# National Outdoor Show 2026 Raccoon Skinning Competition Rules - Junior

(Under 18 years of age — minors must have signed parent/guardian permission slip)

## **Rules & Procedures**

## 1. Raccoon Requirements

- o Contestants must furnish their own raccoon.
- o Contestants must be present with their raccoon at showtime for inspection by judges.
- o All raccoons must be killed at least two (2) hours prior to showtime.
- o All raccoons will be inspected again immediately prior to contestant's entry on stage.
- o Contestants, or anyone acting on their behalf, are **prohibited from killing raccoons on school property**.

## 2. Competition Guidelines

- Each contestant will skin **one** (1) raccoon.
- o At the start, contestants must be on stage in their preferred skinning position with knife in hand and **both hands raised at shoulder height**.
- o The emcee will give the command "GO." At that moment, the timer will start the stopwatch.
- o Timing ends when the fur leaves the carcass.
- Each contestant is individually timed.

## 3. Disqualifications

- o If the raccoon has been cut around the head prior to inspection.
- o If the contestant touches the hide or carcass before judges complete their inspection.
- o Contestants must remain at their station until dismissed.

## **4. Penalties** (10 seconds added for each)

- o Both eyes and nose not left in the hide.
- o More than **2 inches of fur** left on the belly.
- Each knife cut left in the hide.
- Hide pulled apart.
- Tail not skinned out at least 2 inches from the end (tail cannot be pulled).

## **5.** Contestants may cut off both feet.

#### 6. General Rules

- o Only contestants, timers, judges, and committee board members are allowed on stage.
- o ALL contestants enter at their own risk -
  - The National Outdoor Foundation and National Outdoor Show Committee are not responsible for injuries or losses.
- All judges' decisions are final.