2010 Nebraska State Fair

Department G – Livestock/Animal General Rules

IAFE
(INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS)
NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.

   If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.

   At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.
5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, conformation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.

6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.
7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.
8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.
9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.
10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including Fairs and Expositions and any special notices to members.
11. The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES

ALL 4-H LIVESTOCK, EXCEPT DAIRY ARE TO BE BROUGHT THROUGH THE 27th STREET GATE ONLY

A. ELIGIBILITY OF EXHIBITORS-See General Rules, Rule A, for eligibility requirements of exhibitors.
B. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENTRY-The responsibility for making proper entry rests with the exhibitors and the Extension Educator. It is the responsibility of the Extension Educator to make sure that each beef, sheep, swine, dairy, meat goats, or rabbit entry that he/she submits was properly identified on an appropriate ownership affidavit and that the ownership affidavit was submitted by the deadline date. The exhibitors of all animals shall conduct themselves with honesty, good sportsmanship, and support all rules and regulations of the Nebraska 4-H program and the Nebraska State Fair. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to confirm that each beef, sheep, swine, dairy, meat goat, or rabbit being brought to the state fair has ID (ear tag, ear notches, tattoo) that matches the ownership affidavit. Compare notches, tattoos, and ear tags to the ownership affidavit before leaving for the fair.
C. ENTRY DEADLINES-All advance entries are due in the County Extension Office by the date set in the county. Advance entries include: livestock, dogs, poultry, rabbits, cats, Fashion Show, presentations, and contests.
D. All 4-H show cattle that are moved, driven, shipped or transported, in any manner from any point within the brand area to any point outside the brand area shall first have a brand inspection by the Nebraska Brand Committee, and a certificate of inspection issued. A copy of such certificate shall accompany the cattle and shall be retained by all persons transporting or moving such cattle, as a permanent record.
The responsibility of insuring the cattle are inspected prior to removal falls equally on the owner, seller, shipper, person, persons, firm, motor carrier, railroad company, or other carrier or corporation of his, her, its, or their agent or agents or servant or servants moving, driving, shipping, or transporting.
Cattle that are transported in and out of the brand area numerous times for showing may qualify for a show permit, utilized for show purposes only and is valid for 1 year from date of issuance. For more information, contact your local brand inspector or the Nebraska Brand Committee.
E. OWNERSHIP OF ANIMALS & POULTRY-All animals and poultry in the 4-H Show must be owned by the exhibitor who entered it. Ownership of beef, sheep, swine, dairy, meat goats, and rabbits must be certified where required on the appropriate forms in the Extension Office. Extension offices will subsequently send ownership affidavits to the State 4-H Office, where they will remain until State Fair entries are due. All market animals (beef, sheep, swine & meat goats) must have a hair sample for DNA testing on file at Ak-sar-ben by the appropriate dates (April 1 for beef, June 15 for all other species) in order to be exhibited at the State Fair. Market Beef nose prints will no longer be required in order to exhibit at State Fair.

F. In the case of dairy animals, some lease arrangements are acceptable, but must be certified on the appropriate forms in the Extension Office. Livestock Show Regulations in the 4-H Program Management files (http://4h.unl.edu/calendarfiles/livestockshow.htm) will apply to this show.

G. ELIGIBILITY OF ANIMALS-Any 4-H project animal that has been offered for auction, where the intent of the auction is change of ownership, is ineligible for the 4-H livestock classes at the Nebraska State Fair. This includes animals offered for sale in other events at the Nebraska State Fair, when the event is prior to the 4-H event the animal is entered in. A project animal that has been through a “premium only” auction is eligible to be exhibited at the Nebraska State Fair, provided it and its exhibitor meet all other ownership and eligibility requirements. A “premium only” auction is defined as an event in which change of ownership is never the intent; but the intent is only to provide a monetary premium to accompany the ribbon earned by the exhibit. An animal that becomes wild and uncontrollable during the show may be declared ineligible by the Division Superintendent.

H. ANIMAL TESTING AND EXAMINATION-Any animal entered in 4-H classes is subject to any type testing at the discretion of either the superintendent or official show veterinarian. If the results of testing indicate the possible use of compounds or drugs not approved for use in that species by FDA or compounds or drugs used outside the specified withdrawal requirements of FDA, these animals will be declared ineligible for competition and awards. In the case of market animals, show management will determine the appropriate disposal of the animals. An animal that is tampered with to change appearance or weight may be declared ineligible by the Division Superintendent.

I. CERTIFICATION OF DRUG USE AND WITHDRAWAL-Each exhibitor will be asked to submit a signed affidavit certifying correct withdrawal from legal drugs, vaccines or other substances. They will also certify that their entries have not received any non-approved drugs. Affidavits for beef and sheep will also state that animals have not been fed any “prohibited” mammalian derived protein (i.e. ruminant meat and bone meal) while under the care of the exhibitor. Affidavits will be presented to department superintendent prior to or at the time of animal weighing and check-in.

J. QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING: All exhibitors in beef, dairy cattle, meat goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep and swine must have received Quality Assurance training or testing through a UNL Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the county extension office is required. Completion of training will be certified by county extension staff.

K. REGISTRATION OF LIVESTOCK-A breeding animal to be eligible for show in a registered (purebred) class must be owned by the exhibitor by June 15 of the current year and be registered by the official breed association. To be eligible to show in a British steer class the market animal must be owned by the exhibitor by April 1 of the current year (see Rule E) and be registered by the official breed association. Appendixed Shorthorn steers will not be allowed to show in the purebred Shorthorn steer class. For Hereford steers, steer certificates which carry the breed association’s official seal will be accepted. The registration paper or certificate must indicate one of the following (1) the name of the exhibitor (2) the name of the exhibitor and/or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family or (3) the family or ranch name or parent's name. REGISTRATION MUST BE COMPLETED BY FAIR DATE. Immediate family is defined as members of a household, including parents, brothers and sisters, and youth in care of the head of the household. Copies of the registration paper or certificate must be submitted with State Fair entries. Original registration papers or certificates must be presented at check-in.

L. ONLY PURPLES CAN BE CHAMPIONS-Any beef, dairy, sheep, swine, meat goat, dog, companion animal, poultry or rabbit entry must be awarded a first or second purple ribbon in a class to be eligible to compete for champion or reserve champion.

M. GROOMING OF LIVESTOCK
   1. Clipping, trimming or blocking any beef, dairy, goat, sheep or swine by anyone other than exhibitors (4-H exhibitors at the current State Fair) will not be permitted at this show. This means that 2010 State Fair 4-H exhibitors can help each other, but individuals other than 2010 State Fair 4-H exhibitors cannot help.
   2. Grooming an animal other than clipping, trimming or blocking (e.g. brushing, washing, etc.) may be done by exhibitors and brothers, sisters or parents of the exhibitors.
   3. Pigs must be shown without hairdressing compounds. This includes oil, powder or any other coat dressing compounds considered objectionable by the packer. Only unadulterated water is permitted. Pigs found in violation will be disqualified from the live show and the carcass contest. They will also be subject to all price discounts imposed by the packer for such compounds.
   4. Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits.
   5. Upon violation of above rules, the exhibitor's animal involved may be lowered one or two ribbon placing(s) or may be disqualified from the show.
   6. Exhibitors will be asked to submit a signed affidavit certifying they know and understand these rules.

N. BY ORDER OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHALL-The use of flammable and combustible grooming sprays inside the barns is strictly forbidden. These types of materials must be used outside the buildings only.

O. SUBSTITUTE SHOWMAN-An animal must be shown by the 4-H owner who entered it unless the exhibitor is excused by the Division Superintendent because of serious illness, disability due to an injury (e.g. broken arm or

leg) or conflict with other livestock classes in a 4-H or FFA show. An exhibitor who has more than one animal in a class need not secure approval for another 4-H member, eligible to exhibit livestock, to show the additional animal in the class. Substitute showmen must be a 4-H member exhibiting at a current State Fair 4-H livestock show. All substitute showmen should wear an exhibitor number identifying him/her as a substitute showman (available in the 4-H Livestock Office and/or from species superintendent.)

P. ANIMAL SUBSTITUTIONS: Within the same class or division, substituting a different animal for a pre-entered animal, provided the substitute meets all ownership and eligibility rules, is acceptable and does not require prior approval from the Division Superintendent. Substitutions between divisions, except within Breeding Beef and Dairy are not allowed (i.e. a market lamb cannot be substituted for a breeding sheep entry). For Breeding Beef and Dairy, where each breed is listed as a separate division, substitution between divisions is allowed (i.e. an Angus heifer can substitute for a Charolais heifer).

Q. OPEN SHOW ENTRIES-4-H members who enter their animals in both the 4-H Show and the Open Show must make separate entries in both shows. 4-H entries must be made by the Extension Educator in the county. Open Show entries must be made by the exhibitor on appropriate entry forms obtained from the State Fair website.

R. FEED, HAY, AND ADDITIONAL BAGS OF WOOD CHIPS may be ordered by calling the Feed Concession office. Payment for supplies must be made upon delivery. Use of straw for bedding is not permitted for beef, sheep, swine, or meat goats.

S. NIGHT SECURITY- Security will be on duty during the fair Barns will be closed to the public and to exhibitors from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. No one will be permitted to sleep in the 4-H barns.

T. AUTHORITY-Each Division Superintendent (for example, Beef Superintendent) shall have the authority to make all decisions within their respective Divisions in accordance with rules and regulations set forth in this premium list.

U. DRESS CODE-Exhibitors showing beef, dairy, dogs, cats, pets, meat goats, sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbits are required to wear the official State Fair 4-H T-shirt. If there is no official State Fair 4-H T-shirt, exhibitors are required to wear a white shirt (or blouse) with the official 4-H chevron attached or a 4-H T-shirt. Dark blue jeans and hard soled shoes or boots are required for beef, sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbit exhibitors. Dairy exhibitors may wear dark blue jeans or white pants. Long jeans/pants are required for cat, dog and small pet exhibitors. While hard soled shoes are not required for the cat, dog and small pet shows, exhibitors are required to wear closed toed shoes with non-slip soles. No hats, caps or other types of headgear are to be worn in the show ring. Exhibitors shall not display local, county, commercial or other identification while showing their animals-except official 4-H and such identification the show ring may require.

V. PORTABLE GENERATORS will not be allowed in or around 4-H livestock buildings. For the beef barn, counties will be assigned a quota of fans. Blocking chutes are similarly assigned by quota. Stickers will be sent to counties after entries are received. All fans will be attached to the divider tie rails. No fans in rear of animal regardless of equipment. For sheep/hog barn, no fans are allowed in alleys. Any fan may be removed at the discretion of the superintendents or fair personnel.

W. PREMIUMS-No premiums in any 4-H class will be distributed until identification and drug tests are complete.