



April 18, 2014

F2014-04

TO: All California Fairs, Entry Supervisors and Livestock Show Coordinators

SUBJECT: Grange participation at fairs

During the annual meeting of the State Rules Committee in November the issue of California State Grange was discussed. The Committee asked the Division of Fairs & Expositions, who provides oversight to State Rules, to look into the issue of California State Grange's charter being revoked by National Grange and the implications for fairs and Grange Youth Programs. Here is what we know:

- National Grange has revoked California State Grange's Charter. National Grange supports several ways for youth to continue participating in fair programs.
- California State Grange has disavowed any involvement with National Grange and claims to be their own entity.
- Both support and accept responsibility for the Official Youth Agreement.
- There is a pending unresolved lawsuit between both groups.

On February 15, 2014, the National Grange held a meeting at the Orangevale Grange to reorganize a State Grange for California affiliated with the National Grange. Membership that attended this meeting voted to pursue a new California Charter Grange. Five officers were elected to proceed with the process and as of this date this process is still ongoing.

**Goal:** It is the goal of the California State Rules committee to minimize the impact of this situation on youth participation and the fairs that host them.

**Common Ground:** Both entities recognize and will accept the 2009 California State Grange Handbook and any Community Grange that was formed prior to September 17, 2012 (Granges formed after this date are subject to varying degrees of acceptance).

**Recommendations:**

- To avoid an interruption in youth programming we recommend that Grange Youth participate as independent exhibitors.  
OR
- Follow the 2009 California State Grange Handbook.



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For any future rules questions, variance requests or protests please contact Jay Carlson at [jcarlson@calexpo.com](mailto:jcarlson@calexpo.com) or (916) 263-3109. Full contact information regarding official protests can be found in the State Rules book.

Sincerely,



John Quiroz  
Division of Fairs & Expositions  
Department of Food & Agriculture

