

# 2024 PROGRAM – THE BIG E

## YOUTH WORKING STEER ENTRY APPLICATION

THIS ENTRY IS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THIS PROGRAM.  
TELEPHONE 800-639-2908 E-MAIL AGINFO@THEBIGE.COM  
PRINT/TYPE ALL INFORMATION – COMPLETE EVERY LINE

**Alternate?** YES / NO **Showing Division?** JUNIOR / SENIOR  
**Is alternate Attending?** YES / NO (without team)

**PLEASE DETACH THIS APPLICATION AND SUBMIT IT TO YOUR CLUB LEADER.**  
**PRINT ALL INFORMATION - COMPLETE EVERY LINE**

NAME OF EXHIBITOR \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ TEL # \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER'S AGE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE MO \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER'S SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF ANIMALS \_\_\_\_\_ BREED \_\_\_\_\_

APPROXIMATE WEIGHT OF TEAM FOR SPACE PURPOSES \_\_\_\_\_

**(ALL ANIMALS OVER 6 MONTHS MUST BE CASTRATED AND REASONABLY HEALED)**

Please note any handicap the youth working steer member has that may require special accommodations

to participate in this program: \_\_\_\_\_

The Eastern States Exposition, and its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives and/or other officials (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Exposition"), and each owner and/or exhibitor, and each of their respective employees, agents, representatives and/or other associates; and, in the case of minor exhibitors, their respective parents or guardians, and each of their respective employees, agents, representatives and/or other associates (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Participants"), hereby agree with the responsibilities and acknowledge liability as follows: At no time shall the Exposition assume care, custody or control of any animals, livestock and/ or other personal property of any Participant. At all times the Participants shall have full control, custody and will care for, feed and keep safe their animals, livestock and other personal property all in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Exposition and the show management ("Management"). In no case will the Exposition or Management be responsible for any loss, injury or damage to any animal, or loss, injury or damage done by or arising from any animal exhibited by any Participant. Participants shall indemnify and hold harmless the Exposition from and against any and all damages, losses, costs, expenses and/or other liabilities incurred including, but not limited to, any and all consultant fees, legal fees and/or court costs, Exposition and/or Management labor costs and expenses as well as all cost and expenses related to blood, tissue, urine, milk or carcass sampling and testing incurred as a result of any Exposition rule or regulation violation, including, but not limited to unethical fitting, udder tampering, filling, illegal or non-approved use of drugs, medication and/ or prohibited substances in connection with Participant's involvement in any Exposition sponsored event.

A signed entry form shall serve as the Participant's agreement to comply with all rules and regulations contained within this document and all other Exposition mailings and/or postings, including, without limitation, the International Association of Fairs and Expositions ("IAFE") Code of Ethics, the National Show Ring Code of Ethics as approved by the North American Livestock and Rodeo Managers Association, The Purebred Dairy Cattle Association Show Ring Code of Ethics, International Lama Registry ("ILR") Show Division Handbook and the Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association ("AOBA") Show Division Handbook (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Rules and Regulations"). Any unsigned entry will be returned with any accompanying payment. The signed entry form certifies that each signing Participant has read, understands and agrees to abide by all of the foregoing Rules and Regulations.

If the Participant is a minor, the Participant's parent or guardian must sign the entry form acknowledging they have read the Rules and Regulations and agrees to observe and abide by all such Rules and Regulations. Each such parent or guardian further acknowledges that they have read and explained this Agreement to the Participant and explained and cautioned the Participant with respect to the penalties for use of prohibited substances, unethical fitting and tampering with livestock.

I/WE HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE AFOREMENTIONED RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION CONTAINED IN THIS AGREEMENT, AND CERTIFY TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THAT ALL ANIMALS ENTERED IN ANY EVENT FOR WHICH I AM A PARTICIPANT SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL SUCH AFOREMENTIONED RULES AND REGULATIONS

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF YOUTH MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF CLUB/ GROUP LEADER

**\*ALL** Signatures MUST be completed before entry will be accepted. Entries are due **August 25, 2024. This deadline will be enforced.**

# **2024 RULES FOR THE YOUTH WORKING STEER ACTIVITY**

1. **ELIGIBILITY** - This program is open to all qualified Steer Club members over 10 years of age as of January 1 (Please note: Age limit is 12 years of age in New Hampshire, and 11 years of age in Vermont). Quotas per state are as follows: Connecticut/Rhode Island 8-9, Maine 8-9, New Hampshire 2-3, and Vermont 1-2 pair. Massachusetts 3-4. Each member participating is required to contribute \$30 by either soliciting sponsorships or by direct cash contribution. Sponsors will be listed in the catalog. These funds are used to buy trophies and other items not covered by Eastern States Exposition.
2. **ATTENDANCE** - Members and animals must arrive AT THE MALLARY COMPLEX of Eastern States Exposition between 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, September 20 and will be released upon completion of the Awards Ceremony on Monday, September 23. ALL EXHIBITORS MUST REMAIN ON THE FAIRGROUNDS FROM ARRIVAL ON FRIDAY UNTIL RELEASED ON MONDAY and must vacate the barn as soon as possible after dismissal by the superintendent.
3. **HOUSING AND MEALS** - Eastern States Exposition will provide housing and meals for Youth Working Steer members and authorized chaperones, authorized barn personnel, and leaders at the 4-H Dormitory (Horace Moses Building). Adult chaperones must be provided for both boys and girls.
4. **CAMPER POLICY**—Please see 4-H and YWS Camper Policy page
5. **INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CONDITION** - Members must obtain from the Eastern States YWS Website, a health form to be filled out and signed by parents or guardians. This procedure gives permission for medical personnel to administer medical treatment, if necessary to do so.
6. **SHOW RING DRESS ATTIRE** - Plain white colored shirts (no writing), green or khaki pants.
7. **PASSES** - Three personal and two auto passes will be provided to each participant for getting their exhibits and themselves on and off the grounds and will be mailed after entry. Additional passes for family members may be purchased in advance through the Agriculture Office. Please call (413) 205-5011.
8. **BEDDING AND HAY** Eastern States Exposition will provide bedding and hay for cattle while at The Big E.
9. **ANIMAL HEALTH** - Please see the Massachusetts Dept of Animal Health regulations page.
10. **DISPLAY** - No decorating other than kick boards, utensil holders, or educational exhibits will be allowed.
11. **REQUIREMENTS** - All animals must have horns and if over 6 months of age, must be castrated to be eligible.
12. **ONLY EXHIBITORS ARE ALLOWED TO WORK ON THEIR OWN ANIMALS WHILE ON THE FAIRGROUNDS.** AFTER INITIAL SET-UP, NO ADULTS ARE ALLOWED TO WORK ON DISPLAY OR ANIMALS. This is to include feeding animals and cleaning out animals. Exhibitors must perform in all scheduled classes for Youth Working Steers. Exhibitors are encouraged to work together to present a nice display of the entire working steer area.
13. **Cattle must be hitched with face halters- STRAPS ARE ENCOURAGED BE USED BUT ONLY AS A SECOND METHOD OF HITCH ALONG WITH THE FACE HALTERS**
14. Whip and lash, goad sticks, or buggy whips may be used - stick not to be more than 4 ft long and ½ inch diameter on the small end. Leaders please take notice and address your teamsters if this is an issue.
15. **PULLING SPECIFICS** - In senior (14 years and older as of January 1 of the current year) pulling competition, the drag will not be loaded in excess of 60% of the animal's weight with consideration given to size and age of animals. In junior (10 years to 13 years old by January 1 of the current year) pulling competition, the drag will not be loaded in excess of 50% of the animal's weight with consideration given to size and age of animals.
16. **YOKES** - If a participant uses a certain style yoke for one class, the same style yoke must be used for all three classes. This may include a neck yoke, head yoke or sliding yoke.
17. **SAFETY** - If the judge sees something going wrong, the judge should stop the teamster, but judge them accordingly. If the judge doesn't see it happening due to writing notes, etc. the superintendent should say something to the judge. The safety of the teamsters and cattle are paramount.
18. **TIE- BREAKERS** - In the event of a tie for any award, the following events will be used as needed: cart class; drag class; top three teamsters; fitting and showmanship.
19. **LOSS OR DAMAGE** - All exhibits will be under the direction of Eastern States Exposition Management, who will exercise every reasonable care in the protection of exhibits. In no case will Eastern States Exposition or management be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any loss, injury or damage to any animal; or loss, injury or damage done by or arising from any animal exhibited by him/her and shall indemnify Eastern States Exposition against legal or other proceedings in regard thereto.

## **HERDSMANSHIP SCORING CRITERIA**

The following will be taken into consideration:

1. Cleanliness of stalls and animals
2. Promptness in having stalls cleaned by 9 a.m.
3. Neat arrangement of equipment of feed and tack area
4. Personal appearance of herdsman
5. Observance of rules and regulations (fire codes, animal health)
6. Cooperating with officials (within the ring and in the barn)
7. Interaction with the Public (politely and willingly answers all questions asked by public)
8. Agricultural Education (creative and well thought-out educational exhibits)

# **2024 YOUTH WORKING STEER SCHEDULE**

## Friday, September 20

- 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. All Working Steer members arrive via Gate 1 & 10 to be stabled in the Mallary Complex then check into the 4-H Moses Dormitory.
- 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Supper - Moses Cafeteria
- 7:15 - 8:00 p.m. Parent/Guardian only meeting in upstairs Exhibitor Lounge
- 8:00 p.m. Leaders & Teamsters only Orientation in upstairs Exhibitor Lounge  
Ice Cream Social in stall area
- 10:30 p.m. All members must be in the 4-H Dormitory

## Saturday, September 21

- 6:30 - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast - Moses Cafeteria
- 8:00 a.m. Weigh-in - Scales
- 10:00 a.m. Meet with Judge upstairs-leaders and teamsters only
- 11:30 - 1:00 P.M. Lunch - Moses Cafeteria
- 6:00 - p.m. Junior Fitting and Showing Contest - Mallary Arena 1
- To Follow Senior Fitting and Showing Contest - Mallary Arena 1  
10:30 p.m. All members must be in the 4-H Dormitory

## Sunday, September 22

- 6:30 - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast - Moses Cafeteria
- 11:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch - Moses Cafeteria
- 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. Senior/Junior Performance on Cart - Mallary Arena 1
- 10:30 p.m. All members must be in the 4-H Dormitory

## Monday, September 23

- 6:30 - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast - Moses Cafeteria
- 8:00 - 12:00 noon Senior/Junior Performance on Cart (Continued if needed)  
Senior and Junior Pulling - Coliseum
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Working Steer Awards Ceremony - Coliseum
- 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch - Moses Cafeteria

Releases will be issued following completion of activities

#### **4-H CAMPER POLICY:**

1. Camper spaces are reserved for those serving in an official capacity with their state 4-H program at The Big E. Three camper spots are allotted per state per animal activity. Each state will provide to ESE the names and responsibilities of each person they are requesting receive a camper space reservation. This one list from each state will be provided to the Agriculture office by August 15 of each year. If not postmarked or received by August 15, ESE reserves the right to use these spaces for other purposes. The following methods of communication are acceptable:

- a. US Mail ESE Ag Office 1305 Memorial Ave W.Spfld, MA 01089
- b. Email [aginfo@thebige.com](mailto:aginfo@thebige.com)

**Please Note: Lists will not be accepted via the telephone!**

2. Camper spaces in the Mallary Agriculture Complex area and the area designated for the 4H Horse Committee are assessed a \$20/Day.
3. Spaces reserved for the 4H Horse Committee in the Horse Show Camper Lot will be allocated by the 4-H Horse Committee Chair.
4. No cars, trucks or other non-camper vehicles are allowed to be used as overnight accommodations on the grounds of The Big E. Any vehicles used in this manner will be towed.
5. More information is available regarding the availability of camper parking spaces for parents and non-official personnel in our public parking lot. For specific information regarding public parking camping and pricing, please email us at [aginfo@thebige.com](mailto:aginfo@thebige.com).
  - a. Members, chaperones, parents or club leaders not serving in an official capacity are encouraged to contact the Admissions Department of The Big E at (800)639-2908 regarding camper space availability in Lot 9. **RESERVATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**
  - b. Eastern States Exposition does not encourage the use of tents due to their possible placement near moving vehicles in our public parking lot. Persons wishing to use canvas-sided/pop-up/tent campers must tell the Parking Attendant upon entering the parking area so they may be directed to the designated areas. For specific information, please contact the Admissions Department of The Big E at (800)639-2908.
  - c. No tents are allowed in the Mallary Agriculture Complex parking area.
  - d. Any persons using canvas-sided/pop-up/tent-type campers will be required to sign a waiver accepting all responsibility for any theft, safety and/or personal liability.
  - e. Management reserves the right to refuse access, and is not responsible for accidents or personal loss, injury or damages to any property.

#### **EMERGENCY PROTOCOL (SEE SPECIFIC LOCATIONS)**

- Fairgrounds in general  
In the case of a major emergency on the fairgrounds, all 4-H members, leaders and chaperones are to report to the front lawn of their respective state buildings along the Avenue of States and remain there until released by the 4-H Dormitory Supervisor. In the case of an active shooter seek safety immediately until instructed to do something else by an official security detail. Upon all clear please report to the Moses Dorm or Mallary, whichever one you are closest to.
- Mallary Complex and New England Center  
In case of emergency on the fairgrounds, all 4-H members, leaders and chaperones participating in activities in the Mallary Complex or New England Center should follow the instruction of Eastern States Exposition personnel or staff given through announcements and if possible stay in a group with their volunteer leaders.
  - ▶ **Emergency contact telephone numbers**
    - **413-205-5011 Agriculture Department**
    - **413-205-5185 Moses Dormitory Office**
    - **413-205-5555 Big E Police—24 Hour**
    - **Do not call 911.**

#### **4-H CAMPER POLICY:**

1. Camper spaces are reserved for those serving in an official capacity with their state 4-H program at The Big E. Three camper spots are allotted per state per animal activity. Each state will provide to ESE the names and responsibilities of each person they are requesting receive a camper space reservation. This one list from each state will be provided to the Agriculture office by August 15 of each year. If not postmarked or received by August 15, ESE reserves the right to use these spaces for other purposes. The following methods of communication are acceptable:
  - a. US Mail ESE Ag Office 1305 Memorial Ave W.Spfld, MA 01089
  - b. Email                    aginfo@thebige.com

**Please Note: Lists will not be accepted via the telephone!**

2. Camper spaces in the Mallary Agriculture Complex area and the area designated for the 4H Horse Committee are assessed a \$20/Day.
3. Spaces reserved for the 4H Horse Committee in the Horse Show Camper Lot will be allocated by the 4-H Horse Committee Chair.
4. No cars, trucks or other non-camper vehicles are allowed to be used as overnight accommodations on the grounds of The Big E. Any vehicles used in this manner will be towed.
5. More information is available regarding the availability of camper parking spaces for parents and non-official personnel in our public parking lot. For specific information regarding public parking camping and pricing, please email us at aginfo@thebige.com.
  - a. Members, chaperones, parents or club leaders not serving in an official capacity are encouraged to contact the Admissions Department of The Big E at (800)639-2908 regarding camper space availability in Lot 9. **RESERVATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**
  - b. Eastern States Exposition does not encourage the use of tents due to their possible placement near moving vehicles in our public parking lot. Persons wishing to use canvas-sided/pop-up/tent campers must tell the Parking Attendant upon entering the parking area so they may be directed to the designated areas. For specific information, please contact the Admissions Department of The Big E at (800)639-2908.
  - c. No tents are allowed in the Mallary Agriculture Complex parking area.
  - d. Any persons using canvas-sided/pop-up/tent-type campers will be required to sign a waiver accepting all responsibility for any theft, safety and/or personal liability.
  - e. Management reserves the right to refuse access, and is not responsible for accidents or personal loss, injury or damages to any property.

#### **EMERGENCY PROTOCOL (SEE SPECIFIC LOCATIONS)**

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In case of emergency on the fairgrounds, all 4-H members, leaders and chaperones participating in activities in the Mallary Complex or New England Center should follow the instruction of Eastern States Exposition personnel or staff given through announcements and if possible stay in a group with their volunteer leaders.
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    - **413-205-5555 Big E Police—24 Hour**
    - **Do not call 911.**

OFFICE OF  
THE  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF



44 VAN DEENE AVENUE  
Tel: (413) 263-3220  
Fax: (413) 736-0087

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01089

*Updated January 2024*

**2024 Fire Prevention Regulations  
for Exhibit Halls / Temporary Structures / Agricultural Events**

1. Smoking is prohibited inside any building or temporary structure
2. Aisles shall be a minimum of 10' in width and remain free of obstructions at all times
3. All exits and fire lanes shall remain unobstructed and free at all times per 527 CMR 1.00
4. All fire alarm pull stations, fire extinguishers, sprinkler heads and any other fire protection devices or equipment shall be free and clear of obstructions and readily visible per 527 CMR 1.00
5. All columns marked with a red band at the top (indicating a fire extinguisher location) shall not be obstructed or obscured from view
6. No signs, decorations, or products shall be attached to any part of the automatic fire sprinkler system
7. All decorations, fabric used as backdrops and / or table coverings must be flame retardant
  - a. Use of spray flame retardant is acceptable (NFPA 701 testing standards)
8. All tents (i.e. "pop-up tent") must have flame retardant ratings
  - a. No vendor shall set up more than (2) 10' x 10' tents next to each other without a 10' space in between
9. All lighting / electrical mechanisms shall have a UL label
  - a. Extension cords must be proper wire gauge (AWG) for the load connected
  - b. Home extension cords are prohibited
10. Electrical devices shall not be left unattended
  - a. Displays utilizing lights / electrical mechanisms shall be shut-off or unplugged at the end of the event day

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11. Flammable liquids and gases (propane, butane, etc.) are not permitted within buildings
12. Non-flammable gas cylinders shall be supported by metal stands / a proper chain
13. Any motorized engine (automobile, truck, motorcycle, RV, ATV, etc...) shall have the positive battery lead disconnected / taped [527 CMR 1.00 Ch. 20.1.5.5.4.12.2]
14. All fuel tank openings shall be locked and sealed (taped) to prevent escape of vapors
  - a. Fuel tanks shall not contain in excess of  $\frac{1}{2}$  their capacity or in excess of 10 gallons (whichever is less) [527 CMR 1.00 Ch. 20.1.5.5.4.12.1]
15. Keys are not permitted to be within the ignition [527 CMR 1.00 Ch. 20.1.5.5.4.12.3]
  - a. Vehicles may operate off of shore power only
16. Vehicle engines are not permitted to be started / run at any time within a building while occupied by the public [527 CMR 1.00 Ch. 20.1.5.5.4.12.5]
17. Lithium-ion (Li-Ion) batteries (on display) must not be stored in excess quantities according to the Deputy Chief of Fire Prevention
  - a. Approval required from WSFD Fire Prevention Office prior to setup
  - b. Li-ion batteries in larger quantities for sale shall be stored outside of structures at least 10' from a building
  - c. Li-ion batteries on display shall be inspected and protected from potential damage
  - d. Li-ion batteries on display shall not be left unattended while charging / in-use
18. Electric vehicles, which contain Li-ion batteries must adhere to the following
  - a. Electric vehicles shall not be moved during exhibit hours
  - b. Manufacturer's recommendations must be adhered to when concerning the length of battery use
  - c. Carbon monoxide alarms must be present within 10' of electric vehicle use
  - d. Electric vehicles must be stored within 10' of overhead roll-up doors (to facilitate rapid removal if on fire)
  - e. Electric vehicles are prohibited to be stored within 25' of building systems or services (i.e. electrical room, sprinkler room, etc..)

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19. Live trees, baled hay / straw, corn stalks, and vegetation shall be watered daily
  - a. Approval required from WSFD Fire Prevention Office prior to setup
  - b. The use of burlap is prohibited
20. Home and garden events, where bark mulch is an integral part of vendor business (landscape contractors, garden center distributors etc...) and the display is readily available as landscape or garden center exhibit, may use bark mulch under the following conditions:
  - a. Contained behind masonry or other non-combustible retaining wall
  - b. No more than 3" in depth
  - c. Shall be sprayed with water daily, before / after the event (must be kept damp)

Thomas Kane  
Deputy Chief, Fire Prevention  
(413) 263 - 3384 direct  
[fireprevention@townofwestspringfield.org](mailto:fireprevention@townofwestspringfield.org)

Christopher Bartone  
Chief  
(413) 263 - 3226 direct  
[cbartone@townofwestspringfield.org](mailto:cbartone@townofwestspringfield.org)



# 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.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources  
100 Cambridge Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02114  
www.mass.gov/agr



Maura T. Healey  
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll  
LIEUTENANT  
GOVERNOR

Rebecca L. Tepper  
SECRETARY

Ashley E. Randle  
COMMISSIONER

### 2024 Animal Health Rules for Fairs and Shows

#### Special Notes:

Due to the continuing outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in birds in the United States, Animal Health Officials from all six New England States may recommend postponing competitions, exhibitions, shows, swaps, or other in-person events encouraging the gathering or comingling of domestic fowl or poultry. If events are held, best practices for biosecurity should be implemented.

The virus that causes HPAI in birds, H5N1 influenza, has also been detected in lactating dairy cattle in 12 states as of May 24, 2024, all outside of New England. As a precaution, all lactating dairy cattle moving interstate are subject to additional pre-movement testing and documentation requirements, and some fairs and shows may prohibit their entry onto show grounds. Please see the "Cattle" section below for more information.

*NO animal will be admitted to the fairgrounds unless it meets the requirements below. NO animal is to be unloaded or enter a barn or tie-out stall until the animal and its paperwork have been inspected and approved for entry.*

In addition to complying with all laws and regulations governing animal health issues all fairs must adopt and enforce the following rules for governance for the fair:

**A. General Rules for All Animals: See M.G.L. c. 128 §2C, 129 §2**

1. All animals must be in proper physical condition, be properly identified and free of visual evidence of infectious, contagious or parasitic disease at time of arrival. Specific diseases and conditions which will disqualify an animal for entry are identified for each species in the following sections of the rules. Animals of any species with open or draining wounds will not be approved for entry.
2. Evidence of infectious, contagious or parasitic disease or failure to produce the necessary documents for health certification, vaccination or testing will result in the animal's rejection for entry. **THE INSPECTOR'S DECISION IS FINAL.**
3. 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, 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.

4. **Official ID: See Final Rule: Summary of Traceability for Livestock Moved Interstate (Summary of general requirements by species)**

All livestock must have proper official, individual ID as required and approved for the species, e.g., official metal ear tag, tattoo, scrapie tag, or microchip. Registration forms must accompany health certificates when used as part of official identification.

5. **Health Certificates: --**

**One Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (OCVI) may be allowed for animals of the same species to be exhibited at fairs or shows in any of the New England states (\*CT, \*ME, MA, \*\*NH, RI, and \*\*\*VT) when submitted with an itinerary of the dates and locations of the events at which the listed animals are expected to be shown. Only animals that are healthy at the time of shipment may be moved.** Note that \*CT, \*ME, \*\*NH, and \*\*\*VT have additional requirements. Certificates of veterinary inspection in these states are valid for a shorter period of time and may have additional language, movement and permit requirements.

For the 2024 Show and Fair Season, livestock animals being exhibited in New England states must have official certificates of veterinary inspection (OCVIs) that meet the following requirements:

- a. **MA and RI:** OCVIs issued on or after **January 1, 2024**, may be used for those animals being shown at multiple fairs and shows in **MA**, and RI through the 2024 show/fair season ending October 31, 2024.  

MA -Notes: **The Big E Fairgrounds** in West Springfield requires an Infectious Disease Waiver (provided by The Big E) for all **equines** entering the premises for any show, fair, or exhibition. All Bovines must have official RFID tags.
- b. **CT and ME:** An importation permit for exhibition animals is also required. *Contact CT Dept. of Agriculture (860-713-2504) or ME State Veterinarian's Office (207-287-3701) for permits or questions.*
- c. **NH:** \* \* NH: To qualify for the extended CVI, animals exhibited in NH must originate in a New England state and move on OCVIs issued on or after April 1, 2024, to participating NH fairs and shows from **July 1 to October 31. The extended CVI is not available for animals that do not reside in New England.** *Contact NH State Veterinarian's Office (603) 271-2404 for details and permits.*
- d. **\*\*\*VT:** *Contact the VT Animal Health Office (802-828-2421) for specific import requirements that deviate from the general information in this letter and must be met for legal import of livestock.*
- e. A single OCVI from the animals' home state may be completed for travel to and from the New England states in which the animals will be exhibited. *MA animals being shown ONLY in MA may substitute a signed, dated letter on the letterhead of an accredited veterinarian for an OCVI if all required information is included and all additional requirements are met.*
- f. Multiple animals of the same species may be listed on one health certificate with appropriate individual IDs and descriptions. Animals of different species may not be listed on the same official health certificate.
- g. **An itinerary of the names and locations for each New England fair or show at which owner expects to show the listed animals and the dates when each animal is expected to be on each site, must be prepared by the owner and presented to the veterinarian at the time the OCVI is written.**
  - i. **A copy of this planned itinerary must be attached to the official health certificate (import and export) for it to be used for more than one fair or show.**
  - ii. That proposed list should be signed by the veterinarian and the owner/ exhibitor and reference the relevant OCVI number(s).
- h. The name and address of the first show or fair where the listed animals will be exhibited is to be used as the "destination" on the OCVI form. In addition, "See attached list" or a similar statement directing Animal Health Officials or Fair Inspectors to the attached proposed itinerary must be included.

- i. Exhibitors must keep an accurate list of the show locations and dates when their animals were present on show/ fair grounds. This record must be available to fair inspectors at each inspection and check-in.
- j. Any animal listed on an OCVI that becomes sick must remain home. If the animal is refused entry to any exhibition during 2024 for health reasons it must have a new health certificate issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days of the next interstate movement.
- k. Any New England state may end their participation in this agreement and revert to the standard published requirements for livestock imports in the state at any time, in the event of foreign animal disease outbreak or changes to state legislation.

All petting zoos are required to have a USDA APHIS Exhibitor's License (as needed) and valid 2024 health certificates.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH SPECIES ARE LISTED BELOW**

**B. Cattle: See M.G.L. c. 129 §§2, 39 and 330 CMR 4.04(2).**

**Updated May 24, 2024:**

**Please be advised that the above guidance does not apply to Lactating Dairy Cattle moving interstate for purpose of showing or exhibition. Lactating Dairy Cattle are subject to the Federal Order requiring a negative test for Avian Influenza and an Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (OCVI) written by an accredited veterinarian in the state of origin within 7 days of movement. This is an evolving situation. Changes to these requirements will be published as they become available. Fairs and shows may elect to prohibit lactating dairy cattle from entering the show premises.**

1. **TB and Brucellosis testing is not required for animals from TB-Accredited and Brucellosis-Free States** and in-state animals. Current brucellosis and TB status in the exhibitor's state can be obtained from the state veterinarian's office in each state. If the exhibitor's state is not TB-Accredited or Brucellosis-Free, then the exhibitor must call the Massachusetts Division of Animal Health for entry requirements (617-626-1795 or 857-348-3922). All animals must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases and conditions: foot rot, mange, pinkeye, ringworm, warts, cowpox and open or draining wounds.
2. While not required, it is strongly recommended that all cattle be currently vaccinated against rabies.
3. Note: ***The Big E is requiring RFID official identification tags for all cattle entering the Big E Fairgrounds premises in 2024. Other fairs may add this requirement. Contact fair office with questions.***

**C. Poultry: See M.G.L. c. §§2, 129, and 330 CMR 5.02.**

1. No poultry will be admitted to a fairground until it has been individually inspected.
2. All poultry must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases: infectious bronchitis, coryza, pullorum-typhoid, fowl-pox, external parasites and laryngotracheitis.
3. Each bird must be accompanied by written proof (ID card or test report) that the breeding flock was blood- tested negative for pullorum-typhoid within one year prior to entry date.
4. Birds from quarantined states will not be permitted entry.
5. All birds over 16 weeks of age as of January 1, 2024 shall be individually leg banded with a state leg band. This includes out-of-state exhibitors.
6. No bird vaccinated for laryngotracheitis within thirty days of the fair will be admitted.

- D. Goats: See M.G.L. c. 129 §2, 9 CFR 79.6 and Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHO-06.**
1. **TB and Brucellosis testing is not required for animals from TB-Accredited and Brucellosis-Free States** and in-state animals.
  2. All goats and kids presented, regardless of age, must be individually listed and identified on the health certificate. All goats must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases and conditions: foot rot, mange, pinkeye, ringworm, warts, pox and open or draining wounds. All goats must also be free of soremouth and scrapie exposure.
  3. Based on the Federal Scrapie Eradication Program (FSEP), goats and sheep of any age or sex brought to show or exhibition from either out of state or within state must possess a USDA official individual identification tag or registry tattoo accompanied by current registration papers consistent with the requirements of the FSEP and the Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHO-06. Information is available from USDA-APHIS at 508-363-2290.
- E. Camelids (Llamas, Alpacas, etc.): See M.G.L. c. 129 §2, M.G. I. c. 131, §23 ,321 CMR 9.02**
1. **TB and Brucellosis testing is not required for animals from TB-Accredited and Brucellosis-Free States** or for in-state animals. Current brucellosis and TB status in the exhibitor's state can be obtained from the state veterinarian's office in each state. If the exhibitor's state is not TB-Accredited or Brucellosis-Free, then the exhibitor must contact MDAR for an entry permit.
- F. Swine: See M.G.L. c. 129 §14E, 330 CMR 11.04(2), 9 CFR 71.19**
1. All swine must be identified by an official ear tag or registration.
  2. Swine must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases and conditions: erysipelas, atrophic rhinitis, mange, and open or draining wounds.
  3. No person shall import into Massachusetts from outside the state any swine which have been pseudorabies vaccinated. M.G.L. c. 129 §14E.
  4. All swine shall originate from qualified pseudorabies-free herds or monitored herds in qualified pseudorabies free States only. The pseudorabies status of the exhibitor's state can be obtained from the state veterinarian's office in each state.
- G. Sheep: See 9 CFR 79 and Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHO-06.**
1. No sheep will be allowed entry from flocks in which Scrapie has been diagnosed or in which animals are under surveillance for Scrapie during the previous eighteen months. Based on the Federal Scrapie Eradication Program (FSEP), goats and sheep of any age or sex brought to show or exhibition from either out of state or within state must possess a USDA official individual identification tag or registry tattoo accompanied by current registration papers consistent with the requirements of the FSEP and the Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHO-06. Information is available from USDA-APHIS at 508-363-2290.
  2. No sheep will be permitted entry from flocks in which soremouth has existed or in which soremouth Vaccine has been administered in the previous sixty (60) days.
  3. Sheep must be free from visual evidence of foot rot, sore mouth, pink eye, ringworm, and open and draining wounds. While not required, it is strongly recommended that sheep be currently vaccinated against rabies.
- H. Equine: M.G.L. c. 128 §§2C, 44 , 330 CMR 16.05.**
1. All equines entering a Massachusetts fairground must have a valid health certificate.
  2. All equines must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases and conditions: mange, ringworm, soring, strangles, and open or draining wounds.
  3. All equines originating from both within and outside of the Commonwealth must have a negative USDA-approved EIA test (i.e., Coggins test or ELISA test) dated within twelve months of entry.
  4. While not required, it is *strongly recommended* that all equines be vaccinated for rabies, tetanus, EEE and NV within one year of the fair.

**I. Rabbits: See M.G.L. c. 129 §2**

Rabbits must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases: rabbit hemorrhagic Disease Virus 2(RHDV2), snuffles, wet tail, and skin and ear infections. Microchips may be used for ID in rabbits originating in MA.

**J. Dogs and Cats: See M.G.L. c. 129 §39G**

1. All dogs and cats must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases: kennel cough, distemper, hepatitis, parvo, ringworm and mange.
2. All dogs and cats must be accompanied by a valid and current vaccination certificate for rabies.

Contact the Massachusetts Division of Animal Health at 857-348-3922 or 617-626-1795 for further information.



# EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089 • 413-737-2443

- ☎ Telephones
- ♿ Restrooms
- ♿ Handicap accessible
- ☎ TTY Telephone
- 👶 Baby Changing Station
- ★ Unisex Handicap Restrooms