

**FOR ALL EXHIBITORS!**  
**Winona County Fair Code of Conduct**

## *Winona County Fair Code of Conduct Policy*

Anyone attending events either as an exhibitor, advisor, volunteer, parent, spectator, superintendent, vendor, judge, committee member, fair official or staff must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics, which is incorporated by reference and attached hereto, along with this Code of Conduct and according to the Rules and Regulations of the Winona County Agricultural and Industrial Fair Association, dba Winona County Fair. These codes of conduct and rules are not limited to the show ring, but are applicable to any event held at the Winona County Fairgrounds including but not limited to meetings, workshops, clinics, contests, shows, county fair, social events, etc. Consequences to violating this code of conduct may include but are not limited to:

- Verbal Warning
- Removal from Fairgrounds
- Suspension, reduction and/or loss of premiums, showcase, other awards and prize money
- Loss of future participation privileges
- Loss of privilege to be on Fairgrounds property

**The act of making an entry in the fair, participating, and/or attending such events on the Winona County Fairgrounds is giving verification that you will abide by the code of conduct and understand the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code.**

*Exhibitors, Advisors, Volunteers, Parents, Family Members, Spectators, Superintendents, Judges, Vendors, Committee Members, Fair Officials and Staff MUST:*

- Be responsible for your own behavior/conduct and uphold high standards for the group and accept

consequences for inappropriate behavior

- Support and abide by the rules set forth by Fair Board, Superintendents, Committees and Clubs
- Practice good citizenship, leadership, and self-governance
- Follow the direction of directors and staff
- Demonstrate positive sportsmanship and attitudes at all times
- Be courteous and respectful to others
- Use appropriate language at all times
- Respect and adhere to guidelines of the Winona County Fair Code of Conduct and all rules and regulations that apply to participation in events

*Behavior, Conduct, and Activities **Not Permitted** at events held on the Winona County Fairgrounds include:*

- Unsportsmanlike, unethical, immoral conduct
- Improper language (i.e. profanity)
- Possession or consumption of alcohol (Except at Fair Board approved events/designated locations)
- Possession or consumption of illegal drugs, including the use of tobacco by a minor
- Possession or use of weapons or fireworks (Except with prior approval from Fair Board)
- Possession or use of harmful objects with the intent to harm or intimidate others
- Destruction of property (including graffiti)
- Violation of established curfew (minors must have adult supervision and prior approval to stay in designated area during fair)
- Disrespect for visitors, participants, volunteers, staff and/or event leaders (includes bullying, intimidation, etc.)
- Postings, listings, pictures and clothing that are deemed inappropriate on fairgrounds or on Social Media forums
- Bikes, scooters, skateboards
- Dogs (service dogs permitted)

***The Winona County Fair Board of Directors reserves the right to remove any person, at their discretion, from the grounds who violates the Rules & Regulations and/or the Code of Conduct. The Winona County Fair Board of Directors reserves the right to change or add to these rules and regulations as they, in their judgement, may deem advisable. All Winona County Fair Board of Directors decisions are FINAL.***

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### **IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS) 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 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 violative 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 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 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, its 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 involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal 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 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 Expos* 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 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.

Adopted: 11-17-16