

# Local & State Rules

## COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

### JUDGING SYSTEMS

The Marin County Fair uses two systems of judging – American and Danish. Please see Guidebook pages of specific departments or divisions to determine which system is used for your area of interest.

#### AMERICAN SYSTEM OF JUDGING:

In the American System of Judging, each exhibit is judged not only on its own merit, but in comparison to other exhibits using score cards prepared by the State Division of Fairs and Expositions, and Fair Management. This system is used throughout all the divisions of the Fair, unless otherwise indicated, for awards and ribbons.

#### DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING:

In the Danish System of Judging, each exhibit is judged based upon established standards of quality per the Danish System Scorecard. Each exhibit is judged according to how well it meets that standard, rather than how it compares with other exhibits. This system is used throughout the Junior Department, unless otherwise indicated, for awards and ribbons.

<u>QUALITY</u>		<u>SCORE</u>	<u>RIBBON</u>
1st GROUP	SUPERIOR	92% - 100%	BLUE
2nd GROUP	GOOD	84% - 91%	RED
3rd GROUP	AVERAGE	70% - 83%	WHITE

**Honorable Mentions will be given at the discretion of the judges.**

Listed below are some points of interest that influence judges using the score cards as their guidelines:

- Appearance
- Condition of Work
- Color Harmony
- Plant Quality
- Execution of the Work
- Suitability of Materials
- Flavor, Texture (Foods)
- Accuracy of Design Reproduction

*Rules, regulations, and registration on the following pages.*

## REGISTRATION - COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS ENTRY

Though registration is now predominantly completed online via the Marin County Fair website, for select divisions and classes, hardcopy registration (entry forms) may be completed.

### ONLINE ENTRY

Online registration OPENS on April 1, 2025.

#### How to enter:

1. Go to [marinfair.org](http://marinfair.org)
2. Click on Competitive Exhibits and follow instructions for entering online.
3. Please carefully enter all information – checking accuracy of spelling, exhibitor information, division numbers, class numbers and any required descriptions.
4. There is a small fee for entering online; see [marinfair.org](http://marinfair.org) for details.
5. All exhibitors entering online agree to abide by all Local and State Rules.
6. All entries must have been completed by the exhibitor within one to two years prior to the first day of the Fair, unless otherwise indicated.
7. Exhibitors may enter only one exhibit in a Class, unless otherwise indicated.
8. Exhibits entered in previous Marin County Fairs are not eligible EXCEPT when specifically noted. (Example: Potted plants may be entered more than one year.)
9. Submission of entries, including entries submitted online, implies acceptance of all conditions as stated in State and Local Rules.

## LOCAL RULES & REGULATIONS

*Governing all divisions - Adult, Junior, and Family*

### EXHIBITOR ELIGIBILITY

1. Please refer to each department for eligibility. Junior departments are open to all junior residents of Marin and Sonoma Counties, five through eighteen years of age, except where noted. Open to members of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, and other youth organizations, along with individuals not affiliated with an organization.
2. Junior Exhibitors may be allowed to enter exhibits in the Adult Departments ONLY when a class for the exhibit is not offered in the Junior Department (refer to State Rules).

### LABELING

Please check the division entered for proper labeling instructions.

### DELIVERY

PLEASE READ THE DELIVERY DATES CAREFULLY as Department delivery dates vary. Entries delivered late will not be accepted.

## **TAGS**

Fair management will provide and install identifying exhibitor tags when exhibits are delivered. Names are revealed after judging. Any additional signs, courtesy or educational, must be approved by Fair Management.

## **JUDGING RULES**

1. The Fair will pay cash awards only on those classes specified in the Exhibitors' Guide, and only the Judging Sheet will be the basis for the cash award payments. Ribbons and exhibitor tags have no value as to payment.
2. All divisions and/or classes will be judged under the American System and/or Danish System as stated in the Exhibitors' Guide.

## **LIABILITY**

Although reasonable efforts will be undertaken to safeguard exhibitors' property against loss, damage or theft, the County of Marin, the Marin County Fair and/or its contractors will not be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of exhibitors' property brought on the premises during the period of the Marin County Fair. Every precaution will be taken in the handling and exhibiting of work; however, the Exhibits must be picked up on Release Day. Exhibits not claimed five days after Release Day will be donated or discarded.

## **GENERAL**

Fair Management has the authority to clarify this guidebook for the proper conduct of the Fair, and exhibitors must in all cases conform. Accepted works shall NOT BE REMOVED from the show prior to release dates as stated in these rules. Work must remain as installed.

## **CANCELLATION**

The Management reserves the right to cancel entries and cash and special awards and request the removal of exhibits from the Fairgrounds where exhibitors are disorderly or endangering or disturbing the public and other exhibitors.

## **EXHIBIT RELEASE DATES**

Entries must be collected in person by the Exhibitor, or an individual with a signed letter of authorization from the Exhibitor. Accepted exhibits shall NOT BE REMOVED from the show prior to release dates as stated in this Guidebook. Works must remain as installed. Entries will not be released without claim check.

## STATE RULES & REGULATIONS

*Governing all divisions - Adult, Junior, and Family*

For a complete listing of California State Rules regarding Exhibits and Livestock, please visit the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) website:

- California State Rules: [https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/exhibit\\_and\\_livestock.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/exhibit_and_livestock.html)

## CONTACTING COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

<b>MARIN COUNTY FAIR   FAIR OFFICE</b>	10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA 94903
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://www.marinfair.org">www.marinfair.org</a>
<b>COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:fairexhibits@marincounty.org">fairexhibits@marincounty.org</a>
<b>REGULAR OFFICE HOURS</b>	Monday to Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm
<b>FAIR OFFICE HOURS</b>	July 2 (Wednesday) to July 6 (Sunday): 8:00am to 8:00pm
<b>MARIN COUNTY FAIR HOURS</b>	July 2 (Wednesday) to July 6 (Sunday): 11:00am to 11:00pm