

Why did the 2020 Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo decide to close to the public?

The Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo is a 501(c)3 organization that is required to follow the State of New Mexico public health order. With the current ban on mass gatherings, and no indication from State officials that fairs and festivals will be allowed by late September, the Fair Board had no other viable option.

The Southern New Mexico State Fair draws tens of thousands of visitors each year. Continuing concern over COVID-19 and the threat of spreading the disease through close contact makes it almost impossible to safely produce an event where thousands of people gather in one place. The health and well-being of our staff, vendors, and community is a primary concern.

Why not wait to see if the current situation changes?

The Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo takes an enormous amount of planning and relies on hundreds of volunteers, vendors, sponsors, exhibitors and partner agencies. Travel restrictions and quarantine requirements affect our out-of-state performers, creating scheduling conflicts. Out of respect for all those involved with the event we felt it necessary to make the decision now.

How will the livestock show be held?

We are committed to providing the best possible experience for our youth livestock exhibitors based on the state regulations in place at the time of the show. Multiple options have been identified, but we will not be able to provide specifics until we get closer to the event and have a final answer on what will be allowed by the New Mexico public health order. Continue to monitor our website and Facebook page for updates and additional details.

Will the public and/or school tours be able to attend the livestock show?

At this time, we do not believe the livestock show will be open to anyone except the youth exhibitor and limited members of their immediate household.

Will there still be an open Pygmy and Dairy goat show?

Unfortunately, there will not be an open Pygmy or Dairy goat show this year.

Will there still be a livestock sale?

We are exploring a variety of options for conducting a livestock sale, but it will most likely be different than in previous years. The New Mexico public health order in place at the time of the event will dictate what type of sale will be held.

If we show livestock will we still be able to camp at the fairgrounds?

No overnight camping will be allowed this year. Animals will not be allowed to stay on the premises after judging for that species has been completed.

What if I am a vendor or sponsor who already submitted payment.

Please contact us at office@snmstatefairgrounds.net to discuss options and or request a full refund.

Will adults be allowed to enter exhibits at the Veterans Building?

Unfortunately adult entries will not be accepted this year. However items created in 2020 will be allowed to be entered in next year's fair. Some of the youth categories will still be accepting exhibits so please check the "Adult and Youth Ag and Creative Competitions" page of the website for more information.

Where do I find updates or get additional information if I still have questions?

Please check our Facebook page and website for updates and new information. You may also contact us at office@snmstatefairgrounds.net or 575-636-7098.