

## **Antelope Valley Fair Livestock Safety Committee**

The safety committee will be comprised of six total members. Represented on the committee will be three members from the AV Fair livestock council consisting of the two beef barn co-chairs, and the vice-president or designee. The additional three members will consist of one representative from FFA, 4-H and Grange. All committee members will be named prior to the start of fair. It is the intent of the committee to ensure the safety of our youth, the livestock, as well as the general public.

At no time while on the Antelope Valley fairgrounds will the use of any training apparatuses be used on the beef, specifically nose rings and chain training halters.

### **Procedures**

Beef will be DNA tested at the AV Fairgrounds prior to the 120 day entry deadline.

- The DNA for beef will be collected on pre-scheduled dates from 9:00am to 12:00PM
- During the DNA process, the animals will be led to and from the beef barn solely by the exhibitor where a sample will be collected.
- During this time the animal will be watched to determine any possible safety concerns which might arise.
- For the exhibitors and animals who may need assistance in the handling process, we expect the necessary precautions be taken to ensure the safety to all of the involved parties.
- This pre-screening process is to heighten the awareness of the AV Livestock Council and alert them of the animals that might have safety issues at the fair.
- At the time of entry, all beef exhibitors, parents, and leaders will sign a safety agreement/procedures page along with all of the necessary entry and DNA paperwork.

During the Antelope Valley Fair it is imperative that the exhibitors be able to handle and control their animals. Therefore a safety screening will take place with the safety committee on all beef exhibitors and their animals. During this process we are asking that the exhibitors, parents, and leaders be present.

Safety Screening:

- During the weigh-in process, every exhibitor will walk their animal to the scale without assistance from anyone.
- After weigh-in the exhibitor will walk their animal to the practice arena where they will show their ability to control the animal.
- The exhibitor will then return the animal to the pen area.
- If the safety committee determines that a potential safety issue has arisen, the exhibitor, parent, leader and fair management will be notified of these issues.
- The exhibitor will be given a second chance to correct the safety concerns.
- The second chance will take place at the conclusion of the swine weigh-in.

- The exhibitor will take the animal from the pen area to the practice arena where they will once again attempt to show their ability to control the animal.
- During the second attempt the safety committee, along with fair management/ personnel will be in attendance. We recommend that the parent and leaders also be in attendance.
- It is not the intent of the safety committee to disqualify anyone; however it is to protect the exhibitor and animal from the risk of injury.

Disqualification process:

- The safety committee will meet and discuss the safety concerns which have arisen.
- The committee will conduct a vote to determine the potential disqualification of the animal.
- A simple majority vote will determine the outcome.
- The safety committee will advise fair management of their recommendation.
- Fair management will then make the final decision weather to disqualify the animal.
- Fair management will advise the exhibitor, parent and leader of their decision.
- If disqualified, the animal must be removed from the fairgrounds prior to the opening of the fair.

If a safety concern arises during the fair, fair personnel reserves the right to re-convene the safety committee to address the issues. All proper notifications and procedures will be adhered to.

**Beef Barn recommendations to assist in a successful beef show**

- Due to the change in environment at the fair, animals need to be watched and worked with.
- Animals need to be exercised daily.
- The show arena will be available from 6:00am to 8:00 am daily for the beef.
- Take your animals into the show arena to get them accustom to the soft sand, coolers, and the change in environment.
- Prior to beef moving to the show arena, make sure all of the necessary panels are in place between the barns.
- When moving beef to the show arena, move them in pairs. They like company.
- Stay calm. Animals sense when your nervous and will react accordingly.
- When the show arena is not available, use the practice arena inside the beef barn to exercise them.
- Feed your animals prior to them showing. This will help them remain calm.
- On show day, let your animal rest as much as possible.
- Keep your animals and stalls clean.
- Beef are not allowed out of the beef barn during fair hours, unless they are involved in the showing process.