

Baking & Decorated Baking Division General Rules 2012

Entry Deadline—First Tuesday in February, 2012

1. All entries must be entirely the work of the person entering the exhibit.
2. The contests are divided into three divisions: senior division (grades 9-12), junior division (grades 3-8), and Peewee division (grades PreK through 2nd). Peewee and junior division participants must be students in Starr County schools or members of Starr County 4-H clubs or other organizations within Starr County (scouts, etc.). Senior division participants should be under the direction of Starr County 4-H Club leaders and/or FFA, FCCLA, or FACS teachers.
3. Students must register each item with their leader or teacher before the registration date, with the entry fee per item, and the leaders will submit the lists and entry fees to the committee chair on registration day. Absolutely no unregistered baked goods will be accepted at the fair.
4. Due to limited display space, entries will be limited to no more than two entries per exhibitor with no more than one entry in any category. It is the responsibility of the teacher/sponsor to identify the category of each entry prior to registration. Check the category criteria carefully before categorizing, as there will be no changing of category after registration (i.e. chocolate cake to white/yellow).
5. At acceptance of entries, no registered entries will be accepted after the designated hours (10:00 am-2:00 pm) unless an exhibitor was already waiting in line and was not able to be attended to.
6. All entries will have an entry card attached with the name of the person entering, their school or club, and the category and division (Sr.-blue; Jr.-yellow; Peewee-green). Entry numbers will be issued to each article entered, and this number will be securely attached to entries where they can be easily seen.
7. Teachers and 4-H leaders will be responsible for seeing that their entries are registered and tagged and that the information required is included.
8. Judging will be done by a panel of judges who will award blue, red, or white ribbons to each entry. They will also select the top winner and runner-up winner from each category and will choose the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion (senior, junior, and peewee) of the Baking & Decorated Baking Division. After the Grand Champion is chosen from the top winners, the Reserve Champion will be selected from the remaining top winners, as well as the runner-up in the category in which the Grand Champion was entered. All judges may deliberate on the selection of the Grand Champions and Reserve Champions.
9. The Baking & Decorated Baking Committee will determine who enters the judging area.
10. All Baking & Decorated Baking items will be on display as space allows, and no exhibit may be removed before 6:00 p.m. on Friday without notifying the Baking & Decorated Baking Committee. After 8:00 p.m., unclaimed projects will become the property of the Fair.
11. Senior and Junior Grand and Reserve Champion winners of both Baking and Decorated Baking Divisions will be required to be present for the Parade of Champions ceremony and for the auction on Saturday. Top winners (not runners-up) from each Baking (not Decorated Baking) category of the junior and senior divisions will be present for the auction only. Top Winners from Decorated Baking do not auction. Peewee Grand and Reserve Champion winners will be present for the Parade of Champions only and will not sell at auction.
12. The Baking & Decorated Baking Committee will use all diligence and every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety of all the items after their arrival and during the exhibition, but in no case will they be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur or for articles not removed by Saturday.
13. ALL JUDGES' DECISIONS ARE FINAL, AS ARE THOSE OF THE DIVISION CHAIR. Any complaints must be officially filed with the Starr County Fair Association Board of Directors as prescribed in their guidelines.

Baking Division Rules 2012

(in addition to the general rules on p. 1)

1. Baking entries will be divided into seven (7) categories. There will be a junior and senior division for each of the categories, 1-7, with top winners and runners-up to be named in both divisions. Peewee entries make up category 7. Each entry must fit into one of the following categories in order to be accepted:

Category 1	Brownies, cookies, empanadas
Category 2	Cakes, white or yellow (including cake rolls)
Category 3	Cakes, chocolate
Category 4	Pies, pecan tassies
Category 5	Candy (no candy melts, discs, or bars accepted)
Category 6	Breads (not cake rolls) (no frosted items; glaze is allowed)
Category 7	Peewee division entrants may bake brownies or cookies

2. NO packaged mixes of any type, including frostings, are allowed for any entries. Diabetic (sugar-free) recipes are allowed.
3. Baking entries should be exhibited on or in non-returnable containers. All items must be entered for judging in plastic cake domes of the correct size for the entry (not more than 12" x 16"). **Display space is limited; use the minimum size container for each entry.** Decorative containers are not allowed—NO EXCEPTIONS. In the case of candy popcorn, a sealable jar is permissible.
4. A pre-cut serving/sample must be provided and placed in a small, clear container on top of the dome prior to entry. All items entered will be tasted.
5. All baked goods should be labeled. A label should be attached with tape **under the dome with info facing down** giving the following information: name of exhibitor, town, name of organization, club, or school.
6. The recipe must be attached to the dome in full view. Recipe must be legible and in English. Absolutely NO entry will be accepted without the recipe.
7. No cheesecakes, flan cakes, fresh fruit, or frozen/refrigerated desserts will be accepted. No refrigeration is available to ensure their freshness. Cream cheese frosting is allowed.
8. A minimum of twenty-four (24) pieces of candy, empanadas, or cookies, including the sample, will be required for one exhibit.
9. The Senior and Junior Grand Champion and Reserve Champion of the Baking Division, plus the senior and junior top winners of categories 1-6 will be auctioned. **Only** the Sr. & Jr. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion of the Decorated Baking Division (**not the top winners**) will be auctioned. Peewee participants will not be included in the auction, but a Grand and Reserve Champion will be selected to receive trophy plaques at the Parade of Champions.
10. ALL JUDGES' DECISIONS ARE FINAL, AS ARE THOSE OF THE DIVISION CHAIR.

Decorated Baking Division Rules 2012 **(in addition to the general rules on p. 1)**

1. Decorated Baking entries will be divided into five (5) categories. There will be a junior and senior division for each of the categories, 1-4, with top winners and runners-up to be named in all categories of these divisions. Peewee entries make up category 5. Each entry must fit into one of the following categories in order to be accepted:

Category 1	Simple one-layer cakes (several cakes can join together to form one cake)
Category 2	Simple one-layer cake with fondant frosting only
Category 3	Two or more separate cakes (layered or flat, horizontal or vertical—example: wedding cakes, train, etc.)
Category 4	Two or more separate cakes with fondant frosting only
Category 5	Peewee Division entrants may decorate 6 cookies or 6 cupcakes (minimum)

2. Decorated baking entries must be exhibited on or in non-returnable containers. No plastic wrap is needed on these entries; however, they may be covered with plastic wrap after judging to protect them from dust. Decorative containers are not allowed. No exceptions.
3. All exhibits should be labeled. A label should be **attached with tape underneath**, giving the following information (not visible): name of exhibitor, town, and name of chapter, club, or school.
4. No recipe is required for decorated cakes, but it must be a cake that is decorated. Entries will not be tasted but will be checked with a toothpick to make sure it is a cake.
5. Items such as bridges, columns, flowers, candies, ribbons, and other purchased materials may be used as decorative props; however, the exhibitor should be aware that preference is given to frosting decorative skills due to the level of difficulty. These items should not be frosted to appear as homemade.
6. The Baking & Decorating Division Chair reserves the right to ask the person entering the decorated item how they accomplished their techniques.
7. Only the Senior and Junior Grand and Reserve Champion of the Decorated Baking Division will be auctioned. Top winners in the Decorated Division do not auction. Peewee participants will not be included in the auction, but a Grand and Reserve champion will be selected to receive trophy plaques at the Parade of Champions.
8. ALL JUDGES' DECISIONS ARE FINAL, AS ARE THOSE OF THE DIVISION CHAIR.