



Marquette County Youth Organization  
Mailing: PO BOX 338,  
Montello, WI 53949  
Fairgrounds: 757 South Main Street  
Westfield, WI 53964

## MARQUETTE COUNTY FAIR EXHIBITOR CODE OF CONDUCT & PARENT/ADULT CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct was developed by the Marquette County Youth Organization Assoc., Inc., as manager of the Marquette County Fair. The Code of Conduct is further enhanced with additional rules and regulations. Direction shall be focused more on the exhibitors excelling in leadership, education, and citizenship with their projects.

### FAIR EXHIBITOR CODE OF CONDUCT (PART I)

#### ELIGIBLE ENTRIES

1. All 4-H, FFA and Independent entries must be submitted online and must have an electronic approval as designated by management.
2. All Code of Conduct Agreement Forms must be signed by 1) exhibitors and their parent/guardian if under the age of 20 as of January 1 of the fair year or 2) by the exhibitor if over the age of 20 as of January 1 of the fair year to be considered eligible.
3. All complaints or violations must be submitted in writing to the fair office (forms are available in the fair office). The fair office representative at the time of the submitted complaint/violation will review and take appropriate action within 24 hours.

#### POLICIES FOR EXHIBITOR CONDUCT

1. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is PROHIBITED.
2. Exhibitors shall use respectful language. No foul or abusive language or gestures will be tolerated.
3. Any use of items as potential weapons in a threatening manner or illegal drugs/drug paraphernalia on the fairgrounds is prohibited.
4. Possession of alcohol and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages on the Fairgrounds, and/or being under the influence by any underage exhibitor (minor) on the fairgrounds is prohibited.
5. Use of fireworks or sparklers is prohibited on the Fairgrounds.
6. Smoking or vaping of any kind is not allowed on the Fairgrounds by any underage exhibitors.
7. Any exhibitor whose conduct jeopardizes the health and safety and wellbeing of another exhibitor, project, animal, or the public, will be immediately expelled from further participation in the Marquette County Fair and possibly future fairs. The exhibitor and their exhibit(s) are to be removed from the grounds immediately (excluding swine, the fair board will feed the animal until the end of the fair) and lose the opportunity to show and sell his/her animal(s) through the Junior Meat Auction. Health or Safety issues include, but are not limited to, actions involving weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, or fireworks, as mentioned in items above, and not caring for, i.e. feeding and watering, the exhibitor's animal project.
8. If animal(s) have been sold in the Junior Meat Auction and Rule 7 needs to be enforced the animals will remain on the grounds.
9. All trailers must be removed from Fairgrounds after unloading of animals, unless parked in the designated trailer parking.

10. Once an animal exhibit has been unloaded and checked-in, they are considered to be on display at all times in designated animal areas. The animal can not load a trailer until dismissal on Sunday of fair.

#### CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF EXHIBIT POLICIES

1. If any violation of policy occurs, the exhibitor will forfeit their premiums on all of their exhibits.
2. If any violation of policy occurs prior to the Junior Meat Auction, the exhibitor will not be allowed to sell their animals.
3. If the violation occurs after the Junior Meat Auction, the exhibitor will receive only market resale value (as determined the day of the auction) for the animal. Any remaining money paid by the buyer in purchasing the animal through the auction, will be placed into a general scholarship fund or put towards educational purposes at the Fair. The buyer will receive the animal.
4. If it is determined that an exhibitor has violated the Fair's Code of Conduct or other exhibit policies, the exhibitor will be removed from the grounds and may not exhibit at the following year's fair. A written request must be submitted to the Fair Board to begin exhibiting again. For example: An exhibitor who violates a rule and is removed from the grounds at the current fair will not be allowed to exhibit at the following year's fair. Then, the exhibitor may then request in writing to exhibit at any future fairs. This request will be reviewed by the Fair Board prior to an official entry being accepted.
5. Minor violations of exhibit conduct, not involving health or safety concerns, may be given one (1) verbal warning. This verbal warning will be documented and noted by a signature from the exhibitor and Superintendent or Fair Management. On the second violation, the exhibitor will be asked to leave the fairgrounds and any awards and/or auction check will be withheld.

## **POLICIES FOR ANIMAL TREATMENT**

1. Any effort to artificially change the conformation or appearance of an animal by treating the animal, internally or externally, with any irritant, counter-irritant, or other substance is considered unethical, inhumane, and is prohibited. The enhancement of the conformation or appearance through the use of paints, adhesives, or dyes is accepted.
2. Causing the animal to ingest any liquid or substance not considered part of an accepted and normal livestock diet, or in quantities not considered normal for livestock, is deemed illegal and inhumane.
3. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to feed, water and care for any animal they have entered in the Fair throughout the entire Livestock Show, including any period following the sale of the animal prior to the end of the Show/Fair. All market animals must be watered and fed on Sunday to ensure that the animal arrives in a healthy condition at the harvesting plant.
4. Any animal that appears ill or injured while at the Fairgrounds must be reported in the fair office. A veterinarian must check any animal considered unhealthy. If it is determined that the animal is carrying a communicable disease, the animal will be removed from the Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds will not assume the cost for this action. The exhibitor must assume the full expense of the veterinarian's services.
5. Any animal that is determined to be unmanageable, or could be a safety hazard to the public, will be removed from the Fairgrounds. The Junior Meat Auction Superintendent/Fair Management makes this decision final.
6. Physical abuse of an animal will not be tolerated, including the use of electrical stimulation tools or shockers. For example: when moving hogs, care should be taken not to excessively beat or hit an animal (either by a person or with an object).
7. For the safety of the animal and the public, animals are not to be left unattended on fitting tables or in blocking chutes.
8. The livestock area needs to be presentable at all times. All livestock stalls/pens must be cleaned out daily before 9:00 AM and exhibitors should make every effort to keep the barns clean at all times for the public.
9. Exhibitors shall be responsible for the security of their animals in stalls or pens. All beef cattle and dairy cattle shall be securely tied with a suitable halter. All sheep, goat, and swine pens shall be securely closed and fastened before exhibitor leaves the barn area. Do not put padlocks on any gates or pens. The fairboard or a fair representative has the right to remove any padlock on fair property.

## **JUNIOR MEAT AUCTION**

The auction is a privilege, not a right. You are producing a product that will enter the food chain. The fair's goal is not only to provide a seller with an avenue to sell, but also provide a consumer/buyer with quality, healthy, safely produced products from knowledgeable and responsible producers.

1. Every market animal exhibitor at Marquette County Fair is required to complete a Declaration of Animal Medication prior to selling an animal at the Junior Meat Auction. Animals will not be eligible to sell if the Medication Form is not completed and properly signed (this will be with all your Auction paperwork)
2. Exhibitors, as owner(s) of their market animal(s), acknowledge that they will be responsible for their animal(s) if rejected at a harvesting plant due to the presence of drug or other residue. If drug or other residue is detected, the exhibitor understands that the exhibitor may be liable to the buyer and/or Fair for an amount equal to three (3) times the purchase price and may also be liable for any attorney's fees and civil penalties.

## **SELLER'S RESPONSIBILITY**

1. All animals must follow the sale order as determined and compiled by Fair staff.
2. All exhibitors must write Thank You letters to their auction buyers and turn them in on Sunday.
3. Exhibitors selling livestock through the Auction are solely responsible for feeding, watering, and general well-being of their own animals until the animals are loaded onto trucks for transport.
4. No parent, leader/advisor or exhibitor shall contact buyers for the purpose of purchasing, re-purchasing or giving back an auctioned animal.
5. If an animal that is sold during the Meat Animal Auction is intended to be exhibited at the Wisconsin State Fair, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to line up processing and communicate that with the purchaser. The animal must be processed within 4 months of the auction.

## **SOLICITATION OF BUYERS/NON-SALE MARKET ANIMALS**

1. Absolutely no "For Sale" signs will be allowed until after the respective species has sold at Auction. Any exhibitor found soliciting buyers for non-sale market animals before or during the Auction will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by Fair Management. Individual sale of market animals must be reported to the Livestock Office. No responsibility is incurred by the Association or the Fair for non-auctioned animals sold by exhibitors.

## PARENT/ADULT CODE OF CONDUCT (PART II)

As a Parent or Guardian of an Exhibitor at the Marquette County Fair, you are expected to adhere to the following Code of Conduct. Failure to do so will jeopardize the participation of your club, the exhibitors, your child, or any member of your family.

1. As a Parent/Guardian, I acknowledge that the child must demonstrate his or her own ability, knowledge, and skill as an exhibitor of show animals.
2. As a Parent/Guardian, I acknowledge that direct criticism or interference with the judge, show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is PROHIBITED. All judges, Fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation, and respect, and as a Leader/Advisor or Parent I will not allow any person connected with my exhibitor's or child's animal project to direct abusive or threatening conduct toward any show official.
3. As a Parents/Guardian, shall use respectful language. No foul or abusive language or gestures will be tolerated towards another person on the fairgrounds.
4. Any use of items as potential weapons in a threatening manner or illegal drugs/drug paraphernalia on the fairgrounds is prohibited.
5. As a parent, I/We are aware that responsible alcohol use is allowed on the Fairgrounds, and I/We will limit use of alcohol so that a proper example is set for my exhibitor, or exhibitors of others around us. Any abuse of alcohol or public intoxication by Parent/Guardian in or around the Livestock facility is PROHIBITED. This type of activity is further monitored by law enforcement.

6. As a Parent/Guardian I acknowledge that the use of fireworks or sparklers is prohibited on the fairgrounds.
7. All trailers must be removed from Fairgrounds after unloading of animals, unless parked in the designated trailer parking.
8. Once an animal exhibit has been unloaded and checked-in, they are considered to be on display at all times in designated animal areas. The animal can not load a trailer until dismissal on Sunday of fair.

Any Parent/Guardian whose conduct jeopardizes the health or safety or wellbeing of an exhibitor, animal, or the public, will be immediately expelled from the Marquette County Fair. The parent/guardian is to be removed from the grounds immediately and could jeopardize their exhibitors opportunity to exhibit at the Marquette County Fair, including selling through the Junior Meat Auction. By signing this Agreement, all parties (exhibitors and their parents or guardian), do hereby agree to the Junior Meat Exhibitor and Parent/Adult Code of Conduct as expressly stated above. All Code of Conduct forms are to be read and agreed upon within FairEntry when registering to exhibit at the Fair.

Exhibitor's Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Club/Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibitor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_