

## Contest Division

**Superintendents: Jolynn Feters and Deb DeDecker**  
**Committee: Tracy Casey**

### King & Queen Contest

1. Each club or chapter may nominate one young woman and man (minimum age of 16, not older than 21 by the first day of the Iowa State Fair), to compete in the contest judging. Entry deadline is May 15th. (no exceptions)
2. Each king and queen candidate must have a club or chapter sponsor their nomination. Candidates are responsible for obtaining their own sponsorship. Contact Extension Office for a list of available clubs.
3. Candidates will be required to fill out contest application and send it in by May 15th.
4. The young women and men will be interviewed before the County Fair by a panel and judged on their personality, appearance, and achievements.
5. No professional model (one who has had ongoing employment in which modeling was the primary part of the job) is eligible to compete in the Polk County contest.
6. Any contestant who has competed in the State Fair Queen Contest may not compete in our County contest again.
7. The king and queen will be crowned at the County Fair Barbecue on Saturday beginning at 7:00 PM. The queen/king and her/his court will be required to hand out ribbons throughout the county fair and help at the Livestock Auction.
8. The queen is expected to participate in the State Fair Queen Contest and meet their requirements. You may not compete in any other titled contest at the Iowa State Fair. (You may still show your 4-H or FFA entries). The fee is paid by the Polk County Fair Board and Polk County Farm Bureau. Polk County Fair Queen cannot compete at the State Fair, the first runner-up will take her responsibilities.
9. The queen and king and their court will act in a professional manner at all times. (Example, no smoking or drinking allowed and must adhere to all the fair rules and regulations.) If there is a question as to the professionalism of an individual, that person will forfeit their title.
10. The queen/king and their court will not be allowed to wear their crown or sashes while showing livestock or other projects.
11. The queen/king and their court will wear proper attire at all times (nice dress clothes).
12. The queen/king and their court will be present at all events they are assigned to, as well as other events as scheduled by the queen/king superintendent.
13. All court members will arrive on time to assigned events and be present throughout the entire event unless other arrangements have been made with the queen/king superintendent.
14. The queen/king and their court will hold a cheerful and positive attitude at all times.

### Anything Goes Contest

**Superintendent: 4-H County Council**

1. Entry Fee: \$1.00 per club due at sign-up at the event.
2. The County Council is sponsoring the Anything Goes Contest on Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Horse arena.
3. The inter-club competition between the clubs/chapters are for youth in 4th - 12th grade.
4. All participants must be enrolled in Polk County 4-H or FFA
5. It is an Olympic style competition with cash prizes, lots of fun, and even some surprises.
6. There may be contests such as: Egg Toss, Orange race, Obstacle Course, Tug of War and others.
7. Must have leader or an adult in attendance with club members.

## **Decorate-A-Bale Contest**

### **Superintendent – 4-H County Council**

1. Entry Fees - \$1.00 per bale to be collected at the event. Entry Tag – must be attached to the Bale twine. Entry tags available at Exhibit Building Office.
2. This class is for anyone (no age limits). Exhibits can be prepared by an individual exhibitor, a team of exhibitors or may be the result of a group effort.
  - a. At least one member of the group must be present during judging, 10 AM Monday.
3. Only One bale may be used per exhibit (straw, hay, grass, or bean straw – small size bale only.)
4. Contact a County Council member if you need a bale.
5. Decorations must be in good taste and not offensive.
6. Bales must be in place in by 9:30 AM Monday
7. Bales may be decorated Sunday. However please be aware animals weigh-ins by be going on and bales are not in a protected area. No Bales should be in the 4-H exhibit building. Bales must remain on the fairgrounds until Thursday at 3:00 PM
8. Judging will be done according to originality, creativity etc.
  - \$20.00 first place.
  - \$10.00 second place.
  - \$5.00 third place.
9. Fair board is not responsible for damages to the bale or injuries

## **Little Tykes Tractor Pull**

### **Superintendent:**

1. Any youth ages 4 - 12 years may compete.
2. \$1.00 Entry fee per youth.
3. No Flip Flops Allowed
4. Parent or guardian must sign a waiver and must be present during contest.
5. All contestants must wear shoes.
6. Winners may compete in the State Competition.
7. Awards will be given. No Premiums.
8. Fair board not responsible for injuries.

## Open Class Department

**Superintendents: Jolynn Feters and Deb DeDecker**  
**Committee: Tracy Casey**

1. \$4 Entry Fee per Class. Ribbons only, no premiums.
2. This division is open to all Polk County residents.
3. Exhibitors are permitted an unlimited number of entries per class in this department.
4. All exhibits must be brought to the fairgrounds between 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon, Saturday.
5. All exhibits must remain in open class display for the duration of the fair. All exhibits will be released Thursday at 3:00 -5:00 PM Superintendents will not be responsible for any exhibit after 5:00 pm Thursday.
6. Blue, Red and White ribbons will be given to all qualified entries. No premiums will be paid in these classes.
7. Best in Class and Best in Division Ribbons will only be awarded if merited and at the sole discretion of the Open Class Judge(s).
8. All exhibits must be fresh and clean.
9. Exhibitors 17 years old and under will be entered as a youth exhibit using the same class numbers, (i.e. Class #OP220-Y). All youth entries must enter their age on entry tag.

## Open Class Horticulture Division

1. Criteria for exhibition are the quality, condition, representativeness, and uniformity.
2. The exhibitor should first select specimens that are as near physically perfect as possible, free from insect and disease injury and high in quality. Then choose from this selection those specimens which combine the ideal characteristics of the fruit or vegetable and which are most uniform in size, color and other characteristics.
3. It is highly recommended that exhibitors prepare their vegetables for exhibit as described in the publication 4H-462, entitled "Harvesting and Preparing Vegetables for Exhibit" available on the Polk County Fair Website for download or at the Polk County Extension Office.
4. For flower exhibits: all specimen flowers must be grown by the exhibitor. Furnish own containers. Fresh plant material is required unless otherwise specified.

OP200	Vegetables
OP210	Herbs
OP220	Heirloom Vegetables
OP230	Fruits
OP240	Floriculture

## Open Class Fine Arts Division

1. The work must be original work executed in the past calendar year. "Original" means that the artist has used his/her own concepts, ideas and techniques for execution of the artwork. The artist has not copied the ideas, techniques OR exactly duplicated the subject matter of another artist's work. Exception OP 405.
2. All work submitted must have a finished appearance; the media with which it is executed must be completely dry.
3. If the work is two-dimensional, it must not exceed 52" (4 feet, 6 inches) in either length or width. All two-dimensional adult work done with oil or acrylic paint must be presented framed, a canvas stretched on a wooded frame is considered framed; work done in pastels, watercolor, drawings and prints must be framed, covered with glass or Plexiglas.
4. Three-dimensional work will not be accepted if it exceeds 60" (5 feet) in any direction, is excessively fragile or heavy. Three-dimensional work must be presented on a sturdy base. A Canvas stretched on a wood frame is an acceptable base.

OP400	<b>Painting:</b> oils, tempera, acrylics, watercolor, and mixed media
OP405	<b>Non Original Painting:</b> Includes paintings done in classes or workshops.
OP410	<b>Scrapbooking</b>
OP420	<b>Drawings:</b> charcoal, pencil, ink, graphite, and pastels
OP430	<b>Prints:</b> commercial print processes such as giclee prints or computer scanned images of photographs are not allowed.
OP440	<b>Sculpture:</b> excessively fragile, heavy or large sculptures are not acceptable.
OP450	<b>Pottery:</b> handmade earthenware, stoneware and porcelain. Delicately constructed work requiring more than normal careful handling is not eligible.
OP460	<b>Art Glass:</b> hand-blown glass, stained glass and reverse glass painting.
OP470	<b>Fiber:</b> weaving, fiber construction, batik, tie dying, knotting, appliqué, and trapunto.
OP480	<b>Woodworking:</b> Constructed or refinished wood product, including wood burning.
OP490	<b>Other Fine Arts:</b> Exhibit that does not fit in any above category.

## Open Class Foods Division

1. All entries in the Food Department must be the product of the exhibitor, made in the home kitchen and not a means of livelihood.
2. Any exhibit considered to be a food safety risk or portray a food safety risk will not be accepted, judged or displayed.
3. All food products/exhibits should be appropriate for human consumption.
4. Food product exhibits must be prepared, baked or cooked using only food grade utensils and containers.
5. Products that require refrigeration will not be accepted, judged or displayed. Meat jerky products are prohibited.
6. The recipe must be included for any prepared food exhibit; credit the source of the recipe.
7. Only food processed in the last calendar year is acceptable. Current USDA and/or Iowa State University guidelines for home food preservation must be used. For more information call the ISU Answer Line at 1-800-262-3804.
8. Preserved food exhibits must include two product samples. One will be opened for evaluation and discarded; the second will be placed on display and returned to the exhibitor. All perishable food products will be discarded when removed from display.
9. Prepared foods should be placed on a firm disposable plate or flat cardboard. Place food product exhibit in an enclosable plastic bag with entry tag fastened outside the bag.

OP600	Breads
OC610	Pies
OP620	Cookies, Bars and Brownies
OP630	Preserves
OP640	Canning
OP650	Cake Decoration

## Open Class Photography Division

1. **BACKING:** All photographs must be mounted.
2. **PHOTOGRAPH SIZE:** Photographs can be any size up to and including 11" x 14".
3. **MATS:** Matting your photograph is optional.
4. **MEDIA:** We make NO distinction between film or digital photographs.
5. **ENTRY:** Photographer's name, photo title, date and other text must NOT appear on front of entry.
6. **PRESENTATION:** All photos must be unframed. Do NOT cover entry with cellophane, acetate or glass. There should be NO hooks or wires attached to the back.
7. **SERIES:** A series is a group of photographs that are related or tell a step-by-step story. Photographs must be mounted together in story order or sequence.

OP300	People and Portraits
OP310	Landscapes and Architecture
OP320	Still Life
OP330	Photo Series
OP340	Black and White or Monochromatic
OP350	Digitally Altered

## Open Class Textiles Division

1. All articles entered in this department must strictly be the work of the exhibitor.
2. Articles may not have been exhibited in this department before.
3. The Management will use diligence to insure the safety of articles after their arrival and placement, but in no case will they be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.

OP500	<b>Needlework:</b> such as Embroidery, Cross Stitch and Needlepoint
OP510	<b>Handwork:</b> Knitting, Crochet and Tatting
OP520	<b>Quilting</b>
OP530	<b>Sewing:</b> Clothing
OP540	<b>Sewing:</b> Other