

Code of Conduct

PROJECT ANIMAL CERTIFICATION: We certify that we will not have administered to the animal(s), nor has it received, any substance not approved by the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and/or the County the exhibition is being held, Otsego County Fair for slaughter/breeding stock/exhibition animals. This includes, but is not limited to, diuretics, steroids, repartitioning agents, tranquilizers and analgesics. We also certify that, with respect to any drug, chemical or feed additive approved by the FDA and/or USDA for slaughter animals that no illegal use of approved chemical/compounds has taken place and that the applicable withdrawal period as recognized by the FDA has expired prior to shipping out of market livestock on any and all approved chemicals/compounds administered.

We acknowledge and accept the fact that all animals entered at the Otsego County Fair may be subject to blood, urine and tissue tests, and that the Fair reserves the right to disqualify any animals, either live or slaughtered, found in violation of the use of drugs, chemicals or feed additives as described above and in the Otsego County Fair Premium Book and policy brochure. Disqualification will result in the placing(s) of the animal in question being voided; the forfeiture of any and all ribbons/trophies/special awards earned with the animal(s); the assessment of a fine against the total premiums due equal in the amount to the premium(s) earned with the animal(s); voiding of the sale(s) if the animal(s) has been sold in the Otsego County Fair Youth Livestock Sale. We will allow the designated tester/veterinarian to draw any and all samples deemed appropriate from our animal(s).

We will indemnify and hold harmless the Otsego County Fair and all of its sponsors and assisting organizations and their employees and agents, against all legal or other proceedings in connection with said testing procedures. We will indemnify and hold harmless the Otsego County Fair and its sponsors and assisting organizations against all claims of injury to the animal and any damage or injury to any person or property caused by the animal.

PROJECT ANIMAL CARE: We, the signed exhibitor, leader and parent/guardian, have read, acknowledge, accept and will abide by all the animal care, housing and maintenance rules as set forth in the Otsego County Fair Premium Book, all rules set forth by the department and the appropriate species rule books.

We acknowledge that the above-mentioned animal(s) have been under my daily care since the initial tagging or project registration date. Proper care (feeding, handling, etc.) of project animals and maintenance (cleanliness, neatness, etc.) of assigned fair housing is the responsibility of the exhibitor. Project animals must be cared for in accordance with commonly accepted feeding/handling practices, and the animal's pen/stall cleaned and bedded as necessary on a daily basis. Proper care and maintenance of all animals and their assigned housing area will be monitored by the appropriate species Department Superintendent of the Fair.

EXHIBITOR CODE OF CONDUCT: We agree to conduct ourselves with honesty, integrity and good sportsmanship. We will treat all fair and livestock show management personnel, fair officials, judges, and exhibitors with courtesy, cooperation and respect and shall not direct any abusive or threatening conduct toward them. Furthermore, we will not direct criticism or interference with fair and livestock show management personnel, fair officials, judges, and exhibitors in conducting the activities associated with the event. We understand that any conduct that is contrary to these items will be brought before the Fair Board for review and may result in the disqualification of individual people and animal(s) from the activities associated with the Otsego County Fair.

ETHICAL AND HUMANE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS: We acknowledge that inhumane fitting, showing and/or handling practices or devices shall not be used. Furthermore, surgery, injection, or application of foreign material under and/or into the flesh of an animal to physiologically or physically change the natural contour of conformation of the animal is illegal. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, insertion of foreign material in the animal, or other such practices are not acceptable and will be prohibited. Violation of the above mentioned items could result in the disqualification of the animal and/or exhibitor.

We acknowledge and accept the fact that the Department Superintendent for a given animal species and the Otsego County Fair Board may authorize the examination of a given animal for identification purposes and/or health related concerns in our absence, including obtaining the temperature of the animal in question.

EXHIBITOR AGREEMENT

I certify that all my animal projects are drug free by Federal food and Drug Administration standards. I have followed all withdraw substances used, practiced good animal husbandry, and my project has been ethically and humanely cared for. I acknowledge and accept the fact that my animals may be subject to drug and residue testing. Upon a positive confirmation, forfeiture of all prize monies, sale and/or market value, premium(s), and trophies will be the forfeiture penalty. My youth leader, parent(s) or guardian(s) assume equal responsibility for following these and other prescribed guidelines set by the Otsego County Fair Board of Directors and Superintendents for these projects.

4-H/Youth Member Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian/Leader/Advisor Signature _____ Date _____

We, the above signed exhibitor and leader, parent/guardian, certify that we have read, acknowledge and will abide by all the rules as set forth by the 4-H Rules that pertain, Otsego County Fair Premium Book Rules including rules published on website, the Otsego County Horse Area Rules (adopted February 2011) and this Exhibitor Code of Conduct and Project Animal Certification/Care Form as they pertain to the exhibition of each species.