

# GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION:** General Information is considered a part of National Western Stock Show General Rules and Regulations in the annual Livestock Premium Book.
2. **PREAMBLE:** Stock Show is organized and operated exclusively for educational purposes, and sponsors, produces and presents exhibitions of livestock, livestock products and the like, for children, adults, and the public. These exhibitions educate the livestock industry, members of Stock Show, and the general public in better breeding, feeding and care of livestock. Stock Show arranges for the judging and presentation of premiums, prizes, diplomas and the like, in continuation of such exhibitions and/or shows. Stock Show recognizes that the Extension Services, 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters provide a valuable education and service to school students as well as the general public. Principles of successful breeding, feeding and care of livestock are a part of this education and service. In order to encourage participation in 4-H and FFA, Stock Show includes as part of its annual stock exhibition and show, a junior livestock division (conducted under the supervision of these agencies). Stock Show makes available the opportunity for 4-H and FFA members in good standing to enter beef, lambs, goats and swine into the show. All entries are subject to these General Rules and Regulations; Junior Livestock Show Rules and Regulations; Auction of Junior Livestock Champions Rules and Regulations and all specific and/or special division rules and regulations as published in the most current National Western Stock Show Livestock Premium List, and to those rules, regulations and/or requirements for 4-H and FFA membership. This preamble is to be considered a part of National Western Stock Show General Rules and Regulations.
3. **INTERPRETATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS:**
  - A. Stock Show reserves to itself the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and to fairly and impartially settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with or incident to the Show, and the right to amend or add to these rules and regulations as its judgment may determine. A Participant who violates any of the following rules and regulations will forfeit all privileges and premiums and be subject to such penalties as Stock Show may order and such other penalties as prescribed by law.
  - B. Specific or special rules and regulations or conditions are published in each division where necessary; if there is a conflict between the specific or special rules and regulations of any division and the General Rules and Regulations; Junior Livestock Show Rules and Regulations; Auction of Junior Livestock Champions Rules and Regulations; or The National Show Ring Code of Ethics, the specific or special rules and regulations will govern.
  - C. By applying for entry, Participants agree to comply with all the rules and regulations governing National Western Stock Show as published in the Stock Show Livestock Premium List. Further these provisions include total ownership of the entry for the prescribed number of days, continuous possession and care (Junior Division) and provisions against unethical fitting, filling, and/or alteration of conformation and color of animal(s), meat tampering and illegal or non-approved use of drugs, medication and/or prohibited substance (criminal penalties for unethical fitting and alteration of livestock by tampering or sabotage or prohibited substance include up to eighteen (18) months in prison or a fine up to one hundred thousand (\$100,000.00) dollars. Refer to Section 18-9-207 Colorado Revised Statutes).
4. **ETHICS POLICIES:** All entries of any kind or character and Participants in this annual exhibition are subject to these rules and regulations, and any violations will subject Participants to such penalties as Stock Show may order and/or penalties prescribed by law.

- A. Legal Regulation:** Under Colorado Law, it is a crime to sabotage or tamper with, administer growth stimulation drugs to, or substitute unauthorized animals for exhibition livestock, pursuant to Section 18-9-207, Colorado Revised Statutes. Penalties include up to eighteen (18) months in prison or a fine up to one hundred thousand (\$100,000.00) dollars and the name and photograph of any convicted person(s) to be made available for publication in newspapers and trade journals. Under Colorado Law, a llama professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a Participant in llama activities resulting from the inherent risks of llama activities, pursuant to Section 13-21-119, Colorado Revised Statutes.
- B. Care of Animals:** The Participant themselves must see to the delivery of the animals to the appropriate department at the designated time. Participants will be required to attend to their animals (refer to Agreement of Responsibility and Liability) while on exhibition and to have them presented to the Judges when called for. Any Participant who fails to present his animal in the ring when the class is called will be barred from the competition. When any animal is being exhibited, Participant shall answer such questions as the Judge may deem essential to a correct estimate of their relative value.
- C. Conduct:** Any false representation, interference or unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of any Participant will be dealt with by Stock Show according to the equities of the case. If any Participant interferes in any way with the Judges or shows disrespect to them, or to the show, the Stock Show may withhold from such Participant any premium monies that may have been awarded, or take any other steps deemed desirable.
- D. Inhumane Treatment:** Abuse of animals in any form will not be allowed. Any violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification with no recourse.
- E. Alteration of Conformation and/or Structure by Prohibited Substance or Unethical Fitting:** Prohibited Substance and/or Unethical Fitting defined as: The injection, use, or administration of any drug that is prohibited by Federal, State, or Local Law, or any drug that is used in a manner prohibited by Federal, State or Local Law; the injection or internal or external administration of any product or material, whether gas, solid, or liquid, to an animal for the purpose of deception, including concealing, enhancing, or transforming the true conformation, configuration, color, breed, condition or age or by making the animal appear more sound than otherwise would appear; the administration, use or application of any drug or feed additive affecting the central nervous system; the administration of diuretics for cosmetic purposes, tissue manipulation, removal, surgical attachment or otherwise to change, conceal, enhance, or transform the true conformation or configuration of the animal; attaching to the hide foreign objects including hair or hair substitutes, cloth or fiber for the purpose of deception; any physical or physiological attempt to alter the natural musculature or weight by use of injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health or marketability of beef, sheep, swine or goat carcasses or for deception.
- F. Drenching:** **Drenching will be allowed with drench guns, but the use of stomach pumps is prohibited.** Violation of this rule will result in disqualification with no recourse and be subject to other sanctions. See Junior Market Lamb rule, Junior Market Goat rule, Junior Market Steers rule and Junior Market Swine rules specifically.
- G. Artificial Coloring and Fitting:** The use of any grooming material which produces artificial color that may be detected by rubbing with a cloth or glove, use of hair or hair-like substance, cloth or fiber anywhere on the animal, ineligible age or illegal substitution of animals, violates these rules and will result in immediate disqualification with no recourse. Participant must

leave the grounds immediately and be penalized \$150.00 per head. The natural color of any beef animal cannot be altered using any artificial coloring. However, products that match a beef animal's natural color may be used in the fitting process from the knees and hocks down and on the switch only. For example, black products may be used on a black-legged animal, red on a red animal, and white on a white-legged animal. But under no circumstances can color be used to cover an animal's natural leg color.

Every Participant in consideration of their entry being accepted by Stock Show, specifically represents that no animal entered therein by the Participant is misrepresented in any way except for trimming feet or blocking of hair.

Every Participant agrees to submit the entry for any inspection deemed appropriate by Stock Show, and further specifically agrees that the conclusion reached by Stock Show as to whether such animal is in violation of prohibited substance and/or unethical fitting practice shall be final and conclusive without recourse against Stock Show.

Every Participant, by entering any animal for exhibition, thereby releases Stock Show from all claims or demands whatsoever arising from any cause or happening in connection with the inspection of any such animal or any ruling or action taken by reason of the conclusion by Stock Show under terms of this rule.

**F. Prohibited Substance, Drug Testing, Sabotage, Tampering, Inhumane Treatment:**

Stock Show reserves the right to question the alteration of any animal's physical or physiological structure. As a condition of participation in the National Western Stock Show, Participant agrees to submit to Stock Show, at their discretion, any animal so entered for immediate testing. Tests may include, but not be limited to blood, tissue and urine. The Participant further agrees that the conclusions reached by Stock Show shall be final, without recourse against Stock Show. A Participant exhibiting any animal producing an analysis with a prohibited substance, sabotage, tampering, unethical fitting or inhumane practices may be barred from future competition at the National Western Stock Show. The National Western Stock Show will comply with and enforce Colorado Tampering or Drugging of Livestock Law 18-9-207. (See also Rule 26 of the Junior Livestock Show Rules and Regulations).

5. **VIOLATION OF RULES:** In the event any such animal is declared to be in violation of prohibited substance or unethical fitting as aforesaid, Stock Show may disqualify and impose such penalties, in addition to those other penalties prescribed by law:
- A. Permanently bar such animal from competition at the Stock Show,
  - B. And may bar the Participant from entering such animals, the Participant's family, representative or agents, or any or all of them from any further participation in the National Western Stock Show;
  - C. Submit name, address and action taken against Participant to other cooperating livestock exhibitions, shows and sales, affecting eligibility;
  - D. Release to media such actions;
  - E. In the event any awards, banners, premiums, prizes, ribbons and trophies shall have been awarded by Stock Show or Stock Show Sponsors to animals exhibited in violation of these rules, the Participant of such animals will, upon demand of Stock Show, immediately return to Stock Show all awards, banners, premiums, prizes, ribbons and trophies that were awarded to such disqualified animals.

- F. Participant will be liable to Stock Show and shall indemnify and hold Stock Show harmless from all damages, including but not limited to all expenses and costs for blood, tissue, urine, hide and/or carcass sampling and testing, Stock Show management labor and expenses, consultant, legal and court costs incurred as a result of violations of Stock Show rules and regulations.
- G. **Animal Disqualified:** If any exhibited animal is disqualified, no animal next in line shall move up. Only in the case of the Grand Champion animal's disqualification will advancement of the Reserve Grand Champion animal be considered. Stock Show, or such referee as may be appointed by Stock Show, may decide regarding this advancement, from whose decision there will be no appeal. All awards, banners, premiums, prizes, ribbons and trophies will be awarded to those Participants who are in full compliance with the National Western Stock Show Rules and Regulations.
- H. **National Western Livestock Sale Proceeds:** Sale checks for National Western Livestock Sales, including Auction of Junior Livestock Champions, which may be affected by initial drug testing fees for random tests for any foreign substances will be charged a prorated basis of animals shown and sold. If there is a charge for a stop test, it will likewise be prorated back to the Participant on a prorated basis. The prorated amount will be deducted from the sale proceeds of each animal after the National Western Stock Show receives the final billing of the tests. Proceeds will be issued at this time. This method of prorated deduction and distribution of sale proceeds is approved by the Packers and Stockyards Division. Proceeds from sales not affected by testing fees will be forwarded to Participants as soon after close of the Show as they can be properly processed.
6. **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:** Stock Show management reserves the right to cancel events or change scheduling if deemed necessary.
7. **ENTRY POLICY:** By submitting application for entry, Participant acknowledges they have read the National Western Stock Show Agreement of Responsibility and Liability; General Rules and Regulations; Junior Livestock Show Rules and Regulations; Auction of Junior Livestock Champions Rules and Regulations; specific and/or special division rules and regulations; The National Show Ring Code of Ethics and the Quality Assurance Certificate in accordance with the USDA Wholesome Meat Act, and agree to observe and abide by these rules and regulations. If a Participant is a minor, see Junior Livestock Show Rules and Regulations.
- A. **Entry Process:** All applications for entry must be made online through our official website at [livestockentry.nationalwestern.com](http://livestockentry.nationalwestern.com). Specific class information may be found in the current National Western Stock Show Livestock Premium List online at [nationalwestern.com](http://nationalwestern.com). Entries must be completely filled out in accordance with instructions on same and signed by appropriate parties.
- B. Participants are responsible for their own errors and those of their agents in preparation of entries. A Participant who makes a material misrepresentation subjects themselves to all sanctions.
- C. Entries must be accompanied by all fees and other sums due Stock Show or entry will not be accepted. All Canadian and International Participants must pay all fees in United States funds. Any Participant issuing a check for payment which does not clear their account for any reason will have five (5) days in which to make payment to keep entries eligible to participate in the National Western Stock Show, with a forty (\$40.00) dollar additional charge assessed each time presented to the bank.
- D. **Stall Space:** **Number of paid entries does not guarantee stall space.** Participants will only receive one (1) stall for every animal delivered to the National Western Stock Show, regardless

of the number of entries made for the show. A cow-calf pair is considered as one (1) entry; but the Participant is given two (2) stall spaces for the unit.

- E. **Stalling Requests:** All stalling requests are to be made with online entries. No stall requests are guaranteed, but will be operationally considered.
  - F. **Late Entries:** Late entries for Open, Junior Breeding Heifers, Carload and Pen Shows will be accepted until December 20, with an added late fee of \$35.00 per carload, pen or head entered. Substitutions within the same breed and same owner only will be accepted. Only one (1) substitution for original animal or entry will be allowed except for the Junior Show. Substitutions must be in writing and on file in the National Western Stock Show Livestock Office no later than December 20, 2023. Any and all substitution requests after December 20, 2023 will not be accepted.
  - G. **Cancellations and Refunds:** Cancelled "Hill"/Junior entries must be submitted in writing and received in the National Western Stock Show Livestock Office no later than December 20, 2023. Cancelled "Yards" entries must be submitted in writing and received in the National Western Stock Show Livestock Office no later than January 1, 2024. **NO ENTRY FEES WILL BE REFUNDED.** Cancellations received after deadline date will not be refunded, no exceptions. All refunds are at the discretion of Stock Show Management and will be processed after the show. No refunds will be made on accounts of less than \$10.00.
  - H. **Entry Dispute:** In all cases, Stock Show reserves the right to reject, accept, or conditionally accept any entry from any Participant in violation of any rules and regulations from any Livestock Exhibition, Show or Sale that is sponsored by or under the authority of the State or any unit of Local Government or Agricultural, Horticultural or Livestock Society, Association or Corporation. Stock Show does not guarantee space in the show barns to any entry, as it is intended that only such animals shall be entered and shown that have merit and will be a credit to both the Participant and this exposition. The Stock Show may appoint a special committee on the opening day of the show to look over the animals entered for exhibition and upon the recommendation of said committee that any animal or animals which do not have such merit as would entitle them to exhibit, Stock Show may require them removed from the grounds.
  - I. **Erroneous Entry:** Animals that have been erroneously entered may be transferred to their proper class prior to the judging upon application to Stock Show, who will appoint a committee to determine the matter upon its merits. If such classes have been judged, however, they shall not be reopened.
  - J. Stock Show reserves to itself the right to withdraw classification and prizes in any department, upon the closing of entries, where it is found the animals entered would be discreditable to the exhibition.
- 8. **OWNERSHIP OF ANIMALS:** Junior Market animals must be owned by November 1, 2023. Junior breeding animals must be the property of the owner and transferred on or before December 1, 2023. See Junior Livestock Show Rules and Regulations.
  - 9. **TIE-OUTS:** Tie-outs will be provided for cattle (except for Junior Market Steers and Catch-A-Calf). Stalls will be assigned by Superintendents as they see fit. Tie-out time is 7:00 PM daily and are limited to the assigned areas.
  - 10. **HEALTH CERTIFICATES:** **See Heath Rules and Regulations for specific requirements.** Clean CVI health certificates are required on all animals within 30 days of arrival to NWSS grounds.
    - A. **Lesions, Fungus and Disease:** Any animal that exhibits visible signs of dermatitis, lesions,

and/or fungus (ringworm), will immediately be removed from National Western Stock Show grounds. No refunds or exceptions will be made.

11. **USE OF ANIMALS FOR JUDGING CONTESTS:** All animals entered in the National Western Stock Show may be used for the 4-H, FFA and Collegiate, Intercollegiate Judging Contests and for continuing education purposes.
12. **BREED REGISTRATION AND PRACTICES:** An animal is eligible to enter or compete in the National Western Stock Show in only one (1) breed classification regardless if the animal is registered in one (1) or more breed associations or registries. Furthermore, the animal must be registered in the recognized U.S. registry for their breed classification or, if registered in the country of origin outside the U.S., the animal must be eligible for registry in the recognized U.S. registry. Each breed association shall have the sole responsibility to assure that its breed registration rules, regulations, procedures, and/or other communications including by way of illustration but not limitation, those relating to percentages of permitted cross breeding, are providing reasonable information to all parties relying upon its breed registration programs and to avoid any deceptive practices and/or unlawful conduct whatsoever. Each Association shall further indemnify, save and hold Stock Show and the City and County of Denver harmless against any and all losses, claims, costs and/or expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees and expenses and court costs, resulting from any loss or any claims or legal action of any nature whatsoever, whether or not reduced to judgment, for any liability of any nature whatsoever that may arise against Stock Show relating in any way to the development and/or implementation of the breed association's breed registration rules, regulations and/or procedures.
13. **GROUP CLASSES:** Individual animals that are shown in any group classes must first have been entered and shown in one (1) of the classes for single animals.
14. **TIE-OUTS:** Tie-outs will be provided for cattle (except for Junior Market Steers and Catch-A-Calf). Stalls will be assigned by Superintendents as they see fit. Cattle will not be removed to tie-outs until 7:00 p.m. daily and are limited to the assigned areas. Any Participant failing to abide by these rules may be disqualified and all premiums withheld at the discretion of Stock Show.
15. **UTILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:**
  - A. **Electrical: In the Yards** - Leave the heavy lifting at home, we've got you covered! Power is provided with all Yards entries and therefore, no generators are needed or permitted in The Yards. Each Day Pen (24' x 32') will be supplied with 6, 20-amp outlets (all independent circuits) and a switch box. Exhibitors bringing larger numbers of cattle who could be assigned multiple Day Pens will have double the power, and so on. The Yards has its own transformers located on the north and south end of the Yards, and the NWSS guarantees an incredibly strong and reliable power source.
  - B. **Electrical: On the Hill - Please, no generators allowed on the Hill.** For your safety and that of the public, only approved commercial type, in good condition, extension cords and electrical wiring will be permitted on the premises of Stock Show. No wiring or electrical extension cords should be put across pathways, alleys or near wet surfaces.
  - C. **Blocking Chutes and Fans:** Blocking Chute permits may be purchased at time of entry or upon arrival to the Stock Show at the Hill or Yards check-in offices. Participants in the Junior Market Lamb and Goat Divisions will be allowed to use fitting stands in a designated area without a permit. Junior Market Steer exhibitors will be allowed to bring one blocking chute per Participant. Any Participant failing to have a blocking chute permit attached to the blocking chute and clearly visible will be subject to having the blocking chute removed from the grounds by Stock Show with no recourse. No fans attached to a cart or dolly. All fans must be suspended, no butt fans are allowed.

**D. Storage Space:** Storage will be allowed only in designated areas. Nothing will be allowed (i.e.: Hay, feed, tack, blocking chutes, etc.) in unauthorized areas. Any items found can be confiscated by order of the Denver Fire Department.

**16. APPEARANCE OF EXHIBITS:** All stalls, pens and exhibition places must be cleaned before 7:00 a.m. each day. For those Participants refusing to keep their stalls, pens and/or exhibits clean, Stock Show reserves the right to have said stalls or pens properly cleaned with the cost to be charged against the Participant. Said cost will be collected from the Participant before release is issued.

**17. REMOVAL OF EXHIBITS:** With the accepted entry in this show, Participants are expected to keep their animals on grounds until the designated time for release, unless otherwise provided for in these regulations (refer to Arrival and Release Dates and Times). If necessary, individual animals sold in auctions on the show grounds may be released per consent of the management.

**18. RELEASES:**

**From the "Hill":**

- A. Obtain "Paid Bill" from the Feed Office, Satellite Office or Livestock Office. Two (2) hour notice before departure required.
- B. Present "Paid Bill" at Livestock Superintendent's Office to receive your Stock Show release. Upon payment of your bill, the Superintendent's office will issue the release papers.
- C. Obtain a Colorado Brand Release from Colorado Department of Agriculture Personnel in Livestock Superintendent's Office.

**From the "Yards"**

- D. Notify the Stockyards Accounting Office at the Stockyards Event Center at least six (6) hours in advance of your departure.
- E. The Accounting Office will obtain health papers, prepare the brand releases and statement of charges due.
- F. Upon payment of your bill, the Accounting Office will issue the release papers.
- G. The Stockyards Accounting Office will be open from 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. daily.

**19. PRIZES AND PREMIUMS:**

- A. **AWARDING OF PREMIUMS:** Where there are fewer entries in any class than the number of premiums offered, the Judges may, at their discretion, award a prize or prizes of such grade as the animal merits. Where there is only one (1) Participant in the class, the Judge shall award only one (1) cash premium. If at the discretion of Stock Show the classes need to be split due to class size or age breaks, etc., the premiums will also be split.
- B. **AWARDING CHAMPION PRIZES:** Judges are directed in all champion classes to provide for a reserve animal. Only first prize winners will be permitted to compete for championships. Second prize winner in class from which champion is chosen is eligible to compete for reserve champion.
- C. **PAYING AND PRESENTATION AWARDS AND PREMIUMS:** Premiums will be forwarded to the Participants as soon after close of the Show as they can properly be processed. All premiums whatsoever, not claimed and cashed within ninety (90) days from date of check, shall be deemed forfeited to Stock Show or donors. Stock Show reserves the right to withhold awards and premiums awarded in every case in which it shall appear to Stock Show that the rules and regulations have not been complied with, where fraud or deception has been practiced or attempted, or with entries not paid in full.
- D. **DECISION OF THE JUDGE IS FINAL:** The decision of the Judges shall be final in all cases.

In cases where fraud, misrepresentation, error or collusion is discovered after awards have been given, Stock Show or such referee as may be appointed by Stock Show, may decide regarding final placement, from whose decision there will be no appeal.

**20. PROTESTS:** All protests must be in writing and be accompanied by five hundred (\$500.00) dollars cash or certified check which will be forfeited if protest is not sustained. Such protest must state plainly the cause of the complaint or appeal and must be delivered to Stock Show immediately after the occasion for such protest. Protests must be submitted either prior to judging or immediately after the conclusion of class judging. Once an animal reaches championship judging, no protest will be accepted. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation and depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a thorough investigation is completed. No complaint or appeal that Judges overlooked an animal will be considered. Protests regarding junior market weight cards at the mistake of the exhibitor or parent will not be considered.

**21. FORCE MAJEURE AND GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION:** In view of the fact that Stock Show is a nonprofit corporation depending to a great degree upon the contributions and services of a substantial number of donors and volunteers, as well as the benefits provided by Stock Show to the general public through education and related services as set forth in the Preamble to these General Rules and Regulations, Stock Show deems it appropriate and prudent to be excused from liability, as set forth below in this paragraph, in the event of early cancellation of its events, operations and activities by reason of force majeure and/or governmental regulation. Accordingly, the following shall apply to the operations and activities conducted by the Stock Show.

**FORCE MAJEURE:** Stock Show shall not be liable for any delay or failure to perform its operations activities, shows and events to the extent such delay or failure results from a force majeure occurrence. A force majeure occurrence is defined as any occurrence arising from causes beyond the reasonable control of Stock Show and which delays or prevents performance by Stock Show otherwise required by this Agreement, including but not limited to any (i) breakage or accident to equipment, machinery or facilities; (ii) any strikes, lock-outs or other labor difficulties; (iii) statutes, ordinances, regulations, orders, or rules issued by governmental authorities; (iv) judicial decrees or orders; (v) acts of God; (vi) animal diseases and/or quarantines; (vii) wars, riots or insurrections; (viii) civil disobediences, public demonstrations or sabotage; (ix) fires, floods, explosions or inclement weather; (x) inability to obtain necessary labor, materials, supplies, utilities or transportation; (xi) depressions, recessions or other economic downturns; (xii) embargoes or energy shortages; or (xiii) other causes beyond Stock Show's reasonable control.

**GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION:** Stock Show shall not be liable for any delay or failure to perform its operations, activities, shows and events to the extent such delay or failure results from Stock Show's good faith compliance with applicable governmental statutes, ordinances, regulations, orders, rules or other directives, including but not limited to compliance with governmental directives concerning public health and safety, animal disease prevention, detections and response, including animal quarantine and/or destruction; and protection of the environment.