



2026
OPEN CLASS
COMPETITION
RULES

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

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SECTION 1
DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR & RODEO COMPETITION RULES
APPLIES TO ALL DIVISIONS, DEPARTMENTS AND COMPETITIONS

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The following terms, conditions, and rules apply to all departments and to all competitions at the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo (“DCFR”).
- B. Every exhibitor or competitor at DCFR shall comply with the competition rules herein and comply with the more specific rules set forth in each Department.
- C. Any person who violates any of the Competition Rules herein may be subject to discipline as set forth in these rules and may be vacated or removed and ineligible for competition.
- D. Smoking is not allowed in any public buildings, or within 100’ of any building entrance.
- E. Alcohol will be sold in designated areas on the Fairgrounds during DCFR. Alcohol cannot be consumed or carried outside premised areas designated by signage.
- F. Any public display of photos or video of any Douglas County Fair & Rodeo event, concert, or rodeo for public dissemination without express written consent from DCFR Management is strictly prohibited.
- G. All guests, contestants and participants are subject to a search by security personnel.
- H. The current Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Competition Rules will be posted on www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved>Open Class Competition.

II. GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

- A. The Douglas County Fair does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, or other non-merit factors.
- B. No fireworks are allowed.
- C. Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management is not responsible for any loss, damage or injury to any person or property while on Douglas County grounds or real property.
- D. An exhibitor or competitor acknowledges and agrees to abide by all Competition Rules when they sign up to participate in any way in the Fair and anyone who has not done so will not be allowed to participate.
- E. Exhibitors and competitors hereby indemnify DCFR Management from any and all legal proceedings in regard to a challenge to any Competition Rules.**
- F. Exhibits must be exhibited only in areas and locations assigned to that exhibitor by Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management. Exhibits not in authorized locations will be removed by DCFR Management without notice and the exhibitor may be subject to disciplinary action.
- G. Exhibits may not be removed prior to 5:00pm on the final day of Fair.
- H. Every animal or article shall be entered and exhibited in the name of its bona fide owner.
- I. Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management reserves the right to cancel events or change scheduling if deemed necessary. Specific or special competition rules or conditions are published in each department where necessary.

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III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Douglas County Fair & Rodeo (“DCFR” or “Fair”): An annual event organized by the Douglas County Fair Board in coordination with County staff, featuring educational and agricultural events along with various competitions and contests.
- B. Douglas County Fair Board (“Fair Board”): The Douglas County Fair Board is comprised of 21 Directors who are appointed by the Board of Douglas County Commissioners to organize, conduct, and operate the annual Douglas County Fair & Rodeo.
- C. Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management: this term includes the Fair Board Directors (the “Fair Board”), Fairgrounds Manager, Fair & Rodeo Event Supervisor, Fair Coordinator, and Superintendents. The primary enforcement responsibility of these Competition Rules on a day-to-day basis is with the Fair Board.
- D. Department Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent: A person appointed by the Fair Board that oversees a specific department, division, or contest at the County Fair.
- E. Judge: An individual who is selected to judge items or animals based on his/her expertise.
- F. Open Class Exhibitor (“Exhibitor”): An Open Class Exhibitor is any individual who enters exhibits in DCFR Open Class divisions and is not participating as a 4-H or FFA member for that exhibit. Open Class Exhibitors may be youth or adults and are subject to all eligibility, entry, and exhibit requirements established for their respective Open Class departments.

IV. ENTRIES & ENTRY FORMS

- A. Competitions are open to the world except where otherwise specified.
- B. All entries must be completed on regulation forms, properly filled out.
- C. Entry forms for Open Class Division Competitions are available online at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved> Open Class Competitions or at the Douglas County Fairgrounds Office prior to entry day. Forms and assistance will be available during contest entry hours.
- D. No article will be entitled to a place on the grounds until proper entry has been made.
- E. Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management assumes no responsibility for errors on the entry forms.
- F. Every participant expressly understands and agrees that a completed entry form is acceptance of these Competition Rules and further agrees and understands that they will abide by these Rules throughout the duration of their time at the DCFR. It is understood that non-compliance with these Competition Rules may subject any participant to penalties up to and including exclusion from future participation.
- G. Late entries will not be accepted.
- H. DCFR Management reserves the right to limit entries to facilities available, and to cancel any Department, division, or class in which, in its judgment, the entries are insufficient to secure adequate competition. DCFR Management further reserves the right to return entries in the event any event competition, class or exhibit is cancelled.
- I. Customary care will be taken in handling entries. Entries will be shown at the Exhibitor’s own risk.

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- J. Open Class Division premiums will be paid in cash on the final day of Fair. Exhibitors may elect to pick up premiums at the Fairgrounds Office, no later than two weeks following the last day of Fair. Cash premiums not picked up by that date will be forfeited and returned to the General Fund of the Fair.

V. EXHIBITOR AND COMPETITOR CONDUCT

- A. DCFR Management expects all participants (including exhibitors, competitors, parents, volunteers, etc.) to abide by the stated Competition Rules for all activities and events, including, but not limited to the following:
 - 1. Conduct themselves in a courteous, respectful manner, using appropriate language, exhibiting good sportsmanship and providing positive role models.
 - 2. Adhere to Competition Rules, curfews, and dress codes
 - 3. Abstain from illegal and immoral behavior
 - 4. Fully participate in scheduled activities
 - 5. Refrain from physical or emotional child abuse or neglect
 - 6. Apply safety regulations to individuals, groups, and property; and
 - 7. Accept personal responsibility for behavior.
- B. Consequences may include penalties as set forth in these Competition Rules.

VI. DISPUTES

- A. DCFR Management are the final review and authority to interpret these Competition Rules and to settle questions of interpretation.
- B. There are additional specific competition rules set forth, if necessary, within each Department's competition section. Both may apply and if there is a conflict between them the Department rules will apply.
- C. In the event that references to external requirements, regulations, or rules conflict to these Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Competition Rules then the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Competition Rules shall control over such conflicts.
- D. The following three types of disputes are addressed in the following:
 - 1. Pre-Fair rule infraction/violation.
 - 2. During Fair rule infraction/violation.
 - 3. Exhibitor, competitor, or contestant-initiated protest.
- E. Failure to meet dates or deadlines identified in these rules or communicated through other official Fair documents, notices, or announcements shall not be considered grounds for protest. See the current year Open Class Competition Rules at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved>Open Class Competitions for required deadlines.

VII. DETERMINATION OF VIOLATIONS/PENALTIES

- A. Whenever a violation of any competition term or Competition Rule has occurred or has been reported to have occurred, prior to or during DCFR, it shall be reported first to the Department Superintendent, if possible for resolution, who will then elevate it to DCFR Management if need be, to determine if, in fact, a violation has occurred. Only alleged violations reported within 24

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hours of their occurrence will be investigated. If the Department Superintendent is unavailable, the alleged violation shall be reported to DCFR Management. Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management reserves the right to take the actions provided herein at any time if it believes a potential violation of the Rules has occurred.

- B. If the Department Superintendent is unavailable, the alleged violation shall be reported to DCFR Management.
- C. If in fact a rule infraction has occurred, the notified Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management Representative shall inform the Fairgrounds Manager and the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Board Chairman. If the infraction warrants an investigation, the Infraction Sub-Committee, identified in Section 1, XI, will be assembled to investigate and deliver a decision on the infraction.
- D. The Infraction Sub-Committee shall prepare a written response detailing the infraction and the Committee's proposed resolution. The response shall be submitted to the DCFR Board Chair for review and signature prior to dissemination. Upon approval by the Chairman, the final response shall be provided to the affected parties.
- E. If the Infraction Sub-Committee shall generate a written response to the affected parties for the resolution for the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Board Chairman's describing the infraction and the Infraction Sub-Committee's resolution.
- F. The affected parties shall be notified of the resolution and be informed of any penalty that was invoked.
- G. The Infraction Sub-Committee will present the issue and resolution to the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Board for information only and to identify if the rule in question requires revision in the Competition Rules. The decision of the Infraction Sub-Committee is final.

VIII. POSSIBLE PENALTIES FOR RULE INFRACTIONS

- A. The following penalties may be invoked for rule infractions:
 - 1. Written warning.
 - 2. The exhibitor or competitor in question is disqualified and could forfeit entry and other fees, trophies, and awards.
 - 3. The exhibitor or competitor shall be barred from competition at DCFR for a predetermined period of time that may include a lifetime suspension from competition upon the concurrence of the Douglas County Fair Board.
 - 4. The exhibit in question will not be sold in any sale at DCFR to include the Junior Livestock Sale.
 - 5. In the case of an exhibit already sold at DCFR, the exhibitor or competitor shall refund and return all sale proceeds in excess of market value to DCFR. The Douglas County Fair Board after conference with the Buyer shall determine the disposition of the remaining funds.
 - 6. Any combination of the above stated penalties.

IX. INFRACTION SUB-COMMITTEE

- B. The following Infraction Sub-Committee will be assembled to investigate and render a decision when required:
 - 1. The Vice Chair of the Fair Board who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Infraction Sub-Committee (Voting Member).
 - 2. Superintendent of the affected department (Voting Member).

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3. One Douglas County Fair Board Director at large (preferably with knowledge in the affected department) (Voting Member).
4. Fairgrounds Manager or representative strictly as an advisory role, who shall not have a vote.
5. Two additional Douglas County Fair Board Directors at large may be appointed as voting members if the Vice Chair of the Fair Board determines that the situation warrants additional assistance.

X. PROTESTS

- A. DECISIONS OF JUDGES ARE FINAL AND NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PROTEST.
- B. Whenever any person believes that an exhibitor, competitor, contestant, parent, or Fair Official has engaged in any activity that violates the Competition Rules of DCFR or engaged in any unethical activity during the course of the competition that may violate these rules, such person has the opportunity to provide their allegations of wrong-doing (protest) to DCFR Management for review. Any person making such report must do so in writing (within 24 hours of the alleged infraction) and it must be personally presented to the Department Superintendent or a Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management representative.
- C. Any protest must be accompanied by a one-hundred-dollar (\$100) bond (the "bond") payable to the Douglas County Fair Foundation.
- D. The following is the Protest Procedure:
 1. The protest must be presented, in writing, and sworn to, within 24 hours or sooner, of the occurrence of alleged infraction for all activities and prior to the official closing of DCFR.
 2. In the event a protest is presented after the judging has begun on the item or activity in question, the judging will proceed, and the protest will be handled as if the protest has been presented following the judging.
 3. The written protest must state the name of the exhibitor, competitor, contestant, or fair official as applicable, who has allegedly committed a violation, or identified by the activity in question when the name is unknown to the reporting party. The protest shall include the exhibit, class in question, the specific allegations giving rise to the protest, the facts that support the protest with reference to Competition Rules as applicable.
 4. Upon receipt of a properly presented protest, the Douglas County Fair Board will appoint the Infraction Sub-Committee, identified in Section 1, XI, to review the protest and render a decision, the review process may include interview with the parties involved to assist in obtaining the facts associated with the filed protest.
 5. The decision on the Infraction Sub-Committee is final. (Written notice or record of the decision).
 6. In the discretion of the Infraction Sub-Committee, the bond may be returned to the individual who posted the bond or retained. If retained, the bond will be deposited in general funds of the Douglas County Fair Foundation.

XI. CONCESSIONS AND ADVERTISING PRIVILEGES

- A. All exhibits, concessions, or commercial privileges are at the sole discretion of Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Management. Under no circumstances will any advertising matter be allowed to be placed upon buildings, trees, or other places on the grounds, or otherwise distributed, without

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management permission. Unauthorized advertising material may be immediately removed and disposed of, without recourse or notice.

XII. DOGS

- A. Dogs are not allowed on the Fairgrounds during DCFR with the following exceptions:
 - 1. Service Animals.
 - 2. Dogs on leashes will be allowed in the camping and trailer parking areas only. For their safety, dogs should not be tethered to a camper. A self-contained kennel is required for dogs staying in the camping area.
 - 3. Excessive barking or complaints of aggressive behavior will result in the dog being excused from the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Excused dogs must be immediately removed from the Douglas County Fairgrounds.
 - 4. Dogs that are competing or performing during DCFR.
Owners / Handlers must keep dogs under constant control and dogs ARE NOT allowed into any livestock barns, Kirk Hall, or the Events Center.

XIII. MOTORIZED UTILITY VEHICLES

- A. NO personal golf carts or ATV's nor bicycles will be allowed on the fairgrounds during DCFR.

XIV. OBJECTIONABLE EXHIBITS

- A. DCFR Management reserves the right to exclude from the grounds, any exhibit, animal, or entry that may be falsely entered, those deemed undesirable or objectionable, without assigning a reason.

OFFICIAL ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER

Douglas County Fair & Rodeo
500 Fairgrounds Drive
Castle Rock, CO 80104
(720) 733-6900
fair@douglas.co.us

SECTION 2

OPEN CLASS DIVISION ADDITIONAL RULES

ARTS, CRAFTS, CULINARY, AGRICULTURE AND FLORICULTURE CONTESTS

APPLIES TO ALL DEPARTMENTS AND ARE IN ADDITION TO ANY DEPARTMENT, DIVISION AND CLASS

I. DEPARTMENT PROVISIONS

- A. The following terms, conditions, and requirements apply to all Open Class Division Departments at DCFR. These rules do not supersede or negate DCFR General Competition Rules. All exhibitors must be familiar with all Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Competition Rules. Additional and specific Competition Rules are set forth within each individual Department's sections. Both general and specific Competition Rules shall apply to all competitions unless specifically noted otherwise.
- B. Every exhibitor entering into any competition at DCFR shall comply with the Competition Rules as set forth below and shall comply with any additional or specific requirements or regulations as set forth for each, individual competition. Submission of an entry to DCFR expressly binds the exhibitor to all terms and conditions contained in any and all parts of DCFR Competition Rules.

II. GENERAL COMPETITION RULES:

- A. EXHIBITOR CLASSIFICATION:
 1. The amateur and professional definitions are applied to the classes being entered. A person may be both an amateur and a professional (example: In the Crafts Department an exhibitor can be a professional in the Stained Glass class but an amateur in the Macrame class.). Professionals are not eligible for Best of Show or Best of Category awards.
 - a. **AMATEUR** – A person who engages in an activity as a hobby, not as a job.
 - b. **PROFESSIONAL** –An individual who has received formal training, taught others or routinely earns income by selling their work or exhibits.
 2. Age classification is determined as of August 1 of the current year. School grade classification is determined by the last grade completed as of August 1 of the current year.
 - a. Youth – 18 years & under as of August 1 of current year.
 - b. Open – 19 years & over as of August 1 of current year.
 - c. Senior Citizen – 55 years & over as of August 1 of the current year.

III. ELIGIBILITY:

- A. ELIGIBILITY: Open Show Competition is open to the world, any group or individual.
 1. Youth exhibitors do not have to be enrolled in 4-H and may choose to be classified as Youth or Open for any entry in the Open Class Division. 4-H Youth Exhibitors are eligible and encouraged to enter current year items in Open Class as well as 4-H.
 2. Articles or Items that have been exhibited in the Open Class Division at a previous Douglas County Fair & Rodeo are not eligible for competition at the current Douglas County Fair & Rodeo.
 3. Youth Exhibitors may enter any numbered youth class and be judged against other youth within that class.

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4. Youth Exhibitors may also enter grade designated classes based on their grade completed as of August 1 of the current year.
5. Youth Exhibitors are also permitted to enter designated adult classes and have their exhibit judged against adult exhibitors if they choose (not common).
6. The exhibitor's or the minor exhibitor's parent/guardian's signing the competition entry form(s) certifies that he or she has read and has been advised of the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo General Competition Rules, Open Class Division General Competition Rules, and special Department or Division Competition Rules.
7. All entries must be the work of the exhibitor. The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to generate, develop or complete any portion of an exhibit is strictly prohibited. Any project determined to have utilized AI will be disqualified
8. Exhibits must be entered in the name of the person who created them.
9. Exhibitor certifies he or she has read and agrees to abide by all Competition Rules.

IV. ENTRIES:

- A. Exhibitors are limited to one (1) entry per class, unless stated otherwise in the specific Department Requirements and Regulations.
- B. Advance entries are NOT required for all Open Class Division.
- C. No article will be entitled to a place on the grounds until proper entry has been made.
- D. Superintendents and Judges may add, combine, or divide classes, as necessary.
- E. In all classes entries will be judged and awarded on merit.
- F. Superintendents and Judges may move an entry to a different class/department if it has been wrongly entered or the entry would classify more correctly into a different existing class.
- G. Subject matter of entries must be appropriate for family friendly viewing. Inappropriate content or that which may be offensive to Fair patrons will not be accepted.
- H. The Douglas County Fair Board reserves the right to limit entries to facilities available and to cancel any department, division, or class in which, in its judgment, the entries are insufficient to secure adequate competition. The Douglas County Fair Board further reserves the right to return entries in the event any competition or class is canceled.
- I. The Douglas County Fair Board reserves the right to vacate as ineligible for competition and order the removal of any entry that has been entered in violation of these General Competition Rules or of any specific competition Rule.

UNCLAIMED EXHIBITS: Unclaimed exhibits will only be held for two weeks after Fair of the current year at the Douglas County Events Center Office, 500 Fairgrounds Drive, Castle Rock, CO 80104. After this deadline, any unclaimed exhibits will be disposed of, and any unclaimed premium money will be forfeited and returned to the general funds of the Douglas County Fair.

**OPEN CLASS DIVISION
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT A
ALL EXHIBITS ARE IN THE EVENTS CENTER
JUDGING IS OPEN TO PUBLIC**

I. DEPARTMENT PROVISIONS

- A. All entrants must read, be familiar with, and comply with the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo General Competition Rules, Open Class Division General Competition Rules, and any special Division or Department Competition Requirements or Regulations. Fair Entry is Free. See the full schedule for dates and times for entering and judging.
- B. All exhibits must have been grown or produced by the exhibitor.
- C. Marijuana is prohibited in any agriculture or floriculture exhibit.
- D. Two entries per class will be accepted.

All dates and times below are tentative and subject to change. Please check the current year Open Class Competition Rules found at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved>Open Class Competitions for any updates.

Exhibit Entry

Unless otherwise noted, Open Division Agriculture and Floriculture Departments Exhibit entries will be received on Wednesday from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm and Thursday from 7:00 am to 11:00 am, the week of Fair.

Judging

Unless otherwise noted, judging will begin at 2:00 Thursday, the week of Fair.

Exhibit Release

All entries are released and available for pickup on the final Sunday of Fair at the Event Center between 5:00pm and 6:00pm.

Payment of Premiums

Exhibitors who win a placing ribbon, i.e., Blue (1st), Red (2nd), White (3rd), receive a cash award (premium). Exhibitors may collect payment for premiums and other special awards on the final Sunday of Fair at the Event Center between 5:00pm and 6:00pm.

II. DIVISIONS

AGRICULTURE PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

The open class agriculture exhibits provide an opportunity for fair entrants to display the results of hard work cultivating farms and gardens and for attendees to learn about food and forage production in Douglas County and the region. Agriculture is a part of the heritage of Douglas County, and it is in its future too! While the motives for entering the agriculture division will vary from person to person, the purpose of the exhibits and friendly competition is to educate, inspire, and build up the gardening

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community. Most importantly, an agriculture show is FUN – whether you’re an old-hand exhibitor or a novice, a blue-ribbon winner or not – relax, learn, and have fun.

Unless otherwise noted, exhibits in classes 18 and above must be entered on clear plastic plates.

- A. The Fruit, Herb, and Vegetable classes will be judged on freshness, uniformity, flavor, color, texture/firmness, and maturity as applicable. Individual exhibits must consist of all the same ripeness or greenness, and variety, as appropriate. For all classes follow rules and instructions for specifics: Number needed, height, weight, diameter, or length limits; trimmed or not; peeled: husked, or shelled; with or without stems, etc. For more appealing display, prepare exhibit as you would want to buy them: clean, not washed, free of foreign matter.
- B. 6" and 9" clear plastic plates will be provided.
- C. Herb stem length should be appropriate to herb variety (about 6-12"), except as noted. Herb foliage with or without flower according to conventional use.
- D. Fruit should have soil removed without scrubbing, polishing, or otherwise removing the natural "bloom."
- E. See additional rules in each division.
- F. Your entry may be reclassified.

AGRICULTURE EXHIBIT CLASS 1 DIVISION

Class	Description
1	May be arranged by an individual, organization or community. Exhibit must contain at least 5 varieties (state varieties) from classes 2-72. Attractiveness to be considered. Exhibits must be in the Events Center by 11:00 AM Thursday, July 31. Exhibitor must furnish props.

APIARY DIVISION

Class	Description
2	Extracted Honey, 1 pound with no debris or pollen
3	Chunk Comb Honey (1) one-pound Jar
4	Cut Comb Honey one (1) box
5	Beeswax Block of Pure Beeswax

HELPFUL HINT

- A. Extracted Honey is judged on cleanliness and clarity of the honey, and aroma and flavor. Honey should be displayed in a clear jar or container
- B. Chunk comb honey must be displayed in straight sided, glass, wide mouth jar. Chunk of comb must be in one piece of uniform thickness, and with a straight mid rib.
- C. Cut comb honey box must be transparent on all sides

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EGG DIVISION

Class	Description
6	Brown Eggs – 6 each (Display in Carton)
7	White Eggs – 6 each (Display in Carton)
8	Any Other Color – 6 each all-same color (Display in Carton)
9	Duck Eggs – 6 each (Display in Carton)
10	Green Eggs – 6 each (Display in Carton)
11	Any Other Eggs – 6 each (Display in Carton)

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. When cracked, egg white (Albumen) should not run, yolk should be high with no bloodspots. A deep golden yellow yolk is preferred to a light-yellow yolk. All 6 eggs must be same color and uniform in size.

FORAGE CROPS DIVISION

Class	Description
12	Alfalfa Bundle – 3” diameter (state variety)
13	Clover bundle – 3” diameter (state variety)
14	Field Corn – 6 stalks (state variety)
15	Heirloom Field Corn – 6 stalks (state variety)
16	Any Forage Grasses Bundle - 3" diameter (state variety)
17	Collection of Economically Valuable Grasses. Collection of 8 varieties displayed artistically in 3” diameter bundles each (state varieties).

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Display in bundle size as indicated.
B. Corn stalks should show some buttress roots.

FRUIT DIVISION

Class	Description
18	Pome – Apple, Crab Apples, Pears– 3 each of any variety (state variety)
19	Stone – Apricots, Peaches, Plums– 3 each of any variety (state variety)
20	Berries – ½ pint (state variety)
21	Cherries, Chokecherries – ½ pint (state variety)
22	Any Other Fruit - ½ pint (state variety)

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Apples and Crabapples - Show with stems attached. Fruit should be mature as indicated by their aroma and color. Fruits should be uniform and without blemishes. Remove leaves.
- B. Chokecherries and Cherries – Show sour and sweet cherries with stems attached. Show chokecherries without stems, clean, and as ready for processing into juice or jam. Color should be deep, dark purplish-red. Color, uniformity, and proper maturity are critical factors.

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- C. Raspberries - Show with stems and calyx segments attached. Fruits should not be exhibited without hulls. Collapsed fruit and dispersing aggregates are signs of over maturity.
- D. Strawberries - Should be mature, uniform and exhibited with caps.

VEGETABLE DIVISION

Class	Description
23	Snap Beans – Any Color - ½ pound (state variety)
24	Table Beets – 3 (state variety)
25	Broccoli – 1 Head (state variety)
26	Cabbage – 1 Head (state variety)
27	Carrots – 6 (state variety)
28	Peas – Snap, Snow, String, or Sugar - ½ Pound (state variety)
29	Cauliflower – 1 Head (state variety)
30	Garlic – 3 Heads (state variety)
31	Bulb Onions – 3 (state variety)
32	Green Onions – 6 (state variety)
33	Potatoes – 3 (state variety)
34	Tomatoes, Unripe – 3 (state variety)
35	Tomatoes, Ripe – 3 (state variety)
36	Cherry Tomatoes – 6 (state variety)
37	Rhubarb – 3 Stalks (state variety)
38	Leafy Greens– Chard, Beet Greens, Sorrel, and other Cheopods, 3 Stalks or 1 Head (state variety)
38b	Lettuce – 1 Head
38c	Kale, Mustard, Mizuna and other Brassicas – 3 Stalks
39	Eggplant – 1 (state variety)
40	Table Turnips – 3 (state variety)
41	Peppers, Sweet – 3 (state variety)
42	Peppers, Hot – 3 (state variety)
43	Radishes – 6 (state variety)
44	Any Other Vegetables (state variety)
45	Vegetable Critter Art (state varieties used)
46	Sweet Corn – 3 Ears

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Snap Beans: Pods should be well-formed, tender, firm and should snap when broken. Color should be bright, seeds should be small, and the flesh should not have any voids. Pods should be uniform in-shape and size with ½” of stem attached.
- B. Table Beets – Should have 1” petioles. Beet should be tender, smooth, free of side roots, have a small crown, and should be rounded, symmetrical and uniform. The root should not be removed. Size from 1” to 3.5” diameter.

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- C. Broccoli – Stems are 6" and the head at least 3" in diameter. Stem should be solid and loose leaves removed. Head should be compact and dark green with tight uniform buds of medium size. No yellow color. Over maturity, looseness in head and damage to buds are to be avoided.
- D. Cabbage – Heads should be firm and solid with 2 to 3 wrapper leaves per head and small mid-veins, tightly formed. Stems should be cut ¼" below the head.
- E. Carrots – Should have 1" petioles remaining. Carrots should be small cored, straight, crisp and have deep color. The root should be clean and free of side roots. The skin should be smooth, the roots uniform and true to size and shape for variety. Avoid large crowns and green shoulders.
- F. Peas – ½ pound of podded peas with ½" stems attached. Select pods that are bright green and fully filled with well-sized but tender peas. Pods should be plump and firm and seeds sweet and tender.
- G. Cauliflower – One head at least 4" in diameter with 4 to 6 leaves to protect curd. Trim outer leaves slightly above head. The curd should be pure white, white, or color of cultivar, smooth, and compact. Avoid over maturity and openness. Stem should be trimmed ½" below the last remaining leaf.
- H. Garlic – Uniform, well-shaped and full sized. Brush off dirt, do not wash. Do not remove sheath. Cut off roots. Bulbs should have small, well-dried necks with 2" stem attached.
- I. Bulb Onions – Display with 2" to 3" of stem attached. Select uniform, solid, well-cured mature onions with intact dry skins and well-dried, tight necks. Harvest early and air dry thoroughly. Do not remove outer scales. Do not wash.
- J. Green Onions – ½" to 1" in diameter, clean, purple, or white color, with dark green tops about 6" long. Remove loose skin, cut tops to 4" to 5" above white shank. The shanks should be long, straight and the bulb not enlarged. Peel only one outer wrapper. OK to wash. Trim roots to ½."
- K. Potatoes – Firm, plump and no damage spots. Potatoes should be uniform with shallow eyes and smooth surface. Brush off dirt with soft brush. Do not wash.
- L. Tomatoes (unripe, green) – Should be uniform, firm and "mature green" with a slight pinkish color preferred to being green. Should be soil-free, but not washed or polished.
- M. Tomatoes (ripe) – Fruit should be uniform in size, color, firmness, and maturity. The interior bright and meaty with green gel around seeds. Tomatoes should be true to variety in size, shape, and color. The skins should be smooth and without growth cracks. Should be soil-free, but not washed or polished.
- N. Tomatoes (Cherry) – Fruits should be uniform in size, color, firmness, and maturity. Tomatoes should be true to variety in size, shape, color, and maturity.
- O. Leafy Greens – Dark green, crisp fresh leaves with bright, clean stems. Avoid dirty, wilted, poorly colored leaves with insect damage or the flowering stems present.
 - 1. Head of Lettuce – 1 Head – Crisp, good color, and firm. Trim stem evenly at base. Remove damaged outside leaves.
 - 2. Leaf lettuce – 3 Leaves – Tender, good color, clean, and fresh.
- P. Eggplant – Fruit should retain calyx cap and ½" of stem. A good quality eggplant is firm, heavy in relation to size, with a uniform color and small blossom scars. Should not be washed, but it should be cleaned with a soft cloth. Uniform color and patterning. Not overripe (seeds should not be brown/mature).
- Q. Turnips – Should be smooth with firm flesh, have a small crown, be free of side roots, round, crisp, and a color pattern typical of variety. They should be 2" to 2.5" in diameter with 1" petioles. The taproot should be untrimmed.

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- R. Pepper (mild/hot) – ½” of stem should be attached. Fruit should be clean and firm with dark color (red, green, or yellow) and without blemishes. The peppers should be of uniform size and color, with even lobes (as applicable).
- S. Radishes – Should be smooth, firm, crisp, and free of side roots. Followed by uniform shape, color, and maturity. Should have 1” petiole remaining. The root should be clean.
- T. Rhubarb – Stalks should be uniform in size and color. Stalks should be pulled, not cut from plant. Leaf should be trimmed to show one inch of leaf at the end of each stalk.
- U. Vegetable Critter Art – Can be any parts of vegetables, including stems, leaves, and seeds. Fastened with small wood skewers only. No glue or tape. This is a great class for all children and adults!

VINE CROP DIVISION - CUCURBIT

Class	Description
47	Pickling Cucumbers – 3 (state variety)
48	Slicing Cucumbers – 3 (state variety)
49	Zucchini Squash – 3 (state variety)
50	Largest Zucchini – 1 (state variety)
51	Yellow Squash – 3 (state variety)
52	Other Summer Squash – 3 (state variety)
53	Acorn Squash – 1 (state variety)
54	Spaghetti Squash – 1 (state variety)
55	Field (ornamental or forage) Pumpkins – 1 (state variety)
56	Pie Pumpkins – 1 (state variety)
57	Other Winter Squash – 1 (state variety)

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Cucumbers – Straight, uniform size and color typical of variety. Fruit should be crisp, firm, and free of insect or mechanical damage. Trim stem to ½.” Wipe with soft cloth to clean.
 - 1. Pickling: 2” to 4” in length, with straight even spines.
 - 2. Slicers: 6” to 10” in length, not to exceed 2.5” in diameter. No mature seeds.
- B. Summer squash or Zucchini– Zucchini should be 6” to 9” long. Yellow or straight neck squash should be 5” to 6” long. Scalloped or pattypan squash should be 3” to 4” in diameter. Each entry should have ½” of stem attached, with the skin tender and seeds immature and edible. Flesh should be solid, light colored, and free of voids.
- C. Field or Pie Pumpkins – Pumpkins should have a thick flesh and be heavy for size. A 2” stem must be attached. Fruit should be smooth and mature, showing full ripe color. The skins should be resistant to thumbnail puncture. Wipe and polish with a soft cloth. Field pumpkins are any pumpkin grown for decorative purposes or as livestock forage, regardless of size; pie pumpkins are grown for human consumption.
- D. Winter squash – Should be mature and have 2” stem attached. Skin should be hard and soil free.

HERBS DIVISION

Class	Description
58	Basil – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
59	Mint – 3 Sprigs (state variety)

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- 60 Chives – 12 Sprigs (state variety)
- 61 Oregano – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 62 Sage – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 63 Thyme – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 64 Marjoram – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 65 Flat Leaf Parsley – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 66 Curly Leaf Parsley – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 67 Rosemary – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 68 Tarragon – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 69 Cilantro – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 70 Dill (leaf) – 3 Leaves (state variety)
- 71 Dill (seed) – 3 Heads (state variety)
- 72 Any other herb – 3 Sprigs (state variety)
- 73 Herb Collection – Collection of 5 varieties of fresh herbs artistically displayed with 3 sprigs of each. (state varieties)

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Select sprigs with leaves that are clean and free of blemishes.
- B. Dill - Select large mature heads with green seeds “going” brown. Cut seed heads with 10” to 12” stems.
- C. Herbs used in displays must be grown by entrant.

III. PREMIUMS

- A. Agriculture Exhibit Class 1 and Herb Collection Class 73
 - 1. Ribbons will be awarded in 1st through 3rd place
 - 2. **PREMIUMS:** 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3, 3rd-\$1
 - 3. Rosette: Best of Show
- B. Classes 2-72
 - 1. Ribbons will be awarded in 1st through 3rd place
 - 2. **PREMIUMS:** 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3, 3rd-\$1
 - 3. Rosette: Best of Show, awarded for the following categories:
 - a. Overall Best of Show, Open Agriculture
 - b. Overall Youth Best of Show, Agriculture
 - c. Open - Apiary
 - d. Youth - Apiary
 - e. Open - Egg
 - f. Youth - Egg
 - g. Open – Vine Crop
 - h. Youth - Vine Crop
 - i. Open - Vegetable
 - j. Youth – Vegetable
 - k. Open – Herb
 - l. Youth - Herb
 - m. Open – Fruit
 - n. Youth – Fruit

OPEN CLASS DIVISION FLORICULTURE

ALL EXHIBITS ARE IN THE EVENTS CENTER - JUDGING OPEN TO PUBLIC

During the fair in the floriculture open class display, gardeners and non-gardeners alike will see a wide variety of flowers, arrangements, and plants that can be grown in our region and beyond. This educational and inspirational opportunity is the purpose of the exhibition, allowing growers to display the fruits of their labor and to compare their results, commiserate in hardships, and enjoy camaraderie with other gardening enthusiasts. For many, the honor of displaying (and placing) in the competition is the only reward sought; for others, the prizes, and awards, though small, are motivating. Whatever your own reason for exhibiting and visiting the division, **the goal of the show** is to inspire and educate, and for everyone, exhibitors, and non-exhibitors alike, **to have fun.**

I. DEPARTMENT PROVISIONS

- A. All entrants must read and be familiar with, and comply with, the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo General Competition Rules, Open Class Division General Competition Rules, and any special Division or Department Competition Requirements or Regulations.
- B. See Additional Instructions on Timing and Premiums in the Agriculture section.
- C. All exhibits must have been produced by the exhibitor. Plants in classes 10-73 must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least 2 months; plants in classes 77 and above for at least 3 months.
- D. Commercially grown cut flowers will not be eligible in classes 9-73.
- E. Commercially grown cut flowers shall be eligible in classes 1-8.
- F. Exhibitors may enter TWO (2) entries per class.
- G. Designations (unless otherwise noted):
 - 1. S – Small – under 3”
 - 2. L – Large – over 3”
 - 3. Follow rules of presentation for requirements such as ‘spray’ vs. ‘stem.’
 - a. Spray: A branched inflorescence with at least two open blooms and with or without buds.
 - b. Stem: A single-branched specimen with a single bloom and no other buds. (Compound inflorescences in the aster family are considered stems for the purposes of the show).
 - 4. Overall size – means in all directions, unless otherwise indicated.
 - a. Containers/planters do not count toward height in potted plant classes.
 - 5. Containers are furnished for small cut flower entries.
- H. Marijuana is prohibited in any agriculture or floriculture exhibit.

HELPFUL HINTS

- 1. To prepare flower exhibits properly, cut with sharp pruners after sundown or in early morning. Cut at peak of maturity, that is, when the main bloom or blooms is/are $\frac{3}{4}$ open.
- 2. Place immediately into tepid or warm water, and place in a cool dark place out of drafts for at least 8 hours prior to showing to allow time for the flower to recover full turgor.
- 3. Flowers that wilt easily should be collected the morning of the show.

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

4. Plants and cut flowers may be cleaned/groomed, though leaf dressing/shine is not allowed. Do not show plants with damaged leaves or spent flowers; they should be removed or trimmed as inconspicuously as possible. (A small blemish on an otherwise perfect specimen, though, will not remove it from contention.)
5. All specimens should be clean, and free from insect and disease damage or other blemishes.
6. No leaves should be submerged in the display vase.
7. Plants should be properly labeled on the entry tag. Genus species (botanic name) is preferred to aid in classification, but common names are acceptable. Provide as much information as possible, including variety name (remember to save those nursery tags and seed packets for reference!).

Examples:

Best: Tagetes patula 'Dwarf Sparky'
Better: French Marigold, Dwarf Sparky
Good: Marigold, Dwarf Sparky
Acceptable: Marigold

8. How Judges Evaluate Entries: Entries are not judged against one another directly but are judged according to how closely each approaches the "ideal" for the variety. If no entries in a particular class are sufficiently close to the ideal standard, top placings may not be awarded at the judge's discretion. Entries may be reclassified if necessary—judges/superintendents may subdivide and combine classes at their discretion to make class size and judging more manageable and move incorrectly entered plants to the correct class in order to make entries competitive for awards.

In general, judges look at:

- i. Condition: Plants are at peak bloom and free from disease, insects, mechanical, or other damage, including dirt, stain, and blemish.
- ii. Form: Plants and flowers are at proper maturity and correct shape for variety.
- iii. Stem and Foliage: Stems should be straight and in proportion to flowers, not damaged.
- iv. Color: Color should be true to type, intense, and brilliant.
- v. Size: Blooms and foliage should be the proper size for the variety and proportional. Where multiple specimens are required, they should be as uniform as possible.
- vi. Additional characteristics for particular classes are listed in "Helpful Hints" for each class when appropriate.

II. DIVISIONS

ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS

Class	Description
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- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Miniature Arrangement under 3" tall overall |
| 2 | Table Arrangement under 12" tall overall (Centerpiece) |
| 3 | Traditional Arrangement up to 36" tall |
| 4 | Contemporary Arrangement up to 36" tall. |
| 5 | Celebrate Colorado's 150 th year as a U.S. State <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. A display of any plant material in an unusual or decorated garden container utilizing symbols or identifiers in honor of Statehood. |
| 6 | Western Natives - Celebrate "The West" - Be Creative! |

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

a. Plants used should be native to the Western U.S.A

- 7 Terrariums (Fully or Partially Enclosed)
- 8 Fairy Gardens (Miniature gardens with accessories)

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Judging to include container and decoration depicting the theme
- B. Design: Balance, scale, composition, and proportion: Overall design is seen as one complete piece, pleasing to the eye and enjoyable to look at.
- C. Color harmony: Harmony of color used to create attractiveness.
- D. Conformance: Suitability to the class description.
- E. Traditional Arrangement: Bouquet of cut flowers arranged in container.
- F. Contemporary Arrangement: Modern floral design, architectural features, artistic, structural design.
- G. Originality and self-expression: Creativity, self-expression, and interpretation of the class theme.
- H. Texture harmony of materials: Relationship between the elements used: Flowers, foliage, container, and accessories in a design.
- I. Relation to container: Proper scale and proportion to container.
- J. Condition: Freshness and quality of all materials used: flowers, foliage, containers, ribbons, and other accents.

CUT FLOWERS

ANNUALS

Class	Description
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- | | |
|------|---|
| 10 | Bachelor Button – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 11 | Calendula – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 12 | Cockscomb – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 13 | Cosmos – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 14 | Dianthus – 3 Sprays (state variety) |
| 15 | Larkspur – 3 Sprays (state variety) |
| 16 | Marigold small – 3 Stems – under 3" (state variety) |
| 16a | Marigold Single Color – 3 Stems under 3" (state variety) |
| 16b | Marigold, Single Color – 3 Stems Large over 3" |
| 16 C | Marigold, Bi-color, Small -3 Stems -under 3" bi-color is 1 flower that has 2 colors |
| 17 | Marigold Bi-color Large – 3 Stems – over 3" (state variety) |
| 18 | Nasturtium – 3 Sprays (state variety) |
| 19 | Nicotiana – 3 Sprays (state variety) |
| 20 | Ornamental Grasses – 3 Spikes (state variety) |
| 21 | Pansies (Viola x wittrockiana) – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 22 | Viola (Viola pedunculata) or any other species violets – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 23 | Pelargonium (Geranium) – 1 Spray (state variety) |
| 24 | Petunia – 3 Sprays (state variety) |
| 25 | Poppy (Papaver & Eschscholzia) – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 26 | Rudbeckia – 3 Stems (state variety) |
| 27 | Salvia – 3 Sprays (state variety) |
| 28 | Snapdragon – 3 Sprays (state variety) |

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- 29 Sunflower small – 3 Stems – under 6” (state variety)
- 30 Sunflower large – 1 Stem – over 6” (state variety)
- 31 Zinnia small – 3 Stems – single color – under 3” (state variety)
- 32 Zinnia large – 3 Stems – single color – over 3” (state variety)
- 33 Zinnia small – 3 Stems – bicolor – under 3” (state variety) 1 Flower, 2 Colors.
- 34 Zinnia large – 3 Stems – bicolor – over 3” (state variety)
- 35 Any other annual in the aster family (Asteraceae) (not listed above) – 3 Stems (state variety)
- 36 Any Other Annual Cut Flower – 3 Stems or 1 Spray (state variety)

PERENNIALS

Class Description

- 37 Bellflower – 3 Sprays (state variety)
- 38 Columbine – 3 Stems (state variety)
- 39 Coneflower (Echinacea) - purple– 3 Stems (state variety)
- 40 Coneflower (Echinacea) other Colors– 3 Stems (state variety)
- 41 Coneflower - Yellow (Rudbeckia/Brown-eyed Susan)– 3 Stems (state variety)
- 42 Coneflower (Ratibida/Mexican hat)- 3 Stems
- 43 Coreopsis – 3 Stems (state variety)
- 44 Daisies and Fleabane (Leucanthemum & Erigeron) – 3 Stems (state variety)
- 45 Goldenrod (Solidago) -1 Spray (state variety)
- 46 Delphinium – 1 Spray (state variety)
- 47 Dianthus – 3 Sprays (state variety)
- 48 Gaillardia (Blanketflower)– 3 Stems (state variety)
- 49 Ornamental Grasses - 3 Spikes (state variety)
- 50 Hydrangea - 1 Spray (state variety)
- 51 Liatris (Gayfeather) -1 Spike (state variety)
- 52 Monarda (Beebalm) – 1 Spray (state variety)
- 53 Penstemon – 3 Sprays (state variety)
- 54 Phlox and Gilia – 1 Spray (state variety)
- 55 Roses: Hybrid Tea and Grandiflora – 1 Stem or 1 Spray (state variety)
- 56 Roses: Floribunda and Polyantha – 1 Spray (state variety)
- 57 Roses: Miniature and Miniflora – 1 Spray or 1 Stem (state variety)
- 58 Roses: Shrub – 1 Spray or 1 Stem (state variety)
- 59 Roses: Rambling and Climbing – 1 Spray or 1 Stem (state variety)
- 60 Roses: Heritage and Old Garden Roses – 1 Spray or 1 Stem (state variety)
- 61 Russian Sage (Perovskia) – 1 Spray
- 62 Salvia and other mints not listed above (Lamiaceae) –1 Spray or 3 Stems (state variety)
- 63 Violets – 3 Stems (state variety)
- 64 Yarrow – 3 Sprays (state variety)
- 65 Any other perennial in the aster family (Asteraceae) (not listed above) – 3 Stems (state variety)
- 66 Flowering Shrubs: Butterfly Bush (Buddleja)–1 Spray (state variety)
- 67 Flowering Shrubs: Fernbush (Chamaebatiaria) – 1 Spray
- 68 Flowering Shrubs: Other shrubs or woody vines with blossoms (not listed above) – 1 spray or 3 stems (state variety)
- 70 Ornamental Fruit – 1 Spray or 3 Stems (state variety)

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

71 Any Other Perennial (not listed above) – 1 Spray or 3 Stems (state variety)

BULBS, CORMS, TUBERS, FLESHY ROOTS

Class Description

- 72 Dahlia small – 1 Stem – under 3” (state variety)
73 Dahlia medium – 1 Stem – 3” to 6” (state variety)
74 Dahlia large – 1 Stem – over 6” (state variety)
75 Daylily – 1 Spray (state variety)
76 Gladiolus any color – 1 Spray (state variety)
77 Lily – 1 Spray (state variety)

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Ornamental grasses are judged on the flower spike or the seed heads.
B. Heritage and Old Garden Roses are varieties introduced prior to 1867 or of unknown introduction date.
C. Culinary Herbs are judged on floral quality.
D. Ornamental Fruits are judged on aesthetic value. Fruits should be entered on stems (not detached). Choose fruits that are symmetrical and well proportioned, with brilliant color appropriate to variety. Fruits in this class may be dried or fresh, as appropriate for variety and ornamental value. Examples include but are not limited to: Lunaria (money plant), Cephalanthus (buttonbush), and Viburnum.

FOR CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER ONLY

Class Description

- 78 The Biggest Bloom – 1 Stem
79 The Smallest Bloom – 1 Stem

POTTED PLANTS

Class Description

- 80 African Violets & Relatives of African violets (Gesneriads) (state variety)
81 Pelargoniums and Geraniums (state variety)
82 Begonias (state variety)
83 Small Houseplant in Bloom – under 12” tall overall (state variety)
84 Large Houseplant in Bloom – over 12” tall overall (state variety)
85 Small Non-Blooming Houseplant – under 12” tall overall (state variety)
86 Large Non-Blooming Houseplant – over 12” tall overall (state variety)
87 Ferns and Fern-Allies (Spore-producing vascular plants) (state variety)
88 Mixed Interior Planter – 2 or more varieties (state varieties)
89 Cactus (state variety)
90 Other Succulent (state variety)
90a Aloes
90b Agave, Mangave & Manfreda, Haworthia
90c Crassula
90d Echeveria
91 Outdoor Planter – 1 variety of plant (state variety)
92 Outdoor Planter – 2 or more varieties of plants (state varieties)
93 Vining Houseplant or Trailing Houseplant (state variety)

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

HELPFUL HINTS

- A. Should be groomed to remove spent blossoms, damaged leaves, dirt, debris, and insects. Planting medium should not be visible or should play an aesthetic role in display. Container should be full to overflowing, and in proportion to contents.
- B. Plant container/pot does not count toward height in houseplant category.
- C. Outdoor Planters can be a mixture of annuals (including vegetables) and perennials.

III. PREMIUMS

- A. All Floriculture Classes
 1. Ribbons will be awarded in 1st through 6th place
 2. **PREMIUMS:** 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3, 3rd-\$1
 3. Rosette: Best of Show, awarded for the Following Categories:
 - a. Overall Best of Show, Floriculture
 - b. Overall Youth Best of Show, Floriculture
 - c. Open – Most Artistic Arrangement
 - d. Best Marigold (classes 16-17) Youth – Most Artistic Arrangement
 - e. Open – Cut Flower Annuals
 - f. Youth – Cut Flower Annuals
 - g. Open – Cut Flower Perennial
 - h. Youth – Cut Flower Perennial
 - i. Open – Cut Flower Bulbs
 - j. Youth – Cut Flower Bulbs
 - k. Open - Potted Plants
 - l. Youth – Potted Plants

**CREATIVE ARTS - OPEN CLASS DIVISION
FINE ARTS – DEPARTMENT FA**

ALL EXHIBITS ARE IN THE EVENTS CENTER - JUDGING CLOSED TO PUBLIC

ENTRY DATE: 7/26/26, 10A – 4P; EXHIBIT RELEASE/PREMIUM PAYMENT DATE: 8/2/26, 5-6P

VIEWER'S CHOICE BALLOTS DUE 8/1/26, 6PM

I. DEPARTMENT PROVISIONS

- A. All entrants must read and be familiar with and comply with the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo General Competition Rules, Open Class Division General Competition Rules, and any special Division or Department Competition Requirements or Regulations.
- B. All entries must be the work of the exhibitor. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to generate, develop, or complete any portion of an exhibit or entry is strictly prohibited. Any project determined to have utilized AI will be disqualified.
- C. Exhibits must be entered in the name of the person who created them.
- D. Exhibitors are allowed 2 entries per class in the Department.
- E. Youth Exhibitors:
 - 1. Youth exhibitors may enter any numbered class listed below as a youth and be judged against other youth in that class.
 - 2. Youth exhibitors may also enter grade designated classes based on their grade completed as of August 1 of the current year.
 - 3. Youth exhibitors are also permitted to enter designated adult classes and have their exhibit judged against adult exhibitors if they choose (not common).
- F. Exhibitor Classification: The amateur and professional definitions are applied to the classes being entered. A person may be both an amateur and a professional. Ex: In the Crafts Department an exhibitor can be a professional in Stained Glass but an amateur in the Macrame. Professionals are not eligible for Best of Show or Best of Category awards.
 - Amateur** – A person who engages in an activity as a hobby, not as a job. Ex. An amateur artist does not receive income from works of art.
 - Professional** – An individual who has received formal training, taught others or routinely earns income by selling their work or exhibits.
- G. For more information call: 720-733-6900.

II. PREMIUMS

- A. All Classes
 - 1. Entries will be judged and awarded on merit. Ribbons may be awarded for 1st through 6th place.
 - 2. Premiums: 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3 3rd-\$1
 - 3. Rosette: Best of Show classes:
 - Open Fine Arts, classes 1-21
 - Youth Fine Arts, classes 1-55

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

FINE ARTS – DEPARTMENT FA

- A. All Exhibitors must prepare and submit hanging artwork in accordance with the framing and display guidelines posted online at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved> Open Class Competitions>Fine Arts and Photo Hanging Guidelines. **Exhibitors are responsible for reviewing all requirements, visual examples, and the list of prohibited hanging materials prior to submission.**
- B. Fine Arts entries will be judged on technique, composition, color theory, originality, and overall presentation.
- C. Only traditional forms of fine art will be accepted and judged. **Entries must be original work designed and executed solely by the artist.** Work from commercial kits, paint-by-numbers or copied forms is not eligible. Digital or computer enhanced work will not be accepted or judged.
- D. **SIZE RESTRICTIONS:** Due to space limitations in our display area, artwork must be no larger than 1,296 square inches framed. This is the length x the width of the outside frame measurement. Example 36" x 36" = 1,296 inches.
- E. Customary care will be taken in handling artwork, but it will be shown at the Exhibitor's own risk.

CLASSES

ACRYLIC

Class	Description
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- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | Acrylic - Landscapes |
| 2 | Acrylic - Animal |
| 3 | Acrylic – Miscellaneous |

DRAWING

Class	Description
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- | | |
|---|--|
| 4 | Drawing I – Pencil, Graphite, Colored Pencil, Charcoal |
| 5 | Drawing II – Ink, Pen, and Ink |
| 6 | Drawing, Other – Colored Markers, Scratchboard, Calligraphy, Crayon, Chalk, etc. |

OILS

Class	Description
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- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 7 | Oil Painting - Landscape |
| 8 | Oil Painting – Animal |
| 9 | Oil Painting – Miscellaneous |

WATER BASED MEDIA PAINTING – Watercolor, Tempera, gouache, alcohol Inks, Asian Brush Painting, etc.

Class	Description
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- | | |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 10 | Water Based Media - Landscape |
| 11 | Water Based Media - Animal |
| 12 | Water Based Media Miscellaneous |

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

Class	Description
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13	Abstract
14	Mixed Media and Collage
15	Pastel
16	Print Making – Woodcut, Linocut, Intaglio, Silkscreen, Lithography, Embossing
17	Sculpture
18	Wildlife – Any Media
19	Portraits – Any Media
20	Miniature Framed Artwork – 4” x 4” or Less – Any Media
21	Miscellaneous

YOUTH CLASSES BY GRADE

Class	Description
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50	Pre-K-Kindergarten
51	Grades 1st– 2nd
52	Grades 3rd – 4th
53	Grades 5th – 6th
54	Grades 7th – 9 th
55	Grades 10 th – 12 th

CRAFTS & CERAMICS - DEPARTMENT CR

ALL EXHIBITS ARE IN THE EVENTS CENTER - JUDGING CLOSED TO PUBLIC

ENTRY DATE: 7/26/26, 10A – 4P; EXHIBIT RELEASE/PREMIUM PAYMENT DATE: 8/2/26, 5-6P

VIEWER'S CHOICE BALLOTS DUE 8/1/26, 6PM

I. DEPARTMENT PROVISIONS

- A. All entrants must read and be familiar with and comply with the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo General Competition Rules, Open Class Division General Competition Rules, and any special Division or Department Competition Requirements or Regulations.
- B. All entries must be the work of the exhibitor. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to generate, develop, or complete any portion of an exhibit or entry is strictly prohibited. Any project determined to have utilized AI will be disqualified.
- C. Exhibits must be entered in the name of the person who created them.
- D. Exhibitors are allowed 2 entries per numbered class in the Department.
- E. Youth Exhibitors:
 - 1. Youth exhibitors may enter any numbered class listed below as a youth and be judged against other youth within that class.
 - 2. Youth exhibitors may also enter grade designated classes base on their grade completed as of August 1 of the current year.
 - 3. Youth exhibitors are also permitted to enter designated adult classes and have their exhibit judged against adult exhibitors if they choose. (not common).
- F. Articles **must** be clean and free from odor, lint, soil, stains, and pet hair.
- G. Exhibitor Classification: The amateur and professional definitions are applied to the classes being entered. A person may be both an amateur and a professional. Ex: In the Crafts Department an exhibitor can be a professional in Stained Glass but an amateur in the Macrame. Professionals are not eligible for Best of Show or Best of Category awards.
 - Amateur** – A person who engages in an activity as a hobby, not as a job.
 - Professional** –An individual who has received formal training, taught others or routinely earns income by selling their work or exhibits. For more information call: 720-733-6900.

II. PREMIUMS

- A. All Classes
 - 1. Entries will be judged and awarded on merit. Ribbons may be awarded for 1st through 6th place.
 - 2. Premiums: 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3 3rd-\$1
 - 3. Rosette: Best of Show classes:
 - Open Crafts, classes 339-346
 - Youth Crafts, classes 339 -346 and 360-364
 - Open Beading, classes 300-305
 - Open Ceramics, classes 337-344
 - Youth Open Ceramics, classes 337-344 and 360-364

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

CRAFTS - DEPARTMENT CR

- A. Definition: Woodworking, Ceramics, etc.
 - 1.(R) Representational: recognizable subject matter or abstract.
 - 2.(NR) Non-Representational: non-recognizable or non-objective.
 - 3.Commercial kits will be grouped together and judged on skill, not creativity.
 - 4.Scrapbooking, 2 pages only, in plastic sleeves for protection.
 - 5.Lego exhibits must be attached and displayed on rigid base and solidly constructed (not heavy or too fragile) to allow for display.
- B. Greenware or Earthenware, Porcelain and Stoneware and Pottery entries must be cleaned and finished by the Exhibitor only.
- C. All pieces must be finished on the bottom. No felt or covering of any kind is allowed.
 - 1.The bottom constitutes the flat portion plus the lip of the bottom.
 - 2.If the bottom is not finished or felt is attached to the bottom, the entry will be disqualified.
- D. Any piece at the bisque stage (purchased from any retail outlet) but not finished by the entrant (glazed, fired, etc.) cannot be entered in the Ceramics Department. Those retail contemporary pieces of bisque must be entered in the Miscellaneous Craft, Class 338.

CLASSES

Class Description

- 300 Beading – Off loom bead weaving jewelry, original design (done with needle and thread)
- 301 Beading – Off loom weaving jewelry – kit /pattern (done with needle and thread)
- 302 Beading – Loomed
- 303 Beading – Off Loom 3D, Other
- 304 Beading – Stringing
- 305 Beading – Wire & Beads
- 306 Decorative Craft – Kit
- 307 Decorative Craft Original Design
- 308 Decorative Wall Hanging Kit
- 309 Decorative Wall Hanging Original Design
- 310 Jewelry – Metalsmithing
- 311 Jewelry – Miscellaneous
- 312 Macramé
- 313 Leathercraft – Kit
- 314 Leathercraft – Original design
- 315 Woodcraft – Pattern or Kit
- 316 Woodcraft – Original design
- 317 Legos – Kit
- 318 Legos – Original design
- 319 Papercraft – Kit
- 320 Papercraft - Original design
- 321 Holiday Craft – Kit
- 322 Holiday Craft – Original design
- 323 Stained Glass
- 324 Fused Glass

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- 325 Dolls – Original design
- 326 Dolls
- 327 Decorative Painting
- 328 Rosemaling
- 329 Clothes Painting
- 330 Miniatures
- 331 Basketry
- 332 Southwest
- 333 Metal Work
- 334 Scrapbooking, Traditional
- 335 Scrapbooking, Digital
- 336 Woodworking, Turned
- 337 Recycled
- 338 Miscellaneous Craft
- 339 Ceramic item – Fired finish
- 340 Ceramic item – Unfired finish
- 341 Ceramic item – Combination of finishes
- 342 Hand Built/Hand Thrown Ceramics
- 343 Miscellaneous Ceramics (pottery, china, porcelain – any single or combination techniques)
- 344 Earthenware/Stoneware Miscellaneous (ceramic, pottery – any single or combination of finishes/techniques)
- 345 Raku
- 346 Polymer Clay

YOUTH CLASSES BY GRADE

Class	Description
--------------	--------------------

- | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| 350 | Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten |
| 351 | Grades 1 st – 3rd |
| 352 | Grades 4th – 6th |
| 353 | Grades 7th – 9 th |
| 354 | Grades 10 th – 12th |

YOUTH CLOTHES PAINTING BY GRADE

Class	Description
--------------	--------------------

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 355 | Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten |
| 356 | Grades 1 st - 3rd |
| 357 | Grades 4th – 6th |
| 358 | Grades 7th – 9 th |
| 359 | Grades 10 th – 12 th |

YOUTH CERAMICS CLASSES BY GRADE

Class	Description
--------------	--------------------

- | | |
|-----|------------------------------|
| 360 | Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten |
| 361 | Grades 1 st – 3rd |
| 362 | Grades 4th – 6th |

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- 363 Grades 7th – 9th
- 364 Grades 10th – 12th

June 1, 2026

PHOTOGRAPHY - DEPARTMENT PH

ALL EXHIBITS ARE IN THE EVENTS CENTER - JUDGING CLOSED TO PUBLIC

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- G. For more information call: 720-733-6900.

II. PREMIUMS

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 - 2. Premiums: 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3 3rd-\$1
 - 3. Rosette: Best of Show classes:
 - Open Photography, classes 201 – 243, and 290 -294
 - Youth Photography, classes 201 – 243 and 290 - 294
 - Douglas County Fair Photo, class 200

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

PHOTOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

- A. Exhibitors must prepare and submit matted photos in accordance with the Creative Arts Guidelines posted online at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved>Open Class Competitions>Fine Arts and Photo Hanging Guidelines. **Exhibitors are responsible for reviewing all requirements, visual examples, and the list of prohibited hanging materials prior to submission.**
- B. Single picture entries only except for Story Telling class.
- C. Subject matter of entries must be appropriate for family friendly viewing.
- D. **For Class 200 only: All photos entered in Douglas County Fair Class #200 become the property of Douglas County/Douglas County Fair Board and will not be returned. No exceptions. In addition to entering the actual physical printed photograph for judging and display photographs must also be supplied in digital format for use by Douglas County/Douglas County Fair & Rodeo.** The photograph need not be taken with a digital camera; good quality scans of photographic prints are acceptable. Digital files may be requested after the Fair. By entering the contest, entrants grant The Douglas County Fair a royalty-free, worldwide, perpetual, nonexclusive license to display, distribute reproduce and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or subsequently developed, for any educational, promotional, publicity, exhibition, archival, scholarly, and all other standard Douglas County Fair purposes. Any photograph reproduced will include a photographer credit as feasible. The Douglas County Fair will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such uses. For a photo in which a person is recognizable, you must secure a model release, prior to submissions, from the subject or, in the case of a minor, the subject's parent or guardian and provide it to the Douglas County Fair upon request.

OPEN PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION CLASSES

PEOPLE

Class	Description
200	Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Photo
201	Portraits of People over 60
202	Portraits of People 41-60
203	Portraits of People 21-40
204	Portraits of People 5-20
205	Portraits of People Infant to 4
206	People (Group)
207	People - Personalities
208	People – At Work

ANIMALS

209	Animals – Personalities
210	Animals – Domestic
211	Animals – Wild
212	Animals – Farm

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

NATURE

- 213 Nature- Mountains
- 214 Nature – Sunsets
- 215 Nature – Miscellaneous
- 216 Nature – Water

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

- 217 Anything 4-H
- 218 Touch of Country
- 219 Fall
- 220 Winter
- 221 Sports
- 222 Clouds
- 223 Astronomy
- 224 Flowers
- 225 Bugs
- 226 Architecture – Man Made
- 227 Birds
- 228 Food
- 229 Fireworks
- 230 Patriotic
- 231 Drone
- 232 Selfies
- 233 Douglas County – Distinct Landmarks
- 234 Famous Landmarks
- 235 Macro
- 236 Still Life
- 237 Black & White
- 238 Action Photo – Peak of Action
- 239 Digital (Altered) – Inc. Hand Painted
- 240 Story Telling – A Succession of Photos on One Theme
- 241 Lightning
- 242 Photo Bomb
- 243 Miscellaneous

YOUTH CLASSES BY GRADE

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 290 | Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten |
| 291 | Grades 1 st – 3rd |
| 292 | Grades 4th – 6th |
| 293 | Grades 7th – 9 th |
| 294 | Grades 10 th – 12th |

BAKING - DEPARTMENT BK

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 - 3. Youth exhibitors are also permitted to enter designated adult classes and have their exhibit judged against adult exhibitors if they choose. (not common).
 - 4. Youth exhibitors only, write "J" and the age of the youth exhibitor on the upper right corner of the Exhibit Tag
- F. Exhibitor Classification: The amateur and professional definitions are applied to the class being entered. A person may be both an amateur and a professional. Ex: In the Crafts Department an exhibitor can be a professional in Stained Glass but an amateur in Macrame. Professionals are not eligible for Best of Show or Best of Category awards.
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II. PREMIUMS

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 - 1. Entries will be judged and awarded on merit. Ribbons may be awarded for 1st through 6th place.
 - 2. Premiums: 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3 3rd-\$1
 - 3. Rosette: Best of Show classes:
 - Open Yeast Baking, classes 11 – 24
 - Youth Yeast Baking, classes 11 – 24
 - Open Pie Baking, classes 60 – 66
 - Youth Pie Baking, classes 60 – 66 and 80 - 84
 - Open Most Blue Ribbons, classes 1 – 76
 - Youth Most Blue Ribbons, classes 1 – 76 and 80 – 84

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

Open Commissioners Cookie Jar, class 101

Youth Commissioners Cookie Jar, class 100

BAKING – DEPARTMENT BK

Questions about Baking? Go to <https://extension.colostate.edu/publications-2/> and choose High Elevation Food Preparation

- A. No pumpkin, custard, cream pies, cheesecake, cobblers, pancakes, or waffles.
- B. All baked products must be entered on disposable paper plates, disposable tin pans, or cardboard. Cakes must be displayed on flat, covered cardboard. NO GLASS DISHES OR PANS.
- C. There will be a sale of Baked goods during judging on a donation basis at the Events Center.

QUICK BREADS

Class	Description
--------------	--------------------

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Biscuits – 6 |
| 2 | Fruit Bread (with or without nuts) and Nut Bread – 1 loaf |
| 3 | Muffins - 6 |
| 4 | Squash Bread – 1 loaf |
| 5 | Coffee Cake - 1 |
| 6 | Corn Bread Muffins - 6 |
| 7 | Tortillas - 6 |
| 8 | Miscellaneous (1 loaf or 6) |
| 9 | Gluten Free (1 loaf or 6) |

YEAST AND SOURDOUGH BREADS

Class	Description
--------------	--------------------

- | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| 11 | White Bread – 1 loaf |
| 12 | Whole Wheat Bread – 1 loaf |
| 13 | Multi-Grain Bread – 1 loaf |
| 14 | Rye Bread – 1 loaf |
| 15 | Sourdough Bread – 1 loaf |
| 16 | Dinner Rolls – 6 |
| 17 | Batter Bread – 1 loaf |
| 18 | Sweet Rolls – 6 |
| 19 | Raised Doughnuts – 6 |
| 20 | Holiday Breads – 1 loaf |
| 21 | Home Ground Grain Breads – 1 loaf |
| 22 | Artisan Bread |
| 23 | Miscellaneous – 6 rolls or 1 loaf |
| 24 | Gluten Free – 1 loaf |

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

CAKES

Class	Description
30	Unfrosted Cake
31	Frosted Cake
32	Bundt Cake
33	Decorated (Cake or Form)
34	Cupcakes, 6
35	Brownies – 6
36	Miscellaneous (1 cake or 6)
37	Gluten Free (1 cake or 6)

COOKIES

Class	Description
40	Rolled (cutout cookies) – 6
41	Molded, Shaped or Tea – 6
42	Drop – 6
43	Bar – 6
44	Chocolate Chip – 6
45	Refrigerator – 6
46	Peanut Butter – 6
47	Oatmeal – 6
48	Pressed Cookies – 6
49	No Bake – 6
50	Miscellaneous – 6
51	Nutritional – 6
52	Gluten Free – 6
53	Decorated Cookies - 6

PIES

Class	Description
60	Apple
61	Cherry
62	Peach
63	Rhubarb
64	Berry
65	Miscellaneous
66	Gluten Free

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

CANDY

Class	Description
70	Fudge – 6
71	Divinity – 6
72	Mints – 6
73	Brittles – 6
74	No Cook – 6
75	Miscellaneous – 6
76	Gluten Free – 6

YOUTH CLASSES BY GRADE

Class	Description
80	Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten
81	Grades 1 st – 3 rd
82	Grades 4 th – 6 th
83	Grades 7 th – 9 th
84	Grades 10 th – 12 th

COMMISSIONERS' COOKIE JAR

Class	Description
100	Junior Cookie Jar
101	Open Cookie Jar

- A. Presented before the Junior Livestock Sale.
- B. This exhibit is a container of assorted cookies made by one or more people from at least 4 different recipes.
- C. The container must be filled and contain at least 4 kinds of different cookies individually wrapped.
- D. Exhibitors must place one cookie of each kind on a small plate to accompany the exhibit so that the Judge does not need to open the container.
- E. Containers must be wide-mouthed of approximately one gallon or 64-ounce capacity and must be decorated as desired by exhibitor.
- F. No commercially decorated cookie jars will be accepted.
- G. Cookies will count as 50% of score and decorated container 50% of score.

SPECIAL PREMIUMS

- A. **Junior Cookie Jar Premiums: 1st - \$8, 2nd - \$6, 3rd - \$4, 4th - \$2**
- B. **Open Cookie Jar Premiums: 1st - \$16, 2nd - \$12, 3rd - \$8, 4th - \$4**

CANNING – DEPARTMENT CN

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ENTRY DATE: 7/26/26, 10A – 4P; EXHIBIT RELEASE/PREMIUM PAYMENT DATE: 8/2/26, 5-6P

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 - 2. Premiums: 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3 3rd-\$1
 - 3. Rosette: Best of Show classes
 - Open Canned Goods, classes 100 – 229
 - Youth Canned Goods, classes 100 – 229 and 230-234

CANNING – DEPARTMENT CN

Questions about preserving foods? Go to Colorado State Extension office

<https://apps.chhs.colostate.edu/preservesmart>

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

CANNED PRODUCTS

All canned foods must be preserved using recipes from the most current version of your recipe resource and use canning information from 1994 or later. Acceptable resources include, but are not limited to: The USDA, University Extension publications and pectin package inserts. **Recipes are required and must be attached for all canned or dried products.**

To be considered for judging, all canned food entries must be canned in a boiling water canner or pressure canner. All **canned** products **must** be canned in standard brand name **clear, non-colored** glass canning jars and canned since last year's fair by the person in whose name they are entered. Jars should be in good condition with two-piece canning lids with band in good condition and a new flat lid (**reusable lids will not be accepted**).

All canned food entries must be labeled properly. Each entry must be accompanied by the form below. This form is available as a download at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved>Open Class Competitions.

CANNING ENTRY INFORMATION FORM

Name of Product
Source of Recipe
Year source was published
Page number
OR
Date accessed online
Website link
Type of Pack (hot/cold)
Processing (water bath/pressure)
Date of Canning
Altitude
Processing Time
PSI (lbs/sq in)
Recipe Ingredients and Measurements only

CANNING ENTRY -INFORMATION FORM EXAMPLE

Name of Product	Sliced Peaches
Source of Recipe	Ball Blue Book
Year source was published	2024
Page number	55
OR	
Date accessed online	
Website link	
Type of Pack (hot/cold)	Raw Pack
Processing (water bath/pressure)	Boiling Water Bath
Date of Canning	9/1/2024
Altitude	6300 feet
Processing Time	40 minutes
PSI (lbs/sq in)	
Recipe Ingredients	2 cups peaches
and Measurements only	1/4 cup sugar

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

DRIED FOODS

All **dried** foods should be displayed in appropriate storage containers (clear glass jars with rust free lids, heavy weight plastic food quality bags, vacuum sealed plastic food bags, etc.). Jerky recipes must use CSU-recommended procedures. Deer and Elk meat are to include a copy of test results for Chronic Wasting Disease.

All **dried** foods must be labeled properly. Each entry must be accompanied by the form below. This form available as a download at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved>Open Class Competitions.

DRIED FOOD ENTRY INFORMATION FORM

Name of Product
Pretreatment used if any
Method of Drying (oven or dehydrator)
Total Drying Time
Date dried

DRIED FOOD ENTRY FORM - EXAMPLE

Name of Product	Apricots
Pretreatment used if any	Ascorbic Acid Dipped
Method of Drying (oven or dehydrator)	Dehydrator
Total Drying Time	8 hours
Date dried	7/15/2025

FRUITS

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 100 | Apples |
| 101 | Cherries – Sweet |
| 102 | Cherries – Sour |
| 103 | Rhubarb |
| 104 | Peaches |
| 105 | Pears |
| 106 | Plums |
| 107 | Apricots |
| 108 | Berries |
| 109 | Fruit Mix |
| 110 | Apple Sauce |
| 111 | Miscellaneous |

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

VEGETABLES

Class	Description
120	Green Beans
121	Wax Beans
122	Beets
123	Carrots
124	Corn
125	Mixed Vegetables
126	Tomatoes
127	Tomato Juice
128	Stewed Tomatoes
129	Peas
130	Miscellaneous

RELISHES

Class	Description
140	Corn Relish
141	Chili Sauce
142	Piccalilli
143	Hot Pepper Sauce
144	Zucchini
145	Salsa
146	Miscellaneous

PICKLES

Class	Description
150	Beet
151	Dill
152	Sweet
153	Sour
154	Bread and Butter
155	Watermelon
156	Dilled Beans
157	Zucchini
158	Mixed Vegetable
159	Fruit
160	Miscellaneous

BUTTERS - Made from fruit pulp cooked with sugar until thickened to a spreadable consistency.

Class	Description
170	Apple Butter
171	Peach Butter
172	Plum Butter
173	Miscellaneous Butters

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

JAMS - Less firm than Jelly but will hold its shape. Made from crushed or chopped fruits and sugar.

Class Description

- 180 Apricot Jam
- 181 Peach Jam
- 182 Plum Jam
- 183 Raspberry Jam
- 184 Strawberry Jam
- 185 Berry Jam
- 186 Cherry Jam
- 187 Rhubarb Jam Mix
- 188 Miscellaneous Jam

JELLIES – Semi-solid mix of fruit juice and sugar that is clear and firm enough to hold its shape.

Class Description

- 190 Apple Jelly
- 191 Chokecherry Jelly
- 192 Cherry Jelly
- 193 Chokecherry Jelly Mix
- 194 Grape Jelly
- 195 Plum Jelly
- 196 Berry Jelly
- 197 Rhubarb Jelly Mix
- 198 Rhubarb Jelly
- 199 Crabapple Jelly
- 200 Miscellaneous Jelly

PRESERVES – Made of small, whole fruits or uniform size pieces of fruits in clear, thick, slightly jellied syrup.

Class Description

- 201 Apricot Preserves
- 202 Cherry Preserves
- 203 Peach Preserves
- 204 Plum Preserves
- 205 Strawberry Preserves
- 206 Tomato Preserves
- 207 Rhubarb Preserves
- 208 Miscellaneous Preserves

MARMALADES – Small transparent pieces of fruit and peel in soft jelly. Conserves :Similar to jam, but always a mixture of fruit and usually has nuts sometimes and raisins.

Class Description

- 210 Orange Marmalade
- 211 Miscellaneous Marmalade
- 212 Miscellaneous Conserve

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

MISCELLANEOUS

Class	Description
220	Noodles - Dry – 2 cup minimum
221	Shaped Pasta – 2 cup minimum
222	Dried Fruit – 6 pieces
223	Dried Vegetables – 6 pieces
224	Fruit Leather – 6 pieces
225	Vinegar – 1 Jar
226	Dried Herbs, ¼ cup each of 3 herbs
227	Granola – 2 cup minimum
228	Dried Soups – 2 cup minimum
229	Dried Meat – 6 pieces

YOUTH CLASSES BY GRADE

Class	Description
230	Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten
231	Grades 1 st – 3rd
232	Grades 4th – 6th
233	Grades 7th – 9 th
234	Grades 10 th – 12th

HOME ARTS – DEPARTMENT HA

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 3. Rosette: Best of Show classes:
 - Open Lace, class 23 - 25, 130 - 131
 - Open Needlework, classes 75 - 85
 - Youth Needlework, classes 75 - 85 and 150 - 154
 - Open Embroidery, classes 50 - 63
 - Open Sewing, classes 1 - 14
 - Youth Sewing, classes 1 - 14 and 150 - 154
 - Open Knitting, classes 100 - 112
 - Open Crochet, classes 20 - 43
 - Open Afghan, classes 20 - 21, 100 - 101

HOME ARTS – DEPARTMENT HA

SEWING

Class	Description
1	Clothing
2	Children's Clothing
3	Fashion Accessories
4	Toys
5	Aprons
6	Recycled Item
7	Costumes
8	Pillows
9	Wall Hanging
10	Kitchen Accessories
11	Bag
12	Quilted Item
13	Holiday
14	Miscellaneous

CROCHET

Class	Description
20	Afghans
21	Afghans Baby
22	Slippers or Socks
23	Buffet Scarves
24	Doilies Under 14"
25	Doilies Over 14"
26	Dresses
27	Kitchen Accessories
28	Pillows
29	Toys
30	3-Piece Baby Set
31	Poncho or Shawl
32	Man's Sweater
33	Woman's Sweater
34	Child's Sweater
35	Hat
36	Gloves or Mittens
37	Tablecloth
38	Scarves
39	Dolls
40	Holiday
41	Crocheted Item with beading

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- 42 Baby
- 43 Miscellaneous

EMBROIDERY

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|---|
| 50 | Kitchen Accessories |
| 51 | Pillowcases – Pair |
| 52 | Pillow – Decorative |
| 53 | Crewel, Pillow, Needle Case or other item (afghan rare) |
| 54 | Crewel – Picture Under 8” |
| 55 | Crewel – Picture Over 8” |
| 56 | Beading – Surface (attach to fabric) |
| 57 | Beading – Necklaces |
| 58 | Beading – Bags |
| 59 | Ribbon Embroidery |
| 60 | Hand Embroidery |
| 61 | Machine Embroidery |
| 62 | Holiday |
| 63 | Miscellaneous |

NEEDLEWORK

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|--|
| 75 | Pillow – can have 1 or more counted techniques |
| 76 | Cross Stitch – Counted Under 4” |
| 77 | Cross Stitch – Counted Under 8” |
| 78 | Cross Stitch – Counted Over 8” |
| 79 | Cross Stitch – Stamped Under 4” |
| 80 | Cross Stitch – Stamped Under 8” |
| 81 | Cross Stitch – Stamped Over 8” |
| 82 | Needlepoint – Under 4” |
| 83 | Needlepoint – Under 8” |
| 84 | Needlepoint – Over 8” |
| 85 | Miscellaneous |

KNITTING

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 100 | Afghans |
| 101 | Afghans – Baby |
| 102 | 3-Piece Baby Set |
| 103 | Ponchos or Shawls |
| 104 | Man’s Sweater |
| 105 | Woman’s Sweater |
| 106 | Child’s Sweater |
| 107 | Hats |
| 108 | Gloves or Mittens |

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

- 109 Scarves
- 110 Slippers or Socks
- 111 Dresses
- 112 Miscellaneous

RUGS

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 120 | Braided |
| 121 | Latch Hook |
| 122 | Punch |
| 123 | Knitted |
| 124 | Crochet |
| 125 | Hooked |
| 126 | Miscellaneous |

MISCELLANEOUS

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 130 | Tatting – Any |
| 131 | Lace – Any |
| 132 | Weaving |
| 133 | Felting |
| 134 | Hand Spinning |

YOUTH CLASSES BY GRADE

- | Class | Description |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 150 | Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten |
| 151 | Grades 1 st – 3rd |
| 152 | Grades 4th – 6th |
| 153 | Grades 7th – 9 th |
| 154 | Grades 10 th – 12th |

QUILTS – DEPARTMENT Q

ALL EXHIBITS ARE IN THE EVENTS CENTER - JUDGING OPEN TO PUBLIC 7/28/25, 9AM

ENTRY DATE: 7/26/26, 10A – 4P; EXHIBIT RELEASE/PREMIUM PAYMENT DATE: 8/2/26, 5-6P

VIEWER'S CHOICE BALLOTS DUE 8/1/26, 6PM

I. DEPARTMENT PROVISIONS

- A. All entrants must read and be familiar with and comply with the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo General Competition Rules, Open Class Division General Competition Rules, and any special Division or Department Competition Requirements or Regulations.
- B. All entries must be the work of the Exhibitor.
- C. Exhibits must be entered in the name of the person who created them.
- D. Exhibitors are allowed 1 entry per numbered class in the Department. The entry must have been completed within 2 years of the Fair Entry Date.
- E. First time entries must be identified on the entry tag.
- F. Articles **must** be clean and free from odor, lint, soil, stains, and pet hair. Please cover name labels attached to quilts.
- G. Youth Exhibitors:
 1. Youth exhibitors may enter any numbered class listed below as a youth and be judged against other youth in that class.
 2. Youth exhibitors may also enter grade designated classes based on their grade completed as of August 1 of the current year.
 3. Youth exhibitors are also permitted to enter adult designated classes and have their exhibit judged against adult exhibitors if they choose. (not common).
- H. Exhibitor Classification: The amateur and professional definitions are applied to the class being entered. A person may be both an amateur and a professional. Ex: In the Crafts Department an exhibitor can be a professional in Stained Glass but an amateur in the Macrame. Professionals are not eligible for Best of Show or Best of Category awards.

Amateur – A person who engages in an activity as a hobby, not as a job.

Professional – An individual who has received formal training, taught others or routinely earns income by selling their work or exhibits.
- I. Quilt:
 1. Three Layers – top, batting, backing.
 2. Held together by quilting stitches through all three layers.
- J. **Quilt Classifications:**
 1. **Large Quilts:** Those that have a total perimeter measurement of 280" or larger.
 2. **Small Quilts:** Those that have a total perimeter measurement of less than 280".
 3. **Hand Quilted:** Quilts that are 75% hand quilted. Hand quilted quilts may include some machine quilting.
 4. **Machine Quilted:** Quilts that are 75% machine quilted. Machine quilts may include some hand quilting.
 5. **Mostly Pieced:** At least 75% of the surface of the quilt top is pieced by hand or machine.

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

6. **Mostly Appliquéd:** At least 75% of the surface of the quilt top consists of appliquéd motifs applied by either hand or machine. Includes fused applique.
 7. **Mixed Techniques (pieced & appliquéd):** Any quilt top that consists of a fairly equal combination of piecing and appliquéd.
 8. **Special Surface Design Techniques:** Quilts that consist of one or more other surface techniques such as embroidery (hand or machine), whole cloth, embellishments, photo transfers, memory quilts, panels, etc.
 9. **Miniature Quilts:** Quilts that are tiny scaled representations of full-size quilts. The piecing, applique motifs, fabric prints, quilting design, sashing, borders, and binding must all be miniature. Maximum perimeter measurement must be 70" or less. All surface techniques, quilting and finishing should be miniature in scale.
 10. **Group Quilts:** Combined efforts of three or more persons. At least one person must still be living.
 11. **Junior Quilts:** If 75% or more of a quilt is made by a Junior (age 18 or under) in collaboration with an adult, it may be entered in the Junior Quilts Division.
 12. **Art Quilt:** A contemporary artwork of original design involving the creative expression and exploration of various processes such as dyeing, printing, painting, stitching, embellishing, quilting, and weaving. An Art Quilt does not follow traditional block lines.
- K. For more information call: 720-733-6900.

III. PREMIUMS

A. All Classes

1. Entries will be judged and awarded on merit. Ribbons may be awarded for 1st through 6th place.
2. Premiums: 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3 3rd-\$1
3. Rosette: Best of Show classes
 - Open Quilts, Classes A1&2 – R1&2
 - Youth Quilts, Classes A1&2- R1&2, Y1 – Y5
 - Rosette: Best of Category classes
 - Large Quilt, Classes A1&2, B1&2, C1&2, D1&2, E1&2, L1&2, M1&2
 - Small Quilt, Classes F1&2, G1&2, H1&2, I1&2, J1&2, N1&2, O1&2
 - Quilted by Exhibitor, Classes A1 – P1
 - Quilted NOT by Exhibitor, Classes A2 – P2
 - Mostly Pieced, Classes A1&2, F1&2, L1&2, N1&2
 - Mostly Appliqued, Classes B1&2, C1&2, G1&2, H1&2, M1&2, O1&2

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

QUILTS – DEPARTMENT Q

A - LARGE QUILTS – MOSTLY PIECED

Class Description

- A1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- A2 Quilted-Not by Exhibitor

B - LARGE QUILTS – HAND APPLIQUE

Class Description

- B1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- B2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

C - LARGE QUILTS – MOSTLY MACHINE APPLIQUE

Class Description

- C1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- C2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

D - LARGE QUILTS – MIXED TECHNIQUES

Class Description

- D1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- D2 Quilted – Not by Exhibitor

E -LARGE QUILTS SPECIAL SURFACE TECHNIQUES

Class Description

- E1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- E2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

F - SMALL QUILTS –MOSTLY PIECED

Class Description

- F1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- F2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

G - SMALL QUILTS – HAND APPLIQUE

Class Description

- G1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- G2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

H - SMALL QUILTS – MOSTLY MACHINE APPLIQUE

Class Description

- H1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- H2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

I - SMALL QUILTS - MIXED TECHNIQUES

Class Description

- I1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- I2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

J - SMALL QUILTS – SPECIAL SURFACE TECHNIQUES

Class Description

- J1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- J2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

K HAND QUILTED – ANY SIZE – ANY TECHNIQUE (INCLUDES APPLIQUE, PIECED AND TIED QUILTS)

Class Description

- K1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- K2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

L - GROUP QUILT (3 OR MORE PEOPLE) – LARGE MOSTLY PIECED

Class Description

- L1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- L2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

M - GROUP QUILT (3 OR MORE PEOPLE) – LARGE MOSTLY APPLIQUED

Class Description

- M1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- M2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

N – GROUP QUILT (3 OR MORE PEOPLE) – SMALL MOSTLY PIECED

Class Description

- N1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- N2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

O - GROUP QUILT (3 OR MORE PEOPLE) – SMALL MOSTLY APPLIQUED

Class Description

- O1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- O2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

P - MINIATURE QUILTS – ANY TECHNIQUE

Class Description

- P1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- P2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

Q - QUILTED CLOTHING

- Q1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- Q2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

R - QUILTED ACCESSORIES HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- R1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- R2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

S - ART QUILTS – ORIGINAL DESIGN ONLY

- S1 Quilted by Exhibitor
- S2 Quilted Not by Exhibitor

Y - YOUTH QUILTS BY GRADE

- Y1 Grades Pre-K - Kindergarten
- Y2 Grades 1st – 3rd
- Y3 Grades 4th – 6th
- Y4 Grades 7th – 9th
- Y5 Grades 10th – 12th

FIRST TIME COMPETITION ENTRY AWARDS DIVISION

PRESENTED BY: COLORADO QUILTING COUNCIL



In recognition of First Time Entries, the Colorado Quilting Council will present a ribbon for one adult and a ribbon for one youth provided the following criteria are met:

1. The entrant is entering the Douglas County Fair competition for the first time. (There is no requirement for the entry to be the first quilt that the entrant made.)
2. The entry is entirely the work of the entrant, including the quilting.
3. Youth: Under 18 years old
4. Adult: 18 years or older as of August 1 of the current year

SENIORS - DEPARTMENT S

ALL EXHIBITS ARE IN THE EVENTS CENTER - JUDGING CLOSED TO PUBLIC

ENTRY DATE: 7/26/26, 10A – 4P; EXHIBIT RELEASE/PREMIUM PAYMENT DATE: 8/2/26, 5-6P

VIEWER'S CHOICE BALLOTS DUE 8/1/26, 6PM

I. DEPARTMENT PROVISIONS

- A. All entrants must read and be familiar with and comply with the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo General Competition Rules, Open Class Division General Competition Rules, and any special Division or Department Competition Requirements or Regulations.
- B. All entries must be the work of the Exhibitor. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to generate, develop, or complete any portion of an exhibit or entry is strictly prohibited. Any project determined to have utilized AI will be disqualified.
- C. Exhibits must be entered in the name of the person who created them.
- D. Exhibitors are allowed 2 entries per numbered class in the Department except Quilt classes 11-13 only allow 1 entry per class. Quilt entries in classes 11-13 must have been completed within 2 years of the Fair Entry Date.
- E. Decision of the judges are final and not eligible for protest.
- F. Exhibitors must be 55 years of age or older to enter in the Seniors Department.
- G. Articles must be clean and free from odor, lint, soil, stains, and pet hair. Please cover name labels attached to quilts.
- H. Exhibitor Classification: The amateur and professional definitions are applied to the classes being entered. A person may be both an amateur and a professional. Ex: In the Crafts Department an exhibitor can be a professional in Stained Glass but an amateur in the Macrame. Professionals are not eligible for Best of Show or Best of Category awards.

Amateur – A person who engages in an activity as a hobby, not as a job. Ex. An amateur artist does not receive income from works of art.

Professional – An individual who has received formal training, taught others or routinely earns income by selling their work or exhibits. For more information call: 720-733-6900.

II. PREMIUMS

A. All Classes

5. Entries will be judged and awarded on merit. Ribbons may be awarded for 1st through 6th place.
6. Premiums: 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3 3rd-\$1
3. Rosette: Best of Show classes:
 - Crafts, classes 21 – 30, 32 – 33, 35
 - Quilt, classes 11 - 13
 - Most Unique Recycled, class 34
 - Oldest Exhibitor, Resident, classes 1 -35
 - Senior with Most Entries, classes 1 - 35
 - Crocheted Item, classes 2, 4
 - Knitted Item, classes 1, 5

2026 Douglas County Fair & Rodeo Open Class Competition Rules

III. SENIORS – DEPARTMENT S

Class	Description
1	Afghans – Knitted
2	Afghans – Crocheted
3	Sewing
4	Crocheted Item
5	Knitted Item
6	Counted Cross Stitch
7	Needlepoint
8	Embroidery
9	Doilies
10	Kitchen Accessories
11	Quilts – Hand Quilted (1 entry per Exhibitor in this class)
12	Quilts – Machine Quilted (1 entry per Exhibitor in this class)
13	Quilts – Tied or Tacked (1 entry per Exhibitor in this class)
14	Quilted Items
15	Felting
16	Rugs
17	Artwork – Drawing*
18	Artwork – Watercolor*
19	Artwork – Oils*
20	Artwork – Water Based Media Painting*
21	Tole Painting
22	Textile Painting
22	Decorated Clothing
24	Crafts
25	Jewelry
26	Beading
27	Toys
28	Baskets
29	Ceramics
30	Holiday
31	Photography**
32	Woodworking
33	Metal Work
34	Recycled
35	Miscellaneous

*See Fine Arts Department Framing Guidelines and Rules at www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com>Get Involved>Open Class Competition Opportunities>Framing and Photo Hanging Guidelines.

** See Photography Department Mounting Guidelines and Rules www.douglascountyfairandrodeo.com> Get Involved>Open Class Competition Opportunities>Framing and Photo Hanging Guidelines.