

CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

Twin Falls County 4-H and FFA

These guidelines were developed by all Twin Falls County Species Committees in cooperation with the U of I Extension. Enforcers of the guidelines are the responsibility of the U of I 4-H youth Development and FFA Chapters in the Magic Valley.

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.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

1. All youth must be enrolled in Fair Entry, present proof of ownership or lease agreement, by the designated date as stated in the Twin Falls County Livestock Manual. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. All exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their own animals while at the fair, following respective species committee rules per the Twin Falls County Species Livestock Manuals.
3. **At any time after an animal arrives at the Twin Falls County Fair no treatment involving the use of drugs and/or medications shall be administered without the prior approval of the responsible species 4-H Superintendent, FFA Advisor representative and Twin Falls County U of I 4-H Professional.**

Any medications given to any animal at the Twin Falls County Fair will be administered strictly according to the label and by the direct instruction of a supervising licensed veterinarian. Topical or paste could be applied according to label. By entering in a Twin Falls County 4-H/FFA show, the owner, exhibitor, parents or leaders effectively give consent for the show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample indicates the presence of violating residues, this will be regarded as sufficient evidence that such substance has been improperly or unlawfully administered to the animal.

4. 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, conformation, or appearance, is expressly prohibited. Exceptions will be made for external cosmetic applications.
5. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices which inflict injury or alter the animal appearance or performance such as striking an animal to cause swelling, using an electrical contrivance, letting of blood, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.
6. All judges, show officials, and staff shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no exhibitor or spectator shall direct abusive or threatening language or conduct toward any show official. Spectators failing to show proper courtesy to judges or officials may be removed from the show area, and if an exhibitor, may be immediately disqualified from the show.

7. No exhibitor, or 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.
8. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an exhibitor, whether he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in violation of this code of ethics.
9. The act of entering an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the exhibitor that he or she has read the Twin Falls County 4-H & FFA Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code.
10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the exhibitor to have any disciplinary action. Youth who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and may be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules in the Twin Falls County Specie Livestock Manuals adopted by all specie committees. The decision is made by the Ethics Committee consisting of the 4-H/FFA specific specie Show Superintendent OR specific Standing Committee Chair, one FFA Advisor representative, and at least one U of I Extension, Twin Falls County 4-H Professional.
11. The respective Ethics Committee makes the recommendation to the organization that the youth is enrolled in. Final enforcement is decided by the respective organization in which the youth is enrolled.

LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR ENTRY STATEMENT

I have read and understand, consent to, and agree to abide by the Twin Falls County 4-H & FFA Show Ring Ethics.

Date: _____ Signature of Youth _____

Youth printed Name: _____

Club/Chapter name: _____

Date: _____ Signature of Guardian or Parent of the above: _____

Date: _____ Signature of Guardian or Parent of the above: _____