

# SACRAMENTO COUNTY FAIR

## CODE OF ETHICS

The Code of Ethics was developed IN COOPERATION WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE 4-H, CALIFORNIA FFA ASSOCIATION, CALIFORNIA STATE GRANGE, WESTERN FAIRS ASSOCIATION, AS WELL AS OTHER AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS. We believe this code, when instituted, will help ensure that all exhibitors are on a level playing field, that animals are treated safely & humanely, that food safety is insured and that a positive environment is maintained. All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conducts or questionable acts. Exhibitors who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards & auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with these rules.

The following practices or procedures are unacceptable & are defined as being deceptive, fraudulent, unethical & inhumane in the care, fitting, preparation & showing of all classes of livestock. The use of any illegal drug is prohibited. Legal or illegal substances used to phenotypically alter the appearance of an animal entered in livestock events are prohibited. Use of illegal drugs is considered a premeditated act. Furthermore, any information pertaining to the practice of illegal alteration of an animal will be turned over to the proper authorities for criminal prosecution.

1. All exhibitors must have viable proof of ownership available to Fair & Livestock Officials at their request. Market animals must be owned & under exhibitor's daily care according to CDFA State Rules for California Fairs. The official ownership date is the date shown on the bill of sale, unless the animal was bred by the exhibitor, in which case calving or birth records must be shown. Registered breeding livestock must show the exhibitor as the owner of the animal on the breed association papers or certificate.
2. No exhibitor will be allowed to show an animal which has been previously sold at an auction or sale as a market animal through another fair or livestock show, whether or not there is an actual change of ownership. Any method used to misrepresent the age of an animal for a class in which it is shown is deceptive & considered illegal. Showing an animal for another individual by claiming ownership in order to show in a specific livestock class or event is prohibited. False ownership is illegal.
3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for & groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows. No professional fitters.
4. There will be no dye, or paint used on any specie of any kind. If coloring is found, the animal will not be allowed to show. All tails will be natural in nature. No twining allowed.
5. 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, leader, advisor 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 at the owners expense. 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 & provincial statutes, regulations & rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state & provincial statutes, regulations & rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event. If the lab report on the analysis of 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 tested by the lab, to which it is sent, is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved & all procedures of said collection & preservation, transfer to the lab & analysis of the sample are correct & accurate & the report received from the lab pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question & correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, leader, advisor or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.
6. Any surgical procedure, injections or insertion of foreign material, substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant or similar substance) which could affect the animals performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation or appearance of an animal's body is illegal. This includes vegetable oil, silicone, air, blue goo or any other substance used to alter the shape of the animal.
7. By entering, exhibitor acknowledges responsibility in the event their animal is found to contain volatile drug residues or is deemed unfit for human consumption at processing. Adulterated carcasses or those deemed unfit for human consumption by USDA Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) personnel at processing are the sole responsibility of the seller.  
If animals fail to pass ante-mortem inspection, or their carcasses are determined to be diseased or adulterated at processing, exhibitors shall be liable for financial restitution, attorney's fees and Civil penalties. Exhibitors may also be subject to disciplinary measures administered by the Sacramento County Fair, including but not limited to, the cancellation of sale transactions and/or reimbursement to buyer.
8. The use of inhumane showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivances or other similar practices are not acceptable & are prohibited. Other practices, unless under the written authority of a licensed veterinarian, that are not acceptable or prohibited include, but are not limited to, liquid diets for lambs, excessive shrinking, excessive exercising, tying animals with the feet off the ground & electric stimulation.
9. Criticism or interference with judges, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed classifiers or show

officials before, during or after the competitive event is prohibited. All officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation & respect & no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

10. No exhibitor, leader, advisor or responsible person shall conspire to intentionally violate the Code or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another by affirmative action or inaction to violate this Code.
11. The application of this Code provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by exhibitor, leader or advisor 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.
12. The act of entering of an animal in fair livestock show is the giving of verification by the exhibitor or absolutely responsible person that he/she has read the Code of Ethics & understands the consequences of & penalties provided for actions prohibited by the Code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules & 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.

**BY SIGNING, WHETHER IMPLIED ONLINE OR PHYSICALLY ON A PAPER ENTRY FORM:**

The exhibitor & his/her Parent or Legal Guardian or leader/advisor hereby certify that each has read, understand & will abide by SCF rules and regulations. We further certify that we have not administered &, to the best of our knowledge, any entry from this exhibitor has not received any substance not approved by the FDA and/or USDA. In instances where an animal has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species, the exhibitor must be aware that the time it takes for no drug residue to be found in the system is generally longer than the labeled withdrawal time for most drugs.

In the event any animal is declared by a veterinarian, processor or testing agency to be unethically fitted, the Executive Director and/or CEO will disqualify the exhibitor from this year's competition & one year following the incident. Reinstatement of anyone disqualified may be made only by the Executive Director & CEO. The exhibitor will forfeit all titles, awards, prizes, auction proceeds, premiums, scholarships & market/floor money if the animal is disqualified.

***INTERPRETATION OF RULES***

The Management of the Sacramento County Fair (includes, CEO, Deputy Manager, Livestock Supervisor or representative of the CEO) reserves the right to amend, add to & interpret the Rules & Regulation; and to arbitrarily settle & determine all questions & differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the Fair. All Rules contained in the 2017 State Rules for California Fairs as prescribed by the Division of Fairs & Expositions apply to this Fair.

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**PRINT** Name of Exhibitor

**DATE**

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**SIGNATURE** of Exhibitor

**DATE**

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**PRINT** Name of Parent or Guardian

**DATE**

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**SIGNATURE** of Parent or Guardian

**DATE**

***Must be turned in when picking up registration packets***