Drug Use Rule ***(as adapted from the National Code of Show Ring Ethics)***

Legal or illegal substances used to physically alter the appearance, behavior, and/or performance of an animal entered in livestock events are prohibited. Performance enhancing drugs (including, but not limited to; steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatories, tranquilizers and pain killers) may not be administered 5 days prior to showing the animal.

The exhibitor and exhibitor's parents and/or guardians agree that:

(1) They are absolutely responsible for the care and custody of their animals.

(2) The Show Management Committee of the Mississippi State Fair and the Dixie National Junior Round-Up Livestock Shows shall be entitled to disqualify any animal and/or exhibitor that tests positive for any drug, even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents or guardians are innocent of any wrongdoing and did not administer the drug to the animal.

(3) The drug test results of the testing laboratories are final and binding upon the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents and/or guardians. Even if the source of the drug is unknown, the Show Management of these livestock shows shall be entitled to disqualify the animal and/or exhibitor.

By entering an animal in a state-sponsored show, the exhibitor and their parents/guardians acknowledge that they have read these above stated Drug Use Rules and agree to abide by them.

Violation of Drug Use Rule

Use of illegal drugs is considered a pre-meditated act! Any information obtained on the practice of illegal alteration of an animal will be turned over to the proper authorities for criminal prosecution.

The use of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accordance with the labeling approved by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and/or the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a violation of federal law. Any animal that exceeds acceptable levels established by the appropriate regulatory agencies, such as the USDA, FDA, and EPA, will be in violation of these rules and appropriate action will be taken. For all drugs or medications given to market animals, the recommended and/or established withdrawal times for that drug must be strictly followed.

Violation of the Drug Use Rule will result in the disqualification of the animal being shown and may result in disqualification of the exhibitor. Disqualification of an exhibitor is a "ONE STRIKE AND YOU ARE OUT POLICY!" Violations of the Drug Use Rule may also result in an exhibitor forfeiting any premium, awards, or auction proceeds and

being prohibited from further competition at officially sanctioned livestock shows in Mississippi, as well as being subject to criminal prosecution if proven guilty. A second offense in the same immediate family may result in the barring of the entire family of the exhibitor from further participation in any state supported livestock show.

4-H / FFA Animal Health Record Form

Animals treated with any medication within 60 days prior to or during the Mississippi State Fair or the Dixie National Junior Round-Up Livestock Shows, including, but not limited to, over-the-counter medications, medicated feeds, dewormers, prescription medications, and extra-label drug use medications, must have a completed health record form listing all products and treatments received, including recommended or established withdrawal times for each product. All exhibitors shall document the use of any drugs and/or medications administered to animals entered into these livestock shows by using the appropriate animal health forms from the MSU Extension Service.

Exhibitors with questions regarding medications and/or eligibility requirements are encouraged to contact the MSU Extension Veterinarian or Show Management prior to competition.

Treatment of Animals on the State Fairgrounds

No medications or substances, as well as tools or equipment used to administer medications or other substances, are allowed on the property known as the Mississippi State Fair Grounds during the Mississippi State Fair and Dixie National Junior Livestock Shows, except those in the possession of a licensed veterinarian.

At any time after an animal arrives at the Mississippi State Fair or Dixie National Junior Round-Up Livestock Show premises, a licensed veterinarian shall administer all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications and a written medication record must be filed with the Livestock Show Management Office. Animals treated with performance-enhancing drugs (including, but not limited to, steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatories, tranquilizers and pain killers) while on the show grounds are ineligible for competition.

Show Management will maintain a list of large animal veterinarians practicing in the general area and other veterinarians who often participate in the livestock show. There shall be a licensed veterinarian, appointed by the State Veterinarian's office, on call during the above-mentioned livestock shows. The appointed veterinarian on call will be available on the fairgrounds during specified hours as posted in the livestock office. Parents or guardians of the exhibitors who use the services of this appointed veterinarian will only be responsible for the cost of medications.

Extra-label Drug Use Information

Any deviation from approved label indications for disease treated, species of animal, dosage, route of administration, duration of administration, etc. constitutes "extra-label" drug use. All extra-label uses (including use in a non-label species) of medications must be by or under the direction of a licensed veterinarian in order to comply with FDA guidelines for extra-label drug use. Federal regulations prohibit animal owners from administering medications in any manner not consistent with the approved label.

Veterinarians should follow the criteria outlined by the Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act (AMDUCA) when using extra-label drugs on livestock. This requires that the veterinarian identify the animal treated, the condition(s) being treated, the name and active ingredient of the drug used, along with its dosage and appropriately extended withdrawal period. Withdrawal periods for extra-label drug use may be obtained from the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database (FARAD). Forms to properly document extra-label drug use are available from the MSU Extension Service county offices.

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