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## **EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION SHOW RING POLICY AND CODE OF ETHICS**

Eastern States Exposition is one of the premier livestock shows in the Northeast. As an elite venue, Eastern States Exposition has a responsibility for maintaining a first-class image of fairness and ethics in its livestock shows. The purpose of regulations concerning ethical practices is to maintain a positive international reputation and to ensure good animal husbandry is on display for all spectators. Eastern States Exposition seeks to promote good animal husbandry, attractive barn exhibits and a high-quality show for exhibitors and spectators.

Eastern States Exposition endorses the PDCA and the IAFE Code of Ethics in all livestock shows and gives full cooperative support to the judges and the respective National Breed Associations. It recognizes that certain practices are necessary in the proper care and management of livestock in the course of moving livestock to and between shows in order to keep them in a sound, healthy condition so they might be presented in the show ring in a natural, normal condition.

To detect any unethical practices, show management, at the discretion of the Ethics Committee, may use technologies for testing body fluids like milk or blood or other new examination techniques like ultrasound at anytime while the animals are on Eastern States Exposition grounds. By making entry in any exhibition, an exhibitor consents to the collection of specimens, e.g. milk, blood, etc., and photographic or direct examination of the animal. Furthermore, by making an entry in any exhibition, the owner and/or exhibitor, as well as any individual handling or fitting their animal, agrees to supply proper animal and personal identification when asked by ethics personnel or show management.

The following are examples of practices or procedures that are violations of the Eastern States Exposition Show Ring Policy and Code of Ethics, which include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Misrepresenting the age, lineage/breed and/or milking status of the animal for the class in which it is entered.
2. Treating an animal without a verifiable veterinary need for that treatment, internally or externally, for the purpose of improving the appearance. Extra label use of all drugs must be used under the direction of a licensed veterinarian. Evidence of same shall be provided in writing if requested.
3. In dairy cattle, using a device to artificially create or enhance the udder crease.
4. Icing of animal for non -medical purposes.
5. Administering an injected or applied anesthetic to alter the carriage of the tail or other body parts.
6. Surgically or unethically inserting any matter under the skin or into any body cavity to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body.
7. Criticizing or interfering with the judge, show management or other exhibitors while in the Show Ring, on show grounds or other conduct detrimental to the breed or the show.
8. Challenging, threatening, criticizing or interfering with an Ethics Committee member or volunteer appointed by show management to monitor the animals on exhibit on the show grounds.
9. Failing to provide proper/accurate animal and/or personal identification when asked by ethics personnel or show management.
10. Adding real or artificial hair or hair-like substances to any part of the animal, except for false switches.
11. Excessively manipulating topline and/or tailhead hair in dairy cattle, beyond 1 1/2 inches from the skin.
12. \*Should a topline violation occur (i.e. adding real or artificial hair or hair-like substances or if topline hair is in excess of 1 1/2 inches): the Director of Agriculture and Education or their appointed agent shall inform the exhibitor that if they choose to enter the Show Ring, after being informed of such a topline violation, an ethics violation will have occurred.
13. Mistreatment of an animal.
14. Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of owner or their representative(s).
15. Improper fitting practices, such as over filling and over bagging.

16. Any alleged unethical practices or procedures not listed above are subject to review by the Ethics Committee.
17. An observer, will be appointed by Eastern States Exposition Management to be on duty at Eastern States Exposition events.
18. The observer will be responsible for monitoring violations of the Eastern States Exposition Show Ring Policy and Code of Ethics by exhibitors and their representatives.
19. Complaints of alleged violations may be presented to Eastern States Exposition Director of Agriculture and Education.
20. All complaints of alleged violations received by Director of Agriculture will be referred to the Ethics Committee to determine investigative requirements and discipline. To the extent reasonably possible, the identity of the animal, the owner and/or other involved parties will be kept confidential.
21. All findings of the Ethics Committee will be presented to the Director of Agriculture and Education.
22. The Eastern States Exposition staff has the authority to inspect all animals to determine if violations of the Eastern States Exposition Show Ring Policy and Code of Ethics have occurred. In that regard, the Eastern States Exposition has authority to perform the following:
  - pull hair samples;
  - draw blood samples;
  - perform an ultrasound examination of the udder, prior to milk-out;
  - perform a milk-out of any individual cow or cows;
  - collect and test any of the animal's body fluids;
  - use any technology that may be useful in determining if a violation has occurred in any animal based on placement, random selection or suspect characteristics;
23. Require delivery to the Eastern States Exposition Director of Agriculture and Education of hypodermic syringe, needle or other devices, swabs, cloths, or other material, or samples or any medicine, preparation, or substance, whether in liquid or other form, in the possession or control of the exhibitor, the fitter, agents or persons acting on behalf of the exhibitor for the purpose of laboratory analysis.
24. Following the judging of the milking cow classes, the Eastern States Exposition will ultrasound the udders, prior to milk-out, of at least 3 cows in a class.
25. Following the judging of all milking cow classes, milk samples may be taken from a minimum of three cows in both the open and junior show – the Grand Champion, the Reserve Grand Champion and the Honorable Mention. Random ultrasound and milk samples will be taken in milking cow classes. Exhibitors who are selected to have milk samples taken from their animals will be presented a colored card with directions. Samples are not required to be drawn immediately following the class; however, teat seals may not be removed for milking until an ethics representative is present to take the samples. Animals may also be selected by the Director of Agriculture and Education to have a blood sample drawn.
26. An individual who is not necessarily an owner or exhibitor but who commits a violation of the Eastern States Exposition Show Ring Policy and Code of Ethics, will be subject to the same ethics enforcement procedures and sanctions as the owner or exhibitor. If an ethics violation occurs at the show, the Ethics Coordinator may take the following courses of action, depending on the severity of the violation.
27. Report to the Director of Agriculture and Education who may inform the judge of the violation. The judge may consider the violation in the placing of the class.
28. Following the completion of the Eastern States Exposition events and the evaluation of the hair samples/measurements, ultrasound readings and upon the receipt of the milk sample and blood sample analysis or other lab reports, and reports of eye witnesses or Eastern States Exposition personnel, the Ethics Committee will submit a report to Show Management if any violations have occurred. This reporting will happen as soon as reasonably possible after the end of the show.
29. If evidence suggests that a violation has occurred, the Director of Agriculture and Education will promptly notify the accused individual(s) and/or owner(s) as listed on the entry form of the suspected violation and will provide the accused individual(s) with copies of the supporting evidence to the extent reasonably

- possible. As soon as possible thereafter, an ethics hearing will be scheduled. Eastern States Exposition shall take reasonable steps to maintain the anonymity of the accused individual(s) and/or animal throughout the enforcement process.
30. An Eastern States Exposition representative will present the evidence, while maintaining individual confidentiality, at a hearing of the Ethics Committee. Generally, the Ethics Committee will consist of eight people, : seven livestock committee members, including representation of at least three different species, and moderated by the Eastern States Exposition Director of Agriculture and Education. Ethics Committee members will serve as a jury to determine whether the accused individual(s) is/are guilty of a violation and, if so, what penalty is appropriate for the violation. A guilty verdict must be by a 2/3 majority of the Ethics Committee. The hearing will be presided over by the Eastern States Exposition Director of Agriculture and Education. In each case, the accused individual will be invited to defend or explain the allegations, submit evidence, and/or have representation at the hearing.
  31. Promptly after the Ethics Committee renders its decision, the Director of Agriculture and Education will inform the accused individual(s) of the determinations of the Ethics Committee. It is the accused individual(s) responsibility to notify any other owners of the determination by the Ethics Committee.
  32. If found guilty of a violation of the Show Ring Code of Ethics, the penalty for the individual, the exhibitor, the representative and/or the animal may range from a letter of reprimand to being barred for three years from participating at Eastern States Exposition. The identity of the animal(s), exhibitors and/or representatives that are barred will be kept confidential to the extent reasonably possible.
  33. An animal found in violation of the Show Ring Code of Ethics will forfeit any premiums, their placing will be removed and the animal and/or owner/representative must observe any penalty placed upon them.
  34. If the individual, the exhibitor and/or their representatives are guilty of repeated violations at Eastern States Exposition events, they and/or the animal could be barred from participating at Eastern States Exposition for life.
  35. Barring an exhibitor or representative and/or an individual will result in animals owned fully or in partnership by that individual, farm and/or affiliated entity not being allowed to enter, exhibit or sell in Eastern States Exposition shows and/or sales. The barred individual will also be ineligible to be present in the Show Ring, and/or serve any other official capacity for the length of the bar. Any individual barred for an ethics violation at any point of time (regardless of timing or length of bar) must be approved by Eastern States Exposition's Ethics Committee prior to being nominated to serve on any official committee or as an official judge.

