EXOTIC NATION EXPO

Vendor Rules & Regulations — Working Draft

October 16–17, 2027

Meadowlands Expo Center • 356 Plaza Drive, Secaucus, NJ 07094

Vendor setup: October 15, 2027

Note: *This document is a working draft shared for planning purposes. Fees, scheduling, and other details below are subject to change before the final vendor agreement is issued.*

1. Authorized Exhibitors Only

Only registered and approved exhibitors may sell, solicit orders, or conduct business at Exotic Nation Expo. Sharing, transferring, or subletting exhibit space requires prior written approval from show management.

2. Vendor Badges

Each purchased 8-foot table includes two vendor badges. Additional badges are $25 each. Badges will identify the individual wearer, are nontransferable, and must be worn during setup, show hours, and breakdown.

3. New Jersey Sales Tax

Vendors must register with New Jersey before conducting business, display required registration and sales tax certificates, and collect and remit applicable New Jersey sales tax. The current general sales tax rate is 6.625%; vendors must apply the rate and requirements in effect at the time of the event.

4. Permits and Legal Compliance

Vendors are responsible for obtaining all permits, licenses, and documentation required to possess, transport, display, and sell their inventory. Vendors selling regulated animals must hold the appropriate New Jersey Fish & Wildlife permits. Exotic Nation Expo will help coordinate permit information, but each vendor remains responsible for compliance. Required documents must be available for inspection.

5. Captive-Bred Animals

Only captive-bred or quality established reptiles and amphibians may be offered for sale. Vendors must accurately disclose species, origin, and breeder information when known. Aquarium livestock policies will be addressed separately.

6. Prohibited Species

No venomous reptiles, including rear-fanged venomous species, or venomoid-altered animals are permitted. No species prohibited by applicable law or the event’s approved species policy may be brought into the venue. Vendors must resolve species eligibility questions before arrival.

7. Animal Health and Welfare

Only healthy animals suitable for sale may be displayed or sold. Animals showing signs of illness, injury, significant parasite infestation, or distress must be removed from sale. Vendors must provide appropriate ventilation, temperature, moisture, water, and humane housing for each species.

8. Secure Displays and Handling

All animals must remain in secure, escape-resistant containers appropriate for their species. Handling must be supervised by the vendor and must not obstruct aisles or endanger attendees. Escapes, bites, injuries, or other incidents must be reported to show management immediately.

9. Turtles and Tortoises

Turtle and tortoise sales are not authorized under this draft policy. Vendors must obtain written clearance from show management, supported by applicable agency authorization and required documentation, before bringing any turtles, tortoises, or viable turtle eggs for display.

10. Aquarium Livestock and Plants

Fish, aquatic invertebrates, corals, and plants must be legally obtained and permitted for sale in New Jersey. Prohibited or restricted invasive species are not allowed. Aquariums and water displays must be secure and leak-free. Vendors must follow venue instructions for water disposal and may not release animals, plants, or aquarium water outdoors or into storm drains.

11. Sales Within Assigned Exhibit Space

All displays, sales, and promotional activities must remain within approved exhibit areas. No vending, animal displays, or arranged sales exchanges are permitted in parking lots, hotel rooms, hallways, or other unauthorized areas.

12. Veterinary Care and Health Certificates

Exotic Nation Expo will have an on-site veterinarian available to inspect animals and provide health certificates to vendors, subject to examination and applicable requirements. Fees may apply and will be invoiced by and paid directly to the veterinarian.

13. Overnight Animal Care and Security

Vendors are responsible for secure overnight housing and appropriate environmental conditions for animals left in the hall. Overnight access and available security arrangements will be communicated before the event. Vendors must confirm overnight power availability for essential equipment.

14. Hotel Policies

Vendors must follow their hotel’s animal policies and obtain permission before bringing animals into guest rooms. Animals may not be concealed or brought into accommodations in violation of hotel rules.

15. Setup, Show Hours, and Breakdown

Friday setup is noon–8 p.m., with additional Saturday setup from 6–9 a.m. Saturday VIP admission begins at 9 a.m.; general admission runs 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Sunday vendor and VIP access begins at 9 a.m.; general admission runs 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Vendors must remain set up through Sunday closing. Breakdown and removal take place Sunday from 4–9 p.m., unless management authorizes otherwise.

16. Electrical Service and Equipment

Electrical service is $25 per 8-foot table and must be requested on the vendor registration form — for example, electric for 3 tables is $75 total. Booth-space electric pricing will be confirmed separately. All lights, heaters, pumps, cords, batteries, and other equipment must comply with venue and fire-safety requirements. Vendors may not connect to unauthorized outlets or create electrical hazards. Specific battery and equipment restrictions will be provided after venue confirmation.

17. Booth Safety and Cleanliness

Vendors must keep their spaces clean, promptly address spills, and dispose of waste as directed. Aisles, exits, fire equipment, and neighboring booths must remain unobstructed. Vendors are responsible for damage caused by their displays, equipment, animals, or staff. Vendors must have suitable table coverings and maintain a clean, quality display.

18. Smoking and Vaping

Smoking and vaping are prohibited inside the exhibit hall. Vendors and their staff must follow all venue restrictions and use designated outdoor areas where permitted.

19. Expo Name and Logo

Use of the Exotic Nation Expo name or logo on merchandise, apparel, or materials implying official sponsorship requires prior written approval. Approved vendors may identify themselves as exhibitors in their event advertising.

20. Vendor Cancellations and Event Cancellation

No refunds will be issued for vendor cancellations. Early cancellation requests must be submitted in writing; refund eligibility and any deductions must be established in the final vendor agreement. If Exotic Nation Expo cancels the event before it is held, table payments will be refunded in full. Treatment of additional fees and postponements will be specified in the final agreement.

21. Professional Conduct and Customer Information

Vendors and staff must conduct themselves professionally. Animals and merchandise must be represented honestly, including known health concerns and relevant origin information. Vendors must provide customers with business contact information and any required receipts, care information, or permit documents.

22. Inspections and Enforcement

Show management may inspect displays and documentation for compliance with event rules. Violations may result in a warning, removal of an animal or item from sale, suspension of sales, or removal from the event. Serious safety, animal-welfare, or legal violations may result in immediate removal and referral to the appropriate authorities.

Thank you for helping Exotic Nation Expo deliver a safe, professional event for the reptile, aquarium, and tropical plant communities.