

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NATAL RULES & REGULATIONS

LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS/PARTICIPANTS

1. Powers of the Committee

- 1.1. The word 'Committee' in these General Regulations and elsewhere in the Prize List or Catalogue refers to the Executive Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society of Natal and to such other Committees of the Society to which the Executive Committee may delegate specific duties and powers.
- 1.2. The Committee shall have the right of refusing any entry made and shall not be bound to give any reason for so doing.
- 1.3. The Committee shall have the power to withhold the whole or part of the prizes offered by the Society in the event of there being no competition, or the exhibits being considered by the judges unworthy of such prize.
- 1.4. The Committee is empowered to introduce such regulations and procedures for the smooth running of the annual Show as it shall deem fit, subject to exhibitors being notified of such regulations through the medium of the Prize Lists or other publications, or by means of circulars.
- 1.5. The Committee is empowered not only to decide whether or not the annual Show shall be held, but is also entitled at any time in its absolute discretion to cancel, vary or alter any or all arrangements which may have been made in connection with the holding of the annual Show.

2. Loss or Destruction of Goods

- 2.1 No claim whatsoever shall lie against the Royal Agricultural Society arising out of the theft of, loss or damage to the property of any person or association of persons on premises falling under the control of, owned or leased by the Royal Agricultural Society irrespective of the cause of such theft, loss or damage
- 2.2 The Royal Agricultural Society is hereby indemnified and held harmless against any and all claims, at the instance of any person or association or persons, which may arise out of the theft, loss or damage aforementioned.

3. Public Liability Insurance

The Society's Public Liability Insurance Policy does not cover exhibitors. It is in the interests of exhibitors therefore, to obtain their own Public Liability Insurance cover for the Show period.

4. Prize Money

Monetary prizes will either be transferred electronically to a bank account provided by the exhibitor or posted to all successful exhibitors as soon as possible after the conclusion of the annual Show.

5. Responsibilities of Exhibitors

- 5.1 Each exhibitor shall be solely responsible for the description submitted in the entry form for inclusion in the catalogue of any animal exhibited by him.
- 5.2 Each exhibitor shall be solely responsible for any consequential or other injury, loss or damage to, occasioned by, or arising from any animal or article and shall indemnify the Society against legal or other proceedings in regard thereto.
- 5.3 Any person who shall bring any diseased animal of any kind to the Show shall be liable to a fine of R2 000 and shall be disqualified from receiving any of the benefits of the Society.

- 5.4 Whilst every reasonable care will be taken of exhibits, no responsibility or legal liability whatsoever shall be incurred by the Society, which shall under no circumstances be liable for any loss, damage or injury to any exhibits.
- 5.5 All cattle entered for the Show must be provided with a halter, except where specifically stated. One attendant at least must be present on behalf of each exhibitor in the horse, cattle, sheep and goat sections. All attendants must be subject to the orders of the stewards.
- 5.6 No fire may be lit in the Showgrounds except in those areas designated by the Committee. Any person infringing this regulation will be held responsible for any damage that may arise. In the case of employees, their employers will be held responsible.
- 5.7 It is contrary to the Society's policy for cattle, sheep or goats, **not sold at the sale**, to be sold out of hand thereafter, except when so decided by RAS Management. Any person found to be in contravention of this ruling, shall be disqualified from receiving any of the benefits of the Society.

6. **Entries**

- 6.1 All entries must be made on the prescribed form and must be accompanied by the correct entry fees (which are inclusive of VAT) by no later than the advertised closing date of entries.
- 6.2 The Committee reserves the right to refuse to accept any entry if the information contained therein is incomplete or if the entry is not accompanied by payment of the fees in full.
- 6.3 The name of the exhibitor of an animal as published in the Show Catalogue shall be that individual or company in whose name the animal was registered as at the closing date of entries.
- 6.4 The breeder of an animal is the owner of the dam at the time of birth.

7. **Restriction on entries**

- 7.1 In the event of excessive entries being received, which are in excess of the accommodation available in the section, the Committee reserves the right to restrict entries at its entire discretion by means of a quota system applicable to one or more breeds, or to such exhibitors as may be necessary.
- 7.2 In the event of it proving necessary to implement such a quota system, the exhibitors concerned will be notified in writing to this effect as quickly as possible after the closing date of entries.
- 7.3 Entry fees paid in respect of those animals that are not accepted for the Show will be refunded in full.

8. **Judging**

- 8.1 All persons exhibiting shall accept the decision of the judge appointed by the Society as to the merits of their exhibits, which decision shall be final.
- 8.2 The Committee reserves the right to set certain minimum requirements relating to the number of entries prior to approval being given for the conduct of a National or Provincial/Regional Championship Show at the annual Show.
- 8.3 None but bona-fide owners of stock or manufacturers of produce exhibited will be eligible to compete for prizes.
- 8.4 The judge/s shall not disqualify breeding stock for blemishes except hereditary ones. Exhibits of small stock on show must be free from external parasites otherwise the exhibit may be disqualified.
- 8.5 The judge will be required to screen all small stock during judging to determine the age and growth of wool. If any animal does not comply it will be disqualified and the exhibitor shall have no legal or other redress against the judge or the Society.
- 8.6 Exhibitors are required to make available the birth notification/registration certificates of their animals to the stewards, if requested by the stewards.
- 8.7 Unless otherwise stated in judging Championships, the first and second of the respective classes shall be paraded.

- 8.8 All prize awards will only be made provided sufficient merit obtains, at the sole discretion of the judge.
- 8.9 Where applicable, exhibits on the Show must be accompanied by the number that identifies it for the class in the Show catalogue or entry list. The catalogue number must be displayed at the time of judging, strictly in accordance with the requirements of each section.
- 8.10 Any animals brought out to be judged bearing a prize ticket or rosette shall be liable to disqualification. No prize card awarded by this Society (or any other Society) in previous years may be exhibited on any exhibit or stall at any time. Only prize tickets awarded at the current Show may be displayed in the stalls or in the parades.
- 8.11 Any exhibitor who-
- Neglects to leave the judging ring at the request of the stewards while his animals are being judged;
 - Attempts to interfere with or influence the judges while in the discharge of their duties; or
 - Uses contemptuous language to, or about, any of the judges in consequence of an award made by them -
- shall either have his exhibits disqualified or shall forfeit his right to any prize to which he might otherwise be entitled, as the Committee may decide.

9. **Judges' conduct**

- 9.1 In line with Royal Shows elsewhere in the Commonwealth and other major shows in this country, judges are not permitted to accept any dedicated largesse from any participating breeder or exhibitor prior to, the duration of or immediately subsequent to any competition.
- 9.2 Likewise, any exhibitor who is found to have entertained a judge prior to any competition shall be liable to disciplinary action, including the possibility of suspension from exhibiting in future, as the Committee may decide.

10. **Group classes**

- 10.1 Unless otherwise provided in any special conditions, the exhibitor of a progeny group must be the owner at the time of entry.
- 10.2 ALL animals competing in group classes MUST also be entered into the open classes. Where a young animal, which is not eligible for entry in the open classes, is brought in to make up a group, an extra entry fee must be paid.

11. **Parade**

Exhibitors in the livestock sections are required to bring forward their animals for all parades in accordance with the directives issued by the Chief Stewards and in accordance with the times intimated in the Show catalogue or as otherwise stated.

12. **Objections**

- 12.1 Any exhibitor in the Cattle, Sheep and Goat sections of the annual Show wishing to lodge an objection, having reference to any exhibit or to any award to any exhibit in these sections, may do so.
- 12.2 The objection must be submitted in writing, accompanied by a R2 000 deposit to the Society's General Manager, or to his authorised deputy, at the Society's office before 17h00 on the evening of the day on which the cause of the objection arises.
- 12.3 The objection shall be investigated within 24 hours of the occurrence by a sub-committee appointed by the Committee which shall include, but will not be limited to, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman (if any) and the Chief Steward/s of the section concerned. The findings of the sub-committee shall be final and binding on all parties and the exhibitor submitting the objection shall be offered no right of appeal against the decision of the sub-committee.

- 12.4 The sub-committee shall not be required to give any reasons or explanations relating to its final decision.
- 12.5 If the objection is not substantiated by the sub-committee, the deposit of R2 000 shall be forfeited to the funds of the Society.
- 12.6 Should any exhibit, which has gained a prize be disqualified, the next in line does not necessarily obtain the same prize. The sub-committee, with or without the advice of the judge, shall decide the question.

13. **Most Points**

Most points will be scored by the highest placed five exhibitors in the individual classes with 5 points for 1st place, 4 points for 2nd place and so on to 1 point for 5th place, irrespective of the number of animals entered in the class.

14. **Misrepresentation**

- 14.1 Awards obtained by exhibitors at the annual Show may be advertised by exhibitors, providing that such advertising relates specifically to the entry which appeared at the Show and which received the prize(s) referred to in the advertisement.
- 14.2 Exhibitors are prohibited from issuing misleading or confusing advertisements which suggest, inter alia, that all their products are on a par with the particular product or sample of that product which they exhibited at the Show or that the overall quality of their herd or stud is equivalent to that of the animal(s) which they exhibited and which received recognition at the Show.
- 14.3 Any exhibitor contravening this regulation may have his entry for the following year refused by the Committee.

15. **Overnight accommodation**

- 15.1 With the exception of exhibitors' attendants, no person may sleep overnight in the Showgrounds, without the prior written permission of the CEO. Action will be taken against any person/group of persons found to be in contravention of this ruling.
- 15.2 Should it be necessary for any College/school student to stay overnight in the grounds, the names and contact details of such person and the responsible College/School supervisor, must be supplied to the Society's administrative offices.

16. **Control of dogs**

- 16.1 Under no circumstances will dogs be permitted in any part of the Members' Enclosure or Grandstand, including the Society's office complex.
- 16.2 Elsewhere on the Showgrounds all dogs must be kept on a leash at all times.

17. **Membership of the Society**

- 17.1 Application for membership forms may be obtained at the Society's offices by those exhibitors who wish, by joining the Society, to make use of the privileges of free admission to the grounds, car parking and use of the members' facilities.
- 17.2 The membership year commences on 1 January and annual subscriptions are payable in advance.

18. **Alteration to Regulations**

These regulations are subject to alteration and amplification from time to time, at the discretion of the Society.