

# **THE NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR® / SUSSEX COUNTY FARM & HORSE SHOW** **EXHIBITOR & GENERAL INFORMATION**

**\*No Vehicles are permitted in the ag. area after 10am, they must be parked in a designated parking lot.**

**Vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense. The New Jersey State Fair/ Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Association will not be responsible for any damages to your vehicle**

**NOTE: All premiums will be mailed within ten days of the show, unless noted otherwise in department rules**

**The following are some general information for livestock exhibitors that will assist you in planning your trip to the show. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Director of your show.**

1. **Livestock barns** - Barns measure 40' x 200' and have open sides (no walls), except for barn #6, which is enclosed. Barn #6 houses the small animals (rabbits, cavy, etc) and poultry. Although barns are well ventilated, since it is August, you are encouraged to bring fans and 50' extension cords.  
**There will be no food or drink allowed in livestock barns 1-6, the livestock show arena, the milking parlor, or any other structure in the agricultural area which contains livestock, poultry or animals of any kind.** All 4-H members and their families are required to follow these rules.
  - It will be the responsibility of 4-H leaders and open show directors to monitor their groups.
  - Judges and their helpers are permitted to have bottled water in the livestock show area during their show. Bottles must have cap on when not in use.
2. **Your Housing** - If you plan to stay overnight, there are a number of motels within 20-30 minutes. Be sure to make a reservation soon. There are also a number of "hook-ups" for campers or RV's on the fairgrounds. If you plan to camp, please indicate it on your application so we can reserve a spot for you.
3. **Security** - Gates on the ends of the barns are closed during the night and security personnel patrol the fairgrounds.
4. **Restrooms & Showers** - There are restroom and shower facilities near the agricultural area.
5. The New Jersey State Fair® /Sussex County Farm & Horse Show is not responsible for omissions or printing errors
6. All exhibits must remain on display at the Fairgrounds until 5:00 pm on the second Sunday of the fair, unless otherwise noted.
7. **Dog, Pet, and Exotic Animal Policy** - Dogs, Pets, and Exotic Animals – None allowed with the following exceptions:
  - a.) Handicapped persons requiring trained and controlled animal assistance
  - b.) When they are a part of an approved exhibit, show or display and are controlled
  - c.) Livestock exhibitors
  - d.) Horse Show exhibitors
  - e.) Concessionaires/carnival living area.
    - Permits must be filed for the above exceptions for the full time the animal will be on the grounds. The Dog, Pet and Exotic Animal permit may be found on the Exhibitors page of our website. Please send permits with your entries, when possible. Otherwise, you must file permits with your department chairperson. You will be given a copy as proof of filing. Please come to the Agricultural office in the Administration building to pick up your copy.

## **Rules for the preceding exceptions**

- The PERMIT must be presented by the person controlling the animal at the request of any fair official or representative.
- All animals must be on a leash or confined at all times and controlled by an adult. Animals used for Fair approved demonstrations (i.e.-accompanying carriages, herding sheep, etc.) may be unrestricted while they are doing their performance, but must be controlled by an adult.
- Animals must remain in the specific area they are cleared to (i.e.-horse stall or trailer area, cow or sheep barn, etc.)
- Animals must not be walked around the other parts of the Fair Grounds nor in the vicinity of a crowd in their area or near any food concessions.
- Handicapped persons requiring trained and controlled animal assistance (i.e.-Seeing Eye dogs) may be excused from rules 2, 3, and 4, but must have a permit.
- Animal's owner is responsible for clean-up of all wastes generated by the animal(s).

**IT IS ILLEGAL TO LEAVE YOUR PET IN A CAR OR SIMILAR VEHICLE.**

8. **The water may contain chlorine to combat harmful bacteria**
9. **Participation in this event is at your own risk and that of the health of your animals**

## NJ STATE HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Any exhibitor showing at the The New Jersey State Fair®, Sussex County Farm & Horse Show must be in compliance with the New Jersey Division of Animal Health recommendations for New Jersey fairs, shows and sales. All animals must be free from infectious or contagious diseases. The recommendations made are in keeping with good management practices to minimize the risk of disease introduction and spread, with specific recommendations for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) prevention. New Jersey Department of Agriculture's (NJDA) Animal Health staff along with veterinarians, farmers, and producers is encouraged to remain vigilant for any signs of unusual diseases in an animal, flock, or herd.

### Specific signs that may indicate exposure to an infectious or toxic agent include:

1. Excessive discharges from body orifices
2. Off-feed or weight loss
3. Skin lesions including blisters, pustules or discoloration around animal's mouth, nose, teats or hooves
4. Abnormal behavior; excessive vocalization, depression
5. Excessive urination, excessive salivation; excessive tearing
6. Lameness, off balance, falling down, difficulty rising; circling, partial or complete paralysis
7. Muscle tremors, seizures
8. Sneezing, open mouthed breathing, gasping for air, nasal discharge, coughing, difficulty breathing
10. Diarrhea, vomiting, constipation, excessive dry manure
10. Twisting of head and neck
11. Foaming at mouth or nose
12. Head pressing, stargazing, no menace response, uneven pupil sizes
13. Drooping wings, feather or hair loss, excessive loss of mane and tail hairs
14. Partial to complete drop in egg production, production of thin-shelled eggs
15. Swelling of tissues around eyes, neck or legs; cloudiness of eyes
16. Abortions, still births, weak neonates
17. Abnormal body temperature
18. Unusual ticks or maggots
19. Staggering, falling or central nervous system disorders.

If you observe any of the above symptoms or suspect a disease transmission, contact your veterinarian, NJDA's State Veterinarian at 609-671-6400 or USDA's Veterinary Services at 609-259-8387 IMMEDIATELY.

All animals will be inspected by an accredited Veterinarian prior to entering the fair. It is the discretion of the veterinarian in charge to allow animals to enter and remain on the fair/show grounds. (PLEASE NOTE: NO animals will be permitted to off load without a health check, if you arrive at a time when there is no Vet available you will not be allowed to unload your animals. \*In addition to the regular health papers required by our Fair . . . ALL sheep and goats to be shown at this fair shall also be identified by USDA official identification (ear tag and/or approved registry tattoo) in compliance with the federal regulations regarding the Scrapie Eradication Program.)

Any animals showing obvious clinical signs of warts, ringworm, foot rot, parasites, pink eye, draining abscesses or open wounds must not be exhibited or allowed to remain on the fairgrounds.

Any food animal should have a Drug Use Form accompanying it to the fair. This form will certify that the market animal is free of any medication – which means that the animal has not been treated with drugs, or the animal does not contain a drug for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed per label directions. If the animal has received drugs for medications for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed, this must be documented on the form. The animal identification, drug name, date(s) of administration, the route of administration and the drug withdrawal time prior to slaughter must be documented.

LIVESTOCK FROM OUT OF STATE entering New Jersey must be in compliance with NJ health requirements & regulations. An official health certificate approved by the state of origin must accompany livestock entering NJ. Animals must also be in compliance with General Requirements, and inspected by an Accredited Licensed Veterinarian approved by the Animal Health Official from the state of origin.

## **Animal Health Documentation**

Fair/show management is responsible for ensuring that animals to be exhibited enter the grounds in good health and with proper documentation:

- **Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs)** - CVIs are completed and signed by accredited veterinarians for any animal being transported **interstate**. (e.g. Pennsylvania to New Jersey) CVIs are valid for 30 days from the date of examination. The official CVI shall include the following:
  - Complete name and complete address of exhibitor
  - Complete address of the premises of origin
  - **Complete name and complete address of the fair/show to be attended. A separate CVI needs to be completed for each individual fair/show to be attended.**
  - Species, breed, sex, and age of animals
    - Cattle and swine shall be identified by at least one of the following methods: official electronic ID, unique ear tag, tattoo or registration name or number with registration papers.
    - Horses and other equine shall be identified by electronic ID, physical description and/or tattoo. Physical description must match with EIA certificate.
    - Sheep and goats shall be identified by USDA approved official identification (ear tag and/or approved registry tattoo). For questions regarding the USDA's Mandatory Identification of Sheep and Goats regulation, or to obtain official identification tags for sheep and goats, call the USDA, APHIS, VS office at (609) 259-5260.
    - Other livestock shall be identified by ear tag, registration name and number, name and physical description or microchip.
  - Statement that the examining veterinarian personally inspected the animals described and found them free from visible symptoms of infectious, contagious and/or communicable disease or known exposure thereto within 30 days of shipment.
- **VS (Veterinary Services) Form 9-3** (Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks and Poultry) or **VS Form 9-2** (Flock Selecting and Testing Report) may be used for poultry in lieu of the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.
- **Animal Health Certificates (AHC)** - *AHCs may only be used for animals native to New Jersey attending New Jersey fairs/shows. An AHC is NOT VALID for interstate shipment of animals.* An AHC can be issued by a veterinarian (prior to or at the fair/show) and signed by both the veterinarian and the animal owner. Based on his/her knowledge and judgment, the examining veterinarian must indicate on the form whether the AHC is valid for 30, 60 or 90 days from date of examination. Animals listed on an AHC must be identified by an ear tag, tattoo, or other permanent identification or description (coat color, markings, age, etc...)
- **4-H Poultry, Rabbit or Cavy Health Form** – This form can be used for the species indicated and can be completed by the 4-H leader or other qualified adult within 30 days prior to the exhibition at a 4-H sponsored show or demonstration. Animals listed on the 4-H Poultry, Rabbit or Cavy Health Form must be identified by an ear tag, tattoo, or other permanent identification or description (coat color, markings, age, etc...).

*Animal Health Certificates and the 4-H Poultry, Rabbit or Cavy Health Forms are available on the web at:*  
<http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/ah/news/fairsshows.html>

## **Sale of Poultry**

Any person selling poultry (including baby chicks) at a fair/show shall provide to the buyer, a copy of the VS Form 9-2 or VS Form 9-3 which certifies the poultry originated from a pullorum-typhoid clean/ NPIP approved hatchery or flock.

## **Food Safety**

Any food animal exhibited should be accompanied by a Drug Use Form. This form will certify that:

- The animal has not been treated with drugs or medications; OR the animal does not contain a drug for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed as per label directions.
- The animal has received drugs or medication and the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed as per label direction.

DrugUseForms are available on the web at: <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/ah/news/fairsshows.html>. (This documentation should follow the food animal to its final slaughter destination.) If the animal has received drugs or medications for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed, this must be documented on the form. The animal identification, drug name, date(s) of administration, the route of administration, and the drug withdrawal time prior to slaughter must be documented. **Animals cannot be turned away from the show if they received medications. The drugs simply need to be documented, and the withdrawal time clearly stated.** *Certain drugs, such as gentamicin, are illegal for use in food animals.* It is the responsibility of the animal producer to check with his or her veterinarian as to what medications can be given

## **Public Health Concerns**

Interactions between people and animals provide valuable and enjoyable educational experiences that should be encouraged. However, during such contact, there is some risk of disease transmission. To protect both humans and animals, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services encourages all fairs/shows to implement the following precautionary steps to protect both visitors and animals from disease.

- Provide hand-cleaning stations/facilities for use prior to and after contact with animals
  - Provide running water and soap or antibacterial hand wipes to clean dirt off hands
  - Provide *alcohol-based hand rubs* for use on clean hands
- Maintain safe and clean stations/facilities to protect visitors and animals
  - Trash cans should be available and emptied regularly
- Post signs indicating the location of hand-cleaning stations/facilities
- Do not allow human food or drink in animal contact areas
- Forbid smoking in animal contact areas and at hand-cleaning stations/facilities
- Ensure that no feed is fed to the animals unless specifically provided by the fair

## **II. Species Specific Health Regulations and Recommendations**

### **NEW JERSEY CATTLE** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC

### **IMPORTED CATTLE** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Shall be negative to a tuberculosis test within 60 days of entry – Cattle from an accredited free State, zone, or herd are exempt from testing.
- For an accredited herd, the CVI shall include the date on which the herd of origin was last tuberculin tested, and a statement by the accredited veterinarian that the cattle to be imported were:
  1. included in the most recent test of the herd of origin and testing with negative results occurred within one year prior to the date of movement or that
  2. they are natural additions to the herd.
- Six months of age or over shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days of entry – brucellosis vaccinated heifers under 14 months of age, steers, and spayed heifers are exempt from brucellosis testing. Cattle to be imported that originate from a Class Free State or Area are exempt from brucellosis testing.
- Shall be negative to an official anaplasmosis or bluetongue test within 30 days prior to entry if they originate from a state that is determined by the USDA to be endemic for anaplasmosis or bluetongue.

**NEW JERSEY GOATS** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC
- All goats, of any age, must be identified by USDA approved official identification - approved ear tag and/or tattoo. A microchip is also acceptable but it must be a USDA approved device. If a microchip is used for ID, the animal owner must bring the microchip reader to the fair.

**IMPORTED GOATS** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- All goats, of any age, must be identified by USDA approved official identification - approved ear tag and/or tattoo. A microchip is also acceptable but it must be a USDA approved device. If a microchip is used for ID, the animal owner must bring the microchip reader to the fair.
- All goats to be imported shall be negative to an official tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry. Goats from an accredited-free state or zone or from an accredited herd shall be exempt from testing.
- For an accredited herd, the CVI shall include the date on which the herd of origin was last tuberculin tested, and a statement by the accredited veterinarian that the goats to be imported were:
  1. included in the most recent test of the herd of origin and testing with negative results occurred within one year prior to the date of movement or that
  2. they are natural additions to the herd.
- All goats to be imported four months of age or over shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 day prior to entry. Wethers shall be exempt from brucellosis testing.

**Please note:** In lieu of brucellosis testing, the State Veterinarian will allow goats that do not originate from brucellosis free herds to attend New Jersey fairs/shows **IF** the owner contacts the New Jersey Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400 between 9:00am - 4:30pm M-F to obtain a permit number to be included on the CVI. Owners will need to provide the following information:

- Name of owner
- National Premise Identification number or scrapie identification number
- Address of premises of origin
- Address of premises of destination
- Number of goats to enter into New Jersey
- Date of movement.

**NEW JERSEY HORSES** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC
- Shall be accompanied by a valid EIA (Coggins) form certifying the animal has had a negative official test (AGID or ELISA) for equine infectious anemia within the past 24 months – horses younger than 6 months and accompanied by a dam that has a negative official Coggins test within the past 24 months are exempt from testing.
- That are to change owners via sale, barter, or trade – shall have a negative Coggins test within 90 days prior to exchange.

**IMPORTED HORSES** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI.
- Shall be accompanied by a valid EIA (Coggins) form certifying the animal has had a negative official test (AGID or ELISA) for equine infectious anemia within the past 12 months – horses younger than 6 months and accompanied by a dam that has a negative official Coggins test within the past 12 months are exempt from testing.
- That are to change owners via sale, barter, or trade – shall have a negative Coggins test within 90 days prior to exchange.

**NEW JERSEY LLAMA** (all species of the genus **Lama**) ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC

**IMPORTED LLAMA ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Shall be tested negative for Bluetongue within 30 days prior to entry. Camelids to be imported that originate from states where Bluetongue is not endemic or considered low risk shall be exempt from testing.
- Shall be negative to an official tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry. Camelids to be imported that originate from an accredited-free state or zone shall be exempt from testing. All camelids to be imported six months of age or over shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry. Neutered male camelids are exempt from testing.

**NEW JERSEY POULTRY ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI, AHC, VS Form 9-2 or 9-3, or a 4-H Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form
- All poultry, including baby chicks, exhibition, exotic, and game birds (including ostrich, emu and rhea but excluding waterfowl) going to public exhibitions in New Jersey shall originate from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid clean or equivalent flocks, OR
- All poultry over 4 months of age shall have an individual negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within 90 days prior to the exhibit.
  1. Turkeys shall be blood tested at more than 12 weeks of age
  2. Game birds shall be tested when more than 4 months of age or upon reaching sexual maturity, whichever comes first
  3. Ostrich, emu, rhea and cassowaries shall be blood tested when more than 12 months of age. All ostrich, emus, rhea and cassowaries less than twelve months shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.
- All birds less than four months of age shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks or poultry less than 4 months in age shipped directly from a hatchery shall be accompanied by a VS 9-3. (The individual test is not valid for birds in this age group).

*A list of New Jersey certified pullorum testers is available upon request from the Division of Animal Health (609)671-6400.*

**IMPORTED POULTRY ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or VS Form 9-2 or 9-3
- All poultry, including baby chicks, exhibition, exotic, and game birds (including ostrich, emu and rhea but excluding waterfowl) shall originate from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid clean or equivalent flocks, or
- All poultry over 4 months of age shall have an individual negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within 90 days prior to the exhibit. See testing information below:
  1. Turkeys shall be blood tested at more than 12 weeks of age
  2. Game birds shall be tested when more than 4 months of age or upon reaching sexual maturity, whichever comes first.
  3. Ostrich, emu, rhea and cassowaries shall be blood tested when more than 12 months of age. All ostrich, emus, rhea and cassowaries under twelve months shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.
- All birds less than four months of age shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks or poultry less than 4 months in age shipped directly from a hatchery shall be accompanied by a VS 9-3. (The individual test is not valid for birds in this age group).
- All poultry and hatching eggs originating from areas or counties with confirmed cases of Avian Influenza must obtain a permit number for entry. This number must appear on the original health certificate or VS Form 9-2 or 9-3 issued by an accredited veterinarian. Permits may be obtained by contacting the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health, at (609) 671-6400, Monday-Friday, 9:00am - 4:30pm.

Please note:

Concerns regarding Avian Influenza virus continue.

Since December 2014, a dangerous new strain of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), also known as “bird flu” has been found in domestic poultry and wild migratory waterfowl. All poultry owners need to be on the lookout for signs of illness in their poultry and use good biosecurity practices to protect birds. Signs of HPAI may include sudden increase in bird deaths, sneezing, gasping for air, coughing and nasal discharge (runny nose), watery and/or green diarrhea, lack of energy and poor appetite, drop in egg production or soft- or thin-shelled misshapen eggs, swelling around the eyes, neck and head and purple discoloration of the wattles, combs and legs. This avian influenza strain is deadly to birds but poses no immediate public health concerns.

Additional information on biosecurity for backyard flocks (including handouts on avian influenza and on biosecurity) can be found at <http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov/>. In order to protect the State's poultry industry, the NJDA recommends that fair/show management adopt rules that require all poultry and hatching eggs to be exhibited be accompanied by certification that they are free from Avian Influenza, regardless of where the birds originated.

**NEW JERSEY SHEEP** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC
- All sheep, of any age, must be identified by USDA approved official identification - approved ear tag and/or tattoo. A microchip is also acceptable but it must be a USDA approved device. If a microchip is used for ID, the animal owner must bring the microchip reader to the fair.

**IMPORTED SHEEP** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

1. Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
2. All sheep, of any age, must be identified by USDA approved official identification - approved ear tag and/or tattoo. A microchip is also acceptable but it must be a USDA approved device. If a microchip is used for ID, the animal owner must bring the microchip reader to the fair.
3. From states with endemic Bluetongue must be tested negative within 30 days prior to entry

**NEW JERSEY SWINE** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC

**IMPORTED SWINE** ATTENDING A NEW JERSEY FAIR/SHOW:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry – swine from a validated brucellosis-free state or a validated brucellosis-free herd are exempt from testing
- Shall be negative to an official pseudorabies test within 30 days prior to entry – swine from a pseudorabies State IV or V State/Area or originate from a qualified pseudorabies negative herd are exempt from testing.

**Additional requirements on top of the NJ Health requirements**

Updated Revisions to Animal Health Requirements (March 5, 2012)

**Rabies Vaccination**

A current rabies vaccination is required for all species for which there is a USDA licensed vaccine available (cattle, horses, sheep, dogs, cats, ferrets). An acceptable proof of rabies vaccination must be presented at the vet check at the Fair. Note: Rabies titers are not acceptable proof of rabies protection and cannot be used for entry requirements.

Owners of animal species that do not have an approved rabies vaccine should discuss with their veterinarian the pros and cons of having their animal vaccinated against rabies with an "off label" rabies vaccine.

During the Fair if an animal not vaccinated for rabies is suspected of having rabies, appropriate methods will be utilized to make a diagnosis including quarantining the animal for the appropriate period of time.

**Bovine Viral Diarrhea persistent infection (BVD-PI) Testing**

All cattle, alpacas, and llamas must be negative to an approved test appropriate to detect Bovine Viral Diarrhea persistent infection (BVD-PI). This test must be reported on the required certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI). The issuing veterinarian is responsible for verifying the validity of the test, the identification of the animal and recording the test date on the CVI. If a previous test is not verifiable the test must be repeated.

It is recommended that all cattle, alpacas, and llamas be vaccinated for Bovine Respiratory Disease Complex (shipping fever). Owner(s) should discuss with their veterinarian the advantages of having their animals vaccinated for the Bovine Respiratory Disease Complex.

**Cattle Testing:**

- Currently acceptable BVD-PI tests for cattle less than 61 days old:
  - Skin notch Antigen Capture ELISA (ACE) or Immunohistochemistry (IHC)
  - Whole blood virus isolation
  - Whole blood PCR

- Currently acceptable BVD-PI tests for cattle 61 days of age and older:
  - Skin notch Antigen Capture ELISA (ACE) or Immunohistochemistry (IHC)
  - Serum or milk Antigen Capture ELISA (ACE)
  - Whole blood virus isolation
  - Whole blood, serum or plasma PCR

Note: The NYS Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory of Cornell University can conduct PCR testing on pools of up to 10 cattle.

#### Llama, Alpaca Testing:

- Currently acceptable BVD tests:
  - PCR
  - Whole blood virus isolation

Note: The NYS Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory of Cornell University can pool llama, etc. samples for PCR testing as follows: Animals less than 61 days of age can be tested in pools of 2 animals, whole blood only. Animals 61 days of age and older can be tested in pools of 5 animals using whole blood, serum or plasma.

Note: Kevin Mitchell reviewed the above information with Dr. Paul Tallamy February 28, 2012.

**Please check with your veterinarian for any updated tests that are required by the New Jersey Department of Animal Health.**



**IAFE**  
**(INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS)**  
**NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS**

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times conduct 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 animals 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. This act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainers 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 from 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 approved laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved, all procedures of said collection and preservation transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate. 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 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 official 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. 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, 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 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 an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, 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 this code. It is further a consent that an 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.

# 4-H POULTRY, RABBIT, OR CAVY HEALTH FORM



**NEW JERSEY**  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

This form is to be completed by the 4-H leader or other qualified adult within 30 days prior to the exhibition of any of the above animals at a 4-H Fair show or demonstration. A separate form must be completed for each type of animal. This form is not to be used if the above animals are on the same premises with commercial animals of the same type. In that case, a health chart prepared by an accredited veterinarian must be issued within 30 days prior to the show.

|  |             |                      |
|--|-------------|----------------------|
| Name of Owner _____  |             |                      |
| Address _____  |             |                      |
| Telephone number _____   |             | Type of Animal _____ |
| Number of animals on premises _____  |             |                      |
| <b>Environment and housing of animals</b>  | <b>YES</b>  | <b>NO</b>            |
| 1. Are cages, coop, or hutches dirty?  |             |                      |
| 2. Is area about cages, coop, or hutches dirty or is trash left lying around?  |             |                      |
| 3. Is bedding dirty or inadequate?   |             |                      |
| 4. Is water supply dirty or inadequate?  |             |                      |
| 5. Do unwanted pests have access to stored feed?   |             |                      |
| 6. Is feed fed in a dirty manner?  |             |                      |
| 7. Have the animals been in the possession of the owner for less than 30 days?   |             |                      |
| <b>Appearance of animals</b>   | <b>YES</b>  | <b>NO</b>            |
| 8. Do animals have swollen, runny, or clouded eyes?  |             |                      |
| 9. Is skin/feathers dirty or abnormal appearing?   |             |                      |
| 10. Do animals have discharge from the nose?   |             |                      |
| 11. Do feet appear abnormal?   |             |                      |
| 12. Does breathing appear abnormal?  |             |                      |
| 13. Are there signs of diarrhea?   |             |                      |
| <p>(Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> I recommend approval to show at:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ on _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Place</b> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><b>Date</b></span></p> <p>(This recommendation may be made if all of the above answers are "no")</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>I recommend that this animal have written veterinarian's approval to show.</b></p> <p>(This recommendation must be made if any of the above answers are "yes" or if the inspector has any concerns about the health or care of the animal).</p> |             |                      |
| <p><b>I certify that to the best of my knowledge the above information is true and correct.</b></p>  |             |                      |
| _____  | _____       |                      |
| <b>Signature of Inspector</b>  | <b>Date</b> |                      |