

Braidwood Lions Club Summerfest

A Special Message Regarding our Festival & COVID19



March 5, 2021

Dear friends,

After taking a year off due to the COVID19 pandemic, our festival committee is planning to pick things back up this year. However, we understand that things may look a bit different when it comes to fairs & festivals in the wake of the pandemic. Our club and volunteers are committed to doing what we can to help promote a safe & positive experience for festival attendees while attempting to provide them with something fun to enjoy. We will continue to work with local & state regulators as well as follow the guidance and recommendations set forth by county, state & federal health officials. While there currently has been no direction from state health officials or regulators regarding the resumption of fairs, festivals and other large outdoor events prior to Phase 5 of the “Restore Illinois Plan”, our festival planning committee has chosen to move forward with our planning process in the hopes that we will be able to hold our festival once again.

Ultimately, the decision and direction of state regulators will dictate the final outcome of our hopes as fairs & festivals such as ours rely heavily on permits and licenses issued by state & local agencies (amusement licenses, liquor licenses, bingo licenses, food service permits, etc.). Our planning committee promises to be fully transparent when it comes to the decision making process of our festival which leads us to share the following details.

In the event that state regulators decide not to allow fairs & festivals to resume prior to Phase 5, we will communicate our intentions (whether to cancel or postpone until later in the year) **NO LATER than June 14, 2021**. Why this date you ask? Because of the amount of time it takes to apply for and receive all of our required licenses and permits, as well as the amount of time it takes to order, secure and receive all of the necessary logistics and supplies needed to put on our festival. The 30-day prior mark becomes the extreme “crunch time” for our planning committee.

For our corporate sponsors who have already made financial donation, in the event of cancellation or postponement, we will provide the following options:

- 1) Sponsors may request a full refund which will respectfully be honored
- 2) Sponsors may choose to allow us to retain the donation and utilize it during the rescheduled date(s)
- 3) Sponsors may choose to allow us to retain the donation and utilize it for the following year

For our Flea Market, Arts & Craft Show vendors who have already submitted their booth space fees, in the event of cancellation or postponement, we will provide the following options:

- 1) Vendors may request a full refund which will respectfully be honored
- 2) Vendors may choose to allow us to retain the vendor fee and apply it to the rescheduled date(s)

As previously stated, undoubtably fairs & festivals will have a different look & feel in a COVID19 world and ours will be no exception. What exactly that all entails is still yet to be seen. Please be sure to watch our website www.braidwoodlionsclub.org as well as our Facebook page for updates. Our festival volunteers greatly appreciate the understanding, cooperation and patience of the public and our corporate partners as we navigate thru these changes and challenges together.

Sincerely,

The Braidwood Lions Club
Summerfest Committee
& Volunteers