

GPC Rules for watermelon, cantaloupe, tomato, and long gourds

Long Gourds

- 1) Competition for long gourds is strictly for length.
- 2) To obtain a measurement for a long gourd it must be on a flat surface that will support the entire length of the specimen.
- 3) No part of the stem will be considered in the total length of the specimen.
- 4) Only metal tape measures will be used in measuring, cloth or fabric measuring devices are not permitted.
- 5) Measurements will run in a straight line from the base of the stem were it connects to the specimen and follow to the blossom end. Only vertical length is to be measured, no curvature will count as additional length.
- 6) All specimens must be whole, no segmented gourds will be allowed.
- 7) Long gourds will crack their outer skin from growth spurts; these cracks will be acceptable for competition.
- 8) Long gourds will discolor and will show signs of fungus as they dry, these are natural occurrences thus making them acceptable for competition.
- 9) All specimens are subject to inspection by the sites appointed Judges.
- 10) Entries must be grown by the exhibitor. One entry per exhibitor and 2 per family will be accepted for competition. Any person or family may bring more than the specified amount for exhibition as long as the site gives them approval to display them.
- 11) All gourds must be entered at a GPC sanctioned weigh-off site on the date the site is scheduled to conduct their event to be eligible for recognition.
- 12) Judges decisions are final.

Field Pumpkins

- 1) Field pumpkins are classified as having a hard, green stem.
- 2) Vines must be trimmed to within an inch of the stem.
- 3) Green (unripe) field pumpkins are allowed for weighoff purposes.

Watermelon

- 1) This category will be judged by using the standards found in the **GPC RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR GIANT PUMPKINS AND SQUASH**, under **Article II Fruits and Growers**
- 2) No frozen specimens will be allowed.

Tomatoes

- 1) All tomatoes must be healthy; a healthy tomato must be free of significant soft spots or leakage.
- 2) Skin may be cracked but not leaking.
- 3) Tomato weights must be reported in pounds and ounces to 2nd decimal place. (ie: 6 pounds 5.53 ounces)
- 4) Stem must be cut within .5 inches of the specimen.
- 5) Green fruit will be allowed for weigh-off purposes.
- 6) Specimen must be weighed on a certified scale of appropriate sensitivity.
- 7) No frozen specimens will be allowed.

Tomatoes – Early weighing

This category may be preweighed and be eligible for GPC recognition under the following guide lines:

- 1) There must be at least 2 impartial judges present who have read and understand the governing rules for these categories.
- 2) The entrant completes the GPC registration form and submits it to the GPC within 24 hours of the time it was weighed.
- 3) Grower must designate which GPC sanctioned site the entry will be attached to.
- 4) Pictures of the specimen on the scale are submitted with the registration form.
- 5) Entrants must use the registration form provided on greatpumpkincommonwealth.com under the “Resources” section.