

12/19/19

Discussion of distributing premium payouts at Fair - Should we eliminate distribution of premiums at County Fair?

Facts to consider:

- The Ranch funds approximately \$7,000 in premium money for County Fair every year
- In years past Premiums were: \$5 = 1st; \$4 = 2nd; \$3=3rd; \$2=4th and \$1=5th places
- Since about 2012 it is: \$2 = 1st; \$1.50 = 2nd and \$1 = 3rd place
- Participants also receive a ribbon, rosette or trophy depending on their placing
- 94% of premiums were under \$10 in 2019, with 39% of those being under \$5
- A “big” payout for a successful competitor might be \$15 for all of Fair
- About 79% of participants in 4-H and Open Class collect their Premium money.
Approximately \$6,800 is collected via sponsorship donations to provide special awards in addition to Premiums. These are almost exclusively cash awards.
- Eliminating Premiums will not eliminate special awards.
- Weld and Boulder counties still provide premium payouts at County Fair, but some counties do not

Pro’s for eliminating:

- Staff and administrative time to account for premium awards (1,025 in 2019) for each participant is fairly significant and falls at a bad time during Fair
- Notification and follow up to participants to collect their Premiums is additional time
- If we ever move to a new software system to help us administer Fair, it may be easier to not have to account for Premiums
- Money could be put to use for other items for 4-H and Open Class such as additional special awards

Con’s for eliminating:

- There may be some complaints from 4-H or Open Class participants when they discover Premiums were eliminated
- It eliminates a County tradition and historic way of doing things