

1996 PENNSYLVANIA FARM SHOW CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

THE STATE FARM PRODUCTS SHOW COMMISSION has developed a Code of Show Ring Ethics to curtail unethical, deceptive and fraudulent show ring practices.

The Code is as follows:

Exhibitors of animals at the Farm Show 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 complete in structured classes competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in the livestock show.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct of 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 may be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the FARM SHOW 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 show officials, proof of ownership length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership of any fact relating thereto is prohibited.

2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animals health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by show officials.

3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at the 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 and state statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance of appearance of 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 approval 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 provide otherwise at any hearing in regard to the matter conducted by the show. At any time after an animal arrives on the Farm 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 similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation, or appearance, 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 interference with the judge show management, other exhibitors, breed rep-

(Turn to Page D4)

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