

- World Dairy Expo Showring Policy and Code of Ethics -

World Dairy Expo is one of the premier dairy shows in the world. As an elite show, World Dairy Expo has the responsibility of maintaining a first-class image of fairness and ethics. The regulation of unethical practices is necessary to maintain a positive international reputation and to make sure good animal husbandry is on display for all spectators. World Dairy Expo seeks to promote exceptional animal practices, attractive exhibits and a high-quality show for exhibitors and spectators.

World Dairy Expo endorses the PDCA Show Ring Code of Ethics in all breed shows and will give full cooperative support to the judges and the respective National Breed Associations to keep the show procedures within these guidelines.

To detect unethical procedures, Show Management will use technologies for testing animal body fluids or tissues and examination techniques, such as ultrasound. An exhibitor, by making an entry, is consenting to the collection of materials, e.g. milk, blood, hair, etc., photographic or direct examination, at any time the animal is on grounds. Furthermore, by making an entry, the owner(s) and/or exhibitor, as well as any individual handling, caring for or fitting the animal, is agreeing to supply proper animal and personal identification when asked by Ethics Personnel or Show Management. Before each show, ultrasound will be available for any exhibitor to voluntarily have his or her animal scanned and the results confidentially shared with the exhibitor.

Extra-label use of all drugs must be under the direction of a licensed veterinarian. Evidence of the same shall be provided in writing, if requested.

The following are examples of practices or procedures that are violations of the World Dairy Expo Showring Policy and Code of Ethics, these include but are not limited to:

1. Misrepresenting the age, lineage/breed and/or milking status of the animal for the class in which it is entered.
2. Treating an animal, particularly the udder, without a verifiable veterinary need for that treatment, internally or externally, for the purpose of improving the appearance.
3. Using a device to artificially create or enhance the udder crease. Note: Ice pieces may be used on an animal if they are contained in a plastic bag.
4. Administering an injected or applied anesthetic to alter the carriage of the tail or other body parts.
5. Surgically or unethically inserting any matter under the skin or into any body cavity to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body is prohibited and is a violation of the WDE Showring Policy and Code of Ethics. After 12 a.m. on the day in which an animal is to show, no administration of fluids by mouth is allowed, unless it is deemed therapeutically necessary and is then only administered by the official World Dairy Expo Veterinarian. Therapeutic administration of fluids by stomach pump will be allowed at all other times.
6. Criticizing or interfering with the judge, Show Management or other exhibitors while in the Showring, on show grounds or other conduct detrimental to the breed or the show.
7. Challenging, threatening, criticizing or interfering with an Ethics Committee member or volunteer appointed by Show Management to monitor the animals on exhibit on the show grounds.
8. Failing to provide proper/accurate animal and/or personal identification when asked by ethics personnel or Show Management.
9. Adding real or artificial hair or hair-like substances to any part of the animal, except for false switches.
10. Excessively manipulating topline and/or tailhead hair beyond 1 1/2 inches from the skin. Exhibitors have only one opportunity per show to check-in ringside.

***Should a Topline Violation occur (i.e. adding real or artificial hair or hair-like substances or if topline hair is in excess of 1 1/2 inches):** The Topline Enforcement staff will inform the exhibitor that if they choose to enter the Showring, after being informed of a Topline Violation, an ethics violation will have occurred. An On-Site Topline Committee will, in the event of a hair violation where the exhibitor chooses to enter the Showring, act to review the infraction immediately after the animal in question exits the Showring. The On-Site Topline Committee shall consist of five (5) eligible members with three (3) being present to review and document the second hair measurement. The five eligible member positions are: Overall Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent, a Breed Superintendent - not affiliated with the breed in question, World Dairy Expo General Manager, World Dairy Expo Dairy Cattle Show Manager and a Hair Tent Ethics representative. The ethics ruling after the second evaluation will be final.

11. Changing the natural color of the animal is prohibited. However, external applications of cosmetics that affect only appearance may be used, including by way of example color touch up of a maximum of 4" on either side of the topline, hoof polishes and false switches.
12. Mistreatment of an animal.
13. Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of showmen or their representative(s).
14. Improper fitting practices, such as over filling and over bagging.

Unethical practices or procedures not listed above are subject to review by the Ethics Coordinator, Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Committee Chair, the Overall Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent, the World Dairy Expo General Manager and the World Dairy Expo Dairy Cattle Show Manager. At least three (3) of these five (5) will make the initial determination as to whether any disciplinary action is necessary.

- Enforcement Procedures -

1. The Ethics Committee, which will include the Ethics Coordinator, an Ethics Veterinarian and assistants, appointed by World Dairy Expo Management, will be on duty at World Dairy Expo.
2. The Ethics Committee will be responsible for monitoring violations of the World Dairy Expo Showing Policy and Code of Ethics by exhibitors and their representatives.
3. To the extent reasonably possible, the identity of the animal, the owner and/or other involved parties will be kept confidential.
4. Complaints of alleged violations may be presented to Breed Superintendents, the Overall Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent, the Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Committee Chair, World Dairy Expo staff and/or the Ethics Committee.
5. All complaints of alleged violations received by the above individuals will be presented to the Ethics Coordinator to determine investigative requirements.
6. All findings of the Ethics Committee will be presented to the Ethics Coordinator.
7. The Ethics Committee has the authority to inspect all animals to determine if violations of the World Dairy Expo Showing Policy and Code of Ethics have occurred. To help in this regard, the Ethics Committee has the authority to perform the following:
 - a) Pull hair samples;
 - b) Draw blood samples;
 - c) Perform an ultrasound examination of the udder, prior to milkout;
 - d) Perform a milkout of any individual cow or cows;
 - e) Collect and test any of the animal's body fluids;
 - f) Use any technology that may be useful in determining if a violation has occurred in any animal based on placement, random selection or suspect characteristics;
 - g) Require delivery to the Ethics Committee of hypodermic syringe, needle or other devices, swabs, cloths, or other material, or samples of any medicine, preparation, or substance, whether in liquid or other form, in the possession or control of the exhibitor, the fitter, agents or persons acting on behalf of the exhibitor for the purpose of laboratory analysis.
8. Following the judging of the milking cow classes, the Ethics Committee will ultrasound the udders, prior to milkout, of at least the top one third of each class.
9. Following the judging of all milking cow classes, milk samples will be taken from a minimum of three cows in both the open and junior show – the Grand Champion, the Reserve Grand Champion and the Honorable Mention. Random ultrasound and milk samples will be taken in milking cow classes. Exhibitors who are selected to have milk samples taken from their animals will be presented a colored card with directions. The owner or his/her representative shall call the phone number(s) on the colored card they receive, before removing teat seals, to have a milk sample taken. Samples are not required to be drawn immediately following the class; however, teat seals may not be removed for milking until an ethics representative is present to take the samples.
10. All milking form animals competing in the Supreme Champion Ceremony, both Open and Junior, will be ultrasound again after exiting the Showing.

11. An individual who is not necessarily an owner or exhibitor but who commits a violation of the World Dairy Expo Showing Policy and Code of Ethics, will be subject to the same ethics enforcement procedures and sanctions as the owner or exhibitor.
12. If an ethics violation occurs at the show, the Ethics Coordinator may take one of the following courses of action, depending on the severity of the violation. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Report to the Breed Superintendent, who may inform the judge of the violation. The judge may consider the violation in the placing of the class.
 - Report to the Overall Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent, who will inform the judge for action in placing the class.
 - Report the violation to at least two of the following four individuals for action to be determined: Overall Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent, Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Committee Chair, World Dairy Expo General Manager, World Dairy Expo Dairy Cattle Show Manager.
13. Following the completion of World Dairy Expo and the evaluation of the hair samples/measurements, ultrasound readings and upon the receipt of the milk sample and blood sample analysis or other lab reports, and reports of eye witnesses or Ethics Committee personnel, the Ethics Coordinator will submit a report to Show Management if any violations have occurred. This reporting will happen as soon as reasonably possible after the end of the show.
14. If evidence suggests that a violation has occurred, the General Manager will promptly notify the accused individual(s) and/or owner(s) as listed on the entry form of the suspected violation and will provide the accused individual(s) with copies of the supporting evidence to the extent reasonably possible. Anonymity of the accused individual(s) and/or animal will be maintained by World Dairy Expo throughout the enforcement process and indefinitely. As soon as possible thereafter, an ethics hearing will be scheduled.
15. The Ethics Coordinator and the Overall Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent will present the evidence, while maintaining individual confidentiality, at a hearing of the Ethics Subcommittee of the Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Committee. Generally, the Ethics Subcommittee will consist of nine people, seven Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Committee members, including representation of at least four different breeds, and two members of the Board (not on the Executive Committee). They will serve as a jury to determine whether the accused individual(s) are guilty of a violation and, if so, what penalty is appropriate for the violation. A guilty verdict must be by a 2/3 majority of the Subcommittee. The hearing will be presided over by the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Committee. The accused individual will be invited to defend or explain the allegations, submit evidence and/or have representation at the meeting. A report of show ethics will be provided to the Executive Committee and Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Committee, but names of exhibitors and animals will be withheld.
16. Promptly after a hearing of the Ethics Subcommittee, the General Manager will inform the accused individual(s) of the determinations of the Ethics Subcommittee. It is the accused individual(s) responsibility to notify any other owners of the determination by the Ethics Subcommittee.
17. If found guilty of a violation of the Showing Code of Ethics, the penalty for the individual, the exhibitor, the representative and/or the animal may range from a letter of reprimand to being barred from participating in World Dairy Expo. The identity of the animal(s), exhibitors and/or representatives that are barred will be kept confidential to the extent reasonably possible.
18. An animal found in violation of the Showing Code of Ethics will not receive any premiums, their placing will be removed and the animal and/or owner/representative must observe any penalty placed upon them.
19. If the individual, the exhibitor and/or their representatives are guilty of repeating a violation in more than one World Dairy Expo, they and/or the animal could be barred from participating at World Dairy Expo for life.
20. Barring an exhibitor or representative and/or an individual will result in animals owned fully or in partnership by that individual, farm and/or affiliated entity not being allowed to enter, exhibit or sell in World Dairy Expo shows and/or sales. The barred individual will also be ineligible to be present in the Showing, and/or serve any other official capacity for the length of the bar. Any individual barred for an ethics violation at any point of time (regardless of timing or length of bar) must be approved by World Dairy Expo's Executive Committee prior to being nominated to represent World Dairy Expo on the Board of Directors, an official committee or as an official judge.