**2024 SandHills Stock Show and Rodeo**

**General Rules and Regulations**

1. This show reserves the right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences arising out of our connection with the show. The officers of this show reserve the right to further amend or add to the general rules set forth herein.
2. All exhibitors will be under control and direction of the management, but the show committee will in no way be responsible for any exhibit. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for their own exhibit. Diligent care will be exercised by the management to see that all animals are properly housed and supervised, but no further responsibility will be assumed.
3. No claim for injury to any person or to any livestock shall ever be asserted nor suit instituted or maintained against the SandHills Stock Show & Rodeo or its officers or agents, by or on behalf of any person, firms or corporations, or other agent, representatives, servants or employees, having license or privilege to exhibit at the show or to occupy any space on the show grounds.
4. All exhibits will be under the control and directions of the management, but the SandHills Stock Show & Rodeo will be in no case responsible for any loss, injury or damage that may occur. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to, or occasioned by, or arising from, any animal or article exhibited by him and for its description as given in the premium list. He shall indemnify the SandHills Stock Show & Rodeo against all legal or other proceedings in regards there to, as well as the exhibitor or any of the animals exhibited by him or arising out of, or in any way connected with such exhibition or any of the animals so exhibited.
5. All exhibitors grant permission to be photographed or interviewed in connection with activities during this show and any such photograph and/or interviews may be used by the show for television, film, video, visual, graphic or printed media. The exhibitors agree to release and indemnify the show with respect to any claims related to the usage of such photographs or interviews by the show or any media.
6. The management reserves the right to remove from the grounds any exhibitor animal that may be falsely entered or may be deemed unsuitable or objectionable without assigning a reason therefore, and, if necessary, to return any money already paid for space or stall which shall exonerate them from any claim whatsoever on the part of the exhibitor or purchaser.
7. The showing of unethically fitted livestock is prohibited. Unethical fitting shall be deemed to mean a physical or physiological attempt to alter the natural conformation, muscle or height of an animal by use of injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health of the animal or marketability of its carcass.
8. All Grand and Reserve Champion steers, lambs and goats will be tested for drugs and any other class winners and/or random sampling as proposed by the livestock committee. Blood and body fluids will be collected by a licensed veterinarian or personnel of the livestock committee.
9. All Junior exhibitors must be Quality Counts Verified and verification number must be provided on all entry applications when entries are submitted. Entries will not be accepted without a valid Quality Counts Verification Number.

**ENTRY RULES**

1. All entries must be received as a group from the AST or CEA. Only one check per county/chapter will be accepted.
2. All entries must be completed online by November 15, 2023. The summary sheet, copy of heifer registration papers, plus a check must be mailed (postmarked no later than November 15, 2023) to **SandHills Stock Show and Rodeo, 218 W 46th St., Odessa, TX 79764.**
3. There will be a $40/head entry fee for all steers and heifers. Tie outs are included in this fee and are available on a first come first served basis. There will be a $25/head entry fee for all goats and lambs. No refunds of any entry fees will be made after the closing date for entries.
4. All animals entered in this show must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor. Any exceptions to this rule must be stated in writing and submitted to the committee for approval. Any premiums awarded in violation of this rule will be subject to forfeit at the discretion of the committee.
5. No diseased animal will be admitted to the show. Any animal showing symptoms of disease will be refused admission to the show. The superintendent will see that this rule is rigidly enforced.
6. All animals must be validated in accordance with the Texas validation program. If an animal has lost their validation tag, contact the show superintendent prior to your arrival so arrangements can be made to get a replacement tag.
7. Health papers **are not** required for the 2024 SandHills Stock Show & Rodeo.
8. Any person found guilty of misrepresentation or not abiding by the Show rules will be disqualified and denied the privilege of showing in the Show.

**UNETHICAL FITTING**

1. Unethical fitting means any attempt to alter the natural appearance, conformation, musculature or weight of an animal by any unnatural means. Unethical fitting includes the use of injections or feeding of material not conducive to the health of the animal, safety of food or marketability of its carcass. Unethical fitting also includes, but is not limited to, artificially filling animals by stomach pumping, airing injections and bruising. Animals showing signs of having been unethically fitted will be disqualified.

**CONFLICT OF RULES**

1. In the event of conflict of General and Special Rules the latter will govern. No animal will be allowed to be removed from the show without a written release from the superintendent of that division. Any violation of this rule will forfeit all premiums won in the show. Any exhibit deemed unworthy by the judges will be eliminated from competition and no premium will be paid.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**WHOLESOME MEAT ACT**

The USDA Wholesome Meat Act applies to the sale of market livestock and poultry which are sold during the livestock show, which act includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Animals must be in good health and carcasses free of drug, chemical or foreign substance residues.
2. Antibiotics and Sulfonamides have required withdrawal periods.
3. Drug label directions for use and withdrawal periods must be followed.

**RESIDUE AVOIDANCE PROGRAM**

1. The SandHills Stock Show & Rodeo reserves the right to test any animal officially entered in any division, for any foreign substance including drugs, chemicals or feed additives. As a prior condition to accepting any entry, any entry card or form signed by the exhibitor, AST or CEA grants the Show permission to test the entry.
2. Exhibitor and parent/guardian certify that the entry has not been administered or that the exhibitor and parent/guardian do not have any knowledge that this entry has received any substance not approved by the FDA and/or the USDA for food animals to be exhibited. Any substance administered to an animal with the intent to prevent or treat conditions or to make changes in body functions is classified by FDA and/or USDA as a drug or chemical. Furthermore, the exhibitor and parent/guardian certify that this entry is free and clear of ALL drug and chemical residue withdrawal and elimination time periods at the time of weigh-in. Approved withdrawal times are published on labels; whereas, elimination times are not published on labels. An unpublished elimination time is the time it takes for a drug or chemical to be excreted from the body through the urine. If any approved drug or chemical has been administered to the animal, sufficient withdrawal time or elimination time must have passed so that the animal does not test positive for any drugs or chemicals at weigh-in or show.
3. Test samples collected from any animal must have zero tolerances for any identifiable or unidentifiable substance including drugs, chemicals, or feed additives, unless otherwise established as permissible by the USDA or FDA. Animals that have been administered an approved drug or chemical must allow sufficient time so that the drug or chemical is completely eliminated from the animals system at the time of weigh-in.
4. As condition for participation in the Show, exhibitor must agree to submit any animal entered by the exhibitor for inspection. Exhibitor agrees to have such animal submitted to any tests requested by the Show. Exhibitor also agrees that the opinion reached by the Show or its officials as to whether such animal is unethically fitted or over aged shall be final and binding without recourse against the Show or any of its officers. Further, the Show specifically reserves the right to have tissue, blood or urine laboratory analysis made on any animal entered for competition. The conclusions reached by the laboratory as to whether such animal has been administered a diuretic, tranquilizer, unapproved growth stimulant or other unapproved medication, or has not been completely eliminated from approved drugs shall be final and binding without recourse against the Show or any of its officers. An exhibitor of an animal testing positive for any drug or chemical may forfeit all rights and privileges to exhibit livestock in the future at the Show.
5. Animals testing positive to an unapproved foreign substance including drugs, chemicals or feed additives, will be disqualified and declared ineligible to receive premium money or sale proceeds.