

YAMHILL COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

2026 Yamhill County Fair Agriculture & Livestock Rules

These rules apply to all agriculture and livestock exhibitors at the Yamhill County Fair & Rodeo (YCF&R), including those participating in the 4-H and FFA shows. 4-H and FFA exhibitors are also subject to rules and regulations issued by their respective organizations.

Animal Health Rules: Livestock, Equine and small animal shows and exhibitions like the Yamhill County Fair & Event Center provide a great opportunity not only for the exhibiting animals but also provide the opportunity to educate the public about agriculture and food animal production and show animals. At the same time this also creates an environment for the potential exposure and spread of animal disease. The combination of close confinement, comingling of animals from different origins, travel-related stress, and the change in environment all increase the risk of exposure as well as potentially compromise the ability of an animal to resist disease. In addition, the increased interactions with other exhibitors and general public may contribute to potential disease exposure.

Finally, at the completion of exhibition animals returning home can serve as a source of infection for the animals at home. All these issues make the implementation of biosecurity and management practices by animal owners and exhibitors before, during, and after visiting the fairgrounds important.

Rule 1 - Diseased Animal: No animal shall be admitted to the fairgrounds that shows any evidence of communicable disease or any unsightly disease condition. No animal will be admitted from a quarantined herd or herd showing symptoms of contagious, infections or communicable disease. The management reserves the right to require health inspection and diagnostic tests to be made before or after the animals are on the Fairgrounds and may order the immediate removal from the grounds of any animal which does not meet the health requirements.

- All animals including Horses, Hogs, Sheep, Cattle, Dairy Goats, Poultry, Rabbits and Cavies with active ringworm, or with more than five (5) warts larger than a U.S. ten (10) cent piece, or other skin conditions will be refused entry to the Fairgrounds or removed from the Fairgrounds at the discretion of the veterinarian, Superintendent or the YCF&R Management.
- All sheep or goats being exhibited at the Yamhill County Fair **must have a Scrapie Tag**¹. This requirement applies to market lambs and goats as well as breeding stock. Any sheep or goat that does not have a Scrapie tag, will not be permitted to participate in the exhibition and must immediately be removed from the fairgrounds
- All sheep originating within 20 miles of a confirmed Blue Tongue outbreak will be required to have been vaccinated not less than 20 days, but not more than 18 months prior to entry.
- 4-H dogs exhibited at this year's Fair and Rodeo must have been immunized against Distemper and Rabies and have been free from any infectious illness 30 days prior to the Fair and Rodeo. A certificate signed by a veterinarian verifying your dog's health is required for the 4-H Dog Show.

Rule 2 - Vaccinations: Follow vaccination guidelines (if provided) and give vaccination(s) at least 30 days before event.

Rule 3 - Equipment: Disinfect all equipment, such as buckets, shovels, wheelbarrows, halters, lead ropes, etc., before entering the fairgrounds.

Rule 4 - Vehicles: Vehicles and trailers used to transport animals to and from the fairgrounds (private and commercial) should be well cleaned and sanitized between uses, both inside and out. Do not clean your vehicles out on the grounds unless waste products are placed in the bins provided.

¹ In limited cases, animals may be identified with a tattoo, instead of a Scrapie tag.

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Rule 5 - Comingling: Limit the mixing/commingling of species in the same trailer, at a minimum segregate in different compartments when possible.

Rule 6 - Sharing: Do not share equipment with other exhibitors unless it is cleaned and disinfected before and after use.

Rule 7 - Contact: Minimize animal to animal, animal to human contact.

Rule 8 - Water: Avoid use of communal water sources.

Rule 9 - Animal Stress: Minimize animal stress by keeping them cool (or warm depending on weather and the specific species), providing access to water, well bedded and comfortable.

Rule 10 - Dismissal of Animals from the Fair: All animals must remain on the fairgrounds until midnight closing day of the fair, unless ordered to re-move the animal based on the rules above or on recommendation of the veterinarian, or the decision of the applicable Superintendent. The Superintendent must inform the head of their organization, and the Fair Manager if an animal is to be removed.

Barns shall remain open and animal exhibits accessible to the public until the fair closes at midnight on the final day of the fair. In limited cases, a barn may be closed to the public Saturday evening after 8:00 p.m. to facilitate removal of auction animals, if approved by an assigned Fair Board member. See also General Rule 12 Exhibit Hours.

The order of dismissal shall be Auction Animals may leave first. Non-auction animals may leave at 6:00 a.m. on the Sunday after fair, or earlier if Superintendents approve, once the large auction animal trucks have departed.

The respective Leaders of 4-H and FFA shall discuss together the plan for the orderly dismissal of animals with their respective Superintendents. It must be in an orderly fashion, so as to not disrupt activities at Public Works.

Any changes or exceptions to animal dismissal timing or order must be approved by the Fair Board or their delegate. Prior to authorizing a change, to the extent practicable, the change will be discussed with the 4-H and FFA Superintendents, and the Youth Auction Committee Chair.

Rule 11 - IAFE: All exhibitors shall follow the IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics.

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IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOTIONS) 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.

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.

Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.

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IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOTIONS) CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS *cont.*

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.