

## **IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS)**

### **CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS**

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport 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 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 animal 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. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of, consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer 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 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 laboratory, to which it is sent, is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and 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 the 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 officials 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 and 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, trainer, 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 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 of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any 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.

## 2024 RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1) **EXHIBITORS MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL® MOSAIC STEER SHOW & SALE AND THE FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL® MOSAIC SWINE SHOW AND SALE THE SAME YEAR.**
- 2) **ENTRY DEADLINE: THURSDAY, September 7, 2023 AT 3:30 P.M.**
- 3) The Florida Strawberry Festival® and the Swine Committee will not be responsible in any way for sickness or accident of any nature which may occur to exhibitor or animals during activities associated with the Florida Strawberry Festival®, nor will the Florida Strawberry Festival® Management and/or Swine Show Committee be held responsible for loss or theft of animals or implements in the Swine Show and Sale.
- 4) In the event of an Emergency (defined below) that results in the Florida Strawberry Festival Board of Directors necessarily canceling any show or sale considered a part of the "Livestock Area Events" (defined below), the Exhibitor agrees to hold the Festival harmless for any financial or other loss by the exhibitor that occurs as a result of the inability to exhibit and/or market the animal(s) or plant(s) at the Florida Strawberry Festival. The preceding statement pertains to the entire time period (prior to, during, or after the exhibit days) of the show and/or sale. Financial, or other loss, refers to financial loss due to the inability to market the animal at the Florida Strawberry Festival and to loss of premiums and awards due to the inability to exhibit the animal. "Livestock Area Events" currently includes the Swine Show and Sale, the Steer Show and Sale, the Plant Show and Sale, the Dairy Cattle Show, the Sheep Show, the Poultry Show, the Rabbit Show, the Beef Breeds Show, and events associated with the aforementioned shows and/or sales. "Emergency" refers to any National, State, Local occurrence or occurrences that results in the cancellation of Livestock Area Events normally taking place during the Florida Strawberry Festival. The cancellation may be dictated by National, State, or Local government agencies that have the authority to decree such cancellations to protect the safety of patrons and/or participants or quarantines necessary to protect animal and human health. The Board of Directors of the Florida Strawberry Festival also reserves the right to cancel any and all Livestock Area Events that, in the Board's sole discretion, threatens the health and/or safety of the patrons or participant of the event.
- 5) All exhibitors must be Hillsborough County bona-fide FFA, YLPA, or 4H Organization members and must be 8 years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- 6) All exhibitors and applicants must reside in Hillsborough County.
- 7) **Entrant shall conform to the following standards in academics (cumulative grades are not considered):**  
**INITIAL ENTRY:** At the time of initial entry the exhibitor must have received a 2.5 GRADE POINT AVERAGE FOR THE PRECEDING SEMESTER. FAILURE OF TWO (2) OR MORE SUBJECTS DURING THE PRECEDING SEMESTER WILL DISQUALIFY THE exhibitor. SEMESTER EXAMS ARE CONSIDERED IN CALCULATING SEMESTER GRADES. The preceding semester includes both 3rd & 4th nine weeks' grades and semester exam if administered. A computer-generated report card that exhibits grade for the preceding semester is acceptable evidence. If a change is made after the computer-generated report card is issued, a transcript denoting that such change has been officially recorded must be presented with the entry form. Enrollment in a "make-up" or "forgiveness" class that has not been completed PRIOR to the initial entry does not constitute an official grade change. Summer School or Virtual School Grades awarded after the end of the 2022-2023 Hillsborough County School Year may not be used in calculating grades. Only Virtual School courses concluded, and final grades recorded, during the second semester of the 2022-2023 Hillsborough County School Year will be included in the calculation of grades.  
**\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*STUDENTS MUST TAKE A COMBINATION OF 5 COURSES TO INCLUDE: VIRTUAL OR HOME-SCHOOL AND TRADITIONAL CLASSES DURING THE QUALIFYING SEMESTER. The virtual school Transcript must reflect a 2.5 or greater for all credit awarded during the second semester of the school year. A Virtual School Transcript must be provided at the same time as all other report cards. Students taking both virtual and traditional school and are less than full-time in traditional MUST include both official documents. Your Virtual School Grade Transcript must be obtained from the Data Processing Clerk from your assigned high school, signed and documented. Students enrolled in dual enrollment classes must provide proof of a 2.5 grade in each dual enrolled class at the time of weigh-in if this is one of your five required classes. All students must maintain the 2.5 GPA. The Florida Strawberry Festival assumes that the school provides accommodations for your student through district approved IEP's and 504 plans.**

- 8) No paraphernalia (other than official placing ribbons or rosettes) will be allowed to decorate swine in the Show and Sale. All exhibitors will be required to wear their youth organization's official dress (no caps, hats, or other paraphernalia allowed during the Show and Sale).
- 9) Exhibitor must be single, never have been married, and never have borne or fathered a child.
- 10) The Florida Strawberry Festival reserves the right for the total amount of lots drawn. At least 75 lots will be draw
- 11) All entries must be owned and in possession of the exhibitor on or before ear tagging in November.
- 12) Entries may be gilts or barrows. All barrows shall have been castrated and healed before tag-in date
- 13) Hogs will be tagged on November 6th , 2023, on the Festival grounds at the Carriage House (as in previous years). The hours will be from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Swine will be officially tagged at this time.
- 14) All swine are required to have official USDA animal identification at the time of ear tagging.
- 15) It is suggested that pigs weigh 30 to 60 pounds at time of tag-in. **WE WILL NOT WEIGH PIGS, ONLY TAG THEM**
- 16) Each exhibitor may enter TWO (2) pigs. However, only ONE (1) pig can be brought to the final weigh-in. Siblings may share a back-up pig with prior committee approval.
- 17) Check-in time for the Swine Show and Sale will be Wednesday, February 28th, 2024, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m
- 18) Show Box - You are limited to one SHOW BOX per family. SHOW BOX will not exceed 62" long, 30" high, and 26" wide. SHOW BOX MAY BE MEASURED UPON ARRIVAL. SHARING OF SHOW BOXES IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.
- 19) No one (to include exhibitors or their families) will be allowed to use any cooking devices to include crockpots, etc. for cooking or warming food in the Livestock Tents. Using crockpots, etc., for cooking or warming food is a fire hazard and will, at the discretion of show management or President of the Florida Strawberry Festival®, result in the disqualification of the exhibitor, removal of animal(s) and loss of premiums, award and show privileges.
- 20) Health regulations (subject to change): All swine consigned to the show will go directly to a state certified slaughter facility.
- 21) **NO HEALTH CERTIFICATE REQUIRED** Florida Department of Agriculture inspectors will inspect animal s upon arrival, and have the authority to reject animals from exhibition, if necessary, at the Florida Strawberry Festival.
- 22) In the event of government or Florida Strawberry Festival® imposed quarantine of animal(s) entered for exhibit or sale of the Florida Strawberry Festival®, the Florida Strawberry Festival® accepts no responsibility for financial, or other, loss by the exhibitor incurred as a result of the inability to exhibit and/or market the animal(s). Government refers to any City, County, State, or Federal Agency with the legal power to impose such quarantine. The preceding statement pertains to the entire time period prior to, during, or after the exhibit days) of the show and/or sale. Financial, or other, loss refers to financial loss due to the inability to market the animal at the Festival and to loss of premiums and awards due to the inability to exhibit the animal.
- 23) All entries must have an OFFICIAL USDA Animal ID. Tag must be attached to the animal at initial weigh-in & remain with the pig throughout the project. Tags that fall or are pulled out must be replaced before final weigh-in. Animals without Official USDA Animal ID will be denied.

- 24) All entries must weigh over 200 pounds. Entries should also make quality grade specifications of at least USDA No. 2 market swine. Any inferior quality swine will be sifted at weigh-in by the Sifting Committee.
- 25) After arrival at the Festival, no medications, topical or internal, may be administered to animals UNLESS it is done by a licensed veterinarian AND monitored and approved by a Swine Committee member.
- 26) Official Record Books will be kept on all animals.
- 27) All exhibitors must hold a current Youth Livestock and Show Ring Ethics (Florida State Fair) certification number :
- Ethics classes must be completed before February 1, 2024.
  - Ethics information about classes can be found at the <http://FloridaStateFairAg.com>
  - Ethics numbers are normally good for 3 fair seasons.
  - Ethics numbers are not required for initial application, but must be completed before February 1, 2024, no exceptions
  - Ethics numbers must be submitted with final record book, failure to complete will disqualify exhibitor.
- 28) After arrival at the Festival, no medications, topical or internal, may be administered to animals UNLESS it is done by a licensed veterinarian AND monitored and approved by a Swine Committee member.
- 29) Official record books will be kept on all animals.
- you will be given the official book at tag in. **MUST BE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE.**
  - Each exhibitor will be responsible for contacting by letter at least five ( 5 ) potential buyers one week in advance of the show. Copies of letters must be turned in with the record book at the time of check in.
- 30) Exhibitors must furnish feeding and watering implements and care for their animals and pens during the Festival and are responsible for their swine until notified. No feeding implements may be removed until then.
- a) Any exhibitor neglecting feed and care of their hog or failure to have someone else care for the animal will be red tagged.
- i) First Red Tag will be a warning notice,
  - ii) Second Red Tag will be \$100.00 fine,
  - iii) Third Red Tag will be \$100.00 fine and exhibitor will be disqualified and barred from competition for the following year also.
- 31) Hair should be clipped no shorter than ½” in length. Hair should be no longer than 1 – 1 ½ “ in length.
- 32) Servicing of animals in the livestock area must be done between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
- i) **NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS.**
- 33) No knives, clippers or scissors allowed -- all clipping done prior to arrival.
- 34) No powder or oil may be used in the process of grooming.
- 35) A letter of thanks must be sent to the buyer within two (2) weeks after the sale. A copy of this letter will be delivered to Show Management before payment will be made to exhibitor. Exhibitor should send a thank you letter to all add-ons. Mail or hand deliver copy of letter(s) to; Swine Show, Florida Strawberry Festival, Attn: Cala Callins, P.O. Drawer 1869, Plant City, FL 33564-1869.
- 36) It is the intent of the Festival that CHECKS will be sent to exhibitors AFTER payments for hogs and add-ons have been made. Dispersal of money to the exhibitor will be made no later than June 1st if possible. Any add-ons not received by June 1st shall not be paid to the exhibitor from the Festival, and the responsibility of collection shall be with the exhibitor. Add-ons for rejected hogs will not be collected by the Festival.
- 37) Unbecoming conduct on the part of an exhibitor or anyone associated with the exhibitor will at the discretion of management, result in disqualification of the exhibitor and require immediate removal of the swine and the exhibitor from the fairgrounds with the loss of premiums, awards, show privileges, and sale privileges. Presence of an exhibitor in the swine exhibit area during hours when the swine exhibit is closed will be considered unbecoming conduct. Exhibitors will not be allowed to stay overnight on the fair grounds.

- 38) No swill or garbage fed swine will be accepted.
- 39) No swine shall sell within ten cents (\$.10) per pound of the Grand Champion.
- a) Animals may be auctioned only 1 time. Any other financial support offered to exhibitors must be through a Strawberry Festival Addon or paid directly to the exhibitor.
- 40) Entries will be divided into classes by weight after check-in.
- 41) Swine intended for the Florida Strawberry Festival shall care for and housed by the exhibitor.
- a) Swine must be housed on exhibitors' property, unless otherwise approved by the committee chairman.
- b) Movement from the designated location must be pre-approved by the swine committee chairman.
- 42) Swine Committee members are authorized to inspect the housing and care for animals entered in the Swine Show.
- 43) Any questions or protests concerning compliance with the rules and regulations or the eligibility of an exhibitor or his/her animal must be submitted in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of check-in to Swine Show Committee. Final interpretation and administration of these rules will be vested in Show Management and the Florida Strawberry Festival and their decision will be final.
- 44) Those selected for competition who fail to appear with their hog at tag-in will forfeit the privilege of showing the following year.
- 45) Anyone participating in this contest by way of entry, hereby agrees and consents to the use of any picture of contestant in any or all publications, TV, publicity brochure, internet, etc., that the Florida Strawberry Festival® may desire.
- 46) Buyer's acknowledge that the purchase price of an animal at any Florida Strawberry Festival® livestock sale is for the purchase of the carcass only and the value thereof shall not exceed the wholesale value of the carcass purchased or one of similar quality and grade. Such value is ordinarily determined prior to the sale and generally referred to as the "resale value".