National Outdoor Show

Raccoon Skinning Competition Rules - Senior

(18 years of age & over)

Rules & Procedures

1. **Raccoon Requirements**

   - Contestants must furnish their own raccoon.
   - Raccoons must be killed at least **two (2) hours prior to showtime**.
   - All raccoons will be inspected by judges at showtime and again immediately before entry on stage.
   - Contestants (or anyone acting on their behalf) are **prohibited from killing raccoons on school property**.

2. **Competition Guidelines**
   - Each contestant will skin **one (1) raccoon**.
   - At the start, contestants must be on stage in their preferred skinning position with knife in hand, **both hands raised at shoulder height**.
   - The competition begins when the emcee says **"GO."** Timing begins then and ends when the fur leaves the carcass.
   - Contestants must **stand and not touch the hide or carcass** until judges have finished their inspection. Touching the hide early results in automatic disqualification.
   - Contestants must remain at their station until dismissed.

3. **Disqualifications**
   - Automatic disqualification if the raccoon has been cut around the head before the first inspection.
   - Automatic disqualification for touching the hide before judging is complete.

4. **Penalties (10 seconds added each)**
   - Both eyes and nose not left in the hide.
   - More than **2 inches of fur** left on the belly.
   - Each knife cut left in the hide.
   - Hide pulled apart.
   - Tail not skinned out **2 inches from the end** (tail cannot be pulled).

5. Contestants may cut off both feet.

6. **General Rules**

   - Only contestants, timers, judges, and committee board members are permitted on stage.
   - Each contestant is individually timed.
   - Contestants enter at their own risk —
     The National Outdoor Foundation and National Outdoor Show Committee are not responsible for injuries or losses.
   - **All decisions by judges are final.**