

Sanitation Practices for Exhibitors in Animal Contact Areas

When people come in contact with animals, there is a slight risk of disease. For example, people can become very sick; even die, from bacteria that come from animal wastes. These bacteria might not make the animals sick, but they can result in vomiting, diarrhea, and kidney disease for people. Fortunately, practicing good sanitation can protect people from being exposed to diseases caused by animal contact.

Good sanitation practices are easy to carry out, and are mostly common sense. You can keep yourself and the general public safe from diseases they could contract when you exhibit animals at fairs, shows, or petting zoos simply by making sure that you ALWAYS do the following:

1. Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water after you touch animals or remove animal wastes from pens, stalls, or cages.

HOW TO WASH HANDS:

1. Wet hands with running water.
 2. Place soap in palms.
 3. Rub soap into a lather.
 4. Scrub hands for at least 20 seconds.
 5. Rinse off soap with more running water.
 6. Dry hands with paper towel.
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2. If you cannot find a sink with soap and water, you can use hand sanitizer. You should keep some hand sanitizer with you in the area where you are exhibiting animals.
 3. AVOID eating and drinking in animal areas. If you must eat or drink in the exhibit area make sure to wash your hands (or sanitize them) first.
 4. AVOID hand-to-mouth activities in animal contact areas. Try not to chew your fingernails, lick your fingers, give a child a pacifier or bottle, etc.
 5. Keep animal pens, stalls, and cages clear of feces, manure, and soiled bedding.
 6. Dispose of feces, manure, and soiled animal bedding as directed by the exhibition facility.
 7. **Wear gloves when handling animal waste!** You should bring a set of gloves to use whenever you are shoveling or transporting animal wastes in a wheelbarrow.

8. Do not permit anyone to play or walk through animal waste piles. Try to keep people from walking on or near the path you must use to transport wastes from the animal exhibit areas.
9. Keep your waste disposal equipment clean. Wash the pitchforks, shovels, wheelbarrows, etc in the area designated by the exhibition facility.

As a responsible exhibitor, you should always think about ways you can prevent contact between people and animal wastes. The three most important guidelines are washing your hands frequently, avoiding eating or drinking in animal areas, and decreasing contact with animal manure or soiled bedding. If you make thinking this way a habit, you can help keep people healthy while you are having fun raising and exhibiting your animals.

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 drugs. 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 chemical 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 approved 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 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 hearing in regard to the matter conducted by the fair or livestock show. At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications 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 irritant 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 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 any 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 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.

PASCO COUNTY FAIR AUTHORITY LIVESTOCK ADDENDUM

OWNER represents to Pasco County Fair Authority ("AUTHORITY") that no animals that are exhibited or otherwise transported onto PASCO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS will in anyway be suffering from any contagious or infectious disease. In addition, OWNER shall defend, indemnify, and hold the AUTHORITY, the applicable Show Committee and each of their respective officials, officers, directors, employees and agents harmless of and from all losses, damages, claims, expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees at the trial and appellate levels, actions and causes of action arising out of, or in any way connected with, or by reason of this agreement, the presence of OWNER's livestock at PASCO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, and/or use of PASCO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS including, but not limited to any claim for the death of, or injury to any person or livestock, or damage to, theft of, or destruction of any property arising out of any act or omission of OWNER, OWNER's officers, agents, employees, trainers, drivers, riders, handlers, contractors and livestock, violation of any Federal, State and Local environmental laws, rules, ordinances and/or regulations, actions for negligence, wrongful death, torts, defects in the real and personal property at PASCO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS and from any alleged liability, cause, litigation or proceeding whatsoever, even if such injury, death, loss or property damage results, in whole or in part, from the negligence of AUTHORITY, or the applicable Show Committee and their respective officials, officers, directors, employees and agents or otherwise. Neither AUTHORITY nor such applicable Show Committee shall be liable to OWNER, or any officer, agents, employees, trainers, drivers, riders, handlers, or other contractors, invitees or guests of OWNER for any injury or damage to livestock, person or property. AUTHORITY, its officers or agents, assume no liability for any loss or damage to property (including but not limited to livestock) on account of fire, theft, or any other cause including infectious or contagious diseases. In addition, OWNER acknowledges receiving and agrees to abide by the applicable rules and regulations of the AUTHORITY titled PASCO COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK RULES & PRIZE LIST and same are incorporated by reference herein.