

# 2023-2024 CITRUS COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION

## OPEN AND YOUTH HORSE SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS

1. (A) Open Exhibitors accepted from all counties in Florida must register their animal with the Citrus County Fair Association.

**Open** Entry form and Entry fee (non-refundable) per class per exhibitor must be in the fair office no later than 5:00 pm Friday, December 15, 2023. No post marked or metered mail will be accepted after this date.

**\$ 5.00 - Fun Class - Ride A Buck - Win all the Bucks**

**\$ 5.00 - Pee Wee In-Hand Trail**

**\$ 5.00 - Ranch Classes - Boxing, Calf Roping - 1 calf per rider, Timed event, In Hand Trail, Ranch Riding and Riding Trail**

**\$ 5.00 - Speed Event Classes - Barrel Racing, Key Hole, Pole Bending and Stake Race**

**\$15.00** Open Horse Late Registration Fee per Exhibitor, taken Day of Show, **CASH ONLY DAY OF SHOW FOR ALL FEES.**

(B) Youth Exhibitors must be 8 to 18 years of age as of September 1, 2023 and a Citrus County 4-H or FFA member for the duration of their project. The 4-H Club or FFA Chapter must be recognized by the 4-H office or School to register to show an animal.

**Youth** Entry form and Entry fee (non-refundable) per class per exhibitor must be in the fair office no later than 5:00 pm Friday, December 15, 2023. No post marked or metered mail will be accepted after this date.

**\$ 5.00 - Ranch Classes - Boxing, Calf Roping, In Hand Trail, Ranch Riding and Riding Trail**  
Ages Jr 8 - 10 years, Int 11 - 13 years and Sr 14 years and old

**\$ 5.00 - Speed Event Classes - Barrel Racing, Key Hole, Pole Bending and Stake Race - Ages Jr 8 - 12, and Sr 13 - 18 years**

**\$10.00 - Showmanship - Ages Jr 8 - 10 years, Int 11 - 13 years and Sr 14 years and older**

**(C) MANDATORY FOR YOUTH EXHIBITORS TO ATTEND ONE EDUCATIONAL MEETING WITH PARENT or LEGAL GUARDIAN TO SHOW AND SELL. RECOMMENDED FOR OPEN EXHIBITORS TO ATTEND. REFER TO THE IMPORTANT DATES AND EDUCATIONAL MEETING SHEET. If you cannot attend one of these meetings, do not register an animal.**

(D) **All exhibitors** must leave their animals at the fairgrounds for the duration of the show as determined by the Livestock Committee and/or Horse Superintendent. This is a day show only. **No animals or exhibitors will be allowed to leave the fairgrounds until their area is clean.**

**All livestock exhibitors will be admitted Free during their program through the Livestock Gate. ALL OTHERS MUST PAY GATE PRICE OR SHOW FAIR MEMBERSHIP CARD. THE MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE IS ON THE IMPORTANT DATES AND EDUCATIONAL MEETING INFO SHEET.**

2. Exhibitor may show only one horse in Showmanship but a different horse could be shown in the other classes.
- Stallions are not allowed to be shown. Showing uncastrated males past December 31st of the year of their birth is prohibited.
  - All horses should be properly immunized before coming to the horse show. Vaccines should be administered far enough in advance for adequate immunity to be developed. (Approximately 30 or more days for most vaccines.) Horses should be vaccinated against Equine Encephalomyelitis (Eastern, E.E.E. and Western W.E.E.), tetanus, influenza, west nile, and in some cases rhinopneumonitis. **Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) test must be negative and current (within the past 12 months) at the time of show.** Original Coggins Papers must be presented with horse to inspecting personnel before the horse will be allowed to compete. Horse's name and description on both Coggins and entry form must be the same.

### ELIGIBILITY OF YOUTH PARTICIPANTS AND HORSES

3. Youth Participant should **own or lease** at least one horse by **December 15, 2023** (Date of Registration) and also **your start date for your record book**. The horse care, feeding, grooming and training must be the responsibility of the youth participant. More than one youth may exhibit a single horse. However, the horse may only be shown by a single exhibitor in each class (divided by Fair Exhibitor Age Groups: **Junior 8 - 10 years, Intermediate 11 - 13 years and Senior 14 years and older.**) Speed Event classes ages are **Junior 8 - 12 years and Senior 13 - 18 years**. If the horse is leased a Lease Agreement shall be attached to the Entry Form.
4. Youth Exhibitors will complete an official **record book** due at check-in.

CONTEST RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

5. Show management reserves the right to alter or modify any class procedures, obstacles, patterns, or rules in this book for safety concerns, show facility restrictions, or other mitigating circumstances.
6. Show management reserves the right to refuse an exhibitor entry into any class or event if they deem that entry unsafe for the exhibitor and/or other exhibitors or animals. With the exhibitor's safety in mind, any activity or situation deemed unsafe can and will be stopped by show management and may result in disqualification from that class.
7. The P.A. system is used to help the show move as smoothly as possible, but is only a courtesy. It is the responsibility of the contestants to know when they are required to be in the make-up area or arena. Not hearing or understanding gate calls, etc. is NOT an excuse for missing one's order of work, heat, or class.
8. The judge's decision shall be final and may not be protested.
9. All exhibitors are required to wear an SEI\* or SEI/ASTM\* approved safety equestrian helmet with fastened chin harness in all classes and all warm-up and make-up areas. Additionally, appropriate footwear and approved helmets must be worn, with harness fastened, at all times when mounted. This pertains to the entire show grounds from the time of arrival until departure. Failure to comply may result in disqualification. (SEI - Safety Equipment Institute, ASTM - American Society of Testing and Measures).
10. Contestant numbers shall be worn on the exhibitor's back or attached to the saddle pad on both sides. Failure to comply will result in disqualification from said class.
11. The show will be held on the date scheduled barring a natural catastrophe. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor's parent or guardian to determine if he/she is able to compete safely. In case of inclement weather, all contestants must realize that the conditions and facilities are the best available as determined by the show management and show accordingly. Management reserves the right to stop or cancel a class in progress due to storm, accident, or other emergency (Ex: lightning storm). In the event of a class being stopped while in progress due to any of the above, the following procedure should be followed: If it is a class in which horses compete together (i.e., pleasure class or heat), when the class or heat is resumed it shall be held in its entirety and no consideration shall be given to the performance during the original session. If it is restarted in a location substantially different, then the class may be rerun in its entirety with original qualifiers remaining qualified and additional qualifiers may be added. If it is a class in which horses compete individually (i.e., horsemanship), when the class is resumed it shall be continued from the point stopped unless the class is rescheduled to another day in which case it will be started from the beginning with no consideration given to the performance during the original session. Possible exception could be made if when resumed the class is held in a different location.
12. No **horse or rider** shall be assisted beyond the plane of the arena gate, **with the exception of the speed events, where the rider may be escorted through the gate.** Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
13. Lunging is not permitted in warm up areas where a class is being staged.
14. When an exhibitor or another person on behalf of an exhibitor is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct or misbehavior while on the show grounds, management may suspend such exhibitor's right to participate in future classes and/or shows as deemed appropriate.
15. Assistance or coaching of contestants while competing in a class may warrant penalties or disqualification. No electronic communication devices will be allowed by exhibitors while in the class.
16. The Judge and/or Horse Superintendent(s) may check the appointments of any horse/rider combination throughout the duration of the show. It is the responsibility of the contestant to comply with all 4-H rules and regulations. The judge, at his discretion, may disqualify an exhibitor for inappropriate appointments or equipment.
17. In concern for humane treatment of the horse, the judge, at Judges Discretion, has the authority to excuse any horse which is obviously lame. Obvious lameness is: consistently observable at a trot under all circumstances; marked nodding, hitching, or shortened stride; minimal weight-bearing in motion and/or at rest and inability to move.

18. The Judge and/or Horse Superintendent(s) have the authority to require the removal or alteration of any piece of equipment which, in their opinion, is unsafe, tends to give unfair advantage, or is deemed inhumane. Inhumane treatment of a horse identified by the show committee at any time on the show grounds may result in disqualification, dismissal, and suspension from further participation in classes subject to approval of Horse Superintendent(s). Any individual treating a horse inhumanely while exhibiting may be dismissed upon the discretion of the Judge or Horse Superintendent(s). The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which the Horse Superintendent(s) rules a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive, or inhumane.

The Florida 4-H Area & State Horse Shows Rules will apply to the Open and Youth Classes. The rule book is available at the Citrus County Fair's web page under Livestock.

19. **YOUTH HORSE AWARDS & PREMIUMS:** RIBBONS WILL BE AWARDED 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> \$10, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$5.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$4.00, 4<sup>th</sup> \$3.00, 5<sup>th</sup> \$2.00, 6<sup>th</sup> \$1.00

**RANCH CLASSES** - Boxing, Calf Roping, In-Hand Trail, Ranch Riding and Riding Trail.

**SPEED EVENTS** - Barrel Racing, Key Hole, Pole Bending and Stake Race.

Youth Class Winners will receive awards

A Belt Buckle will be awarded for High Point exhibitor for ranch classes and speed events.

**OPEN HORSE AWARDS & PREMIUMS:** RIBBONS WILL BE AWARDED 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> \$10, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$5.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$4.00, 4<sup>th</sup> \$3.00, 5<sup>th</sup> \$2.00, 6<sup>th</sup> \$1.00

Open Class Winners will receive awards

A Belt Buckle will be awarded for High Point exhibitor for ranch classes and speed events.

**PAYOUT FOR YOUTH SHOWMANSHIP IS A PERCENTAGE OF ENTRY FEES COLLECTED:**

1 <sup>ST</sup>	25% OF THE ENTRY FEES	4 <sup>TH</sup>	15% OF THE ENTRY FEES
2 <sup>ND</sup>	20% OF THE ENTRY FEES	5 <sup>TH</sup>	12 1/2% OF THE ENTRY FEES
3 <sup>RD</sup>	17 1/2% OF THE ENTRY FEES	6 <sup>TH</sup>	10% OF THE ENTRY FEES

**RIBBONS WILL BE AWARDED 1<sup>ST</sup> - 6<sup>TH</sup>**

20. All exhibitors are encouraged to participate in the optional Horse Skill-a-thon during Fair Week. The age of skill-a-thon and record books will be determined by the Exhibitor's age, prior to September 1, 2023.
21. Thank you letters for Skill-a-thon and all Awards must be in the Fair Office before a check will be issued to the Exhibitor. Bring your letters to the Fair Office; deadline is on the Important Dates and Educational Meeting Info sheet. **(No Letters will be taken at Barn Clean-up)**. Letters must be stamped, addressed and **unsealed with your name and your return address on the envelope**. All money will be withheld until letters are written. **Should deadline be missed there will be a \$150.00 fine or forfeit your premium monies for In County and Out of County Exhibitors will become ineligible to Show for the following Fair year**. Sponsor address label is on the bottom of all awards and a list of Sponsors with addresses is on file in the Fair Office.
22. Mandatory to attend Barn Set-up **OR** Barn Clean-Up - **REFER TO THE IMPORTANT DATES AND EDUCATIONAL MEETING SHEET. Exhibitor must sign in and sign out to receive credit for attending**. Anyone unable to attend must contact the Livestock Committee Chairman, in writing, prior to Barn Set-up **OR** Barn Clean-up. Failure to attend and participate in Barn Set-up **OR** Barn Clean-up will result in a \$150.00 fine or forfeit their premium monies, to be put into the Dr. Dumas Scholarship fund.
23. The Livestock Committee will present at least **two** educational meetings during the project period (August through February). **REFER TO THE IMPORTANT DATES AND EDUCATIONAL MEETING SHEET**. The Exhibitor and a Parent or Legal Guardian **WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND TOGETHER**, at least ONE of these to SHOW/SALE. **Exhibitor and Parent or Legal Guardian, must STAY for the meeting AND sign in and sign out to receive credit for attending. If you and your parent or legal guardians are unable to attend one of these meetings, the intended exhibitor should not register an animal to show**

**EXHIBITOR: FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BE SURE TO READ THE LIVESTOCK ADDENDUM, IAFE AND NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS, CITRUS COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS AND THE LIVESTOCK SCHEDULE AS THEY PERTAIN TO ALL LIVESTOCK SHOWS.**