

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR | Where Urban and Rural Meet

2026 Fair Book GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The following general rules and regulations apply to the Open Class Departments. Additional rules specific to the individual departments are found in the respective entry sections. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to be familiar with these rules and regulations.

INTERPRETATION OF RULES:

The Douglas County Fair reserves the right to interpret and amend the Open Class General Rules & Regulations and resolve differences relating to them, as necessary.

COMPLIANCE:

The exhibitor agrees to comply with all rules and regulations governing the Douglas County Fair upon entering exhibits in the Fair. This includes compliance with the current Open Class General Rules & Regulations and additional rules specific to the individual Open Class Departments. Exhibitors must also agree to cooperate with all Douglas County Fair officials and personnel in all matters of policy.

Exhibitors serve an important part of the Fair in celebrating and showcasing Douglas County's excellence. Our primary audience consists of family and youth. The Douglas County Fair reserves the right and has the sole discretion to reject any exhibit that contains graphic or obscene material or is otherwise objectionable to the Fair's family-oriented target audience. In such cases, the exhibit to penalties as Douglas County Fair may order and/or prescribed by law.

LIABILITY:

Management Liability: The Douglas County Fair management is not responsible for personal injury and assumes no liability for loss or damage by theft or disasters (human or natural) to any property of the exhibitor while on the fairgrounds.

Exhibitor Liability: The exhibitor is solely responsible for any consequential injury or loss resulting from an article exhibited by the exhibitor and must assume responsibility relating to all legal or other proceedings regarding the exhibit or any damage or injury to any other person or property caused by the exhibitor or exhibits at the Fair.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

All entries must be submitted using an official Douglas County Fair Entry Form. All entries will be day of. All forms, fees, and entries must be received by the end of check-in. Any entries received after this time will not be processed. All items entered must fit into a suitable class in the Fair Book.

Should an entry be made in a name other than that of a bona fide owner or using erroneous information regarding the item, the entry will be disqualified from competition and the exhibitor barred from participation.

The opportunity to exhibit at the Douglas County Fair is open to all persons without regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, or other non-merit factors. Discrimination is prohibited.

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Open Class Static Exhibit entries are due on Friday, July 17, 2026 by 7:00 pm. Open Class Livestock Day-of entries are due at the end of the check-in time listed for each show.

RECEIVING OF EXHIBITS:

All Static Open Class exhibits must be dropped off at Liberty First Credit Union Arena in Ralston, NE on Friday, July 17, 2026 between 4:00-7:00 pm. All Open Class Livestock Entries must arrive at Liberty First Credit Union Arena in Ralston, NE at the date and time specified for the individual department.

JUDGES/JUDGING:

A judge is not permitted to be an exhibitor in a class they are judging.

Any person who interferes with the judging process will be asked to leave the judging area. Further action will be at the discretion of the Fair.

An exhibit entered in the incorrect class may be transferred to the appropriate class at the discretion of the Department Superintendent and Fair Management prior to the start of judging. However, if the correct class for the entry has already been judged the class will not be reopened and the exhibit will not be judged.

AWARDS:

The judge may, but is not required to, award all the ribbons offered in a class. It is the intention of the Fair that no distinction of any kind be given to any exhibit deemed unworthy by the judge.

Payment of the Douglas County Fair Open Class Static Exhibit premiums will be distributed to exhibitors between 5:00-6:00 p.m. on July 19, 2026 as exhibits are picked up. Livestock show premiums will be distributed during the Livestock shows. The Douglas County Fair will not be held liable for any award or premium offered by a private or business donor separate from the Douglas County Fair should that donor fail to provide the offered award or premium.

Open Class Static Exhibit Premiums will be awarded as following:

- Best of Show- Purple Rosette-\$10 Premium
- Best of Douglas County- Purple Rosette-\$10 Premium
- Best of Division- Lavender Rosette-\$8 Premium
- 1st Place- Blue Ribbon- \$5 Premium
- 2nd Place- Red Ribbon- \$4 Premium
- 3rd Place- White Ribbon- \$3 Premium
- 4th Place- Yellow Ribbon
- 5th Place- Green Ribbon
- Participation- Orange Ribbon

DISPUTES AND PROTESTS:

The Douglas County Fair Management reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these Rules & Regulations and to arbitrarily settle disputes and questions of differences. Any protest based on the statement that the judge(s) was incompetent will not be considered. If a protest on any other grounds is not resolved with the Department Superintendent, the Exhibitor may present a protest in written form to the Fair within 24 hours of ribbons being displayed.

RELEASE TIME:

Removal of entries by the exhibitor prior to release time set by the Douglas County Fair is prohibited.

Premiums will be forfeited. Premiums will be distributed between 5:00-6:00 p.m. as exhibits are picked up.

All Open Class Static Exhibits will be released from 5:00-6:00 pm on Sunday, July 19, 2026 ONLY. Any exhibits remaining after this time will be disposed of. All livestock are released as soon as they are finished showing. Exhibitors are encouraged to remove trailers and animals in a timely manner to allow space for other competitors.

RETURNED CHECKS:

There will be a \$40 service charge for any non-sufficient fund check. If the exhibitor does not make payment of the check and service charge within five (5) days, the exhibitor will not receive any premium for entries.

SOLICITATION:

Exhibitors are not allowed to solicit Fair Guests.

LOTTERIES:

No lottery or raffle shall be conducted at the Douglas County Fair without the written authority of the Fair.

SMOKING/VAPING:

Smoking/Vaping is prohibited in all buildings and on all fairgrounds.

ALCOHOL ABUSE:

The State of Nebraska Rules of Alcohol Use and Abuse are enforced on any property where the Douglas County Fair has a presence.

FIRE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

By order of the State Fire Marshal, the use of flammable and combustible materials inside any buildings is strictly prohibited.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

The Douglas County Fair reserves the right to cancel events or change scheduling if deemed necessary.

