



Official Update

March 11, 2021

COVID Protocols and How They May Impact Your Visit to the Fair

First, let us express how excited we are to have you all back for the 2021 Montgomery County Fair and Rodeo! This year at the Fair, you will be able to see and experience most everything that you are accustomed to and are excited about! That includes the Carnival and Midway, Shopping, Live Music, Rodeo, Livestock & Non-Livestock events, Educational Exhibits, and the list goes on and on.

This update will provide guidance for specific areas of our Fair, what you can expect from us, and what our expectations are of you, to make sure that we are able to hold a safe and successful 2021 Fair.

I. General Guidance, Grounds, Concerts and Carnival:

All traditional grounds exhibits and attractions will be open for business, from the most thrilling carnival rides, to our energizing concerts, and so much more. In all these areas, you will notice an increased emphasis from Staff and Volunteers on health and safety protocols. You will also notice additional opportunities for proper sanitation practices with increased hand washing stations and hand sanitizer around the grounds.

Our request from you is that you continue to keep yourself and your fellow Fair-goer's safety at top of mind. This includes following all published CDC guidance including but not limited to:

- **If you are ill, have recently been ill, or have been exposed to someone who is ill, PLEASE stay home!**
- **Once at the Fairgrounds, practice appropriate social distancing protocols especially when in enclosed or semi-enclosed facilities.**
- **Face coverings over your nose and mouth are highly encouraged for all guests**
- **Maintain proper hand hygiene by washing your hands frequently and using the available hand sanitizer throughout the grounds**

II. Junior Shows and Competitions:

Our Junior Shows and Competitions are at the heart of our mission and we are so thankful that we have been able to craft a plan that allows these to continue while also increasing exhibitor and public safety. Hopefully, you have already seen our revised Livestock Show and Non-Livestock Show Schedules, but here is a bit of additional information to get you ready for competition:

- We recommend all attendees wear a face covering over their nose and mouth and practice social distancing while at the Fair and enjoying our event. Pursuant to guidance from the CDC, Montgomery County Public Health Department, and local School Districts; Face Coverings will be required for all exhibitors while showing or participating in their respective events.

III. Field Trips:

As a result of discussion and in coordination with local school districts, the Kid's Day and Sunshine Day Field Trips will not take place at the 2021 Fair. However, the Sunshine Day Show is still being held and outreach programs are being formalized to allow interaction and participation by those unable to attend the traditionally held Field Trips. More information to come.

The Fair will still be open to any who wish to attend and please refer to mcfa.org for event schedules and Carnival operation times to plan your visit!

IV. Senior Citizens Day:

As announced in our previous update, we will not be holding the onsite assembly for Senior Citizens Day at the 2021 Fair. Similar to the Field Trips, outreach programs are being formalized and stay tuned to hear how the Fair will be coming to you!

Our 65 and Older Show which is normally held in association with Senior Citizens Day has also been canceled; however, for all those that are still looking to participate and present a project, please feel free to enter the Adult Show Competition as an alternative to the 65 and Older show for this year. Instructions for Adult Show entry can be found at mcfa.org.

V. Rodeo Arena:

New for 2021, and with the health and safety of our community in mind, attendance to the Friday and Saturday Rodeo Events inside Woodforest National Bank Arena will be limited to 3,000 guests.

To achieve this reduction in capacity, a separate Rodeo Ticket will be sold at the ticket booth located at the front (south side) of the Woodforest National Bank Arena. **The cost of this admission ticket will be \$2.00 and can only be purchased at the Arena, on the day of the Rodeo and is only good for that evening's Rodeo event.**

Youth and Special Event Participation, Committee, Sponsor, and other Badged Credentials will grant access the Arena for the Rodeo; however, any additional guests will be required to purchase an admission ticket. Specific guidance will be sent to these groups separately.

The ticket booth will open the day of the Rodeo Events, so make sure and get your ticket early to avoid the line!

VI.Auctions:

New for 2021 Junior Auctions will be live-in-person, online bid capable, and available live-streamed for viewing. Pre-registration will be required to attend the in-person Auction as capacity will be limited. Online bid capability for the auctions will be conducted through a third-party service (Cattle in Motion) where viewers are able to bid on Lots in real-time as if they were physically at the auction.

Due to the revised Livestock Show schedule, only Grand and Reserve Champion Livestock (animals) from each division will be present for the Auction. The remainder of the Lots will be sold with only the exhibitor present, and a photo of the exhibitor and their project displayed on screens in the auction area and on the live stream.

For more information, please inquire at mcfa.org.

VII.BBQ Cook-Off:

The BBQ Cook-Off is one of the biggest and most exciting events that takes place at our Fair. We are excited for the teams who have signed up to compete this year and for all our guests that get to come out and enjoy the sights and smells!

At the 2021 Fair you can expect the same great competition we have come to know, and you may even notice that you have a bit more elbow room than in years past. We have rearranged our layout a bit to provide more aisle space and spacing between teams to create added room to aid in social distancing efforts. There will also be additional hand washing and sanitation stations for you to utilize in the BBQ Competition Area. Guidance for guests will mirror that listed in Section I of this update.

Please be aware that the BBQ Cook-Off Teams have been encouraged to follow all CDC guidance and exercise all safety protocols necessary within their designated competition space. **Please make sure that you adhere to the request and preference of the Cook-Off Teams when interacting with them, their staff, or inside of their space *if* they are allowing guests.**

Violations to health and safety protocols posted by individual BBQ Cookoff Teams will be treated as a violation to the Montgomery County Fair Association rules and any necessary action may be taken.

VIII. Summary and Conclusion:

We are so excited to see y'all for the 2021 Fair and we thank you for your continued support. Please help us make 2021 the best Fair we can - that starts with being a good neighbor to our county and putting the health and safety of ourselves and others first. Please continue to be thoughtful of your actions and how they may impact others. Once again:

- **If you are ill, have recently been ill, or have been exposed to someone who is ill, PLEASE stay home!**
- **Once at the Fairgrounds, practice appropriate social distancing protocols especially when in enclosed or semi-enclosed facilities.**
- **Face coverings over your nose and mouth are highly encouraged for all guests**
- **Maintain proper hand hygiene by washing your hands frequently and using the available hand sanitizer throughout the grounds**

It's Fair time Montgomery County - See you there!

Sincerely,



Cody Bartlett
President



Brian Hayes
Executive Director