2022 Open Rabbit Hopping Contest

Registration/Check-in: Friday, July 29, 2022 from noon to 12:30 p.m., Livestock Pavilion

Contest: Friday, July 29, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., Livestock Pavilion

Superintendent: Jessica Storm, himalayan791@yahoo.com, (719) 948-0131

Rabbit Hopping Contest Rules

1. Animal handlers are responsible for ensuring that they and their family members do not behave in a disruptive manner. Violations will result in warnings, followed by disqualification.

2. Animal entered may be any breed of domestic rabbit, no pedigree is required.

3. Rabbit must be at least 4 months of age to compete. Rabbits younger than 3 months are not permitted to be harnessed or leashed.

4. Rabbits must be healthy and free of any disease or parasite. Any rabbit found to be in poor health must be removed from the showroom. **This check should include a check for mites, diarrhea, discharge, any open wound or dirty bottom feet or fur.**

5. Pregnant does are not permitted to compete. A doe that has had a litter in the past 8 weeks also will not be permitted to compete.

6. Rabbit handlers are responsible for cleaning up any debris their rabbit leaves on the competition course and/or in the warm up area.

7. Careless handling of rabbits will result in a warning. Serious negligent handling will result in a disqualification with no refund of entry fee being given.

8. Rabbits should proceed through the course and over the jumps voluntarily. Handlers are prohibited from forcing or carrying rabbits through the jumps, but may lift them over jumps, if necessary. Treats are not allowed as a method of encouragement. **Touching your rabbit with your feet is not permitted.**

9. Handlers and rabbits are considered a team. A rabbit can have only one handler at a competition. Persons with disabilities may appoint another handler for their competition.

10. Handlers using a leash to hit a rabbit will be disqualified from competition.

11. All rabbit handlers must embody good sportsmanship. It is up to the judge as to what constitutes poor sportsmanship. The judge's decision is final.

12. Rabbit handlers are not allowed to step over jumps. Repeated violations will result in disqualification.

13. **Only one (1) rabbit is permitted on the course at any time.**

Easy Class
10 jumps to include a start and finish jump
Example: Start Jump – 6" 8" 10" 8" 10" 8" 10" 6"- Finish Jump
Maximum Height – 10" Minimum Height – 6"
At least half of the jumps must be 8-10" in Height
6 Faults are Allowed
One jump will include length (maximum of 10" length
Minimum distance between jumps: 6 ft.

Medium Class
   10 to 14 jumps to include start and finish jump
   Maximum Height – 14" Minimum Height – 10"
   At least half of the jumps must be 12 – 14" in height
   Two jumps will include length (maximum of 16" length)
   Minimum distance between jumps: 6 ft.
   6 Faults allowed

Difficult Class
   10 to 14 jumps to include the start and finish jump
   Maximum Height – 16" Minimum Height – 12"
   At least half of the jumps must be 14 – 16" in height
   Three jumps will include length (maximum of 22" length)
   Minimum distance between jumps: 6 ft,

Definition of Faults
1. Upsetting an obstacle, or any part of obstacle. One fault shall be issued for the upset, regardless of how many rails were upset.

2. Lopsided Jump: to clear an obstacle the rabbit must jump with its body between the obstacle supports. A lopsided jump fault will be called if the rabbit jumps outside of the obstacle supports.

3. Lifting over undisturbed obstacle. A rabbit may be lifted over or around an obstacle, but one fault per obstacle will be issued.

4. False Starts: A false start is issued when the rabbit starts the course before the judge has indicated to the animal handler that they are ready to go. One fault will be issued, and repeated false starts will result in disqualification.

5. Out of Bounds: If a rabbit goes more than 5 feet off the course, it shall be considered an out of bounds fault. One fault shall be given for each out of bounds instance in a course.

6. Exceeding Time: There shall be a recommended time limit for each course (usually 3 minutes). Exceeding this time limit shall result in a fault.