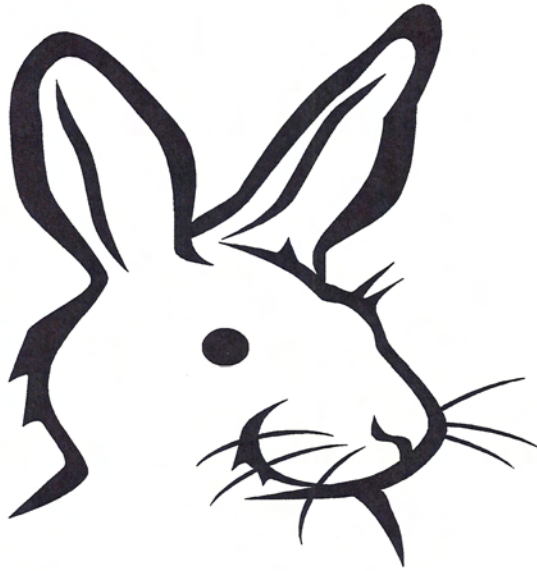


Desoto County Fair



Rabbit Rules

Desoto County Fair Association
PO BOX 970
Arcadia, FL 34265

2008 DeSoto County Fair Rabbit Rules

2008 Rabbit Calendar of Events

December 31, 2007	Pre-entries @ DeSoto County Fairgrounds 7:00 PM
January 4, 2008	Rabbit Entries Due
January 17, 2008	Rabbit Check-ins
January 19, 2008	Rabbit Show @ DeSoto County Fairgrounds 11:00 AM
January 25, 2008	Livestock Awards @ 5:00 PM
January 27, 2008	Rabbits Released 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

General Fair Rules

On behalf of the DeSoto County Fair Association, you are invited to be a part of the Youth Rabbit Exhibit at the 2008 DeSoto County Fair.

The management of the DeSoto County Fair Association reserves the right to amend, add and/or interpret the following rules and regulations, to arbitrarily settle and determine all questions and differences in regard to, or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incidental to the Fair.

The DeSoto County Fair and Livestock Committee assumes no responsibility for the safety, loss or well-being of exhibits. However, every reasonable precaution will be observed.

The owner or custodian of property of any kind brought to the Fairgrounds, either for exhibit or for other purposes, assumes as a condition of its admission to the grounds, all risk and/or responsibility for its loss, damage or theft. The Fair or its officers cannot and will not accept responsibility or liability for any damage or injury resulting from theft, fire, elements, accidents or other conditions or causes. Whether the exhibits, property of the Exhibitor, vehicles on the grounds and articles left there or any other property of any nature whatsoever.

Exhibitors must reside in DeSoto County and be currently enrolled and actively attending a DeSoto County elementary, middle or high school program. Exhibitors must be a bona fide member of a chartered 4-H or FFA program and be 8 years of age and no older than 19 years of age as of September 1, 2007. The Fair Board and Livestock Committee will reserve the right to ask for proof of school attendance. All 4-H and FFA leaders/advisors will furnish an attendance record to the Livestock Chairman on January 3, 2008. Each Exhibitor must meet the requirements of the 4-H or FFA to be eligible to participate at the Fair.

Exhibitors and parents should not be under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol.

Physical conditions of Exhibitors which management considers to be a problem in the show or sale may result in the management rejecting entry or participation in the show or sale.

Each Exhibitor must assume all liability in case of death or injury to his/her animal until the end of the fair or until the animal is removed from the fairgrounds, at which time market animals become the liability of the purchaser.

The Livestock Committee reserves the right to reject or require removal of any animal because of health, unmanageability or inferior quality, **at any time during the fair.**

All protest must be in writing, stating plainly the complaint, be accompanied by a fee of \$50.00, which shall be forfeited to the Fair Association, in case the protest is not sustained and must be delivered to the Fair Management within 24 hours after the cause of protest.

Any persons who knowingly violate any of these rules and provisions forfeit all rights, privileges and premiums.

Age determination of showmanship and record book awards shall be based on the Exhibitor's age as of September 1, prior to the fair. Awards shall be divided into two classes: Junior and Senior.

Premiums will be paid on the basis of the judging reports.

The Livestock Show Categories are Market Steer, Heifer, Market Swine, Poultry, Rabbits and Goats. Entry by Exhibitor expressly implies their willingness to accept the decision of all judges.

There will be a non-refundable registration fee of \$25.00 due at the mandatory meeting. The fee will entitle a week fair pass for the Exhibitor and 2 parents/guardians. Additional passes may be purchased. This fee does not include a Fair Membership as in past years.

General Rabbit Rules

All Exhibitors in this division are governed by the General Rules of the DeSoto County Fair Youth Livestock Show.

Upon acceptance into the fair, Exhibitors are under the supervision of the DeSoto County Fair Youth Livestock Committee. At the discretion of the Youth Livestock Committee, any unbecoming conduct on the part of an Exhibitor will result in disqualification, immediate removal of their animal(s) from the fairgrounds and the loss of any premium or award(s).

All animals must conform to all State of Florida Health Rules.

All property entered at the fair for any purpose shall be subject to the control of the Livestock Committee.

Tampering with any animals entered, such as filling with foreign substances, etc. is prohibited. The use of tranquilizers on show animals or possession of same after arrival to the fair will be considered as a form of tampering. Tampering will result in immediate disqualification of the animal. No chemicals are to be administered within 30 days of show unless administered by a veterinarian and accompanied by a letter from him or her.

Shots or medications may not be given to animals while at the fairgrounds, except with permission of the barn superintendent and under supervision of a veterinarian.

All vehicles used to service animals (such as feed) must be used between livestock gate opening and one hour before the fair opens to the public. All vehicles must be moved outside the fence one hour before the fair opens to the public.

Any exhibit not receiving proper feed, water, etc. will be cared for by show management. The Exhibitor shall be assessed \$50.00 per feeding for such care from the premium or sale money due. Any Exhibitor not attending to the cleaning and care of the animal and stall area may be assessed an additional fee, noted by the Livestock Committee.

Age determination of Showmanship, Grooming and Record Book Awards shall be based on the Exhibitor's age as of September 1, 2007, prior to the fair. Awards shall be divided into two classes: Junior (ages 8 – 12) and Senior (ages 13 – 19).

No joint ownership of animals will be accepted to entry.

Help keep the Small Animal area clean at all times. If you see paper or cans on the ground, pick it up and put it in the trash.

During judging of animals, if you are running around, carrying rabbits improperly or causing trouble of any kind, which can disturb the judges or Exhibitors showing their rabbit, you will be asked to leave, your rabbit will not be shown and premium money will be forfeited.

During judging you are to sit in the bleachers and observe the judging of rabbits.

You will be told when you need to get your rabbit to put it up on the table.

No one will be allowed at the judging table unless their rabbit is on the table or asked to be there by the Rabbit Committee Chairman.

Exhibitors are to bring their own animals to the table. If they need help, the Rabbit Chairman will assign someone to help them.

All Exhibitors will be required to stay in the area of the rabbit judging until the end of the show. Leaving before the show is over will result in forfeiture of premiums.

Animals must be owned on or before November 22, 2007.

Entries are limited to six. Meat pens consisting of three animals occupying one cage will be considered one entry.

All rabbits must be at least 10 weeks old to be shown.

Entries must be completed and turned in to the Rabbit Chairman on or before January 4, 2008.

The Rabbit Chairman will take pre-entries on December 31, 2007 at the DeSoto County Fairgrounds from 7:00 PM.

No late entries will be accepted. Do not leave entry forms at the County Extension Office. It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to make sure the completed entry form is turned in on time.

The Small Animal Committee will provide the care and feeding of the animals in the mornings. Exhibitors will need to sign in and do evening care, feeding and cleaning by 5:00 PM each day.

It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to clean under the cages daily. Arrangements can be made with another Exhibitor to share this job, but if it is not done daily, the Exhibitor will be fined \$1.00 per day. This fee will be deducted from your premium money.

Rabbits must be checked in on Thursday, January 17, 2008 between 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM. NO LATE CHECK-IN'S ALLOWED.

Meat pens consist of three animals of the same age and breed. If occupying only one pen, they will be considered only one entry. They will not be judged separately.

First place will be awarded provided there are two or more entries.

Sale of animals – a 10% fee will be paid to the DeSoto County Fair Association for any animals sold.

Any Exhibitor or parent found to be opening the cages without the permission of the Small Animal Committee will forfeit all premium money.

All premiums will be given at the Livestock Awards Ceremony Friday, January 25, 2008 at 5:00 PM. If unable to attend, they will be given at animal release.

All rabbits will be released on Sunday, January 27, 2008 from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM. If you cannot come at this time, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with someone to pick up your animal. The Small Animal Committee is to be notified in writing of who is to be picking up rabbits and also who will be cleaning under cages. Rabbit Chairman must approve any early releases.

All Exhibitors must be present at the Awards Ceremony on January 25, 2008 at 5:00 PM.

All Exhibitors will receive their Fair Identification Pass. You are required to wear your pass at all times when on the fairgrounds.

No climbing on gates or bleachers. Children are to be kept under control by their parents.

Each Exhibitor must furnish feed, water and care of their animal while at the fair. Each Exhibitor is required to maintain clean and attractive quarters at all times. An Exhibitor showing neglect of their animal shall forfeit all prize money⁷.

All Exhibitors, leaders and parents are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous, professional, positive and sportsmanship-like manner at all times or they will be dismissed from the fair and will be banned from participating in future fairs.

Exhibitors are not to be in the barn for any reason during normal school hours and will be disqualified with the exception of their show/sale day after noon. This includes home-schooled Exhibitors.

Judging

A modified Danish system of judging will be used. All decisions of the Judge are FINAL. No awards will be given and no premiums paid to any animal in any class that in the opinion of the Judge does not deserve that award.

Ribbons awarded for placement will be paid premiums as follows:

- Blue - \$20.00
- Red - \$15.00
- White - \$10.00