

# TRINITY VALLEY EXPOSITION

## Drug & Fitting Policy

Please note, when you agree to the indemnification form, that is required for entry, you are agreeing to have read and to abide by the TVE General Rules and Regulations, including the following Drug & Fitting Policy.

All animals that are shown at the TVE shall be drug free at the time the animals are checked in at the TVE grounds, and the animal shall remain drug free during the time such animals are at the TVE livestock show ("show"). Further, no animal may be shown at the TVE that has ever, during its life, been administered any quantity of an unapproved drug. The purpose of this Policy is to protect the food chain and to insure a fair competition among exhibitors. As used in this Policy, the term "drug" shall mean any drug, chemical, medication, or feed additive. The details of the Policy are set forth below:

### **A: Exhibitor's Responsibility for Any Drug Use**

The use by non-veterinarians\* of animal drugs, or other substances, in any manner other than in accordance with the labeling approved by the FDA is a violation of federal law. Exhibitor, or exhibitor's parent and/or guardian, agree that:

1. They are, absolutely, the persons responsible for the care and custody of the exhibitor's animal.
2. As a condition for participation in the Show, exhibitor agrees to submit his/her animal to any drug test required by the TVE. Animals not tested IMMEDIATELY following the conclusion of the show will be disqualified from the Auction and/or Freezer Sale and shall forfeit any/all awards given. The TVE shall be entitled to disqualify any exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug – even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents are innocent of any wrongdoing and did not administer the drug and even if the source of the drug is unknown.
3. The drug test results of the testing laboratory used by TVE shall be final and binding and without recourse by the exhibitor against the TVE, or its Directors, Officers, Managers, Representatives, Agents, or Employees.

### **B: Exhibitor/Animal Disqualification for Drug Use or Unethical Fitting**

#### **1. Unapproved Drug Use**

An exhibitor is prohibited from showing an animal that has, at any time in its life, been administered any quantity of any unapproved drug, chemical, or medication. Such drugs include, but are not limited to, any diuretic, unapproved growth stimulator, or other unapproved medication. Unapproved means not approved by the FDA and/or USDA for slaughter animals including animals that may be destined for

human consumption. All animals shown at the TVE will be subject to random drug testing as detailed below.

## **2. FDA/USDA Approved Drug Use**

All animals that are shown at the TVE shall be drug free at the time the animals are checked in at the TVE grounds ("Grounds"). If prior to check-in, an animal has been administered a drug that is FDA and/or USDA approved for that species, sufficient time must have passed, so that, the animal does not test positive for that drug at check-in at the Grounds. Stated plainly, all animals must be free and clear of all drug and chemical residues at the time the animals are checked in at the Grounds. All animals shown at the TVE will be subject to random drug testing as detailed below. Please note that elimination time is generally longer than the labeled withdrawal time for most approved drugs. Under this Policy, a drug that is not approved by the FDA and/or USDA for the specific species to which that drug is administered is an unapproved drug. Also, if an approved drug is administered by a route, in a dosage, or for a condition, that is not approved by the FDA and/or USDA, that drug, as so misused, is an unapproved drug.

## **3. Unethical Fitting**

Unethical fitting means any attempt to alter the natural appearance, conformation, musculature, or weight, of an animal by any unnatural means. Unethical fitting includes, but is not limited to, the use of injections, or feeding of any substance not conducive to the health of the animal, or that is detrimental to the safety, or the marketability, of its carcass. Unethical fitting also includes, but is not limited to, artificially filling animals by stomach pumping, injecting the animal with air, bruising, or feeding the animal beer, or other alcoholic beverages. Animals unethically fitted, or showing signs of unethical fitting, will be disqualified.

## **C. Drug Testing of Animals**

### **1. Random Drug Testing**

The Grand Champion, Reserve Champion plus one random pick from each division may be drug tested, immediately following the show. Market swine division winners will be subject to random drug testing.

Immediately after the Show for each division, the grand champion, reserve champion, all random placings and market swine division champions will be subject to drug testing.

### **2. Drug Testing After Show**

When an animal is initially drug tested, the test sample will be split into two samples; such that, if the animal tests positive on the initial drug test, the remainder of the split sample will be available for a confirming drug test ("Confirming Test"). An Exhibitor whose animal tests positive on the initial drug test can request a Confirming Test, provided however, that the Confirming Test will be conducted at the Exhibitor's expense and at a laboratory chosen by the TVE. The Exhibitor requesting such Confirming

Test must pay the TVE for the full cost of such Confirming Test, before the TVE will submit the sample to the laboratory.

## **D. Penalties for Drug Use or Unethical Fitting of Animals**

### **1. Unapproved Drug**

**Unapproved drugs are prohibited.** Unapproved means not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for slaughter animals that may be destined for human consumption. This includes the use of all products that are not FDA approved including but not limited to any diuretic, unapproved growth stimulant or other unapproved medication meant for human usage.

Any exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any unapproved drug will be disqualified and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds, and awards. The disqualification of an exhibitor will not alter the placing of the class of animals or the sale order. Further, the disqualified exhibitor, and the immediate family members of the disqualified exhibitor will be on banned for 1 year for the 1st violation and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds and awards. Should there be a 2nd violation they will not be allowed back to TVE to show and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds and awards.

### **2. Approved Drug**

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 Trinity Valley Exposition. 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.

Any exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any approved drug will be disqualified and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds, and awards. The disqualification of an exhibitor will not alter the placing of the class of animals or the sale order. Further, the Board shall have the discretion as to whether, or not, to forfeit the privilege of the disqualified exhibitor, and the immediate family members of the disqualified exhibitor, will be banned for 1 year for the 1st violation and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds and awards. Should there be a 2nd violation they will not be allowed back to TVE to show and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds and awards.

- **Zero Tolerance is based on the elimination period, rather than the withdrawal period.** There is a difference between withdrawal and elimination period. The withdrawal period is the amount of time that must pass for consumed products to safely enter the food chain. The elimination period refers to the amount of time it takes for all residue to be eliminated from an animal's system. For most drugs, the elimination period is longer than the withdrawal period.

- **Another important point to remember is that products labeled “all natural” that are not FDA approved may contain ingredients that can result in a positive test. It is your responsibility to know what ingredients are included in products labeled as “all natural”.**
- **What are common types of drugs that I may be penalized for?**
- **Antibacterial Therapeutic Medications** – Used to treat infection, these compounds don’t create a competitive advantage, but can create food safety concerns if not used according to label directions. Many are only FDA approved for particular species, meaning that extensive research has been conducted regarding the proper dosage and type of administration to be efficacious in that species as well as the withdrawal time that is necessary for meat products to be safe for human consumption.
- **Non-Antibiotic Therapeutic Medications** – Inclusive of anti-inflammatories, antipyretics, diuretics and anesthetics, these medications can result in a competitive advantage by altering the physical appearance of the animal and/or concerns with food safety. Some are available over the counter and others can only be legally sourced and administered through prescription by a licensed veterinarian. Many are only FDA approved for a particular species and use in any other species without a prescription by a veterinarian is illegal.
- **Beta-agonists** – These may cause food safety and animal welfare concerns if used in an unapproved species or not used according to the label. They also may create an unfair competitive advantage.

Please note any exceptions to the use of beta-agonists below: Zilpaterol Hydrochloride (Zilmax®) THE TRINITY VALLEY EXPOSITION WILL NOT TOLERATE THE PRESENCE OF ZILPATEROL HYDROCHLORIDE (Zilmax®) IN THE URINE OF MARKET STEERS. Further, the Show will not tolerate the presence of Zilmax® in any other market species or breeding animal.

Ractopamine Hydrochloride (Optaflexx™, Paylean®, Topmax™) The TRINITY VALLEY EXPOSITION will not be testing for the presence of ractopamine hydrochloride in steers (Optaflexx™), market swine (Paylean®). Exhibitors who choose to use these products are expected to follow all label directions. The TVE will not tolerate the presence of ractopamine hydrochloride in species, or classes within species, for which they are not FDA approved including Market Lambs, Market Goats, Commercial Heifers, Market Broiler and Market Rabbits.

### 3. Unethical Fitting of Animals

Any exhibitor found to have unethically fitted an animal shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds, and awards. The disqualification of an exhibitor will not alter the placing of the class of animals or the sale order. Further, the Board shall have the discretion as to whether, or not, to forfeit the privilege of the disqualified exhibitor, and the immediate family members of the disqualified exhibitor, will be banned for 1 year for the 1st violation and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds and awards. Should there be a 2nd violation they will not be allowed back to TVE to show and shall forfeit all prizes, sale proceeds and awards.

**4. Any exhibitor that fails to comply with the TVE Drug Policy will not be allowed to apply for any TVE Scholarship.**

### 5. Emergency Treatment of TVE Grounds

**What are best practices for a show animal that falls sick, ill, or injured leading up to the Show.**

If an animal requires emergency treatment while on the grounds, the exhibitor shall notify the Livestock Vice President prior to the treatment of the animal, and the Livestock Vice President shall witness such emergency treatment of the animal. Only licensed veterinarian will be allowed to administer any drug, chemical, or feed additive to the animal. If the drug, chemical, or feed additive is administered by the veterinarian prior to the time the animal is shown and judged at the Show, the animal will be disqualified. If the drug, chemical, or feed additive is administered by the veterinarian after the time the animal has been shown and judged in the Show, the animal will not be disqualified, but the animal must be withheld from slaughter for the full elimination time of any such drug, chemical, or feed additive administered to the animal, so that, the animal is drug and chemical free at the time of its slaughter.

- **Consult with your veterinarian.** First and foremost, consult your veterinarian. Do not administer any medications before visiting with your veterinarian. As a part of this conversation, make certain that both you and the veterinarian are aware of show rules. Carefully consider the amount of time prior to arrival at the show and assume that the elimination period is longer than the labeled withdrawal period. From there, you, your family, your supervising CEA/AST, and your veterinarian should discuss options before making the best decision.
- **Make an informed and the best decision possible.** The utmost priority should be the animal's welfare. The welfare of the animal should always take priority over competition. This could result in leaving the animal project at home.
- **Document all treatment records.** If the animal is treated with an approved drug and withdrawal times are observed, maintain official record of treatment from the veterinarian, including date of administration and dosage.

