

OFFICIAL RULES OF THE 2020 JERSEY COUNTY FAIR TALENT COMPETITION
JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISIONS

1. All contestants must be residents of the state of Illinois.
2. Completed application forms must be postmarked no later than midnight, July 3, 2020 and include the mandatory, non-refundable \$10.00 entry fee per ACT (not person) in cash or check form payable to JERSEY COUNTY FAIR. The application must be signed by the contact person or legal guardian who is at least twenty-one years of age.
3. Any act that exceeds the **four-minute** performance time limit will be disqualified. Timing starts when the act starts entertaining (including choreographed entrances and exits).
4. Any act that exceeds the **three-minute** set up time limit will be disqualified. Timing starts when the first member of an act steps onto the stage.
5. Instrumental accompaniment is allowed but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment is removed.
6. When using a CD for accompaniment, it can NOT have **LIKE** talent on it, i.e., vocals, tap dancing, any like instrument, and so forth. CD's **must only have the one accompaniment track solely on it.** (A backup CD is recommended, but NOT required.)
7. The first-place winner in both divisions **is obligated** to represent Jersey County at the State Competition in January 2021. In the event that the 2020 Jersey County Fair Talent Competition First Place Winner in either division is unable to compete at the state competition in January 2021, **he/she/they will forfeit the award and the prize money**, and the runner up will represent Jersey County. The 2020 Fair Talent Competition First Place winner in both divisions will receive one-half of their prize money on July 14, 2020, and the remainder will be paid after they have represented Jersey County at the state competition in January 2020. The 2019 Fair Competition First Place Winner in both the Junior and Senior divisions are NOT eligible for competition in the 2020 Jersey County Fair Talent Competition. The 2019 Fair Talent Competition First Place Winner in both divisions **are invited but not obligated** to perform at the 2020 Jersey County Fair Talent Competition as the retiring champions. Any act or member of an act that has ever received 1st Place at the IAAF State Talent Competition for ANY Illinois County is ineligible to compete in the local division of the same age category at the Jersey County Fair. Contestants in the 2020 Jersey County Fair Pageant are not eligible for the 2020 Jersey County Fair Talent Competition. The retiring 2019 Queens are not eligible for the 2020 Jersey County Fair Talent Competition.
8. Division Age information: If you are under 15 years old on the day of the talent competition, you will compete in the Junior Division. If you are 15 years old or older on the day of the competition, you will compete in the Senior Division. If you are 21 years old on the day of the talent show, you are ineligible. The age of the oldest member of an act determines the division they may enter.
9. A solo contestant may be involved in **ONE ACT ONLY**. A group/ensemble may only compete **ONCE**. The director reserves the right to modify this rule based upon his judgement should pre-existing groups have members that are in multiple organizations (i.e., Show Choir, Jazz Band, etc.) If an individual that is performing in a group act also wishes to compete in a solo act (or vice versa), he/she/they are allowed to do so, but cannot compete in more than one of each. For the purposes of this rule, a group/ensemble consists of four or more persons, while a solo act can include up to three people. The purpose for defining the solo act as it is considered for this competition is to provide leniency for individuals who may be involved in an ensemble but would still desire to perform in a duet or trio.
10. A professional sound system including hand held microphones with optional stands and piano will be the only equipment furnished.
11. A contestant that is considered "PROFESSIONAL" shall not be eligible for this contest. "PROFESSIONAL" is defined as anyone who is a talent union member, who has a professional manager, or whose principal and/or self-supporting income is derived from entertaining.
12. This is a talent competition. The judging will be determined by the amount of talent and performance quality of the contestant(s). Judging sheets are not open to public review, and the decision of the judges is final.