



rules and regulations for showing holstein cattle

The following supports good animal husbandry practices at shows, while presenting a positive image to spectators. Rules and regulations apply at all times when animals are present on the fairgrounds; every treatment is presumed to have occurred on the fairgrounds. All treatments must be authorized and in writing by a practising veterinarian. Various methods and equipment will be used to monitor and record unethical practices or procedures, including cameras and videos. All exhibitors and their fitters, agents, or other representatives agree to abide by the following rules and regulations. Holstein cattle must be registered at a minimum of 75% breed purity to be eligible to compete in Holstein shows across Canada.

part 1

The following practices or procedures are unacceptable in the show ring of registered Holstein cattle:

1. misrepresenting the age, calving date, number of lactations, or ownership of an animal;
2. filling an animal's rumen unnaturally with liquid [tubing];
3. balancing the udder by any means other than by leaving naturally produced milk in any or all quarters;
4. treating the udder internally with an irritant, counterirritant, or any other substance to temporarily improve conformation or produce unnatural animation;
5. treating the udder externally with an irritant, counterirritant, or any other substance to temporarily improve conformation or produce unnatural animation (Allowable practices/substances include sealing and setting teats, and the use of external anti-inflammatory substances for the well-being of the animal.);
6. roping udders and the use of objects to physically improve definition of the suspensory centre ligament;
7. administering epidural anaesthesia [blocking tails] and/or applying any irritant either externally or internally to the perineal [rectum and vagina] area;
8. inserting foreign material/articles under the skin, into the topline [including hair not attached to its own hair follicle];
9. applying foreign material/articles on the feet;
10. performing surgery of any kind to change the natural contour of appearance of the animal's body, hide, or hair. Not included is the removal of warts, teats, and horns; clipping and dressing of hair; and trimming of hooves;
11. criticizing or interfering with the judge, show management, or other exhibitors while in the show ring; as well as any conduct that violates, directly or indirectly, recognized standard show practices, or any other discreditable conduct that could damage the image of the breed or show;
12. draining fluid from hocks unless authorized by a veterinarian appointed by the show management.
13. excessive manipulation of hair beyond 1½ inches from the skin.

part 2

All exhibitors and their fitters, agents or other representatives agree to abide by the following procedures:

1. Exhibitors, agents, employees, or other person acting on behalf of an exhibitor, shall deliver to an inspector upon request any hypodermic syringe, needle or other device, swabs, cloths or other material, or samples or any medicine, preparation or substance, whether in liquid or other form, for the purposes of laboratory analysis.

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2. All entries and personal property of the exhibitors, their servants and agents and persons acting on behalf of exhibitors, are subject to inspection by inspectors authorized by a show. All such persons shall cooperate with the inspectors and shall provide all such information in connection with such inspections and shall provide access to the animal and all information reasonably required by inspectors in connection with such inspections and shall provide, if so requested, samples of urine, milk, blood, or any other body fluids suitable for analysis.
3. Exhibitors shall remove any udder supports, blankets, or other objects limiting the ability of the inspector to undertake a thorough inspection.
4. The exhibitor agrees to act at all times in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for Showing and the Standard Procedures, and will accept any final decision made thereunder.

Violators are subject to the disciplinary provisions of the Standard Procedures and Penalties for Enforcing Rules and Regulations for Showing Holstein Cattle, and/or other show rules and regulations. For Holsteins, show rules will be enforced by the Holstein Association of Canada.