



## DIVISION 7B EXHIBITOR'S HANDBOOK

Welcome to the world of Competitive Exhibits! As an exhibitor at the fair, you are entering into a long standing tradition of education & competition that began in the Tanana Valley in 1924.

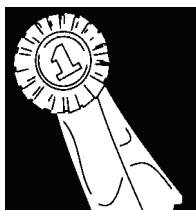
Your primary source of information about entering an exhibit is through the Exhibitors Guide, available online or at the Fair Office. This handbook will provide you with some additional information as well as judging criteria and sample judging sheets.

Superintendents:

**Beth Laursen 479-5532**  
**Shannon Barth 457-6677**

### ENTRY RULES

- **Get your Fair I.D. number & exhibit tags** from the Fair Office. Fill out Exhibit Tags before you arrive on entry day.
- **Pick your Best:** You may enter only one exhibit per lot.
- **Know your entry and pick-up days.**
- **Prepare your entry:** Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible.
- **Tell us about your entry.**



### Entry Guidelines

- 1 **Pick your best:** You may enter only one exhibit per lot, so choose that item which best demonstrates your skill or knowledge.
- 2 **Prepare your entry:** Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible. Don't wait until the last minute - know what you will enter & have your exhibit tags ready well before entry day.
- 3 **Tell us about your entry:** If your division has special instructions, be sure to include this information on a 3"x5" card attached to your entry.



### Preparing Your Entry

#### GENERAL GUIDELINES

Exhibits are judged on appearance only and will not be sampled.

**No real cakes are permitted.** Their use is wasteful and real baked product falls apart. All entries must be exhibited on a cake form or dummy (styrofoam works great). For cupcakes, use a styrofoam-type ball.

All entries must have edible decorations, with the exception of fountains, separators, or top ornaments for wedding-style cakes.

Exhibits should be on a firm base for ease of handling (plywood works great). You should cover it with any grease-proof paper (decorative foil, metallic gift wrap, etc.).

#### ADVANCED STATUS

**Advanced** -- Adults who have taken cake decorating or pastry tube art classes or who have won blue ribbons in previous contests.

#### ENTRY DAY

**Junior and Adult Exhibits** must be entered on **Junior Perishable Entry Day August 5th 1-6pm** in Badger Hall.

### Judging at the Fair

Judging at the Tanana Valley State Fair is accomplished through a network of volunteers. Judges are recruited & chosen for their expertise in a particular area, and it is through their generous donation of time & knowledge that we are able to showcase your achievements.

Judges are trained by the superintendent & through the Fair Office to follow the guidelines set down by the Fair Association.

They are expected to:

- be fair & consistent in their judging;
- provide positive comments & constructive criticism to the exhibitor;
- follow the Fair Association's mission to educate participants through their evaluation.

Each exhibit must have a completed score sheet. These score sheets are for the education of the exhibitor only & are not for public view. An exhibitor may request to see a score sheet for any of their entries by asking the exhibit attendant on duty, asking the superintendent, or requesting assistance through the Office.

Although our judges work hard to provide a positive experience for the exhibitor, sometimes there can be discrepancies or inconsistencies. If so, the exhibitor is encouraged to contact the superintendent who can investigate the problem.

If necessary, the exhibitor may file a protest through the Fair Office. A \$25.00 fee must accompany any protest filed.

Please refer to the Exhibitor's Guide for more information regarding this procedure.

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## JUDGING CRITERIA

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You will be judged in four areas.  
Following is a brief description of each.

### Appearance

- Make sure your icing is smooth, try not to make erasure marks or leave any finger-prints.
- Make sure any writing is spelled correctly.
- Try to make your lines unbroken and without lumps.
- Roses should look like roses, leaves like leaves, etc.
- The entry should be centered on its board, unless it is purposely off-center because of design.
- There shouldn't be too much board for too little an entry, and the covering should compliment the entry, not overpower it.

### Design

Does the entry match its lot? For example, if you entered a wedding cake, does it look like a wedding cake, is the design consistent throughout the cake? Do the borders, flowers, decorations, cake board covering, and even colors all "go together" and say, "This is a wedding cake"?

### Degree of Difficulty

This is exactly what it says it is. The judges take into consideration how difficult the entry was to make. Some entries take one or two weeks to make, others may take only one day. Other areas to consider are:

- Roses take longer to make than drop flowers. However, a well-made drop flower may be more appealing than a rose that looks like a cabbage.
- A cut-out cake requires more effort than a square cake.
- Icing animals are hand-made & are more difficult to include versus plastic animals that come from a store.

### Creativity

Is the design a new concept or original idea? Is it a new approach to an old idea or an unusual combination of materials or space?



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## SAMPLE JUDGING SHEET

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### Division 7B Cake Decorating & Creative Design

ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit Tag # \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Initials \_\_\_\_\_

#### POINTS POSSIBLE

Appearance	50
Design	20
Creativity	15
Degree of Difficulty	15

TOTAL (100 = perfect score)

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Tanana Valley State Fair Association**  
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451-5553/452-3750  
[www.tananavalleyfair.org](http://www.tananavalleyfair.org)

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## EXHIBIT PICK UP

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Exhibitors may retrieve their exhibits on Sunday following the close of the fair. All entries will be discarded after this date. The Fair will make every effort to hold plates, fountains, separators, etc. but will not be able to guarantee their return after this date.

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## SECURITY

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You are encouraged to enter your best work. The Competitive Exhibits team (staff, superintendents, judges & volunteers) all recognize the value these hold & all effort is made to provide for their security.

Each building has a team of volunteers to watch over the exhibits & to make sure they are not handled or stolen, but because of the volume of entries we get each year, we cannot guarantee the safety of each exhibit.

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## QUESTIONS

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We have tried to create a lot for everything, but if you cannot find an appropriate lot in which to enter an item, please contact the Division Superintendent. They can help you in selecting a lot, or can add any lots as needed. Be sure to contact them before Entry Day.

If you are unable to reach the superintendent, the Fair Office is here to help. Call us anytime between the hours of 9 am & 5 pm, Monday through Friday or e-mail [ozzie@tanavalleyfair.org](mailto:ozzie@tanavalleyfair.org).