

BYLAWS OF  
VAN BUREN YOUTH FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE I

Name and Purpose

- Sec. 1 The organization shall be known as the VAN BUREN YOUTH FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.
- Sec. 2 The purpose of this organization is to promote new programs and cooperate with established youth programs and activities by sponsoring a Youth Fair in Van Buren County.

ARTICLE II

Membership

- Sec. 1 A person may become an active member upon payment of a \$15.00 annual membership fee due on or before June 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year. The person must complete an application supplied by the Van Buren Youth Fair Association with his/her signature.
- Sec. 2 Paid up members present will have one (1) vote at the annual meeting.
- Sec. 3 Members of the Board of Directors retiring, in good standing, after ten (10) years' service will be awarded a lifetime pass to the Van Buren Youth Fair along with a lifetime membership in the Van Buren Youth Fair Association.
- Sec. 4 Any member may be removed with cause (i.e. violation of the "Code of Conduct") with an affirmative vote of at least 75% of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III

Board of Directors

- Sec. 1 Board of Directors shall consist of twelve (12) members.
- Sec. 2 Four (4) members of the Board of Directors shall be elected at each annual meeting, by the majority of the membership present, for a term of three (3) years. Nominations will be made by the nominating committee and from the floor.
- Sec. 3 The officers of the Board of Directors shall be elected from the Board of Directors and by the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 4 Vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors will be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors until the next election and voted on for the balance of the unexpired term. Persons filling such vacancies shall meet the same requirements as other Directors.
- Sec. 5 Board members absent three (3) regular meetings within one year without prior notice (to the Board of Directors) are subject to replacement by the Board of Directors.

- Sec. 6 The Board of Directors, by a majority vote, may enter into the purchase or lease of any real estate or buildings that will be beneficial to the Van Buren Youth Fair.
- Sec. 7 The Board of Directors shall set and regulate wages and fees for mileage, if any, to its members and employees. This shall also include allowances for all services performed in the interest of the Van Buren Youth Fair Association.
- Sec. 8 A person must be a member, in good standing, of the Van Buren Youth Fair Association and must be present (or have presented a letter of acceptance and willingness to serve if elected) at the annual meeting to be elected to the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 9 To be elected to the Board of Directors, one must be 21 years old or older and must be background checked.
- Sec. 10 The Board of Directors, by a majority vote, may appoint associate members of the Board for various categories. These members may or may not be awarded compensation, in kind, on a per-year basis.
- Sec. 11 A director may resign at any time and such resignation shall take effect when the association receives written notice or at the time stated in the notice of resignation.
- Sec. 12 Any director may be removed at any time with or without cause by an affirmative vote of 75% of the Board of Directors. Any director removed from the Board of Directors will not be eligible to be elected to the Board of Directors for three (3) years immediately following the removal.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Officers and Duties

- Sec. 1 The officers of this organization shall consist of:
- President, whose duties shall be to preside over all ,meetings, to appoint all working committees, and to perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.
  - Vice President, whose duties shall be to perform all duties of the President in his/her absence.
  - Secretary, whose duties shall be to keep all records, all minutes of meetings, take care of all correspondence and perform all other duties that may be assigned by the Board of Directors.
  - Treasurer, whose duties shall be to keep a record of, take charge of, and deposit all money that is the property of the Van Buren Youth Fair in the official bank account, as approved by the Board of Directors. To keep record of and pay all bills by check upon direction of the majority vote of the Board of Directors. The treasurer and co-treasurer must be bonded.

#### ARTICLE V

##### Meetings

- Sec. 1 Regular monthly meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month unless the date falls on a holiday.

Sec. 2 Special meetings may be called at any time by the President or three (3) members of the Board of Directors. All Board of Directors shall be notified prior to the meeting.

Sec. 3 The annual meeting shall be held during the month of October.

Sec. 4 Business is to be transacted only when a quorum is present. A quorum shall consist of seven (7) Board of Directors.

Sec. 5 Order of Business:

1. Roll Call
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Committee Reports
5. Unfinished Business
6. New Business
7. Remarks from guests and audience
8. Adjournment.

## ARTICLE VI

### Amendments

Sec. 1 Amendments to the Bylaws may be proposed at any regular meeting up until and including the September meeting of the current year by the appropriate committee, or member in good standing; then notification sent to all members within thirty (30) days of the annual meeting, and voted on at the next annual ,meeting; and approved by a 2/3 vote of the members present.

## ARTICLE VII

### Regulations

Sec. 1 The Van Buren Youth Fair Association shall conduct at least one (1) Youth Fair per year. The dates to be set by the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2 The Board of Directors shall have complete control and authority of the Van Buren Youth Fair including all committees, exhibits, and shows. The rules and regulations will be available without charge.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Committees

Sec. 1 Committees may include but not limited to:

- a. Advertising
- b. Building & Grounds
- c. Commercial Camping
- d. 4-H Camping
- e. Computer Operations
- f. Draft Horse Club
- g. Horse Committee

- h. Electrical
- i. Entertainment
- j. Inside Commercial Exhibits
- k. Large Livestock Auction Committee and Large Livestock Committee
- l. Outside Commercial Exhibits
- m. Premium Book
- n. Security
- o. Small Market Animal Committee
- p. Tickets & Gates
- q. Track & Stage
- r. Van Buren County Domestic Animal Committee

Sec. 2 Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents are appointed by the Board of Directors on a yearly basis.

Sec. 3 The Board of Directors works with the MSU 4-H Youth Development Educator to contract all judges for the fair.

## ARTICLE IX

### Code of Conduct

Sec. 1 Enforcement and implementation of the Code of Conduct Rule beginning with the 2010 Fair. See attached copy.

## ARTICLE X

### Indemnification

Sec. 1 Every director and every officer of the Board shall be indemnified by the Board against all expenses and liabilities, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred by or imposed upon them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be a party, or in which they may become involved, by reason of their being or having been a director or officer of the Board whether or not they are a director or officer at the time such expenses are incurred, except in such cases wherein the director or officer is adjudged guilty or willful of wanton misconduct or gross negligence in the performance of their duties; provided that, in the event of any claim for reimbursement or indemnification hereunder based upon a settlement by the director or officer seeking such reimbursement or indemnification, the indemnification herein shall apply only if the Board (with the director seeking reimbursement abstaining) approves such settlement and reimbursement as being in the best interest of the Board. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition to and not exclusive of all other rights to which such director or officer may be entitled. At least ten (10) days prior to payment of any indemnification which it has approved, the Board shall give each member written notice.

BYLAWS AMENDED:  
OCTOBER 24, 2019

# **VAN BUREN YOUTH FAIR HARTFORD, MI.**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Anyone attending the Van Buren Youth Fair either as an exhibitor, parent, spectator, superintendent/asst. superintendent, judge or fair official must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the following IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and the Van Buren Fair code listed below. These codes of conduct are not limited to the show ring, but are applicable to all departments, activities and events associated with the Van Buren Youth Fair. Physical, Sexual or Verbal Harassment will not be tolerated. Financial delinquencies will not be tolerated. Consequences to violating this code of conduct may include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal warning documented.
- Written warning with acknowledgement of receipt.
- Removal from fair grounds.
- Suspension, reduction and/or loss of premiums.
- Suspension, reduction and/or loss of auction proceeds.
- Loss of future show privileges.
- Loss of Van Buren Youth Fair Association membership and/or leadership positions.
- Notification to local fairs as to disciplinary actions taken.

## **IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS)**

### **CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS**

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agriculture education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics." Fairs and livestock may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state and provincial and national levels.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards, and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada

# VAN BUREN YOUTH FAIR

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Anyone attending the Van Buren Youth Fair either as an exhibitor, parent, spectator, superintendent/asst. superintendent, judge and/or fair official must conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates the utmost respect for other parents, exhibitors, superintendent / asst. superintendents, judges and fair officials. They are to follow instructions with regard to show and judging procedures as outlined in the fair book and by judges, superintendents/ asst. superintendents and fair officials.

Direct criticism or interference with a judge, fair or livestock show superintendent/asst. superintendent, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show superintendents/asst. superintendents, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

**Parents have a special responsibility to set positive examples and serve as a positive role model for youth by what they do and say. This includes but is not limited to conducting themselves in a manner that demonstrates the utmost respect for other parents, exhibitors, superintendents/asst. superintendents, judges and fair officials. They are to follow instructions with regard to show and judging procedures as outlined in the fair book by judges, superintendents / asst. superintendents and fair officials.**