

# CODE OF CONDUCT

## LEADER/PARENT/GUARDIAN/ VOLUNTEER/ASSOCIATED ADULT

The Fair's focus on youth development helps promote competency in their projects, confidence in themselves and others, connections to their community and builds sound character. Actions by persons involved will be consistent with the following six core ethical values, regardless of their affiliation or age:

**Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Fairness and Citizenship.**

Participants/Leaders/Parents/or Associated Adults (AA), will:

- Treat all people and property with respect, courtesy, consideration and compassion. Avoid and prevent put-downs, insults, name calling, swearing and other language or nonverbal conduct likely to offend, hurt or set a bad example. This includes any communication via social media platforms
- Teach and model kindness and compassion and respect for others. Recognize that all people have skills and talents which can be used to help others and improve the community. Teach and foster teamwork and discourage selfishness.
- Practice fair-mindedness by being open to ideas, suggestions and opinions of others; make all reasonable efforts to assure equal access to participation for all youth and adults regardless of race, creed, color, sex, national origin or disability. Decisions will be made fairly and treat all individuals and families with impartiality.
- Keep informed about Fair policies.
- Provide a safe environment for all parties involved, protecting them from sexual harassment, physical force, verbal or mental abuse, neglect or other harmful behaviors.
- Acknowledge that unsportsmanlike, reckless, dangerous and abusive behavior from exhibitors, spectators, parents, and/or Leaders/Advisors/Coaches will NOT BE TOLERATED and will result in their removal from the arena and potentially from the Fairgrounds. Any tampering with another exhibitor's animal is grounds for immediate disciplinary action.
- Understand that direct criticism or interference with the judge, show management, other exhibitors, superintendents, breed representatives or show officials before, during or after the competitive event is PROHIBITED. All judges, superintendents, Fair and livestock show management or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect. Leaders/Advisors/Parents will not allow any person connected with their exhibitors or child's animal project to direct abusive or threatening conduct toward any show official.
- Agree that Leader/Advisor/Parents shall use respectful language. No foul or abusive language or gestures will be tolerated.
- Outside coaching (verbal or non-verbal), while exhibitors are in the in the show ring, is strictly prohibited.

\*Associated Adult – Any parent, relative, guardian, or adult associated with a particular exhibitor.

- All AA must vacate the livestock barns by MIDNIGHT each night. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Obey laws and rules as an obligation of being a good citizen. Accept responsibility for the proper treatment and care of other youth and adults, the program facilities and/or equipment.
- Demonstrate the responsible treatment of animals and stewardship of the environment.
- Any Parent/AA whose conduct jeopardizes the health or safety of an exhibitor, animal or the public, will receive immediate disciplinary action and will jeopardize the participation of their club/chapter's exhibitors or any member of the Parent/AA's family.
- If the Parent/AA is removed from the grounds, it could jeopardize their club's exhibitors or child's opportunity to show and sell through the auction.
  - Any animal(s) belonging to an exhibitor unable to remain onsite due to the actions of a Parent/AA will be removed from Fairgrounds. Exhibitor will be given specified date and time prior to the sale to remove animal(s). Any premium points shall be forfeited.
  - RVs onsite that belong to a Parent/AA that is removed from the event shall remain onsite until 6 am Sunday following Fair.
  - No refunds will be given for any tickets purchased or other fees.

Parents/AA and/or Youth who do not abide by the above code of conduct may receive any of the following disciplinary actions:

- Be asked to explain actions to the Fair Board.
- Be dismissed from barn or Fairgrounds at own expense.
- Exhibitor may be barred from future showing at the Fair.
- Trespassed from Fairgrounds for a time period determined at the discretion of the Fair Board.
- Further disciplinary action determined by the Fair Board, which may include but is not limited to:
  - Restriction from contacting participating families, volunteers, donors and/or sponsors pertaining to any related matter, including social media.
  - Determined ineligible to attend any further Fair activities.
  - Family may become ineligible to participate in future Fairs.
  - Reimburse the proper entity for any property damage or for liability resulting from inappropriate actions.
- The examples above are not intended to be a progressive list of actions. At the Fair Board's discretion, any single violation of this code of conduct may result in maximum disciplinary action.