

Show Rules: 2024 Louisville Grand National

1. Failure to recognize or abide by these show rules will exclude participation and forfeit entry fees.
2. Entry fees: \$5.50 per bird for NPA members. \$6.50 per bird for non-NPA members. Entries must be postmarked by December 26, 2023. No late entries with a postmark after December 26, 2023 will be accepted. No phone entries will be accepted and there will be no refunds after entry is made. Please make checks out to the NPA.
3. The NPA Grand National in Louisville, KY officially opens on Thursday, January 18th, 2022 at 9:00 am. The show cages will be set up on Wednesday the 17th and if all cages are set up by Wednesday evening, and the okay is given by the NPA Show Committee, then birds will be able to be cooped in on Wednesday evening. Otherwise, cooping will begin when the show hall opens on Thursday morning. All birds must be cooped by 4:00 pm on Thursday afternoon. Birds will be released from the show hall on Saturday afternoon at approximately 3:30 pm after all judging and events are completed, and all exhibitors have verified that all their birds are in their possession. No birds will be released early from the show for any reason.
4. Birds may be shipped to the Grand National through the U.S. Postal Service. The address for shipping the birds in on the entry form. Exhibitors who ship their birds must make arrangements and payment to the NPA Show Committee for return shipping if the NPA is to ship the birds back. Exhibitors who ship their birds are **highly encouraged** to make other arrangements for getting their birds back home. It is advised that you find someone who can take the birds home and ship them to you the following week so they will not spend an inordinate amount of time in the shipping boxes.
5. Exhibitors' carrying cases will be allowed under the cages in the show room, however, no birds are to be in those cases during the show.
6. All exhibitors should check in at the NPA desk to get their banquet tickets and show pin.
7. All birds must be banded with NPA bands that are issued by the NPA or one of the NPA distributors. The only exceptions to this are AU, IF, Canadian, or other Foreign bands. Canadian and other Foreign bands will only be allowed if they are shown by exhibitors who live in those countries.
8. No substitutions will be made until the exhibitor checks in at the show. Exhibitors must make all changes on the coop cards and give those changes to the specialty club secretary prior to judging so that appropriate changes can be made on the judging sheets. Open class or non-sponsored breed substitutions will be permitted only when made in the same class, color, age, and sex as the original entry. Substitutions shown with specialty clubs will be allowed as the individual club allows.
9. Please specify Homer breeds on the entry form. (Show Type, Racing, American Show Racer, Giant, German Beauty, Exhibition, Genuine, etc.)
10. Reliable and competent judges have been selected by the specialty clubs or the NPA Show Committee (in the case of non-sponsored breeds). The judges' decisions may be appealed only upon written protest to the Executive Committee of the NPA, together with a protest fee of \$25, which will be forfeited if the judges' decision is sustained. Appeals must be filed within 12 hours of the disputed decision.

11. Each exhibit must be the property of the exhibitor and must be shown in its' natural condition. The right is reserved to disqualify all unworthy or unhealthy specimens. Proper trimming and preparation are considered natural condition.
12. Representatives of the NPA Show Committee reserve the right to reject all unhealthy or diseased specimens received for exhibition. If sickness develops, diseased birds will be removed from the show hall at the discretion of the NPA Show Committee.
13. The NPA will not be responsible for the loss of birds at the show or in transit, however, the NPA will have security in place during the show to greatly minimize the risk of this occurring. Clean food and water for the birds will be provided.
14. All birds will be individually cooped. There will be **NO Sale Section** at the show, however, any bird properly entered in the show, with entry fee paid, may be sold from its' coop in the show.
15. No birds will be allowed in the show hall for which the entry fee has not been paid. All birds sold in the show hall must remain in the hall until all birds are released on Saturday afternoon. **No** bird sales will be allowed in the parking lot.
16. Specialty clubs will establish their own classes and the number of placings will be determined by each specialty club. Where there is no specialty club agreement in effect, classes will be provided for young hen, young cock, old hen, and old cock.
17. An NPA Grand National Champion Certificate will be awarded to each breed exhibited. Specialty clubs will be responsible for their additional breed awards. An Overall Grand Champion of Show, 1st Reserve Champion, and 2nd Reserve Champion will be selected by a panel of highly qualified judges on Saturday afternoon after all breed judging has been concluded.
18. There will be an auction of good birds and other items on Saturday, around 9 am, to benefit the NPA Junior Programs. This auction is open to anyone present to bid on the items or birds included in it.
19. An NPA Show Report will be included in the NPA Quarterly Review's 2nd issue of the year, which is included with the NPA membership. Extra copies may be purchased for \$10 each.
20. Dismantling of the show will begin on Saturday afternoon as soon as all the birds are released from the show. Members of specialty clubs are encouraged to dismantle their own sections, pull coop cards, and empty water and feed cups.
21. No smoking or consumption of alcohol is allowed in the show hall at any time.
22. A violation of these rules will result in a partial or total loss of the rebate to the specialty club under contract for this show. A consideration of the loss of exhibiting privileges may be considered by the NPA Board of Directors. The NPA Board of Directors' decision in these matters is final.
23. It is highly encouraged that each exhibitor and guest to the Grand National Show and Convention thoroughly enjoy their time with their fellow pigeon fanciers. Please be courteous and kind so that all who attend will have an enjoyable experience. Thank you!