



# Holstein Show Conduct Rules

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## Overview

The following Holstein Show Conduct Rules promote good sportsmanship among exhibitors, support good animal husbandry practices, and present a positive image to spectators. These Holstein Show Conduct Rules apply at all times while present within and around fairground or show property.

For all Holstein shows, these Holstein Show Conduct Rules are enforced by the Holstein Association of Canada, operating under its by-laws.

Violations of these Holstein Show Conduct Rules are subject to the disciplinary provisions of the Standard Procedures for Enforcing the Holstein Show Conduct Rules, and/or other applicable show rules or regulations.

All owners, exhibitors, fitters, handlers, agents or other persons acting on behalf of the owners of animals (hereafter referred to as the "**Animal Owner Group**") shall abide by the following rules.

## Unacceptable Practices or Conduct

The following practices or conduct are prohibited in showing registered Holstein cattle:

### General

- Misrepresenting the age, calving date, number of lactations, or ownership of an animal;
- Failure to submit upon request any samples of urine, milk, blood, or any other bodily fluids of the animal.
- Failure to provide upon request any device, material, medicine, or substance, whether in liquid or other form for the purpose of laboratory analysis.
- Failure to fulfill any other inspection or cooperation requirements set out in the Holstein Show Conduct Rules.
- Failure to comply with ultrasound procedures.

### Body

- Unnaturally filling an animal's rumen with liquid (tubing), except for health reasons based on a physical examination and prescription from a veterinarian. Should tubing be necessary within twelve (12) hours before the start of a show, an animal will no longer be eligible to be exhibited;
- Administering epidural anaesthesia (blocking tails) and/or applying an irritant externally or internally to the perineal (rectum and vagina) area;
- Performing any kind of surgery to alter the natural contour of appearance of an animal's body, hide or hair (not including, removal of warts, teats and/or horns; clipping and/or dressing of hair; or trimming of hooves);
- Excessive alteration of hair beyond 1½ inches from the skin;
- Inserting foreign material/articles under the skin, into the topline, including hair not attached to its

own hair follicle;

- Performing alterations of any kind to change the visual appearance of an animal, except the painting of spots smaller than six (6) inches in dimension on one side; Painting of spots larger than six (6) inches in dimension on either side is prohibited.

### Feet and Legs

- Applying foreign material/articles on the feet;
- Draining fluid from hocks, unless authorized by a veterinarian appointed by the Show Organizers.

### Udder

- Balancing the udder by any means other than by leaving naturally produced milk in any or all quarters;
- Treating the udder internally with an irritant, counterirritant, or any other substance to temporarily improve conformation or produce unnatural animation;
- Treating the udder externally with an irritant, counterirritant, or any other substance to temporarily improve conformation or produce unnatural animation. (It is an allowable practice to seal and set teats, or to use external anti-inflammatory substances for the well-being of the animal);
- Roping udders and the use of objects to physically improve definition of the suspensory centre ligament;
- Excessive uddering of lactating cows. (Show Associates decide what degree of uddering is excessive in any particular circumstance).

### Conduct

- Criticizing or interfering with judges, Show Organizers, Show management, Show Associates or other exhibitors at any time while present within and around fairgrounds or show property;
- Any conduct that violates, directly or indirectly, recognized standard show practices; or
- Any other conduct typically considered discreditable which could damage the image of the breed, show or Holstein Canada.
- Discreditable conduct includes, but is not limited to, acts that include the following:
  - Violence, or threat of violence;
  - Verbal abuse and/or use of derogatory language;
  - Harassment of any kind; or
  - Improper and/or unprofessional behaviours.

## Cooperation Requirements

The Animal Owner Group shall also abide by the following:

1. Upon request, the Animal Owner Group shall provide to Show Associates any hypodermic syringes, needles or other devices, swabs, cloths or other materials, or samples or any medicine, preparation or substance, whether in liquid and/or other form, for the purposes of laboratory analysis.

2. The Animal Owner Group is subject to supervised inspection by Show Associates authorized for a show. All such persons shall fully cooperate with Show Associates and Show Organizers and shall:
  - a. Provide unhindered access to the animal;
  - b. Provide all information requested by Show Associates in connection with their inspections;
  - c. Remove any udder supports, blankets, or other barrier objects which might limit the ability of Show Associates to undertake a thorough inspection;
  - d. Upon request, permit the taking of samples of urine, milk, blood, or any other bodily fluids suitable for analysis; and
  - e. Comply with ultrasound procedures as directed by Show Associates or Show Organizers during the show.

## Administrative Notes

- For the purposes of these Holstein Show Conduct Rules, all treatments of animals are deemed to have occurred on the fairgrounds or show property. All treatments will be considered illegal unless authorized in writing by a practicing veterinarian located on the fairgrounds or show property. If such authorized or prescribed treatments of an animal will likely change visual appearance, these must be administered at least twelve (12) hours before a showing of an animal.
- The Standard Procedures for Enforcing the Holstein Show Conduct Rules shall be applied to any violation of these Holstein Show Conduct Rules. The defined terms in the Standard Procedures for Enforcing the Holstein Show Conduct Rules apply to these Holstein Show Conduct Rules, unless otherwise indicated.
- The Animal Owner Group shall have the opportunity to seek clarification on any points or details of these Holstein Show Conduct Rules from the Show Associates authorized by the show, including interpretation, enforcement and associated penalties.
- Certain methods and equipment will be used to monitor and record unethical practices and procedures, including, but not limited to, cameras and videos.
- Every effort will be made to ensure privacy and professionalism towards all parties involved in any suspected violation of the Holstein Show Conduct Rules.