National Outdoor Show

Young Men's Beginner Muskrat Skinning

(Under 18 years of age — minors must have signed parent/guardian permission slip)

Rules and Procedures

1. **Eligibility Requirements**
   - Men between the ages of 14 and 17.
   - All men's beginner muskrat skinners must not have previously skinned in World Championship competitions.
   - All men's beginner muskrat skinners can compete for only three consecutive years, after that they must advance to World Championship competition.

2. **Muskrat Requirements**
   - Each contestant must furnish their own muskrat.
   - Contestants may enter **only ONE (1)** muskrat skinning competition.
   - The muskrat must be killed at least **TWO (2) hours** prior to showtime.
   - Killing a muskrat on school property is strictly prohibited.

2. **Inspection & Handling**
   - Contestants must present their muskrat at showtime for inspection by the judges.
   - After inspection, muskrats will be placed in a **locked compartment** and held in the registration room until contest time.
   - Muskrats will be re-inspected immediately before contestants go on stage.

3. **Competition Procedures**
   - Each contestant must skin **ONE (1)** muskrat during the World Championship on Saturday evening.
   - All contestants will be **individually timed**.
   - At the start:
     - Contestants must be on stage, in their chosen skinning position.
     - Contestants must hold their skinning knife and raise both hands at shoulder height.
   - The emcee will begin the contest with the command **"GO"**, at which point the timer will start.
   - Timing ends when the fur leaves the carcass.
   - Upon finishing, contestants must:
     - Stand up.
     - Remain beside their skinning station.
     - **Not touch the hide or carcass** until judges complete their evaluation.

Young Men's Beginner Muskrat Skinning

4. **Disqualification Rules**
   A contestant will be disqualified if any of the following occur:
   A. Fur remains on the muskrat's belly.
   B. Both eyeholes are not left in the hide.
   C. The nose is not left in the hide.
   D. Knife cuts are present in the hide.
   E. The hide is pulled apart.
   F. Either foot is left on the hide.
   G. The contestant touches the hide or carcass before judging is complete.

5. **Penalty System (if no clean winner is determined)**
   If no contestant qualifies under the above rules, judges may apply **time penalties** as follows:
   - +10 seconds for any fur left on the carcass.
   - +10 seconds for each missing eyehole.
   - +10 seconds if the nose is not left in the hide.
   - +10 seconds for each knife cut in the hide.
   - +10 seconds for each hide that has been pulled apart.
   - +10 seconds for each foot left on the hide.

   The winner will then be the contestant with the **fastest adjusted time** after penalties.

6. **General Provisions**
   - All contestants enter at their **own risk**.
   - Only contestants, timers, judges, and committee board members are allowed on stage.
   - The National Outdoor Foundation and the National Outdoor Show Committee are **not responsible** for injuries or losses.
   - **All decisions by the judges are final.**