

# State Fair of Virginia

## *2008 Livestock Rules*

### **SAFETY PROCEDURES**

The Henrico Fire Marshall has informed the State Fair of Virginia that cooking will no longer be permitted in livestock barns or tents. The Fair will provide an alternative space for limited use by exhibitors who need to prepare meals or refrigerate special diets or medications.

1. For the health and safety of fair visitors and livestock, we discourage food consumption inside livestock barns or tents.
2. Exhibitors are encouraged to bring generators to run fans, etc. for livestock. All such equipment, regardless of source of power must comply with all national, state and local safety codes. All exhibitors' electrical cords must be the 3-wire grounded type. All exposed non-current carrying metal parts of fixed equipment, which are liable to be energized, will be grounded.
3. The Fair will provide large, portable containers for the disposal of manure and trash. These dumpsters will be located at various locations throughout livestock complex at all times. No bedding or manure is to be heaped in the show area or barn, or left in wheelbarrows at any time. It must be put into the assigned container, which will be removed when full and replaced by another receptacle. Help us keep our livestock area clean!
4. Aisles must be clear at all times. Stalls, pens and tack areas must be kept neat and clean. Grooming chutes, milking stands, etc. may be set up in designated areas only. Bedrolls are to be made up by 8 a.m.

### **GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES**

1. After unloading livestock, vehicles must be moved to parking lot. All vehicles without proper credentials will be towed.
2. Premiums and ribbons will be withheld on animals leaving the grounds prior to release time. Premiums and ribbons will be withheld if pens are not left in original configuration.
3. To compete for premiums, all livestock must take part in the grand parades or judging contests whenever requested by the Superintendent.
4. ANIMAL WELL-BEING: Management reserves the right to remove any exhibitor from the grounds who is deemed to be mistreating any animal.
5. All owners and those in charge of property or livestock shall care for, guard, protect and preserve the same. The State Fair of Virginia will not be responsible for any loss or damage.
6. Please continue to honor tie-out and release times. Thanks to you, livestock exhibits are cited as the top attraction by State Fair visitors year after year!
7. THE FIRE MARSHALL WILL ISSUE CITATIONS & TOW ANY VEHICLE PARKED IN A FIRE LANE!
8. Only animals that are entered and in competition or other approved activities will be allowed on the Fairgrounds. DOGS ARE PROHIBITED. Muzzles are not permitted on any animal.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

The State Fair will have a photographer and a designated photography area for livestock shows.

## HAY AND BEDDING

First bedding will be furnished free for all exhibits. Additional hay and bedding may be purchased from the hay concessionaire, near the horse stall area and the Big Red Barn.

## HEALTH REGULATIONS GOVERNING ADMISSION OF LIVESTOCK TO FAIRS

Health papers must be presented to the State Veterinarian's Office upon arrival. Livestock arriving during off-hours may be penned but it is the exhibitor's responsibility to present health papers to the State Veterinarian when the office next opens. Any animals not meeting entry requirements and/or exhibiting signs of disease may be refused entry and be required to return to premise of origin. In addition, if any animals arrive at the Fairgrounds exhibiting clinical signs of contagious disease, all animals transported together with those animals may also be refused entry. All health regulations will be strictly enforced, and all decisions of the State Veterinarian or his/her designated representative are final.

## BEEF AND DAIRY CATTLE

No cattle shall be exhibited unless they are accompanied by an approved health certificate signed within 30 days of the Fair by an accredited veterinarian showing that they are free from contagious or infectious disease.

Any cattle exhibiting active cases of a contagious or infectious disease or condition, including ringworm, warts, and infectious keratoconjunctivitis (pinkeye), may be eliminated from the show and returned to the premise of origin.

Respiratory Disease Requirements: All cattle shall be vaccinated in the current show year against the respiratory complex (shipping fever), including IBR, not less than 15 days prior to the show. Type of vaccination and date of administration must be noted on health certification.

### Out-of-State Consignments:

#### I. Tuberculosis

- A. Originate from a free area or
- B. Originate from accredited or negative herd or
- C. Individuals tested and negative within 30 days

#### II. Brucellosis

A. Cattle for dairy or breeding purposes which originate directly from officially classified states may enter Virginia provided they are accompanied by an official health certificate and also meet the following requirements:

##### 1. Class Free States

- (a) No herd status
- (b) No individual test
- (c) No permit

##### 2. Class A States

- (a) Negative herd status or
- (b) Individual tested within 30 days
- (c) No permit

#### III. Steers must comply with all health rules except brucellosis

Virginia Consignments: Virginia is considered to be a free area of tuberculosis and brucellosis. Therefore, cattle which originate from Virginia farms may be exhibited without additional testing. However, a health certificate must accompany each consignment.

## Fitting

The State Fair of Virginia reserves the right to disqualify any animal that has been fitted in an unethical manner. Unethical fitting shall include the following:

- a. any use of paints, hair coloring conditioners, colored show foam, graphite, colored powders or any other substances; all animals subject to white towel test
- b. the addition of any hair or hair like substances, including false tailheads and false polls (false tail switches are allowed)
- c. the cutting, tearing or gluing of the hide or underneath the hide or removal of tissue in an attempt to alter the shape of the animal
- d. the injection of any gas, solid or liquid under the hide to alter the normal conformation
- e. any product/solutions/liquids administered internally or externally to alter the conformation of the animal is prohibited. This includes the use of steroids, growth promotants, and the act of artificially filling animals internally, which would include stomach pumping, drench tubes, or any other method
- f. Aerosol cans used for grooming are not permitted in show ring or make-up areas

EXCEPTIONS: In the case of severely sick or severely dehydrated animals, the exhibitor may have fluids or electrolytes administered by the licensed official show veterinarian with the approval of the show superintendent. This exception is not applicable on show day or weight-in/check-in day.

## **SHEEP**

Sheep must have been recently shorn prior to arrival at the State Fair of Virginia to accommodate veterinary inspections. Fleece length shall not exceed 1/4" at arrival (exception provided for breeding sheep shown in fleece or with fitted fleece).

Club Lamb Fungus- Sheep must be free of clinical symptoms of club lamb fungus (ringworm). Any healed club lamb fungus lesions must demonstrate healthy skin. Sheep with active lesions will not be permitted on the fair grounds, animal stalling or exhibit areas. An animal that has had a contagious disease and has been successfully treated but still has physical evidence of the disease must be accompanied by a note from an accredited veterinarian on that animal's health certificate regarding the successful treatment of the disease.

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection: On arrival, all animals must be accompanied by an official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection issued within 30 days by an accredited veterinarian. Virginia Breeders with Virginia Health Certified flocks need only present certification documentation. Identification of sheep (scrapie ID, flock tag, tattoo) must match identification listed on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection or the animal will be rejected and not allowed to exhibit.

Scrapie: All sheep must comply with federal regulations pertaining to official scrapie identification. All sexually intact sheep (rams and ewes) must carry an official scrapie identification tag. Scrapie identification tags must be listed on Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

Caseous Lymphadenitis: Sheep must be free of clinical symptoms of caseous lymphadenitis. Animals showing clinical symptoms of this disease will be moved from the exhibition grounds. With reference to caseous lymphadenitis, "clinical symptoms" is used to define abscesses of the lymph nodes, whether draining or not.

## **SWINE**

All market hogs will be inspected by a representative of the State Veterinarian's office at the time of unloading. No health certificate will be required. All animals will be sold for slaughter.

## **GOATS**

Goats must have an approved health certification signed within 30 days by an accredited veterinarian. Identification of goats (ear tag, tattoo, microchip with accompanying reader, etc.) must match the identification indicated on the accompanying health certificate or the animal will be rejected and not allowed to exhibit. In addition:

Out-of-state consignments:

- I. Tuberculosis
  - A. Originate from a herd tested and negative within 12 months or
  - B. Individual tested and negative within 30 days
- II. Brucellosis
  - A. Originate from a herd tested and negative within 12 months or
  - B. Individual tested and negative within 30 days
- III. Caseous Lymphadenitis
  - A. Goats must be free of clinical symptoms of caseous lymphadenitis. Animals showing clinical symptoms of this disease will be moved from the exhibition grounds. With reference to caseous lymphadenitis, "clinical symptoms" is used to define abscesses of the lymph nodes, whether draining or not.
- IV. Other Diseases
  - A. Goats must be free of symptoms of all other contagious and infectious diseases, whether or not such diseases are herein specifically named.

Virginia Consignments: Virginia is considered to be a free area of tuberculosis. Therefore, goats that originate from Virginia farms may be exhibited without additional testing. However, a health certificate must accompany each consignment and the goats must be free of symptoms of all other contagious and infectious diseases, whether or not such diseases are herein specifically named.

### **THE NATIONAL SHOWRING CODE OF ETHICS** ***shall govern all State Fair of Virginia livestock shows:***

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 (youth) 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 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 premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the State Fair of Virginia. 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. Youth exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows. For the State Fair of Virginia, assistance may only be provided by the

- parents and family members, a bona fide 4-H volunteer leader enrolled in Virginia, Virginia Extension Agent, Virginia FFA Instructor, or another exhibitor with animals entered in the show.
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.
    - i. 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 procedure 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.
    - ii. 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.

### **State Fair of Virginia:**

Any violation of this Code will result in forfeiture of premiums and awards, disqualification, possible loss of sale proceeds, and probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future competition at the State Fair of Virginia.

An overview committee consisting of at least three people generally recognized as knowledgeable of livestock management and exhibition are responsible for the administration of this Code. Their decisions are final and are not subject to appeal.

## **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WHOLESOME MEAT ACT**

The United States Department of Agriculture Wholesome Meat Act applies to the sale of market livestock sold during the State Fair of Virginia as follows:

- a. Animals must be in good health and carcasses free of drugs or chemical residues.
- b. Antibiotics and sulfonamides have required withdrawal periods.
- c. Drug label directions for use and withdrawal periods must be followed.
- d. If drug or other chemical residues are found in tissue of carcasses, the entire carcass may be condemned.

If drug or other chemical residues are found in tissue of carcasses of animals sold through sale or sales connected with the State Fair of Virginia, said show will in no way be liable or responsible for condition of carcass or sale price of animal. Exhibitor forfeits all rights to premiums and the sale price. Before administering antibiotics and/or sulfonamides, consult a licensed practicing veterinarian, or label directions of the drug.

### **Animal Rights Demonstrations**

Should a demonstration occur during the State Fair of Virginia, PLEASE follow these guidelines:

- DO NOT debate with demonstrators
- REMAIN CALM if an event is disrupted
- DO NOT talk to the media regarding the demonstration.

A direct confrontation with demonstrators only provides them with the attention they seek. Please alert State Fair officials to any questionable activities.