

**STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**

**Part 350 — Standards for the Conduct of Fairs**

**SECTION 350.1 Fair sponsor definition.** For purposes of this Part, a *fair sponsor* shall mean any organization that receives money from the State for the promotion of agriculture and domestic arts pursuant to article 24 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

**SECTION 350.2 No fee for 4-H, F.F.A., junior fair or school department exhibits.** No entry fee shall be charged for 4-H Club, F.F.A. and junior fair exhibits entered for competition in their own classes, or for entries in the school department.

**SECTION 350.3 Prompt full payment of awards.** All awards advertised and awarded must be paid promptly and in full, without deduction in the guise of donations or otherwise, notwithstanding any statement to the contrary or in modification thereof announced or stated in the exhibitor book.

**SECTION 350.4 No award for unworthy exhibit.** No award should be given by any judge or paid by any fair sponsor for an unworthy exhibit.

**SECTION 350.5 Award amount to attract well-balanced exhibits.** The amount of award offered in the various departments should be such as to secure well-balanced exhibits, in the light of the types of agriculture carried on in the territory served by the fair.

**SECTION 350.6 No exhibits by judges in departments they oversee.** No judges shall be permitted to enter exhibits in competition for award in the department with which they are connected.

**SECTION 350.7 Exhibits are to be plainly labeled.** All exhibits must be plainly labeled so that the full significance of the exhibits will be made clear.

**SECTION 350.8 Re-exhibition in domestic department.** No article shall be permitted to be exhibited in the domestic department if it has been previously exhibited therein, unless by official action of the board of directors of the fair sponsor.

**SECTION 350.9 Ownership of exhibits in fairs and shows.**

(a) All exhibits shall be entered in the name of the exhibit owner provided, however, that any animal exhibit entered in a youth fair, youth exhibition, or 4-H show or exhibition may be entered in the name of the exhibitor.

(b) Exhibits shall have been owned by the exhibitor for a period of at least thirty (30) days prior to entry of the exhibit provided, however, that any animal exhibit entered in a youth fair, youth exhibition or 4-H show or exhibition shall have been in the care of the exhibitor for a period of at least sixty (60) days prior to entry of the exhibit.

(c) Proof of ownership of any exhibit shall be provided by the exhibitor, upon request, to the fair sponsor.

(d) The fair sponsor may limit the number of breeds shown by any exhibitor.

\*\*\* **Washington County Fair Rule: Open & Youth Departments ownership date is June 15th.**

**SECTION 350.10 Rejection or refusal of an exhibit.** Any fair sponsor shall reserve the right to reject or refuse and to order the removal of any exhibit which, in the opinion of its board of directors, is not eligible or worthy of showing or has not met the livestock health requirements set forth in Part 351 of this Title.

**SECTION 350.11 Compliance with and enforcement of livestock health requirements.** Each fair sponsor shall comply with and enforce the livestock health requirements set forth in Part 351 of this Title.

## PREPARATION FOR THE FAIR

- **Contagious Diseases** All animals must be free from contagious disease. *Examples* of contagious diseases for which animals have been denied entry or rejected from fairs include the following: ringworm, warts, mange, sore mouth, respiratory infection and contagious hoof infections. ANY animal becoming ill during the fair shall be treated at the owner's expense by a private veterinary practitioner. Said owner is required to notify both the barn superintendent and the overall superintendent (4-H Agriculture Educator) for youth. For open class situations the barn superintendent and the fair office is to be notified. A situation report will then be filled out detailing the situation. Those details should include what measures were taken by the owner, the fair and the State Veterinarians in regard to the animal. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.
- **Animal Identification:** Animals must be uniquely identified. Acceptable identification allows positive matching of the animals to all accompanying documents including papers with laboratory test results and vaccination statements. **If a sketch or photograph is to be used for official identification of an animal, the sketch or photograph must contain the signature of the attending veterinarian and date.** Horse sketches and descriptions should reference color pattern, hair whorls, chestnuts, scars and other markings. Llama drawings, as for horses, must positively identify the individual animal. A name or a statement of color without additional distinguishing features or man made identification is not acceptable identification.
- **Follow Drug and Vaccine Withholding Times:** In order to prevent the contamination of food products, labeled withholding times should be strictly adhered to in food producing animals that have been treated with any chemical (drug) or have had vaccine administered.
- **Isolation:** In addition to the possibility that the stress of moving can result in a healthy animal becoming ill, assembling groups of animals increases the chance of exposure to contagious disease. *All animals returning from a fair or show should be isolated from the herd or flock (no direct or indirect contact) for at least two weeks after returning to the premise of origin.*
- **Proof of Vaccination:** A signed, written statement from the attending veterinarian is required as proof of vaccination. A valid animal health certificate, which has the vaccination(s) listed and is signed by the issuing veterinarian, is acceptable proof of vaccination. The date of vaccination and the name of the products used must be listed on all certificates.
- **Reasons for Fair Entrance Denial in Past Years**
  - Testing requirements not fulfilled
  - No CVI presented or animals not listed on CVI. (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection)
  - Test time constraints not met
  - Forged documents
  - Mange, Ringworm, Warts, Respiratory Disease or other contagious disease
  - Required vaccination(s) not administered
  - Vaccination time constraints not met
  - Inadequate proof of vaccination
  - Lack of or incomplete identification
  - Identification between documents varies for the same animal
  - Invalid Interstate Charts

Disease status can change. Stay informed about developing animal health issues. Fair entrance requirements may need to be modified.

Don't wait until the last moment to prepare your animal(s) for the fair. If you have any questions or comments about entrance requirements, you can contact your regional state veterinarian/veterinary technician or the NYS Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Industry, Albany, NY at **518-457-3502**