



Hello Guild Leaders,

We are organizing the Jelly Roll Races at the Los Angeles County Fair in 2026, and we would love for your guild to field a team. This is a fun, high-energy way to represent your guild, engage the public, and support quilting in the Home Arts area of the fair.

What is a Jelly Roll Race?

A Jelly Roll Race is a fast event where teams of 3–4 race to piece a quilt top from a pre-cut fabric Jelly Roll. Teams sew strips into long rows and then join those rows into a finished top. To keep things fair, machines used are matched by similar sewing speeds (machine stitches per minute). The race begins with two sewing machines joining strip ends; once long rows are formed, teams switch to one machine to join long edges. It is lively, a little chaotic, and a lot of fun.

Competition format

The exact format will depend on the number of teams that sign up.

- Teams will participate in at least one qualifying race.
 - If a team places in the top two overall, they will advance to the finals.
 - If a team member(s) are unavailable for the final, alternates may step in.
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When and Where

Actual Race Dates are tentative - we'll base them on how many teams sign up.

- **Fair dates:** May 7–31, 2026
- **Where:** Los Angeles County Fairgrounds, Fairplex, 1101 W. McKinley Ave, Pomona, CA 91768
- **Potential race days:** May 9, 16, 23, or 30 (specific days and times TBA)

We are targeting Saturdays in May, with specific dates based on how many teams sign up and feedback from those teams. We will do our best to accommodate each team's preferred date. The finals will be held on a Saturday.

Your team provides

- Team members (3-4 people)
- Basic sewing supplies and any preferred specialty tools
- Spectators and fans
- Promotional materials for your guild
- Plenty of spirit and good sportsmanship

Needs we could use help with

- Sewing machines
- Jelly rolls

We are seeking jelly roll donations and if your guild can provide jelly roll(s), that would be perfect. Donors will be acknowledged on fair signage during the races. We currently have enough rolls for the final race plus a few extras and we need additional rolls for qualifying rounds.

We are also seeking a sponsor to provide matched sewing machines for competition day(s). If your guild has a lead or connection, please let us know.

What your guild gets

- Four fair tickets and premium parking passes on competition day(s)
- Finished quilt tops for your guild's charity programs
- Fair ribbons (1st, 2nd, 3rd, honorable mention, and participant ribbons, as available)
- Bragging rights

Note: Participation and prize ribbons are limited and will be distributed based on total team and individual participation.

Sign-up to Participate by Tues, Mar 31, 2026

Please email longbeachmqg@gmail.com

with:

- Guild name
- Team captain's name
- Team captain's mailing address, email, and phone number

So far we have sign-ups from LBMQG, South Bay Quilters Guild and Quilters by the Sea. We hope you will consider joining us for this fun community-building event at the fair.

Questions? Contact **Sandy Johnson, call or text: 562-318-9098** or email longbeachmqg@gmail.com

Warmly,
Sandy Johnson
Membership Chair

Long Beach Modern Quilt Guild
