87th Annual Pottawatomie County Free Fair

GENERAL RULES

Rule 1. Interpretation, Amendments, and Violations

Section 1. The Fair Board of the Pottawatomie County Free Fair Association reserves the right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle all questions arising in connection with the free fair that shall be held under the management of this board.

Section 2. The management reserves the right to amend or add to these rules as they, in their judgment, deem it advisable. In the event of a conflict of general rules and special rules, the latter will govern.

Section 3. Any person who violates any general or special rule will forfeit all privileges and premiums and be subject to such penalty as the Fair Board may determine.

Section 4. In case there is not sufficient premium money to pay all premiums, it will be prorated.

Rule 2. Entry Requirements

Section 1. All entries to the County Fair are free, but no unworthy entry will be received for exhibit.

Section 2. Junior & Open Horse Show entry books will open Thursday morning at 8:00am and the show will begin at 10am. Livestock with the exceptions of horse entry books, will open according to the schedule.

Section 3. All property of any character entered at the fair for any purpose shall be subject to control of the secretary or superintendent in charge.

Section 4. Separate entry must be provided for each exhibit.

Section 5. Entries must have been prepared or produced since the last Pottawatomie County fair, with the exception of livestock and equine.

Section 6. An exhibitor may enter only one exhibit in each class listed in the fair book, with the exception of livestock.

Section 7 Livestock of any breed must be entered in the breeds listed in the Fair Catalog. If no breed listed that breed will show in the other breeds category.

Section 8. No paint or coloring may be applied to beef, dairy, sheep, goat or swine entries. Swine may be washed and shown with water only as a dressing.

Section 9. All livestock exhibitors must wear Board furnished entry numbers while in the show ring.

Section 10. All exhibits must be claimed by 11:00am on Sunday.

Section 11. No exhibits will be released until the fair is complete, except as stated in the rules.

Section 12. Food Preparation Department exhibits should be entered on Wednesday. Exhibits do not have to be brought in until Thursday, by 8:30am, before judging. Entries not placing may be released after judging.

Section 13. All facilities at the fair will close at 8:00pm and no one will be allowed in the commercial exhibits or trade show buildings before 9:00am.

Section 14. You must be a resident of Pottawatomie County to exhibit at the fair in Open Classes, unless specifically provided under the rules related to a division or specific event. You must be a resident or attend school in Pottawatomie County to exhibit at the fair in the Junior Divisions.

Section 15. For all junior division exhibits, the age of the contestant must meet State 4-H membership guidelines or FFA guidelines. *All exhibitors must be 8 years old AND in the 3rd grade by September 1st, 2026.*

Rule 3. Exhibitor Duties and Privileges

Section 1. Exhibits of livestock from Pottawatomie County must be owned by the exhibitor at the time of exhibition, all other exhibits must have been produced in Pottawatomie County, provided that citizens of school districts overlapping into other counties are eligible to compete in the Pottawatomie County Fair. All Junior exhibitors are to be actively involved in the preparation and construction of their projects with a minimum amount of assistance limited to parents, guardians, brothers and/or sisters, agricultural education instructors, 4-H leaders and County Extension agents.

Section 2. Junior & Open horse show entries will be taken at 8:00 am and the show will begin at 10:00am Thursday morning.

Section 3. Livestock entries, with the exception of horses, will be according to the entry rules.

Section 4. The livestock stalls will be assigned at the time of entry. Exhibitors shall keep such spaces or stalls in clean condition at all times during the fair.

Section 5. All 4-H & FFA members must enter in the Junior Division unless there is no place for entries, then one can enter open class.

Section 6. Any member of the Fair Board shall have access to all premises of any character on the fairgrounds or concessions at any time during the fair.

Section 7. If it be ascertained that any exhibitor has made or caused to be made any false statement in regard to any exhibit or if any exhibitor, or his agent, shall attempt to interfere with the judges in the performing of their duties, he shall be excluded from all competition or exhibition on the grounds of the association of any fair and any awards that he may have received may be forfeited at the direction of the Board.

Section 8. The decision of the judges shall be final and no appeal will be considered except in case of protest. All exhibits in the Hobbies, Arts and Crafts must be in large part made or assembled by the exhibitor. Livestock entries must be cared for by the exhibitor for a minimum of 60 days prior to the opening date of the fair.

Rule 4. Protests

Section 1. All protests shall be made to the secretary in writing within four hours after the final decision of the judging is made public, and shall be accompanied by a deposit of $100.00 which shall be forfeited in case the protest is not sustained. Said protest shall state plainly the section of violation, cause of complaint or appeal. Protest must be filed by a minimum of three exhibitors in the respective section.

Section 2. The Executive Board reserves the final and absolute right to determine all questions regarding the awarding premiums.

Section 3. In addition to the right to protest herein granted exhibitors, the directors reserve the right to take recognizance of fraud, consummated or attempted in connection with any exhibit, and take action, as they may deem advisable.

Rule 5. Powers and Liabilities of the Association

Section 1. The management will use every precaution to guard against extortion in any form on fair grounds and any violation of this rule shall result in forfeiture of every privilege, contract or money paid in, and expulsion from the grounds.

Section 2. The management reserves the right to remove from the grounds any exhibit, animal, concession or show that may be objectionable, or to remove any sign, banner, identification mark or signature, or advertising matter of any kind which may be deemed objectionable.

Section 3. No diseased animal or fowl will be permitted to be exhibited or occupy space at the fair, and every precaution will be taken to enforce this rule. However, the management will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may be sustained by anyone through violation of this rule.

Section 4. No claim for any injury to any person or property shall be asserted or suit instituted or maintained against the Free Fair Association, its officers or agents, representatives, servants, or employees on behalf of any person, corporation or firms as a result of damage sustained on the grounds of this fair.

Rule 6. Premiums and Awards

Section 1. The following colored ribbons shall be used in designating awards:

Champion	Purple
First Premium	Blue
Second Premium	Red
Third Premium	White
Fourth Premium	Pink
Fifth Premium	Yellow
Sixth Premium	Green

These ribbons will be attached only by the Superintendent or his/her assistant. Fair Buckles are awarded to Junior (4-H and FFA) Exhibitors only.

Section 2. Where there is no competition, the judges shall award first, second, or third premium prize according to the merits of the article, and no premium shall be awarded an unworthy exhibit.
Section 3. No prize will be awarded on articles not mentioned in this catalog.
Section 4. All premium checks can be claimed Sunday at the time of release of livestock and other exhibits.
Section 5. Any premium check that has not been picked up on the last day of the fair by 11:00am may be obtained from the OSU Extension Office no later than October 10.

Rule 7. Miscellaneous

Section 1. All rights that are applicable shall be made part of all contracts made with concessionaires.
Section 2. A superintendent and one assistant will be appointed for each department, whose duty it shall be to receive the exhibits, properly classify them and to assist the judges.