



## *York County Agricultural Society, York PA*

### *Overview*

#### ***EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW***

The first York Fair was held in 1765 and is recognized as America's First Fair® and America's Oldest Fair®. The 10 day York Fair is held each September. The York Fair has consistently been ranked in the Top 50 Fairs in North America. By virtue of the York Expo Center hosting 150+ annual events per year with 500+ event/usage days, it is one of the major convention and exposition centers on the east coast. The York Fair and Expo Center offers facilities, available throughout the year, for trade shows, consumer shows, banquets, concerts, livestock shows, and sporting events. Overall attendance for both the York Fair and the York Expo Center exceeds one million annually. Total economic impact from York Fair and York Expo Center activities exceeds \$200 million annually. With the expansion of Memorial Hall in 1996 and the construction of the Utz Arena in 2003 the York County Agricultural Society (York Fair and York Expo Center) has transitioned into a year round convention and expositions center. This point can best be summarized by budget percentage of Fair and Non-Fair revenues – In 2002 Non-Fair revenues were 30% of total revenues, at the conclusion of 2017, Non-Fair revenues are approaching 50% of total revenues.

#### ***MISSION STATEMENT***

***“The mission of the York County Agricultural Society is to enrich the area’s quality of life by providing educational, entertainment, recreational, agricultural, commercial and social activities for the benefit of the residents and businesses of York County.”***

#### ***VALUES STATEMENT***

Integral to its mission, the York County Agricultural Society is committed to:

- Providing a first-class venue for the annual York Fair and York Expo Center activities
- Showcasing and promoting the County’s agriculture, commerce, resources and culture
- Providing for youth and family-affordable activities
- Supporting the visitor and tourism industry
- Offering a safe, clean and accessible environment for everyone
- Providing outstanding customer service
- Operating in a fiscally-responsible manner

## ***YORK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION***

The York County Agricultural Society (YCAS) has been operating at its current location for over 100 years. Today the YCAS consists of 270 Life Members. From this membership a twelve member board is elected. Board members serve three year terms. Day-to-day operations are led by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Year round staff consists of three administrators (administrative, operations, marketing and sales), a receptionist/secretary, a bookkeeper, and an operations support staff of 20. Additional part-time and temporary personnel are utilized throughout the year for major events, fair preparation and box office operations. During the annual York Fair upwards of 500 part-time personnel are on staff.

## ***ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE***

York County Agricultural Society is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

## ***YORK FAIR OVERVIEW***

The ten (10) day York Fair is by far the largest event held annually at the York Expo Center. The York Fair has consistently been one of America's Top 50 Fairs. The first York Fair was held in 1765 and is recognized as "America's First Fair" ® and "America's Oldest Fair" ®. The York Fair is a very traditional agriculture fair with youth (4-H, FFA) and open livestock competitions, horticulture, floriculture, arts and crafts, photography, home products, commercial exhibits, educational displays and exhibits, "fair food," entertainment and midway rides.

## ***YORK EXPO CENTER OVERVIEW***

The York Expo Center is "***more than a Fair.***" With more than 150 annual events, the York Expo Center is a major convention and exposition center on the east coast.

The York Expo Center offers:

1. Convenient access to I-83 and Route 30
2. 250,000+ sq. ft. of indoor rentable space
3. 86.5 acre fenced and gated campus
4. On-site parking for 5,000 vehicles
5. Outdoor Grandstand with seating for 10,000, stage area, and ½ mile all weather dirt track
6. Wi-Fi accessibility
7. Catering, food and beverage services

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The newest building (opening in 2003) at the York Expo Center is the 114,000 square foot state-of-the-art Utz Arena with 74,000 square feet of clear-span space. The Utz Arena is a large, flexible facility designed for trade shows, consumer shows, banquets, concerts, livestock shows, and sporting events. The Utz Arena is totally climate controlled, protected by electronic security and equipped with wireless internet and telephone connectivity. Rest rooms, concession areas, conference rooms, offices and lobbies round out this exceptional building.

A sampling of events held at the York Expo Center include: Keystone Farm Equipment Show; Tyrant Wrestling Tournament; MLK Volleyball Tournament; Celtic Dog Show; York RV Show; Corgi Dog Show; PA Wine Festival; PA Garden Show; Train Collectors Association; PAOBA Alpaca Show; Various RV Rallies; Eastern Star Annual Meeting and Conference; National Street Rod Eastern Regional's; Keystone State Games; National Watch & Clock Collectors; Tri County Gun Shows; Racing Extravaganza; PA Jeeps, and Rentzel's Auctions.

Rental income from non-fair events currently exceeds \$1.9 million annually. It is estimated that the economic impact to the York area from all events held at the York Expo Center is in excess of \$200 million annually.

### ***Operating Budget and Long-Range Strategic Business Plan***

The combined York Fair and York Expo Center 2018 Operating Budget is \$6 million.

To better plan for the future a Long-Range Strategic Business Plan for the York County Agricultural Society has recently been completed setting forth recommended goals, objectives, strategies and implementation plans.

### ***Contact Info***

**York County Agricultural Society dba York Fair and York Expo Center, 334 Carlisle Avenue, York PA 17404, (717) 848-2596.**

**Visit: [www.yorkfair.com](http://www.yorkfair.com) and [www.yorkexpo.com](http://www.yorkexpo.com).**

**Facebook us at York Fair.**