

# GENERAL RULES & INFORMATION

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\*\*Topsfield Fair and The Essex Agricultural Society are not responsible for changes to or omissions from any contest rules, regulations, and/or guidelines.

Exhibitors must adhere to all rules as they apply to individual departments as well as the following regulations:

1. The Essex Agricultural Society is a member of the Massachusetts Agricultural Fairs Association. The rules and regulations of this organization will apply where applicable.
2. Drinking of alcoholic beverage is prohibited on fairgrounds, except where permitted.
3. No smoking allowed in buildings.
4. No exhibit shall be removed before the close of the fair, without the express consent of the department head and fair management. Please refer to individual department for specific pickup times.
5. Department designated 4-H and youth are restricted to boys and girls 9 through 19 years of age as of January 1, 2023 unless otherwise stated in department rules.
6. All reasonable precautions will be taken by the Society for the sake keeping of animals and articles entrusted to its care, but all exhibits for any reason. Exhibitors, contestants, and/or participants agree to be solely responsible for any loss, injury to, damage done, occasioned by or arising from any exhibit, equipment, animal or person to defend and indemnify the Society and the management thereof against all claims and liability in regard thereto. In view of this understanding, exhibitors, contestants, and/or participants may deem it advisable to obtain appropriate liability insurance.
7. No person will be awarded premium checks without providing the Fair office with his/her social security number, if necessary.
8. Please remember to wash hands after touching animals!

## DEPARTMENT ENTRY DEADLINES

- **4-H Club Exhibits and Contests:** August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **4-H and Youth Dairy Goat Show:** September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **4-H and Youth Horse Show:** September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023
- **ADGA Open Senior & Junior Doe Shows:** October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023
- **Beekeeping & Honey Show:** September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023; Division 4: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Canning Exhibit:** September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Cattle:** September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Christmas Tree Exhibit:** September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Crafts Exhibit:** September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Draft Horse Show:** September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023
- **Farm Photography Contest:** August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Fine Arts Division - Amateur & Professional :** September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Flower Show:** September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Foods Department:** Weekend Contests: September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Topsfield Fair Fall Harvest Baked Sweet Treat Contest: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, King Arthur Baking Company Quick Bread Contest: October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, Topsfield Fair Apple Pie Contest: October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Parent & Child Cookie Contest: October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Fruit Exhibit:** September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off:** September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Grange Exhibit:** September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Horse & Oxen Pulling Contest:** September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Junior Fruit, Vegetable & Decorative:** September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Junior King & Queen Pageant:** September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Mrs. Essex County Pageant:** October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Open Sheep Show:** September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023; Yarn Show: September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Poultry Exhibition:** September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Rabbit & Cavy:** September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Sheep Dog Trial:** September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023
- **Stock Farm Tractor Pull:** October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Vegetables Exhibit:** September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023; Section E: September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- **Winemaking:** September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023