

# EXHIBIT “D” EXHIBITOR CODE OF CONDUCT

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 22, 2022

**STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR:** All exhibitors (livestock, competitive exhibits, FFA and 4-H) at all times while anywhere on the fairgrounds including but not limited to the show rings, barns, camping areas, carnival lot, competitive exhibit outdoor areas and buildings (i.e. Centre and Dover Buildings), commercial exhibit outdoor areas and buildings, parking lots, entertainment viewing and seating areas (i.e. concerts, wheel events, machinery lot, plaza and sponsor lot), the Roost, vehicular and pedestrian entry gates and indoor and outdoor facilities under management by Harrington Raceway and Casino (upon referral from casino management) are expected to maintain the following standards:

1. Behave in accordance with applicable rules, regulations and Delaware laws.
2. Follow the rules and regulations of The Delaware State Fair as they apply to exhibitors, campers, patrons and guests.
3. Treat all people on the fairgrounds fairly and with respect.
4. Respect the property of others.
5. Refrain from any physical or verbal altercations including unwanted physical contact.
6. Avoid the use of profane, abusive, and sexually explicit language.
7. Respect the authority of all fair personnel, judges, show officials, staff, volunteers and others in leadership roles and positions throughout the fairgrounds.
8. Accept responsibility for their personal choices.

**PROHIBITED CONDUCT:** Exhibitor conduct of the type and nature listed below is considered unacceptable. This list is illustrative and should not be considered exhaustive:

1. Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol by or to a minor and/or showing signs of impairment.
2. Possession, and/or consuming any illegal drugs or misusing any controlled or unlawful substance and/or showing signs of impairment.
3. Trespassing upon or tampering with any fair buildings or other structures and improvements, commercial displays (inside or outside), outdoor equipment displays, carnival lot and equipment, circus performance area, animals and their pens, feed or water.
4. Theft or destruction of public or private property.
5. Any form of sexual misconduct.
6. Any form of verbal or physical harassment or abuse.
7. Possession of and/or use of any (a) weapon including firearms, knives, etc.; or (b) hazardous or dangerous materials including chemicals, explosives (i.e. fireworks).
8. Fighting or other acts of violence.
9. Unauthorized use of vehicles on the fairgrounds.
10. Any other form of conduct determined to be a violation of the Delaware Criminal or Motor Vehicle Codes.

**PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS:** An exhibitor who engages in any of the prohibited conduct listed above, may, in the sole discretion of The Delaware State Fair, Inc., be subject to one or more of the following penalties and/or sanctions:

1. Notification of parents and/or guardians.
2. Forfeiture of and the return of premiums, prizes, awards and ribbons.
3. Disqualification and exclusion from the exhibition of livestock or competitive exhibits for current fair and/or future fairs.

4. Revocation of eligibility to participate in the Junior Livestock Auction for current fair and/or future fairs. Cancellation of an auction sale(s) and the return of the proceeds to the buyer(s).
5. Eviction of the exhibitor and his or her animals from the barns, grounds and the camping area.
6. Revocation of camping contract for the current fair and/or future fairs.
7. Banning from the grounds for a set period of time.
8. Criminal prosecution.

**ENFORCEMENT:** Generally, but not exclusively, violations of this Exhibitors Code of Conduct are charged in a written citation or letter format prepared jointly by the department superintendent (i.e. any livestock department, competitive exhibits, 4-H or FFA superintendent) in consultation with one of the following: (a) the general superintendent of the appropriate operational division (i.e. Chairperson of the Livestock Committee (pertaining to all livestock, horse and ponies and poultry/rabbits matters); or (b) Chairperson of the Competitive Exhibits Committee (a/k/a the Dover Building Superintendent); or the Chairman of The Grove Management Committee. The citation and assessed penalty and/or sanction shall be considered final unless the exhibitor so cited properly and timely appeals the citation in accordance with the appeals process set forth below.

Exhibitors, parents and adult leaders are held to independent and severable rules, regulations and ethics codes (i.e. The IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics) applicable specifically to animal entries and competitive event standards, and which are separately set forth in the livestock handbook under the general rules and/or departmental pages. Violations of those rules, regulations and codes are handled distinctly and apart from violations of this Code of Conduct. Those violations have their own procedures and process for charges and appeals set forth therein.

#### **APPEALS OF CITATIONS ISSUED UNDER THIS CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. Appeals may be taken first to the General Manager. All appeals must be in writing using the Appeal Form set forth below and delivered to the fair office within 24 hours of receipt of the initial citation by the Exhibitor.  
The General Manager shall issue a written decision on the appeal within 24 hours of receipt of the appeal by the office using the "Appeal Decision" portion of the Appeal Form and promptly transmit the same to the Exhibitor.
2. Thereafter, should the Exhibitor disagree with the appeal decision rendered by the General Manager, the Exhibitor shall complete the Final Appeal portion of the Appeal Form and deliver the same to the fair office within 24 hours of the Exhibitor's receipt of the General Manager's decision on appeal. The Final Appeal shall be considered and decided within 24 hours by The Final Appeal Committee comprised of the President and 1st Vice President of the Fair's Board of Directors whose decision, when rendered, shall be final and not subject to any further action or appeal by the Exhibitor. The Final Appeal Committee shall issue a written decision on the appeal within 24 hours of receipt of the appeal by the office using the "Final Appeal Decision" portion of the Appeal Form and promptly transmit the same to the Exhibitor.  
Penalties and sanctions shall be suspended during the pendency of an appeal should one be taken by the exhibitor.