

# Sibley County Fair



## Policies & Procedures

The Sibley County Agricultural Association/Fair Board adopts the following policies and procedures with the objective to make a better fair for all who attend. The Fair Board shall reserve the privilege of changing any of these policies and procedures to suit the purpose for which they have been made to protect the Sibley County Fair and its facilities. These policies were voted on and adopted at our regular meeting on February 5, 2026.

1. The Sibley County Fairgrounds are the property of the Sibley County Agricultural Association. The grounds and facilities are managed and maintained by the Sibley County Fair Board. The Fair Board is comprised of volunteers whose primary responsibilities include the planning, preparation and management of the Sibley County Fair.
  - a. Individuals or organizations wishing to use the fairgrounds outside of the annual Fair must submit their request to the Fair Board for consideration at a regularly scheduled monthly board meeting. Approval is subject to availability, Board discretion, and any applicable policies, fees, insurance requirements or contractual agreements.
  - b. The Fair Board makes no guarantee that any portion of the fairgrounds will be maintained in the same condition or configuration as during the fair unless specifically stated in a rental agreement or other written contract. This includes, but not limited to, buildings, show arenas, horse arena, equipment or grounds maintenance.
  - c. Users of the fairgrounds are responsible for conducting their activities in a safe and lawful manner and for any damage resulting from their use of the facilities. All users are expected to leave the grounds and building in the same condition in which they were found, remove all trash, personal property, clean up after use and return any equipment to its original location.
2. While the greatest possible care will be taken by the Fair Board to protect patrons of the Sibley County Fair, each individual will be held personally responsible for their actions and Fair Board will not be accountable or responsible for any injury.
3. The Sibley County Agricultural Association assumes no liability for loss or damage to any property to the concessionaire, exhibitor or patron, due to fire, tornado, weather conditions or other causes.
4. Policies, rules and procedures will be strictly adhered to. Any person who violates any policy made by the Sibley County Agricultural Association will be held accountable for their actions. Any individual acting in a disorderly manner will be asked to leave and will be escorted off the fairground property. No refunds will be given.
5. Upon entering the fairgrounds, be advised that photographs or videos may be taken of activities or events and used for future fair promotions, publications and social media.
6. The Sibley County Agricultural Association does not guarantee all scheduled events will take place, and schedule is subject to change.

7. No person will be permitted to distribute advertising materials or soliciting on the fairground by any person, parties or organizations except from their paid exhibitor/vendor space. Posting or distribution of any kind is strictly prohibited. Any violation of this rule will result in being asked to leave the fairgrounds without refunds.
8. Any person or group that conducts a protest action must limit its activity to the location designated by the Fair Board. The designated location is East of grandstands. No entrances or exits can be obstructed or limited in any way. Subject to change per Fair Board discretions.
9. No hover boards, skateboards, roller or inline skates, bikes, or motorized scooters, etc. are allowed on the fairgrounds. Handicap scooters are the exception. Fair Board can authorize acceptance of special needs by stopping at the fair office.
10. No firearms or weapons of any kind are allowed on the fairgrounds. Exceptions made for Fair Board approved acts and law enforcement officers.
11. The use of motorized vehicles is permitted from 12:00 a.m. to 9:00 am. After 9:00 a.m. no motorized vehicles are permitted on the fairgrounds except for golf carts and gators used by Fair Board and 4-H, emergency vehicles, and other vehicles allowed by Fair Board, such as milk truck, garbage trucks, etc. when needed.
12. No Pets shall be allowed on the Sibley County Fairgrounds premises unless:
  - a. It is a bonifide service pet.
  - b. Its presence is authorized by the Fair Board in advance of its attendance, and it is either leashed or kenneled at all times while on site.
  - c. Its presence is part of an organized and announced fair activity.
  - d. Anyone violating this rule with a pet will take the pet off fairgrounds property immediately upon being asked by any fair official or law enforcement.
  - e. Stray pets will be impounded at owner's expense.
13. No live animals shall be given away from concessions, vendors or exhibits.
14. No smoking in any buildings, grandstand or bleacher area, this includes E-cigarettes.
15. Livestock shows can be dangerous to participants and the audience. **WARNING:** Livestock activities pose inherent risks. These dangers or conditions are an integral part of livestock activities and they include:
  - a. The propensity of livestock to behave in ways that may result in injury or death to person on or around them, such as kicking, biting or bucking.
  - b. The unpredictability of livestock's reaction to things like sound, sudden movement, unfamiliar objects, persons or other animals.
  - c. Natural hazards such as surface or subsurface conditions.
  - d. Collisions with other livestock or objects.
  - e. The Sibley County Agricultural Association (Fair Board) and persons donating services livestock facilities or equipment for its use, are immune from liability to participants in livestock activities resulting from these inherent risks pursuant to Minnesota Statute 604A.12. Those who participate or watch do so at their own risk and should take all necessary precautions to ensure their own safety.

## 16. Building Hours

- a. Horticulture & 4-H: 9:00 am-9:00pm
- b. Rabbit & Poultry: 7:00 am – 10:00 pm
- c. Heritage: Set up Wednesday 8:00am-5:00pm  
For Pubic: Wednesday-5:00pm-9:30pm  
Thursday-Noon-9:30pm  
Friday- Noon-9:30pm  
Saturday-10:00am-9:30pm  
Sunday-Noon-6:00pm  
Tear Down Sunday after 6:00pm
- d. Office Hours:

17. **Camping:** Campers, including Trailers with Sleeping Quarter-Priority goes to vendors who pay in advance who want power, after that 4-H and open class. Electric spots are first come, first serve. Campers can arrive on Monday before the fair from 5:00pm -8:00pm. Cost \$150 for electric includes parking pass; \$100 non-electric includes parking pass.

- a. No awning out.
- b. No fires.
- c. Please keep area clean.
- d. Respect other campers.
- e. Quiet time after Midnight.
- f. Trailers with sleeping quarters, since needed for transporting animals, will be parked inside the camping area along west fence.

18. **Livestock Trailer Parking:** All empty trailers, not used for feed, hay or camping should be parked in the area north of the racetrack.

- a. **Beef & Dairy Exhibitors:** Trailer used to store hay, feed, or tach during the fair may be parked along the south fence, with smaller trailers parked along the west fence by building 14. Any exhibitors in building 15 may park along west fence by Co. Rd 9. Space is limited we encourage you to share trailer space with other exhibitors.
- b. **Horse, Sheep, & Goat Exhibitors:** Trailer used for feed, hay and Tach may be parked along west fence by Co. Rd. 9, keeping road behind building open. Space is limited we encourage you to share trailer space with other exhibitors.

19. **Horse trailers:** All horse trailers will be parked with livestock trailers or in camping area.

- a. Horse trailer may be taken out of the space they are parked for 4-H Horse Show on Friday only.
- b. Horse trailers are restricted to the area Fair Board designates west of main gate north of crow's nest. No trailers on road going to camping area.
- c. No power usage in that area
- d. All horse trailers used during show must be removed and parked back in their original parking spots a half hour after the show is completed. Any vehicle or trailer left in the

area longer than a half hour after the show concludes will be towed at owner's expense.

**20. Livestock Exhibitors:** Please refer to exhibitor handbook for specific specie rules.

- a. Stalling: Animals take priority over tack stalls. 4-H have first priority for stalling then open class.
- b. No generators running while shows are going on in show arena.
- c. Fans are limited to 1 fan per 4 head.
- d. On the last day of fair, we ask that exhibitors help with clean up and tear down.
  - i. Rabbit and Poultry exhibitors: clean and wash crock/feeder and put in totes, poultry are encouraged to take down cages and put neatly in cage racks.
  - ii. Dairy and Beef Exhibitors: if tied on wall take down gates in show arena if tied on gate take down gate and put in designated area.
  - iii. Swine: Tear down pens.
  - iv. Goat, Horse and Llama exhibitors: clean out pens and push in middle.
- e. Feed gate: Feed gate is there for exhibitors to bring feed to livestock after 9:00 am and must have a feed pass to use. Feed passes can be picked up from Dairy Superintendent.

**21. Gates:**

- a. West gate closes at 4:00pm on Wednesday and reopens at 6:00pm on Sunday
- b. East Gate closes at 6:00pm on Wednesday and reopens midnight. Closed daily from 9:00am to Midnight except on Sunday when it opens at 6:00pm
- c. There are no vehicles allowed on the fairground after gates close unless authorized by the Fair Board.

**22. General parking:** All exhibitors and fairgoers should park in the general parking area east of the fairgrounds. Any vehicles parked on the fairground must have livestock feed pass. Any exhibitor with a livestock feed pass should park either by fence on the south end of the fairgrounds or the fence on the west side by County Rd 9. No parking by barns. The area between the south fence and building 14 must remain open for a fire lane. Any vehicle not parked in designated area will be towed at owner's expense. No parking by heritage buildings except entertainers for unloading. No parking anywhere along the grass of the carnival area including the area at the front entrance.

**23. Alcohol:**

- a. No outside beverages.
- b. Must be 21 years old or older to drink.
- c. Must have wristband to purchase and drink alcoholic beverages.
- d. Anyone caught serving minors or any minor caught drinking alcohol will be turned over to local authorities.

## **Sibley County Fair Emergency Response Plan**

**Purpose:** To provide the safest environment for all fairgoers, volunteers and staff. In the event of an emergency or severe weather your cooperation in the execution of this plan is much appreciated.

**Fire:** In the event of a fire call immediately call 911, inform board members. Do not enter the building.

**Medical Emergency:** Call 911, stay with the person until EMT's arrive, have someone inform board members.

### **Severe Weather**

**Watch:** When a thunderstorm or tornado watch is issued by the National Weather Service for Sibley County, an announcement will be made over PA system to inform everyone of the situation

**Warning:** When warnings are issued for surrounding counties, an announcement will be made over PA systems. Fair Board will remain in contact with Sheriff's office:

**Thunderstorm Warning:** When a warning is issued for Sibley County an announcement will be made over the PA system. Seek shelter on grounds, activities will halt until an all clear is given. Fair Board will be in contact with the Sheriff's office to determine if grounds should be evacuated. If determined an evacuation is needed all activities will cease and we ask everyone to exit the grounds in an orderly manner.

**Tornado Warning:** All activities will cease, announcements will be made on all PA's and seek shelter.

### **Shelter Locations**

Bathroom at Main Entrance

Goat Barn (18)

Hog Barn (13)

Zion Lutheran Church

St. Mary Church

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Josh Stumm President

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deric Sievert Vice President

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Scharpe Livestock Superintendent