

HORSE, PONY & OXEN PULLING

Superintendent:

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Rules

The C. V. Fair will pay \$40 to each exhibitor (one time only) participating to help offset travel expenses.

1. All horses and ponies to compete in contest other than Free-For-All teams, shall be weighed in before the time that the first class of the day is to start. All teams to be weighed on the day that they pull. In case of postponement the same hours of weighing shall prevail. Horses must have halters on while on scale. All horses will be weighed in the presence of a delegate appointed by the fair, or person who is conducting the contest. The scale shall be balanced with a man standing on same, this man will hold all horses when possible. The man holding horses shall be appointed by the delegate if he is unable to do this himself. The weighing certificate must be signed by the delegate.
2. Switching horses: Once a team has been weighed-in, there will be no switching of horses.
3. Starting load: Maximum load of 4,000 lbs. for all weight classes except one horse hitch and 5,000 lbs. for Free-For-All classes. Added loads in each class at the discretion of the judges depending on type of pit. At no time after weight has been increased, may it be decreased.
4. Pulling positions to be determined by the drawing of numbers just before starting of each class.
5. All teamsters to compete in a contest shall have their teams ready at the published time. All classes will close at the completion of the first hitch in each class.
6. Time limit: There shall be a time limit of five minutes for all three hitches. The time will be kept by the announcer or appointed time-keeper.
7. Heading: There will be no heading of horses whatsoever. Teams to be driven by one teamster only.
8. Use of reins as a whip: The light use of reins on entry to the pit and while team is making its draw, on the hind-quarters only, may be permitted. The use of reins after the boat has stopped or any place on the grounds is prohibited.
9. What constitutes a hitch: 1 inch or more.
10. Breakdown: An actual separation, breaking or bending of equipment shall constitute a breakdown. Chains, straps or eveners not properly secured are not considered a breakdown. In event teamster and/or owner wish credit for the distance boat moved before breakage, it will constitute a hitch.
11. Over the rail: If a horse's foot strikes dirt outside the rail it constitutes a hitch with no credit for the distance pulled. Teams must remain within the rails while hitched to the boat.
12. Any team deliberately driven over the rail will be disqualified from the contest.
13. Unhitching after each hitch: Each team shall be disconnected from the boat and will leave the pit before entering for the next hitch.
14. Measuring: Starting point of boat shall be properly marked to indicate same starting point for all loads. The distance of each pull will be measured from the center of the boat to the most recent pin. All teams will be allowed three hitches to qualify the load.
15. The boat shall be returned to the starting pin after each hitch.
16. The boat shall be returned to the starting pin to comply with the following:
 - (a) In no case may a pull begin from a point 72 inches or more from the starting pin.
 - (b) A horse steps over the rail.
 - (c) A pull is disqualified for any rule violation.
17. The boat shall be returned to the most recent pin (*not necessarily the starting pin*) following a breakdown. It shall be the duty of the judges, prior to the start of the program, to determine if Rule 15 and/or Rules 16 and 17 will apply. Rule 15 only will apply on a plank pit.
18. In case of ties for prize-winning placing, one hitch to be taken at the end of the heat in pulling order. In event one team chooses not to hitch again, they will automatically take the lower placing. OR, owners will equally divide the premiums involved and toss for their ribbons. This at the discretion of teamsters before class starts.
19. Changing teamsters: No teamster may be changed after pulling the first load in any case or class except in emergency. Then only when permitted by the judges, with the consent of a majority of the other teamsters in the class.
20. The Exposition reserves the right to make any test deemed necessary to determine if any team is under the influence of drugs or stimulants. Please see special information for horse and pony pullers on page 12.
21. Appearance: All participants will be properly dressed.
22. Drinking: Any participant under the influence of alcohol will be disqualified from the contest. The drinking of intoxicating beverages in and around the ring is prohibited.
23. Authorized persons in the ring: The pit personnel and the owners, or his agent only.
24. Interference of Evener Men: No assistance other than hitching.
25. Changing of Classes: Classes shall be as publicized only.
26. Any situations that may arise and are not covered by these rules, the decision will be left to the discretion of the judges.
27. Any variation of these rules shall be in the spirit of aforesaid rules and at the discretion of the judges. The decision of a majority of the judges concerning any matter arising in connection with the draw shall be final.
28. Horses or drivers may be disqualified at any time by the judges, either for violation of one or more of the condition of the draw or because the contesting team's condition is such as to render it cruel or inadvisable to permit the horses to proceed further.
29. Sawdust will be available for bedding. Hay and grain will be available on the grounds and must be paid for by the exhibitor.

HORSE, PONY & OXEN PULLING

Oxen, Horse And Pony Pulling Contest

Monday, August 31

- 10:00 a.m. - Pony, 1400 lbs. - 6 ft. pull
Prizes: 1st-\$100; 2nd-\$60; 3rd-\$50; 4th-\$40;
5th-\$30; 6th-\$15; 7th-\$15; 8th-\$15
- 1:30 p.m. - Pony, 1800 lbs. - 12 ft. pull
Prizes: 1st-\$100; 2nd-\$60; 3rd-\$50; 4th-\$40;
5th-\$30; 6th-\$15; 7th-\$15; 8th-\$15
- 5:30 p.m. - 12' pull, Free-For-All
Prizes: 1st-\$125; 2nd-\$100; 3rd-\$75; 4th-\$50;
5th-\$30; 6th-\$15; 7th-\$15; 8th-\$15

Tuesday, September 1

- 10:00 a.m. - Horse Pull - 3300 lb. - 20' sled pull
Prizes: 1st-\$160; 2nd-\$110; 3rd-\$90; 4th-\$70;
5th-\$60; 6th-\$40; 7th-\$30; 8th-\$15
- 1:30 p.m. - Horse Pull - 1 3/4lb rock per 1lb of horse - distant class
Prizes: 1st-\$160; 2nd-\$110; 3rd-\$90; 4th-\$70;
5th-\$60; 6th-\$40; 7th-\$30; 8th-\$15
- 5:30 p.m. - Horse Pull - 3100 lb. - 6' pull
Prizes: 1st-\$160; 2nd-\$110; 3rd-\$90; 4th-\$70;
5th-\$60; 6th-\$40; 7th-\$30; 8th-\$15

Wednesday, September 2

- 10:00 a.m. - Horses, 3200 lbs. & under, 15' pull
Prizes: 1st-\$160; 2nd-\$110; 3rd-\$90; 4th-\$70;
5th-\$60; 6th-\$40; 7th-\$30; 8th-\$15
- 1:30 p.m. - Horses, 3400 lbs. & under, 12' pull
Prizes: 1st-\$160; 2nd-\$110; 3rd-\$90; 4th-\$70;
5th-\$60; 6th-\$40; 7th-\$30; 8th-\$15
- 5:30 p.m. - Horses, Free-For-All, Open Class - 20' pull
Prizes: 1st-\$300; 2nd-\$250; 3rd-\$200; 4th-\$150;
5th-\$100; 6th-\$75; 7th-\$60; 8th-\$50

- No tampering with bridals.
- All classes will be weighed in the morning, scales will be open 7:30 am - 9:00 am. Horses may be re-weighed as long as scales are open.
- In case of rain, class purse will be split in half and then divided between weighted teams, if the class is cancelled by officials

Special Notice

All equine animals imported from out-of-state shall be accompanied by an official health certificate stating that said animals are free from any infectious or contagious disease and from exposure thereto. Each animal shall be identified by name, registration number, if any, color and markings, age and sex. The certificate shall also indicate that such animals have been tested and found negative for Equine Infectious Anemia within the past 12 months.

All health requirements, as prepared by the Vermont Department of Agriculture, are printed in full in the front of the premium book.

Oxen, Horse And Pony Pulling Contest

Thursday, September 3

- 10:00 a.m. - Open Oxen, 6', 2800 lbs. and under
Prizes: 1st \$80; 2nd \$70; 3rd \$60; 4th \$50; 5th \$40; 6th \$15; 7th \$15; 8th \$15.00
- 1:30 p.m. - Open Oxen, 6', 3200 lbs. and under
Prizes: 1st \$80; 2nd \$70; 3rd \$60; 4th \$50; 5th \$40; 6th \$15; 7th \$15; 8th \$15.00
- 5:30 p.m. - Open Oxen Pulling, 12', Free-For-All
Prizes: 1st \$80; 2nd \$70; 3rd \$60; 4th \$50; 5th \$40; 6th \$15; 7th \$15; 8th \$15.00 - Barn space will be available.

* The following rules will be used along with the New England Ox Teamsters Rules:

1. Once the stoneboat is in motion, the teamster should not be allowed to touch the Steer/Oxen until the boat has reached its six foot destination.
2. No running the animals into or out of the pulling ring.
3. Teamsters will not hit steer/oxen on the nose or face to back them up to the boat. *Special Information For Horse And Pony Pullers*

Use Of Drugs: It is illegal to administer drugs that may alter or affect the normal performance of an animal in a pulling contest. It is illegal to administer substances that have a potential to interfere with drug detection tests. The owner/handler is responsible for ensuring freedom from drugs prior to and during the event.

Use of Therapeutic Substances: The pulling superintendent may allow an animal to compete after receiving written notification that a licensed veterinarian has administered a therapeutic substance to the animals no less than 48 hours before the contest begins. Consult the rules for guidance.

Withdrawal of a Team From Competition: The owner or handler may withdraw a team from competition by notifying the pulling superintendent prior to the fourth load in the class. No penalty will be assessed even if the animals test positive for illegal drugs. Entry fees are not refundable.

How To Request Drug Testing: For a fee of \$150.00 a person may request a drug test by contacting the ringmaster prior to the last hitch or before 75% of the teams in a class are eliminated, whichever comes first.

Providing Animals For Drug Testing: Failure of the owner or handler to make an animal available for drug testing on request will be treated as if a drug was found by the test requested. Failure to restrain an animal for sampling or to provide adequate information is a violation of 13 V.S.A. Section 394 and can result in the assessment of an administrative penalty not to exceed \$1000.00 by the commissioner.

* Available from the pulling superintendent, the testing veterinarian and the VT Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. For more information, contact: VT Agency of Agriculture, 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone: 802-828-2500.

