Superintendents' names and telephone numbers are listed in the Exhibit Guide. Be sure to contact them before Entry Day.

If you are unable to reach the superintendent, the Office is here to help. Call us anytime between the hours of 9 am & 5 pm, Mon.–Fri., **452-3750** or email exhibits@tananavalleyfair.org.

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.

Tanana Valley State Fair Association
1800 College Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709-4173
452-3750 www.tvfsa.org



DEPARTMENT 12 EXHIBITOR'S HANDBOOK

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 Exhibit Guide, available online or at the Fair Office. This handbook will provide you with some additional information as well as judging criteria and sample judging sheets.

ENTRY RULES

Sign up for ONLINE ENTRIES for the Tanana Valley State Fair at <https://www.tvfsa.org/>

- **Fill out the easy-to-follow entry forms** for all your entries, review the information, and follow the check-out instructions (no online payment needed). Print your receipt, and bring it with you on entry day -- or download the ShoWorks Passport app from the Apple Store or on Google Play and check in from your mobile device, just like you can check in at the airport!
- **If you need assistance** with the entry process, or if you don't have a computer/printer, you can stop by the Events Office on the fairgrounds during open hours to receive help. We are looking forward to seeing your exhibits, and want to offer you every opportunity to enter them!
- **Pick your Best:** You may enter only one exhibit per class. Note any other entry restrictions listed in the Exhibit Guide.
- **Know your** entry days & pick-up days.
- **Prepare your entry:** Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible.
- **Tell us about your entry:** If a division has special instructions, be sure to include this information on a 3" x 5" card attached to your entry.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- **Pick your Best:** You may enter only one exhibit per class, so choose that item which best demonstrates your skill or knowledge;
- **Choose quality over quantity;**
- **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 entry tickets ready well before entry day;
- **Tell us about your entry:** If your department has special instructions, be sure to include this information on a 3" x 5" card attached to your entry.

PREPARING YOUR ENTRY

The emphasis is on quality, which includes the preparation you take to properly display your work.

Prepare your entry by mounting, framing, or providing containers if appropriate. If the exhibit is wall-hung, it should be framed or matted (please, NO GLASS due to the possibility of breakage). Refer to the Exhibit Guide Department 13A or 13B for instructions on hanging.

Small items such as jewelry, fishing flies, magnets, etc. (less than 3" x 3" in size) should be mounted. This means attached to some type of card or board.

Some items need to be put in containers, (stationary in a box, flowers in a vase, etc.). The container will be judged as part of the entry. Some exhibits are free-standing. They will not lose points because they aren't mounted.

JUDGING CRITERIA

All articles in the department will be judged on each of the following areas. If there is a specific area for the division, that will be included in the workmanship score.

Workmanship

How well you did the work in the exhibit. For example, if it is a wooden exhibit, is it sanded well? Is the glue neatly applied? Is the painting neat?

Design

The hardest to explain but very important. The design is what makes the piece attractive. For example: is the piece colorful? Does it make you feel good? Design is the beauty of the exhibit.

Creative Effort

Creative effort means how well you applied the idea. Is the material appropriate for the article? It is hard to judge the originality of an exhibit made from a kit or pattern; therefore we judge what use you made of the kit or pattern. Effort will be judged on originality.

Complexity

How difficult, intricate, and involved the exhibit appears. This would mean the amount of time and skill it took you to make the exhibit.

Presentation/Preparation

Not all entries need be mounted, matted or placed in a container. The presentation, however, should be neat, and done in such a way as to show off the quality of the exhibit.

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SPECIFIC CLASS INFORMATION & JUDGING CRITERIA

Class S - Models, Original & Class T - Models, Kits

An original model may contain pre-manufactured items, but the finished product must be unique. Original dioramas may contain items built from a kit, but the overall design must be original. Be sure to follow the size regulations; oversize items will not be accepted.

Class U - Collections

Judging will be based on quality rather than quantity, originality and attractiveness of the display, and on the items in the collection.

Entries need to have a 3" x 5" card attached explaining the scope of the collection. A photo of the collection may also be useful. Gem, mineral, and rock collections should be entered in Class V or Class W.

Although many items will not include a display background, some, such as collections, will be partially judged on how they are displayed.

Class X —Construction Sets

Entries must conform to size minimums. Lego entries larger than the minimum may be entered in the Lego Contest.

Class Y—Coloring Page Arts

Entries include any and all coloring pages. These exhibits are not eligible for entry in Adult Fine Arts or Junior Art Show.

SAMPLE JUDGING SHEETS

Department 12 Creative Arts

WEN# _____ Division _____ Class _____
Judge's Initials _____

	POOR JUDGE'S	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT
Workmanship	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Design	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Creative Effort	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Complexity	1	2	3	4	5 _____
Presentation	1	2	3	4	5 _____
TOTAL (25 = perfect score)	_____				
COMMENTS	_____				