



February 4, 2009

AT RELIANT PARK

March 3 — 22, 2009

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Dear Texas Veterinarians:

Please take a moment to read through the enclosed information pertaining to the Houston Livestock Show™ residue avoidance program. In an effort to prevent any unnecessary rule violations on the part of the exhibitor, parent, agent or teacher, it is imperative to follow these regulations when treating market show animals.

In order to ensure a safe food supply and maintain a fair and level playing field for all exhibitors, all animals must arrive at Reliant Park free and clear of all drug and chemical residues and remain free and clear of all drugs and chemicals while on Show grounds. Any animal that has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species is subject to disqualification if the animal tests positive for that drug. Please note that this is a much higher standard than simply adhering to withdrawal times, as the time it takes for a chemical to be completely eliminated from an animal's system is usually longer than the published withdrawal time for many FDA approved drugs. Furthermore, the showing of any animal that has been administered during its life any quantity of any unapproved drug, chemical, or medication is strictly prohibited. Each and every Houston Livestock Show exhibitor, parent or guardian, and teacher or agent is required to sign a drug certification agreement. By signing this agreement, the parties listed agree that they have also read and understand all rules and regulations listed in the 2009 Exhibitor Handbook.

Being an expert in the area of animal health, many of our exhibitors, parents and agents trust your opinion completely when it comes to treating an animal for show. Most have spent vast amounts of time and money in preparing their animals and would go to any extent to ensure that the animal is eligible for competition. By providing you with our current rules, it is our hope that we can avoid a situation where an exhibitor is disqualified due to a lack of knowledge of Show rules. While it is our responsibility to enforce our rules, the last thing we want to do is to disqualify an exhibitor for this reason. Please keep these rules and the rules of other shows in mind when treating any market animals that will be exhibited at our Texas shows.

Sincerely,

Allyson Tjoelker
Managing Director – Livestock Competitions

Houston Livestock Show™

Junior Show Rules and Regulations

- **Junior Show Participation:** Participation in the Junior Livestock Division is limited to Texas resident students, who are members of a Texas 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, and who have continuously owned and personally fed and cared for their animals under the direct supervision of a CEA or AST. Exhibitors must be enrolled in, and attending, public or private elementary or secondary schools in Texas. Students must be between the ages of 9 and 18 on or before Aug. 31, 2008. Exception: students in the 3rd grade become eligible on their 8th birthday. Each FFA Chapter and 4-H Club must be a member in good standing with its state and National affiliates.
- **Ownership Certification/Fitting:** Exhibitors must own their animals at the beginning of and throughout the feeding period. Exhibitor must feed, care for and exhibit animals entered without any aid or assistance during the entire feeding period, except from CEA or AST or from other junior exhibitors and leaders within their county. After validation, any animal which has sold at a private or public auction or by private treaty is not eligible for the Junior Show. CEAs and ASTs desiring to enter Junior Livestock Show exhibitors must sign a certification on the entry application that the animal was raised under his or her supervision and was purchased, raised and otherwise prepared for show exclusively by the entrant in accordance with the rules of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.
- **Certification Forms and Health Papers:** Junior Show exhibitors are required to have a drug certification form signed by the following: (a) Junior Exhibitor; (b) Parent or Guardian; and (c) CEA or AST. The Drug Certification Form is on the reverse side of the entry application. No junior animal will be allowed to show without this certification form properly filled out and notarized. Health papers are not required on Junior Market Steers, Barrows, Lambs, Goats or Junior Commercial Steers. Health papers are required on Junior Breeding Beef Heifers, Junior Breeding Gilts, and Junior Breeding Sheep.
- **Drug Certification Agreement:** Exhibitor and parent/guardian certify that the entry has not been administered or that the exhibitor and parent/guardian does not have any knowledge that this entry has received any substance not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for food animals. Furthermore, the exhibitor and parent/guardian certifies that this entry is free and clear of **ALL** drug and chemical residue withdrawal and elimination time periods.
- **Animal/Exhibitor Disqualification:** To foster fair competition, to provide a level playing field and to protect the safety of food, the showing of unethically fitted livestock, livestock of any ineligible age for exhibition in the class entered, and/or animals being administered unapproved drugs is strictly prohibited. Additionally, any animal that has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species is subject to disqualification if that animal tests positive for that drug upon arrival at Reliant Park. All animals must remain free and clear of all drug and chemical residues while on show grounds.
 - **Unethical Fitting:** Unethical fitting means any attempt to alter the natural appearance, conformation, musculature or weight of an animal by any unnatural means. Animals showing any signs of being unethically fitted will be disqualified.

Examples of unethical fitting include, but are not limited to the following:

 - application of any substance to any part of the animal's body, unless specifically allowed in the department rules of that species
 - use of injections
 - draining of fluids
 - bruising
 - feeding of material not conducive to the health of the animal, safety of food or marketability of its carcass
 - surgical alterations
 - artificially filling animals by stomach pumping or airing injections
- **Unapproved Drug Use:** The showing of any animal that has been administered during its life any quantity of any unapproved drug, chemical or medication is strictly prohibited. Such drugs include, but are not limited to, any diuretic, unapproved growth stimulant or other unapproved medication. Unapproved means not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for slaughter animals including animals that may be destined for human consumption.
- **Approved Drug Use:** If an animal has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species, sufficient time must have passed so that the animal does not test positive for that drug upon arrival at Reliant Park. Animals must remain free and clear of all drug and chemical residues while on show grounds. Please note that elimination time (the time it takes for no drug residue to be found in the system) is generally longer than the labeled withdrawal time for most approved drugs.
- **Animal Inspection:** As condition for participation in the Show, exhibitor must agree to submit any animal entered by the exhibitor for inspection. Exhibitor agrees to have such animal submitted to any tests requested by the Show. Exhibitor also agrees that the opinion reached by the Show or its officials as to whether such animal is unethically fitted or over age shall be final and binding without recourse against the Show or any of its officers. Further, the Show specifically reserves the right to

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have tissue, blood or urine laboratory analysis made on any animal entered for competition. The conclusions reached by the laboratory shall be final and binding without recourse against the Show or any of its officers. An exhibitor of an animal that is found to be unethically fitted, overage, and/or testing positive for any drug or medication or unapproved chemical may forfeit all rights and privileges to exhibit livestock in the future at the Show.

- **Unmanageable Animals:** The Show may disqualify any animal deemed unmanageable.
- **Nonadherence to Rules:** Any person found guilty of misrepresentation or not abiding by the Show rules will be disqualified and denied the privilege of showing in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.
- **Emergency Treatment:** If an animal requires emergency treatment while on Show grounds, only a licensed veterinarian will be allowed to administer any drug, chemical or feed additive. An exhibitor may choose a licensed veterinarian other than the official Show veterinarian, but the official Show veterinarian MUST be notified in advance and he/she MUST be present. Animals which are administered treatments with a withdrawal or extended elimination time period will be disqualified from competition. Furthermore, The Official Show Veterinarian, in agreement with Show Management, reserve the right to treat any animal if, in the opinion of the Official Show Veterinarian, it is in the best interest of the animal's health and well-being to be treated. If the Official Show Veterinarian administers treatment to an animal, and therefore uses any medication that does not meet the appropriate withdrawal and or elimination time, will be determined ineligible for competition.
- **Treatment Cost:** All treatment costs are the responsibility of the exhibitor.
- **Wholesome Meat Act:** The USDA Wholesome Meat Act applies to all market livestock. Only animals eligible for immediate slaughter may be brought onto the grounds and exhibited:
 - a. Animals must be in good health and carcasses free of drug or chemical residues.
 - b. Drug label directions for use and withdrawal periods must be followed.
 - c. If drug or chemical residues are found in tissue of carcasses, the entire carcass may be condemned.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will in no way be liable or responsible for the condition of carcasses or the sale price of the animal. In such cases, the exhibitor forfeits all rights to any and all proceeds including: Auction Price, Scholarships, Premium Awards, Market (Floor) Price and Special Awards.
- **Animal/Exhibitor Disqualification:** To foster fair competition, to provide a level playing field and to protect the safety of food, the showing of unethically fitted livestock, livestock of any ineligible age for exhibition in the class entered, and/or animals being administered unapproved drugs is strictly prohibited. Additionally, any animal that has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species is subject to disqualification if that animal tests positive for that drug upon arrival at Reliant Park. All animals must remain free and clear of all drug and chemical residues while on show grounds.
- **Disqualification/Condemnation of Animal:** “The Show practices a Zero Tolerance policy on all residue violations.” The Show reserves the right to condemn and/or disqualify any animal, either live or slaughtered, found in violation of Rule 24 of the Junior Show Rules and Regulations listed in the handbook and the exhibitor will forfeit all auction sale and/or premium money if the animal is disqualified. If an animal(s) is disqualified, the class placing will not change. A disqualified exhibitor may forfeit all rights and privileges to exhibit livestock in the future at the Show.
- **Disclaimer of Warranties:** The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo expressly disclaims any express or implied warranties (including merchantability), whether the goods or services are provided by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo or by others (such as drug testing). The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo does NOT provide security or guard services and is not responsible for the acts of third parties. Exhibitor and exhibitor's parents and/or guardians agree that the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo shall be entitled to disqualify any exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents or guardians are innocent of any wrongdoing and had no role in the administration of the drug shown by the drug test. Even if the source of the drug is unknown, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo shall be entitled to disqualify the exhibitor. Disqualification results in forfeiture of all prize money and auction proceeds.
- **Rule Infraction Database:** Each exhibitor understands and agrees that the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is entitled to report any and all rule infractions to the North American Livestock Show and Rodeo Managers Association (NALSRMA) Rule Infraction Database (RID). The exhibitor agrees that this information will be available to the membership of the NALSRMA.
- **Ultimate Care and Responsibility:** By making entry into the Show the exhibitor agrees and understands that ultimate care and responsibility for an animal(s) rest solely upon the exhibitor until such time that possession of the animal is turned over to the Show and/or its agent(s).

Visit www.rodeohouston.com to download the complete 2009 Exhibitor Handbook.