
GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Maryland State Fair and Agricultural Society, Inc., has jurisdiction and control over the operation, conduct and staging of Maryland State Fair. To this end the following Rules and Regulations have been established to provide guidance to all participants.

1. The Society reserves the right to interpret all rules and regulations and resolve any situation, which may arise and is not restricted by the lack of a specific rule or regulation.
2. **Appeals of a decision of a judge must be submitted in writing to the President of the Society before 12:00 o'clock noon of the day following the making of the decision. The reasons, which prompted the appeal, must be clearly stated and supported by facts. A deposit of \$500.00, returnable only if the appeal is sustained, must accompany each appeal.**
3. Premiums, prizes and awards are payable from September 10th through October 1, 2024.
4. No exhibitor in any department can win more than two monetary awards in any one class. However, more than two exhibits may be entered and shown. (Exceptions to this rule are stated in the Department rules.)
5. Every purebred animal must be owned and registered in the name of the exhibitor by the appropriate breed association.
6. The Society reserves right to cancel any show, competition or event without prior notice and without incurring any liability except the return of any entry fee paid.
7. Participants must comply with the Rules and Regulations listed for each Department, Division and Class.
8. Non-compliance with any Rule or Regulation may result in forfeiture of premiums and or not being allowed to participate in future Maryland State Fair events.
9. **GRILLS OF ANY TYPE ARE PROHIBITED IN THE COW PALACE!!**

SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Swine, Sheep, Alpaca, Llama and Dairy Goats

1. Exhibitors must comply with the State of Maryland Health Regulations for Livestock found below.
2. **Entries must be made on or before July 31st. This includes 4-H and FFA exhibitors who wish to show in open classes.**

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

1. Complaints of alleged improper conduct, rules or Code of Ethics violations must be presented to the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Maryland State Fair ("Board Chairman") who shall determine what investigation, if any, he deems necessary.
2. If the Board Chairman finds there is probable cause to believe a violation has occurred, he shall notify those accused that a violation has been alleged and the supporting evidence will be shared with them. Any investigation shall be completed within ten (10) days after which the Board Chairman shall make a decision.
3. The Board Chairman can either dismiss the alleged charges or impose the penalties, which include forfeiture of premiums and or not being allowed to participate in future Maryland State Fair events.
4. The Board Chairman shall notify in person or by regular mail the accused individual(s) of his decision, which shall be final.
5. If an exhibitor or representative is excluded from participation, the Maryland State Fair may exclude animals fully owned, animals owned in partnership, the farm and/or any entity affiliated with the excluded individual.
6. Nothing herein contained shall alter or amend the Maryland State Fair's right to exclude any individual from the fair's premises.

STALLS AND PENS WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS

1. Substitutions, which total 25% or more of the original entries, will cost \$5.00 additional for each entry. Substitutions will only be allowed if ownership is identical with the original entry. Individual exhibitors will not be allowed to substitute with a partnership owned or syndicate owned animal and vice versa.
2. Where there is but one animal in a class, the award shall depend upon the merit of the animal and will be left to the discretion of the judge.
3. Exhibitors will be expected to furnish animals for the 4-H Judging contest and may be requested to extend their stay to accommodate judging practices.
4. Exhibitors will be expected to comply with the arrival, release and show times specified for their respective departments.
5. Passes and motor vehicle stickers will be furnished at the discretion of the Division Superintendent.
6. **No exhibitor can win more than two moneys in any one class. However, more than two entries may be exhibited.**

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 premiums, 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 volatile 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 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, 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 for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian approved by the Maryland State Fair.
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, confirmation, 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

THE PUREBRED DAIRY CATTLE ASSOCIATION (PDCA) SHOW RING CODE OF ETHICS

The showing of registered dairy cattle stimulates and sustains interest in the breeding of registered dairy cattle. It is also, and important part of the promotion, merchandising and breeding program of many breeders. For these reasons, The Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA) believes that it is in the best interest of the breeders of registered dairy cattle to maintain a reputation of integrity in dairy cattle shows and to present a wholesome and progressive image of dairy cattle in the show ring.

PDCA endorses the Show Ring Code of Ethics for all dairy breed shows and pledges its full cooperative support for its enforcement to show management, show judges, and the national breed associations.

The application of this Code of Ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter 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. Dairy cattle exhibitors shall, at all times, deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship.

It is recognized there are certain practices in the proper care and management of dairy cattle that are necessary in the course of moving dairy cattle to and between shows that are advisable to keep them in a sound, healthy state so they might be presented in the show ring in a natural, normal condition. At all times, exhibition livestock shall be treated in a humane manor and in accordance with dairy quality assurance practices so as to protect the health, safety and welfare of the livestock and the consuming public. No person shall present for exhibition or exhibit an animal which he or she knows, or has reason to suspect, is affected with or has been exposed to dangerously contagious or infectious disease, or illegal or non-approved use of drugs, medication and/or prohibited substance, or residue.

The position of the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association is that all animals presented for exhibition shall be in their natural conformation and structure, free of any alteration or modification by injection or internal or external administration of any substance by any involvement in unethical fitting.

Grooming & Preparation

Dairy cattle exhibitions are conducted under standards for evaluating conformation established by the PDCA *Unified Score Card* (1994), with specific breed characteristics taken into consideration by the show judge. In this connection, animals will be groomed and prepared for the judge's evaluation in order to display the animal's natural contour, conformation, performance and mobility.

Specifically:

1. External applications of cosmetics that affect only appearance may be used, including by way of example hoof polishes and false switches.
2. The maximum allowable length of naturally growing hair anywhere on the topline is not to exceed 1". Exhibitors will be required to comply with this rule before the animal is allowed to enter the ring.
3. Addition to foreign objects including but not limited to hair or hair substitutes, cloth or fiber, to change the natural contour or appearance of the animals body is prohibited.
4. Externally sealing the teat end with a preparation that does not harm the animal's skin is permissible. Natural teat placement will be given preference over artificially positioned teats.

Violations: False, Deceptive, or Unacceptable Practices

These practices are violations of the Code of Ethics and will be reported to show management and may be reported to the respective national breed associations:

1. Misrepresenting the age and/or milk status of the animal for the class in which it is shown.
2. Treating the animal, particularly the udder, internally or externally;
 - a. With an irritant or counter-irritant,
 - b. Using a device to artificially create or enhance the udder crease,
 - c. Using other substances as detected by testing that causes changes in the udder to artificially improve the conformation.
 - d. Plugging of the teat canal with foreign substances.
3. Surgical or unethical insertion of any matter under the skin or into body cavities, performed to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body (e.g., administration of fluid via a stomach tube or other similar apparatus to fill the rumen), though not to preclude practices required or involved in normal management.
4. Criticizing or interfering with the judge, show management or other exhibitors while in the show ring, or other conduct detrimental to the breed or the show.
5. Challenging, threatening, or interfering with show management to monitor the animals on exhibit on the show grounds.

Exhibitor Responsibility:

The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter and/or absolutely responsible person (hereinafter referred to as "Exhibitor"), for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, milk, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Materials may also be collected by ultrasound and photographic methods and by direct examination of animal.

The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter and/or absolutely responsible person (the "Exhibitor") to have disciplinary action for violation of this Show Ring Code of Ethics taken by show ring management, the state in which the show occurs, and/or the national dairy breed association without recourse.

Violations are subject to the disciplinary provisions of show management, the state in which the show occurs, and the national dairy breed association. Sanctions may include anyone, or combination of the following:

1. forfeiture or return of awards, prizes, premiums or proceeds;
2. written letter of reprimand to the owner, exhibitor, fitter and/or absolutely responsible person ("Exhibitor");
3. disqualification of the exhibition livestock from a exhibition;
4. disqualification of the Exhibitor from the show;
5. publication of offense.

Disqualification may include any or all shows and classes and may be for any number of years.

ATTENTION LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

All livestock vehicles are required to enter the fairgrounds by Land Street, which is located at the extreme north end of the fairgrounds. A one-way system will be utilized around the Cow Palace. All cattle trucks will be required to approach the Cow Palace from the loading dock side. Immediately upon unloading, cattle trucks will be required to circle the Cow Palace in a counter clockwise direction, proceed to the north parking lot via the road inside the fairgrounds which parallels Land Street, and unload on the north side of the swine, sheep and goat building.

This system will be in effect every day. Your cooperation is necessary in order to make this system work. It would be extremely helpful if exhibitors would bring as few as possible vehicles to the fairgrounds. All exhibitors will be expected to take their livestock trucks and trailers home and not park them on the fairgrounds during the 13 days of the fair.

Rule violators may forfeit any premiums won.

U-LEARN FOOD (formally ANIMAL WORLD)

Animals exhibited in Animal World at a Show or Fair are expected to have the same health paper certification, testing and immunizations as other exhibited livestock and poultry. Please see the Maryland Department of Agriculture – Fair & Show Requirements.

**FAXED SHOW CERTIFICATES ARE ONLY
ACCEPTABLE IF PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS ARE
MADE AND THEN ONLY IN AN EMERGENCY.**

Papers must be approved at least 15 days before the first show and that show must be listed in the upper right-hand corner of the document.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call 410-841-5810 or write to Maryland Department of Agriculture, Animal Health Section, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401.