

## **RULES FOR OPEN & YOUTH-per MDA regulation 811**

- Rule 1: State-funded premiums shall not be awarded in an animal class where an exhibitor is under 6 years of age by Jan. 1 of the fair year, and who participates as an individual. Youth exhibiting animals under the age of 6 by Jan. 1 of the fair year shall be eligible for state-funded premiums only where separate classes for their age bracket occur, and when youth are accompanied by a parent or guardian during the handling & showing of their animal(s).
- Rule 2: For classes under the educational projects or demonstration projects categories, participants are limited to youth 19 years of age by Jan. 1 of the fair year and younger. Participants 26 years of age by Jan.1 of the fair year or younger, who have been determined to be eligible for special education services by the local school district, may participate in classes under the educational and demonstration projects of the youth department.
- Rule 3: Ownership is not required for an exhibitor to show in any animal classes other than market classes.
- Rule 4: In all categories other than animal, antique or tractor, the exhibitor shall be the creator of the article, item or project.
- Rule 5: State-funded premiums shall not be paid to a class in an antique category that contains an item that has been entered for competition in the previous 3 years. (Items can be displayed but not judged).
- Rule 6: a. Judging shall occur during or not more than 3 days before the opening day of the fair, unless otherwise approved by the director or his or her designee.  
b. All exhibits shall be judged by using the American or Danish system for judging in competition; however, if there is only 1 entry in a class, then the exhibits shall be judged against standards accepted by the fair board.  
c. Judges shall not have a supervisory role at the fair or have an ongoing and direct relationship with any participating exhibitor or employee in the class where he or she is to serve as judge.
- Rule 7: Any fair exhibitor may file a complaint regarding any of the following concerns: A. Conflict or interest of the judge. B. Disqualification of an exhibit or exhibitor. C. Exhibitor, group leader, or superintendent behavior. D. Eligibility of the exhibit. In accordance to the annual appropriation act, exhibitors are allowed to file a written complaint within 10 days after the end of the fair.
- Rule 8: An exhibitor filing a complaint in Rule 7 above may make an appeal to the MI Dept. Of Agriculture-Fair, Exhibitions, & Racing Div. within 45 days of filing the initial complaint if the exhibitor is not satisfied with the fair's action. The department shall have 60 days after receipt of any appropriately filed appeal to investigate the complaint, and shall issue a finding of fact and notice of department action and an recommended actions for the fair.

### **OPEN CLASS DEPARTMENTS**

These classes are open to all who wish to exhibit, youth & adult.

The American Judging System shall be used to judge exhibits in all open classes.

Entries will be placed in rank order according to quality  
(i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>).

### **YOUTH DEPARTMENT**

Youth livestock (excluding horses) ages are defined as:

Pee-Wee 8 & under; Junior 9-14; Senior 15-19;  
by December 1st of the current fair year.

Pee-Wee youth must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when showing their animals.

## OPEN CLASS RULES:

- Rule 1: ENTRY FEE-as listed under each department.
- Rule 2: Premiums offered in each class. There will be one first, one second, one third place paid in each class. If classes are made up the day of entry, ribbons only will be rewarded-NO premiums.
- Rule 3: Exhibits may be eligible for premiums in more than one class if properly qualified.
- Rule 4: No more than two entries from one exhibitor will be accepted in each class.
- Rule 5: The management will not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury to any animal exhibited or article destroyed or in any way injured. Each exhibitor will be responsible for an injury that may be occasioned to any person or to the property of any person by any animal owned or exhibited by an exhibitor; and shall indemnify the management against all claims or injury occasioned by an animal owned or exhibited by him/her or arising from the acts of negligence of the person in charge of any such exhibit.
- Rule 6: Any class where there are fewer entries than premiums offered, prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the judge.
- Rule 7: The judges decisions are final.
- Rule 8: Each purebred animal must be accompanied by it's registration papers in order to be eligible.
- Rule 9: All livestock must be shown to be free from disease before entering the grounds.
- Rule 10: In case the receipts of the fair are insufficient to pay the expenses and premiums, the losco County Fair Board will prorate the premiums.
- Rule 11: The American Judging System shall be used to judge exhibits in all open classes. Entries will be placed in rank order according to quality.

## YOUTH CLASS RULES:

- Rule 1: This division is open to any girl or boy 19 years of age and under as of Jan.1 of the fair year.
- Rule 2: No entry fee is required in youth classes.
- Rule 3: The Danish Judging System shall be used to judge youth exhibits. Entries will be judged against an established set of standards. All entries meeting the standards may receive the same or differing awards. Placing will be in the form of A, B, C Award ribbons.
- Rule 4: Exhibitors may enter no more than two entries per class
- Rule 5: No article or work previously exhibited at the losco County Fair will be accepted for competition until at least 2 years have passed.
- Rule 6: All exhibitors with animals are responsible for feeding and caring from them during the fair. Exhibitors are responsible for keeping, animals, pens, etc. clean at all times.
- Rule 7: Exhibitors are to fit, show and take care of their own animals.
- Rule 8: All state sanitary and health regulations must be adhered to.
- Rule 9: Showmanship awards based on: Showmanship of Owner. Fitting of animal. Training of animal. Showmanship classes divided: 14 years old and under (as of Jan. 1) and 15 years old and over (as of Jan. 1)
- Rule 10: All livestock exhibits and the area occupied by them must be kept in order by the exhibitors as directed by the Superintendent in charge.  
Each youth is responsible for his/her own clean-up equipment (rakes, forks, shovels, etc.)
- Rule 11: All vegetables and flowers exhibited must be raised by the exhibitor.
- Rule 12: Baking food exhibits should be shown on 9 inch plates.
- Rule 13: No bulls shall be shown in the Youth Division.
- Rule 14: All livestock shall be shown at halter in the ring in a manner prescribed by the judge.
- Rule 15: In case the receipts of the fair are insufficient to pay the expenses and premiums, the losco County Agricultural Society will prorate the premiums.
- Rule 16: For flowers, fruits, and vegetables: if these produce items are not available at the time of the fair as pre-registered for then another exhibit may be substituted.
- Rule 17: Exhibitors must completely clean their pens/stalls at the end of the fair or forfeit their premium monies.
- Rule 18: Exhibits may only be picked up between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on Sunday, August 1.