

The Gathering of Friends and Champions

Iowa Equestrian Center

Cedar Rapids, IA

September 25th - 27th, 2020

www.ilrsdthegathering.com



General Information

Facility

- The 2020 Gathering of Friends and Champions will be held at the [Iowa Equestrian Center](#) on the Kirkwood Community College Campus at 801 76th Ave Dr SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.
- The Iowa Equestrian Center has 210 10' x 10' box stalls located in the main stalling barn. Preference to these stalls will be given to sponsors, sale animals and early entries. Overflow stalling is located in the North Barn (near the concessions). [Click here](#) for a closer look at the stalls.
- Stalls are floored with rubber mats. As this is an equine facility, there may be traces of shavings in your stall when you arrive.
- You may use hay, wood chips, cardboard, compressed pellets or shredded paper for bedding. **You may not use straw.**
- Retractable electricity lines are suspended from the ceiling. Each stall has two plugs available.
- The main stalling barn offers 10 warm water wash stalls. The North Barn also has two warm water wash stalls.
- Alleyways and floors throughout the stall barn are concrete.
- The arenas and common area are made up of packed dirt.
- Temperature controlled restrooms are available throughout the building.
- The facility will offer a concession stand for lunch Friday and Saturday.
- Trailer parking is available right outside of the stall barn.
- See a map of the facility here: <https://www.iowaequestrian.com/map/#map>
- Campsite are available on the IEC grounds. Please see "Lodging Information".
- Check out the Iowa Equestrian Center website by [clicking here](#).

COVID-19

- The health and safety of our llama family is of the utmost concern to us.
- The event center is requiring a waiver be signed in order attend any events.
- We are currently drafting our safety protocols as required by the Iowa Equestrian Center and will send an e-mail blast with information as it becomes available.
- The Iowa Equestrian Center currently has posted its [COVID-19 plan and expectations for event attendees](#). Please review these as our event will be held to this standard.
- Most notably, the event center is requiring face masks or face coverings when not exhibiting, and social distance of six feet of separation must be maintained.

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Lodging Information

- The Iowa Equestrian Center is just a few short miles away from several hotel / motel options. The Gathering of Friends and Champions show committee has a block of rooms set aside at [these establishments](#). Each location has significantly reduced their rates from last year in order to encourage you to visit Cedar Rapids, IA in June.
- 52 overnight camp sites, with electrical hookup, are located on the west side of the barn complex. Each site is available for \$25 / evening. **Please register on your show entry forms.** The IEC also offers 4 shower rooms within the barn for campers. *No septic system.*

Rules

- Our world has been thrown into chaos over the last couple of months. You must be ready to have a great time! This includes, but is not limited to, cheering for your wins, learning from your losses, celebrating with your friends, high-fiving your competition, relaxing in your stalls, getting involved, wearing a smile and having fun! **No exceptions.**
- There are no qualifying points required to enter any classes at The Gathering.
- *All exhibitors are required to be members of the ILR Show Division.* Unsure if you've paid your ILR-SD dues? Give Susan Hannah, ILR Office Manager, a call at (406) 755-3438.
- All llamas entered in any of the classes **must** be fully registered or have a listing number recorded with the International Llama Registry when entries are submitted. A lack of ILR Registration will result in a late fee.
- Please do not enter your llamas in the **bolded** champion classes.
- All entries must be postmarked by September 14, 2020.
- Entries will not be accepted or processed without payment in full. No exceptions.
- A \$50 fee will be assessed per animal after September 14th, 2020 for late entries, class changes or substitutions. These changes may not be reflected on the program.
- **No class changes or substitutions** will be allowed after September 21, 2020, except at the discretion of the judge.
- Non-breeder llamas must be recognized as such on their ILR Certificate or on a veterinarian certificate verifying non-breeder status.

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Rules Continued...

- Llamas must be a minimum of 5 months old in order to exhibit.
- Nursing dams may not be accompanied into the ring by their cria.
- A llama ages to the next class on its birthday.
- Specific animals used to represent the sire or dam in production classes (Get of Sire / Produce of Dam) may be decided after halter classes have been placed. However, they must be listed with the show clerk **before** this class is held.
- Alpacas may compete in the llama performance classes; however, we are not offering alpaca halter classes
- It is the exhibitor's responsibility to have animal(s) at the show ring promptly for their class. If you need help, ask
- A Novice Performance Animal is defined as an animal who has not earned 4 or more Grand or Reserve Championships in any Performance division (Novice, Open, or Youth) in any Show Association or Open Show with a minimum of 5 in the division. A triple point show is counted as triple championships regardless of the number of times the course was run.
- If a Novice Performance Animal has moved to the Advanced division in any other Show Association, they must show in the Advanced division in the ILR-SD. Once an animal is entered in Advanced it cannot move back to novice.
- It is up to the Owner/Exhibitor to keep a record of their animal's performance placements and championships and to enter the animal correctly when entering ILR-SD Performance Classes.

Youth

- Minimum age for a handler in any class is seven years old. Exhibitors under 11 years of age cannot show intact males over the age of 18 months.
- The age division in which the youth will show will be determined by their age on January 1st of that year, however, if a youth reaches the age of 7 any time during the year, they will be eligible to show as of their birth date and when a senior youth reaches their 20th birthday they are no longer eligible to show in the youth division at all.
- Effective January 1, 2018, the youth age divisions shall be as follows:
 - Junior Youth - 7 thru 11 years
 - Intermediate Youth - 12 thru 14 years
 - Senior Youth - 15 thru 19 years of age

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Youth Continued...

- Youth may compete in Novice/Advanced Performance and Youth Performance, however, they must use a different llama.
- To qualify for **Youth Performance Champion**, the youth must show in Freestyle Obstacle, Companion PR and Trail Pack or Showmanship. They must use the same animal for the three performance classes. If showing in all four classes, the highest points in either Trail Pack or Showmanship will be used.
- Senior youth will complete their performance courses in conjunction with the Advanced exhibitors.
- Please review this [Youth Judging instructional guide](#) with your exhibitor prior to the Youth Judging Class.
- Youth Judging will take place in the main arena on Friday during the performance lunch break.
- The Gathering Committee will be hosting our famous Youth-Only Live Auction using Gathering Bucks earned throughout the year at 5 pm (CST).

Health Requirements

- It is required that llamas or alpacas traveling into the state of Iowa be accompanied by a health certificate issued within 30 days. These forms are for your travel purposes only.
- The Gathering Committee reserves the right to dismiss any animals from the premises who are displaying symptoms of infectious disease or communicable fungus.
- Veterinarian on call: Dr. Kayla Mysak, [Anamosa Veterinary Clinic](#), 10538 Shaw Rd, Anamosa, IA 52205. (319) 462-4853

Sponsorship

- The Gathering is one of the largest llama shows in the country. It would not be possible to put on this event without the financial support of our community. Learn about sponsorship opportunities and rewards by visiting [the sponsorship page](#) on the Gathering website.
- There are several specialty sponsorships available for 2020. These are available on a first come, first serve basis. They offer several unique promotional opportunities.

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Sponsorship Continued...

- The Gathering committee will do our best to honor all stalling requests. Priority will be based on sponsorship level and date sponsorship was received.
- Print ready artwork for both ads and business cards must be submitted with sponsorship entry or e-mailed to Lisa Robinson at lrobinson17@comcast.net by TBD. This will be the final deadline for entry in the showbook.
- Cannot sponsor financially? Please consider donation to the silent auction or volunteering your time. Contact lrobinson17@comcast.net for volunteering opportunities
- The 2020 Gathering will be hosting a silent auction throughout the weekend. These donations and your bids help keep the show financially solvent. This event has garnered a reputation for collecting some of the most unique and incredible items. The Silent Auction table will be set up by Thursday morning and bidding will begin immediately.
- If you have any donations or questions, please contact Venesa Carter via phone, email or facebook messenger.

Youth Auction

- The Gathering Committee strongly believes that the youth are the future of our industry. The Gathering Youth Committee hosts an auction for kids using only Gathering Bucks!
- Please consider donating to the 2020 Youth Auction!
 - **What does a youth auction sponsorship look like?**
 - Whatever you want it to. Our youth auction includes all kinds of donations. It can be new or gently used llama items, gift cards, clothing, stuffed animals, candy, etc. Our youth ages vary from Sub Jr. to Seniors, so all donations will be utilized and appreciated.
 - **Don't want to shop?**
 - Let us do it for you. Let us know the amount you would like to donate and we take care of the rest.
 - **Can't attend the 2020 Gathering but want to donate items?**
 - Donations can be mailed ahead of time and we will get them there for you.

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Youth Auction Continued...

- Youth earn the majority of their Gathering Bucks based on their previous year ILR-SD points.
- Additional Gathering Bucks can be purchased from Susan Hannah, ILR Office Manager.
- The Gathering Committee has also been known to award for volunteering throughout the weekend or winning certain games.
- Questions? Donations? Ideas? Please contact Amanda Smith at (260) 446-5608 quartzandmarni@gmail.com

Llama Sale Information

- The Gathering will be holding its first every **Summer Spectacular Sale** on Friday evening!
- This sale is designated for show quality females and males.
- All sale llamas will automatically be entered in the Gathering halter show on Saturday or Sunday.
- Sale entry fee of \$150 (which includes the Gathering Halter show entry fee)
- Only a 5% commission will be charged.
- Check out the consignments and more information by visiting our website: <http://www.ilrsdthegathering.com/ilr-summer-spectacular-sale.html>
- Contact sale coordinators Randy Cipriano (402-540-4058) or Mark Smith (765-918-1976) with questions.

Futurity Information

- Be a part of the first ever *ILR-SD Gathering Futurity!*
- Judging criteria will be based on conformation/movement, fiber quality, and overall appeal/marketability.
- The Futurity will be evaluated using a three judge system. (TBA)
- First, second and third place winners of each class will receive payouts.
- A \$200 cash prize and embroidered director's chair will be awarded to the overall Gathering Futurity Champion.
- Entry fee is \$100 / class.
- Sign up is available with regular Gathering Entry Forms.
- See more information about the first ILR-SD Futurity on our website: [:http://www.ilrsdthegathering.com/photo-gallery.html](http://www.ilrsdthegathering.com/photo-gallery.html)

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Vendors

- If you are interesting in vending, please visit [our webpage](#) for more information. Additional Questions? Please contact Lisa Robinson at lrobinson17@comcast.net or (317) 341-0533.
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Photographers

- TBD

Arrival/Departure/Office Hours

- Exhibitors and Vendors may begin to arrive at the Iowa Equestrian Center at 10:00 am on Thursday, September 24th, 2020. If you require special arrangements, please contact Lisa Robinson at lrobinson17@comcast.net or (317) 341-0533.
- Exhibitors and Vendors must leave the Iowa Equestrian Center by Sunday, September 27th, 2020 by 5:00 pm. If you require special arrangements, please contact Lisa Robinson at lrobinson17@comcast.net or (317) 341-0533.
- Kristen Varas will be staffing the show office from Thursday at 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. If you arrive after 5:00 pm, please find Lisa Robinson (317) 341-0533 to get your entry packet.

Contacts

- Lisa Robinson, Gathering Chair: lrobinson17@comcast.net or (317) 341-0533.
- Kristen Varas, Gathering Entries: kristenvaras@gmail.com
- Susan Hannah, ILR Office Manager: susan@lamaregistry.com or (406) 755-3438
- Mark Smith, Sale Manager: msfllama@gmail.com or (765) 918-1976
- Randy Cipriano, Sale Manager: rrcip@aol.com or (402) 540-4058