LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS
International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE)

CODE OF PRACTICE
AS ADOPTED BY
THE SILVER STATE YOUTH LIVESTOCK FAIR & EXPO

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows and fairs shall always deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct shall always reflect the highest standard of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education.

Youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are responsible to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that the youth will be influenced by their example. Persons who violate the code of ethics will be prohibited from future exhibition.

The guidelines for exhibitors and livestock in competitive events are:

1. Exhibitors must present, upon request of show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership, and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or other facts is prohibited.
2. Owners, exhibitors, or other responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request of fair officials.
3. Junior Exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at the fair or livestock show.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of drugs. The act of entering is the giving of consent for show management to obtain specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals entered in an event with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs or substances other than in accordance with applicable federal and state statutes, regulations, and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with statues, regulations, and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.
5. If the laboratory tests of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from an animal indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facia evidence that such a substance has been administered to the animal internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance taken from the animal correctly reflect the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden of proving otherwise falling to the owner, exhibitor or responsible person at any hearing conducted by the fair or livestock show regarding the matter.
6. At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, a licensed veterinarian shall administer all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications.
7. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drugs, 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 hooves or horns of animals which affect the 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.
8. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivances or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.
9. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives or show officials, before, during or after the event is prohibited. Judges and other show officials are to be treated with courtesy, cooperation, and respect.

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10. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or 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 these rules shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.
11. The application of the code of practice provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter or trainer or participant whether he or she was instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal is in violation of this code of ethics.
12. The act of entering an animal is giving the consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have any disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show against such individuals published in any publication.
13. The act of entering 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 had read the SSYLS Code of Practice, IAFE National Code of Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further consent that any action, which violates these rules, may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

WHOLESOME ASSURANCE ACT

The use by non-veterinarians of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accord with the labeling approved by FDA is a violation of federal law. Abuse of the extra-label privilege by veterinarians is unethical and is subject to serious consequences such as license revocation.

Any food animal must not exceed FDA/EPA/USDA established tolerances for any foreign substance (identified or unidentified) including drugs, pesticides, feed additives or other chemicals. Violate results of residue testing are subject to investigation by USDA and FDA for prosecution. Any misrepresentation of a food animal that can potentially affect the acceptability of the carcass will be considered fraud.