

RULES OF THE NECT FARMERS' MARKET ASSOCIATION

1. The market master will announce the opening of each market. The location and hours of each market will be set by the Association.
2. As a service to the community, vendor spaces will be provided to non-profit organizations to educate the public or raise funds for the benefit of their organization. The availability of space will be determined by the board of directors.
3. Each non-profit organization will be responsible for its own liability insurance and any applicable license.
4. Membership will be determined by the membership. At least 3/4 of the membership must approve a new member.
5. Each member will have one vote. The President shall determine the method of voting.
6. All new memberships will be considered probationary for one year. Probationary memberships may be revoked by a vote of the majority of members present at a meeting called for such purpose.
7. Probationary members who have been revoked will receive reimbursement of their fees on a prorated basis.
8. Membership generally can be revoked by 3/4 of the members. Violations of association rules or behavior contrary to the spirit of the farmers' market are sufficient grounds for revoking membership. Any member can request the removal of another member in writing to the President. The President will inform the affected member and the entire membership. A meeting will be held in a timely manner to discuss the request for removal. A paper ballot will determine the outcome.
9. Members who have been revoked will receive reimbursement of their fees on a prorated basis.
10. A President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Market Master for each location will be elected annually by membership.
11. The officers of the association and market masters will constitute the Board of Directors.
12. The responsibility of the Board of Directors will be to recommend policies, appoint committees and define their powers and duties. In addition the Board will mediate any disputes referred to it by the market masters.

13. Market Masters will assign vendor spaces, announce the start time, insure the smooth operation of the markets, monitor clean up, manage grievances, and respond to customer complaints if necessary. Market Masters will refer anything they cannot resolve to the Board of Directors for further action.
14. Items sold at the Farmers' Market MUST be grown or produced by the vendor. Exemptions can be made if approved by a majority of the members (as determined by the Board of Directors) based upon supply and demand conditions. Requests must be made a week in advance. All members will be notified within four days of the request.
15. The Northeast Connecticut Farmers' Market will be limited to vendors from the ten-town area including Thompson, Woodstock, Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Brooklyn, Killingly, Canterbury, Plainfield, and Sterling. Members can be admitted from outside the ten town area if they offer a product not otherwise available at the market and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the membership approve the application.
16. You must be a regular attending vendor at the Monday Putnam market in order to be a participating vendor in the NECT Farmers' Market CSA program.
17. At the spring meeting all members are required to submit to the President a yearly crop plan detailing what they intend to sell. Crop plan and Specialty Crop Plan forms can be found on the CT Department of Agriculture website under Farmers' Market Reference Guide.
18. At the spring meeting all members are required to submit to the President a Certificate of Liability Insurance. A minimum of \$1,000,000 liability coverage is required. The certificate holder must be listed as NECT Farmers' Market Association, c/o current President and President's address. A copy of this insurance certificate should be held by the vendor when participating at a farmers' market.
19. At the spring meeting all members requiring special permits or licenses are required to submit a copy to the President. A copy of any required permit or license must be displayed by the vendor at the farmers' markets.
20. Each vendor shall be responsible for complying with all applicable state and local laws, regulations and requirements pertaining to their products sold at the markets. It is the vendor's responsibility to determine those requirements and to contact any applicable governing body. A basic guide to this information is on the CT Dept. of Agriculture website under Farmers' Market Reference Guide, on the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association's website under Toolkit for CT Farmers and from your local Health and Consumer Protection websites.
21. At the spring meeting all members must sign off that they have received a copy of the NECT Farmers' Market Association Rules.

Expectations of Members

1. Offer a fresh product of the highest quality possible at a reasonable price
2. Abide by the norms of commonly accepted good business practices, such as refraining from selling at below cost, which hurts other farmers. Instead of using the farmers' market as a means to move excess product, members are encouraged to investigate other possibilities such as wholesale marketing or bulk sales for canning.
3. Be courteous to customers and thoughtful to other vendors.
4. Be truthful in advertising.
5. Follow directions of the Market Master
6. Help with the work of the Association by attending membership meetings, serving on committees or holding office.
7. Clearly display your prices.
8. Keep your market space clean and attractive.
9. Bring all concerns or conflicts to the Market Master or Board for resolution.
10. Inform farmers' market employees of these expectations.
11. Make every attempt to be in attendance at your predetermined market location. If you will be absent from a market, notify your market master as soon as possible.
12. Tents must be weighted or tied down.