

# **State Fair of Virginia**

## ***2009 General Rules and Information***

- 1) **Mission:** SFVA is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization not affiliated with state government. In a world where Virginia's open land and traditions that shaped our culture are rapidly vanishing, SFVA's goal is to keep cherished ideals and experiences alive in the Commonwealth.
- 2) **Interpretations, Amendments and Violations:** Every exhibitor, competitor, concessionaire, employee or any other person having business on the Grounds is required to abide by these or any other rules that may be formulated by the administration; and the administration reserves for itself the sole and absolute right to construe its rules and regulations, and determine and settle all matters and differences in regard thereto.
- 3) **Reservation:** The State Fair of Virginia reserves the right to extend an invitation to exhibit, and the right to refuse an exhibitor or competitor, without giving reason for such action. Any exhibitor/competitor displaying behavior deemed inappropriate will be removed from the grounds and all premiums revoked.
- 4) **Protests and appeals:** All protests must be in writing, must state plainly the complaint, be accompanied by a fee of \$50 which shall be forfeited to the Fair in case protest is not sustained, and must be delivered to the Management within twelve hours after the cause of protest.
- 5) **Damage or loss:** The State Fair of Virginia provides 24 hour security for exhibits. The exhibitor/competitor assumes all risks of damage or loss, either to person or property, for all and every cause whatsoever, including fire, the elements, violation of the law, negligence either on the part of the State Fair of Virginia, its officers, servants, agents or employees, or other person or persons; and it is further expressly understood and agreed between the exhibitor/competitor and management, that the said State Fair of Virginia, incurs no liability or obligation to the exhibitor/competitor, other than to permit them to use the ground or building for exhibits.
- 6) **Solicitations:** Political solicitation is permitted in paid commercial exhibit space ONLY.
- 7) **Competition:** COMPETITION IS GENERALLY OPEN TO THE WORLD. Certain departments are limited and this will be indicated in specific departmental rules.
- 8) **Exhibitors, Competitors and Entry Forms**
  - Exhibitors who participate in the Fair must have a signed (electronic signature accepted) entry form on file with the Fair office or if they show their crafts, farm products, machinery, or livestock, they must have these items entered according to the rules and regulations for the department in which they are participating. Enter on-line at [www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org) or mail entry forms to address listed in department rules for individual shows.
  - Persons competing in departments other than livestock, may ship their entered items, but the Fair will not be responsible for any loss, damage or breakage. Goods must be addressed to the department in which they are entered.
  - Packages must be received at least twenty-four hours prior to the time when they are required to be in place. No package will be accepted unless all transportation charges are prepaid. Return mailing or shipping instructions must accompany the package as well at \$10.00 to cover handling at the Fair and \$20.00 for return shipping by FedEx.
  - Items tagged for competition must be delivered to the Superintendent in charge of the Department and must be removed within three days after the Fair unless prior

arrangements are made. Certain exceptions to this rule will be found in Special Rules governing departments in which they apply (Example: Vegetables).

9) Judging:

- The State Fair will contract judges for all departments. Management reserves the right to substitute judges if necessary.
- Judges are instructed not to award premiums unless animal or article is worthy of an award.
- The judge's decision will be final.
- Anyone who interferes with the judging will be promptly excluded from competition; if afterwards, the premiums awarded will be withheld.
- Judges will be required to sign all show record forms.
- All animals must be available for use in youth judging contests or other educational activities if requested.

10) Premiums and Awards:

- The Fair Management reserves the right to reject any exhibit which does not reflect merit and which would not be a credit to both the exhibitor/competitor and the Fair. Also, the right is reserved to reject entries which are deemed objectionable or unsuited for public exhibit. All entries are accepted conditionally pending inspection of the article or animal to be exhibited. Any article or animal which proves to be misrepresented or falsely classed will be rejected and the right of the competitor/exhibitor to further participate in the Fair will be denied.
- In all competitions, prizes will be awarded to the quality of the exhibits and prize money will be paid accordingly.
- An exhibit will not be allowed to compete in more than one class except in the case of group classes or sweepstakes competition.
- No more than two premiums will be paid to a competitor/exhibitor in any one class and only one premium will be paid to a competitor/exhibitor in group classes.
- Premiums will be paid by check as soon as clerical work can be completed.

11) Photographic Consent

Anyone participating in any competition at the State Fair of Virginia consents to the use of the Fair's photographic image of them or image of their exhibit by the State Fair of Virginia, agents and licensees and assigns for any and all purposes, including with limitation television, theater, exhibition, website, publication and any trade or advertising purposes. Competitor/exhibitor understands there will be no remuneration for the use of such image.

12) Alcoholic Beverages

In accordance with Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board regulations, consumption of alcoholic beverages on the property is limited to the designated areas of licensed vendors.

13) Animals

Only animals that are entered and in competition or other approved activities will be allowed on site.