

## **2011 MIGHTY MIDWAY AND KIDWAY ATTRACTION ACCESS POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Minnesota State Fair strives to provide a quality family entertainment experience that is fun, clean and wholesome. To make each guest's visit an enjoyable one, the fair has developed this attraction access policy. A brochure summarizing this policy (Attraction Access Guide) is available to the public at all ticket outlets in the Midway and Kidway.

### **ATTRACTION ACCESS POLICY**

It is the policy of the Minnesota State Fair to encourage patrons to take responsibility for choosing which amusement attractions are appropriate for them. We recommend that patrons review an Attraction Access Guide and follow the access and safety guide instructions posted at the entrance to each attraction. Patrons should observe the attraction through at least one cycle of operation to become familiar with the motion and dynamics of that particular attraction.

Persons with conditions which could be aggravated by the dynamics of an attraction are cautioned not to ride. Persons with conditions such as pregnancy or back, neck, stomach, heart or cardiovascular problems, degenerative bone disease, or other health conditions which could be aggravated by bumping or jarring are urged to use caution in choosing attractions.

The fair expects attraction owner-operators to make every reasonable effort to assure that guests with disabilities are given an equal opportunity to enjoy the attractions and events that make up the fair. However, the fair's first responsibility is to assure guests a safe and trouble-free experience. Anyone who exhibits the stated requirements for access to an attraction may ride. Access will be restricted only if the owner-operator of a particular attraction determines that an individual's safety or that of others will be compromised by permitting access.

### **SAFETY RESTRICTIONS**

Most attractions have safety systems designed into them. Some safety systems place restrictions on who can safely experience an attraction. Guests with certain disabilities or physical dimensions may not be able to be safely and properly seated or restrained. The fair or an attraction owner-operator may deny access in cases where a particular condition increases the risk of discomfort or injury, or prohibits the appropriate closure or action of a safety device.

1. The fair or an attraction owner-operator may deny access to people who:
  - a. may jeopardize their own or another person's safety,
  - b. will not obey the notices and regulations posted at the attraction,
  - c. behave in an unruly fashion and
  - d. behave as if under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
2. Any person who wants to ride an amusement device must, for the duration of the attraction, be able to:
  - a. sit or stand in an appropriate riding position,
  - b. keep their hands, arms, feet and legs inside the ride unit and
  - c. be properly secured by the safety devices provided and required.
3. The fair or an owner-operator may deny access to people whose unusual body build or structure (such as extreme obesity or height) will not permit the effective and proper use of required safety restraints (seat belts, lap bars, harnesses, etc.).
4. A guest who is sight impaired may ride, but certain rides may require the guest to have a responsible companion who can communicate knowledge of the ride's action.
5. Guests with service animals must have a companion stay with their service animal while they are experiencing an attraction. Attraction personnel are not required to care for nor be responsible for service animals.

## **ATTRACTION EVALUATION PROCESS**

The fair's attraction evaluation process has been developed using the most current amusement industry standards, manufacturer's recommendations, attraction design knowledge, owner-operator experience and the American Society for Testing and Materials (A.S.T.M.) "Standards on Amusement Rides and Devices".

The attraction evaluation process involves a review of each amusement device in the Midway and Kidway throughout its entire operation cycle. Evaluations by owner-operators examine the boarding and off-loading processes, consider the characteristics necessary to endure the dynamics of the attraction throughout its operation cycle under both normal and emergency conditions and determine the physical criteria necessary to safely enjoy each attraction. The restrictions are then posted on safety guide signs at the entrance to each attraction.

Everyone must have a ticket(s) to ride and/or play.