

GENERAL & DIVISION RULES AND REGULATIONS

EXHIBITOR ELIGIBILITY AND FACILITY RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Gregg County Youth Expo does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, exhibitors, parents/guardians of exhibitors, board, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors, donors, and clients.
2. Dogs, Horses or other animals not being shown will not be allowed in the livestock area, barns, or show areas. Excluding registered service animals.
3. School rules shall apply for use and possession of all drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, and weapons on the premises of the Gregg County Youth Expo Shows and Auction for exhibitors, agricultural science teachers, county extension agents, GCYE board members, and FFA or 4-H advisors.
4. Exhibitors will be eligible to show projects in the Gregg County Youth Expo if they meet the following criteria:
 - 4.1. Exhibitors must be enrolled in any public or private schools or school districts within Gregg County, Texas.
 - 4.2. Exhibitors must be an active, in good standing, member of an FFA chapter or 4-H club associated with the Gregg County Youth Expo.
 - 4.3. Exhibitors must be under the supervision of a Gregg County Extension Agent, or FFA or 4-H Advisor.

5. Exhibitors are expected to comply with state and local school district eligibility rules for extracurricular activities. FFA advisors, County Extension Agents or 4-H Leaders are responsible for determining eligibility of students under their supervision. If a student is not eligible according to UIL rules ("NO PASS, NO PLAY"), then they do not show or sell their project.

5.1. If an exhibitor is ineligible to show or sell at any point during the Gregg County Youth Expo Show or Auction, then the project is ineligible and should not be brought to the show grounds or auction.

6. An exhibitor may have a substitute exhibitor show or sell their entry, IF the exhibitor is participating in a qualifying event ONLY, which would include district, area, state, regional, national, or scholarships. Or any other circumstances deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. Prior notice must be given by using the Substitute Exhibitor Request Form which must be completely filled out and given or emailed to the division superintendent at least 24 hours before the division show or auction, which then must be approved by the division superintendent.

6.1. Substitute exhibitors must be a 4-H or FFA member in good standing.

7. All livestock and project exhibits will be under the direction of the Gregg County Youth Expo Board of Directors and Show Division Superintendents, but the show will in no case be responsible for any loss, damage, or personal injury that may occur.

8. All exhibitors must clean their stall and pen, arena, and deposit trash at designated areas before being released.

9. Failure to comply with any of the rules and regulations may result in the forfeiture of awards and sale eligibility at the discretion of the Gregg County Youth Expo Board of Directors.

SHOW ENTRIES, ENTRY FORMS, AND ENTRY FEE RULES AND REGULATIONS

10. All entries must be owned individually and be the legal property of the exhibitor with the exception of Ag Mechanics. The animals must have been personally fed and cared for by the exhibitor. The animal must also be in the possession of the exhibitor or immediate family from the time of validation until the show. The exhibitor must show his own animal. Any deviation from this policy will require Board of Directors approval. A letter from the exhibitor concerned may be delivered to the Executive board through the advisor or agent prior to the show.

10.1. All market steer, lamb, goat, and pig projects must be GCYE or Texas State Validated and shown by eligible exhibitors.

11. If an exhibitor has been disqualified from competition in a show or has had an award withheld or withdrawn on the grounds of rule violations involving the misrepresentation; fraud or deception, it will not be allowed to compete.

12. All applications for entry must be made on a current official Gregg County Youth Expo Entry Form in accordance with instructions provided on the form. Incomplete or incorrect entries must be fixed by the time the project checks in at the show, or will be deemed invalid. A signature of a County Extension Agent or FFA Advisor shall be required attesting to the eligibility of the entry.

12.1. In all cases, the Gregg County Youth Expo Board of Directors reserves the right to reject, or accept conditionally, all entries.

12.2. To be accepted, exhibitor applications for entry to the Gregg County Youth Expo Show must be accompanied by the correct entry fee or fees. All entry forms must be complete and accompanied by a W-9 form.

12.3. Entry fees:

12.3.1. Entry fees will not be refunded after having been accepted.

12.3.2. All market livestock, breeding heifers, breeding goats (does only), and ag mechanics entries will have a \$30.00 entry fee per entry.

12.3.3. Horticulture and dessert entries will have a \$15.00 entry fee per entry.

12.3.4. Breeding rabbits will have a \$10.00 entry fee per entry.

12.3.5. All fees are due at the time of entry. Late entries will be accepted for double the entry fee until December 31st. Entries completed after December 31st, will be an additional \$100 per entry and an award will not be guaranteed.

12.4. There will be no limit on individual entries.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS

13. All livestock projects must meet the health requirements and regulations governing admission of livestock into shows, fairs, and exhibitions in Texas.

13.1. All Gregg County Youth Expo livestock entries are subject to random selection for drug testing at the discretion of the Gregg County Youth Expo Board of Directors or any Division Superintendent with board approval. The use of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accord with the labeling approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) is a violation of federal law and Gregg County Youth Expo rules. Exhibitors and exhibitors' parents/guardians agree that:

13.1.1. They are absolutely and completely responsible for the care and custody of their animal(s), and;

13.1.2. The Gregg County Youth Expo shall be entitled to disqualify an exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug, even if the exhibitor and exhibitor's parents/guardians are innocent of any wrongdoing and did not administer the drug, and;

13.1.3. The drug test results of the testing laboratory are final and binding upon the exhibitor and exhibitor's parents/guardians.

13.1.4. In the event of a positive test from drugs the Gregg County Youth Expo

shall disqualify the exhibitor and withhold all prizes including ribbon auction proceeds.

14. Diseased animals are and will be barred from entry into the showgrounds at all times.

15. All exhibitors are responsible for keeping and maintaining animals, and records of any drugs that have been administered. Withdrawal periods for all drugs administered must be obeyed, unless otherwise prescribed by a licensed veterinarian. Drugs must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian.

CHECK-IN, WEIGH-IN, AND SIFTING RULES AND REGULATIONS

16. All animal projects must be checked in at the designated time on the Official Show Schedule.

16.1. Division superintendents will need to be present to collect weight cards, and enforce other rules related to their respective division. Weigh back will be at the judges discretion and the scale tolerance will be followed as the weigh back allowance.

17. All sifted animals, or animals deemed ineligible to show, shall be removed from all show areas immediately. The project cannot remain on the show grounds. The Sifting Committee will consist of the Division Superintendents and the President of the Board of Directors.

18. The showing of unethically fitted livestock or livestock of any ineligible age for exhibition in the class entered is prohibited as per division rules.

JUDGING, SHOWMANSHIP, AND PROTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

19. Judging will not be delayed for animals entering the arena late.

20. No parents will be allowed in the show ring while their child is showing an animal, unless the parent is a show division superintendent or official.

21. The decision of the judges shall be final in all classes and divisions.

22. Any exhibitor, parent or individual that shows disrespect for judges, superintendents and

other show officials, may be removed from the show grounds. Which could result in loss of awards, fees or monies, and/or the option of being barred from ever participating in the Gregg County Youth Expo again.

23. All protests must be in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00 which will be forfeited if protest is not sustained. Such protest must state plainly the cause of the complaint or appeal, and must be delivered to the show division superintendent immediately after occasion for such protest. Protests will be accepted prior to judging. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation. Depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a complete investigation is done. Decisions of the Gregg County Youth Expo Board of Directors are final.

24. The Gregg County Youth Expo Board of Directors shall make final decisions on any show ruling. Decisions of the Board of Directors are final.

25. All Exhibitors are responsible for presenting their projects for sale order selection following their respective show. Failure to do so will result in forfeit of the exhibitor's right to sell their ribbon in the ribbon auction.

26. Showmanship awards will be presented to Junior and Senior Showmanship contestants. Junior showmanship class will be those exhibitors 13 years of age and under at the date of the contest. Senior Showmanship class will be those exhibitors 14 years of age and over at the date of the contest. Exhibitors must show their entry and must have shown it in its respective show.

AUCTION AND PROCEEDS PAYMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

27. The Gregg County Youth Expo will sell at least 70% of entries shown in each division in the ribbon sale order determined by the judge.

27.1. Divisions exempt from this rule are the Agricultural Mechanics, Horticulture, Dessert, and Breeding Livestock divisions.

28. Agricultural Mechanics and Horticulture divisions' grand and reserve champion projects in the "Sale" category, as marked on the entry form, will be sold in the ribbon auction. All other projects in the "Sale" category will be sold in the silent auction.

28.1. The Dessert Division's grand and reserve champion projects will be sold in the ribbon auction. All other projects will be sold in the silent auction.

28.2 Breeding Livestock divisions are ineligible for the premium ribbon auction.

29. Each exhibitor may sell only one entry per division, with a maximum of two live auction slots, with the exception of an exhibitor who wins grand and/or reserve champion in multiple divisions.

29.1. All grand and reserve champions must sell in the ribbon auction.

29.1.1. Exhibitors that exhibit a grand champion and a reserve grand champion in (1) species, will only be allowed to sell the grand champion in that species.

29.2. All exhibitors are responsible for presenting their projects for sale order selection following their respective show. Failure to do so will result in forfeit of the exhibitor's right to sell in the ribbon auction.

29.3. Any exhibitors, and/or projects, needing to be pulled from the ribbon auction or silent auction must be submitted no later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the last division's show.

29.4. Remaining division entries must be pulled following the placing of the highest sale order entry.

30. All animal exhibitors are responsible for presenting their ribbon and a Buyers Gift at the auction location at the approved time based on the sale order. Failure to follow these rules will forfeit the exhibitor's right to sell their ribbon in the ribbon auction. A copy of the exhibitor's thank you letter must be turned in to an agricultural science teacher, county extension agent, FFA Advisor, or 4-H Advisor in order to receive their check.

30.1. Any exhibitor who is not present for their assigned slot in the ribbon auction will lose their opportunity to sell their ribbon. Check with the division superintendent for specific directions.

30.2. If an exhibitor is ineligible to show or sell at any point during the Gregg County Youth Expo Show or Ribbon Auction, then the ribbon and/or project is ineligible and should not be brought to the show grounds, ribbon auction, and/or silent Auction.

30.3. An exhibitor may have a substitute exhibitor show or sell their entry, IF the exhibitor is participating in a qualifying event ONLY. Prior notice must be given to the division superintendent at least 24 hours before the division show or ribbon auction, as stated in General Rule #6.

30.3.1. Substitute exhibitors must be a 4-H and/or FFA member in good standing.

30.3.2. Agricultural mechanics exhibitors participating in the sale must be present during the ribbon and silent auctions to assist with the loading of projects.

31. The Gregg County Youth Expo reserves the right to withhold ribbon auction or silent auction proceeds due to exhibitors conduct that may be considered unethical or detrimental towards the success of the Gregg County Youth Expo.

32. The Gregg County Youth Expo Board of Directors shall issue checks to all exhibitors, and/or FFA chapters or 4-H clubs, within three months of the Gregg County Youth Expo Auction.

32.1. No proceeds will be awarded on the day of the auction.

32.2. A commission of 5% will be deducted from all ribbon and silent auction lots.

32.3. Checks must be cashed no later than 90 days after the date written on the check.

Any check not cashed after the 90 day period will be voided, and the funds will not be issued to the party named on the check and shall be absorbed back to the Gregg County Youth Expo account.