

## Merchandise Policies

## ----- Political Merchandise Policy For 2025 -----

As we enter a highly volatile political environment in advance of the 2024 General Election, Marketplace Events (MPE) wants to make clear its position on what content will not be permitted on its exhibit floors in all its US consumer home and holiday shows effective January 1, 2024. MPE shows are welcoming environments built solely to encourage face-to-face commerce. Creating respectful, safe marketplaces where our attendees and exhibitors can come together to learn, shop, compare pricing and do business together is our highest priority.

MPE's acceptability standards do not permit political candidates, parties or other groups promoting issues or ballot initiatives to participate as exhibitors. In addition, the display or sale of any products or services that are political/partisan in nature or that can be interpreted to promote, incite, or glorify hatred, violence, racial, sexual, or religious intolerance are prohibited. MPE's judgment in applying these standards will be final.

MPE maintains these policies to ensure a welcoming environment for all attendees and exhibitors.

## Please Note:

• If you have previously had political merchandise in your booth as an approved product, you are <u>not</u> exempt from this new policy.

• Notice of the new political policy was in the renewal email for your 2024 contract and included in all onsite show newsletters at the 2023 show.

**Product Approvals:** Friendly reminder that you may not add additional products to your booth that have not been approved by show team. To request permission to add additional products, please follow the instructions below:

- Send email to Stephanie at <u>stephanied@mpeshows.com</u>. Email should contain pictures and/or website links to exact products you are looking to add to your booth.
- If approved, updated products will be added to your contract.
- Please note that approval is not guaranteed, and if unapproved products are found in your booth, show management will require that products be removed.

Licensing: Each vendor is responsible for obtaining all necessary licenses and permits to use photographs and/or sell copyrighted/trademarked materials as outlined in section 3.9 of the vendor manual. If there is any part of a booth that incorporates/sells copyrighted and/or trademarked material, and is unable to produce proof of required licenses, Marketplace Events and appropriate legal authorities reserve the right to confiscate display/products for which Vendor does not hold required licenses.

## **CottontailsFestival.com**

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