

Rules and guidelines for growers competing at 2011 Port Elgin Pumpkinfest

Saturday and Sunday Giant Vegetable Weigh-Off Competitions

1. All weights are to be recorded in ½ pound increments. Weights recorded to ¼ pound increments will be rounded down to the nearest ½ pound. (i.e. 750 ¾ pounds would be recorded as 750 ½ pounds.)
 2. Our competition is open to all individuals from any part of the world. The grower must be in attendance at the competition in order to compete or they must relay in writing, to the festival, their unavailability and their reasons for such and authorize a designee in his (her) place.
 3. Growers must register their specimen(s) between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on the day of competition at the Growers Registration area. Please park in Growers Parking Area and fill out the paperwork at the Registration Trailer before deadline time. You will be given a lineup number for your turn at scales.
 4. An exhibitor may enter only one specimen per class per day. A husband and wife can register individually and enter separate specimens.
 5. All pumpkins and squash must be loaded on a skid/pallet so that forklifts can easily lift the entry and take it to the scales.
 6. A specimen must be sound, healthy and undamaged. Vine must be trimmed to one inch (2.5cm) from the stem (stalk) of the fruit. Foreign material may not be included in the weighing. No carrying device may be included in the weighing.
 7. Specimens of equal weight will be reweighed and then declared co-winners and that prize money as well as the funds from the next level below will be divided equally for those two positions.
 8. All Growers agree that the use of his/her name & likeness may be used for promotional purposes without any further compensation.
 9. No entrant/spectator shall attempt to influence judges or impede the proceedings of a fair competition. The Pumpkinfest Committee will designate an official representative responsible for abiding by and absolutely enforcing the rules of competition. Pumpkinfest reserves the right to suspend or remove any competitor/spectator.
 10. The Pumpkinfest Committee, staff and volunteers shall not be responsible for any accidents, losses or breakage of entries, exhibits or displays.
 11. The winner of the top Pumpkin category on Saturday agrees to keep his/her specimen on site overnight on display for our visitors on Sun. Oct. 2, 2011. Accommodation for two on the evening of Sat. Oct. 1 will be complimentary.
 12. Color requirements - GPC color requirements will be followed:
 - A) Squash will be classified as follows- The surface area of the fruit as grown in the garden, not including the portion that was in contact with or close proximity to the ground must consist of 100% of the following colours or colour combinations; green, blue, and gray. This area will include the area between the ribs, around the stem, and the blossom end. This will not include any netting (cantaloping) or any discoloration caused by the close proximity to, or from the ground.
 - B) Pumpkins will be all fruit not classified as squash.
- *Please note: GPC has additional recognition for solid colours of fruit; see the GPC rules for further information**
13. Any \$500 cash award for a new, standing World Record Vegetable will be awarded after all sites have reported their statistics and the record confirmed.
 14. In order to be eligible for one of the two \$1,000 bonus cash awards in the pumpkin/squash categories, you must be present at the time of the draw (Saturday, October 1, 2011 at the award ceremony) and your pumpkin/squash must weigh 1000 pounds or more at the Weigh Off on Saturday, October 1, 2011. Each family (household) will be eligible for only one \$1000 bonus cash award. The heaviest pumpkin and squash will not be eligible for these prizes.
 15. To win the "Closest to the Weight" Prize the pumpkin must be closest to the sealed hidden weight. If there is a tie with the weight higher and lower being the same, the higher, heavier pumpkin weighed will win the prize. If there is a tie with two pumpkins of the same weight both being closest to the weight, the first pumpkin registered and weighed will win the prize.
 16. The Other Longest Vegetable, Other Heaviest Vegetable, Biggest Sunflower Face and Most Unusual/Weirdest Vegetable categories are meant to give the growers the opportunity to display and enter any other giant vegetables of competitive merit. The judging of these categories will be strictly at the discretion of our officials with very few guidelines except for overall appearance and size. These vegetables do not qualify for the \$500 award for New World Records.
 17. The registration fee for the Weigh Off is \$30 Canadian each day and allows the grower to enter as many different classes as they wish on that particular day. This fee also includes one entry into Pumpkinfest Village and one grower's prize (i.e. hat, t-shirt).
 18. Novice Grower Bonus will be awarded to the Novice Grower (less than 3 years growing experience) with the largest pumpkin at Sunday's Weigh Off.
 19. The Fred Wuerth Memorial Tri-County Growers Award will be awarded to the grower in the tri-county (Bruce, Grey, or Huron) with the largest pumpkin at Sunday's Weigh Off.

THESE RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE