

Hamblen County Great Smoky Mountain Fair Animal Welfare Statement

The Hamblen County Great Smoky Mountain Fair is committed to the highest standards of animal welfare. The humane treatment of all livestock exhibited at the fair, including Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Sheep, Goats, and Chickens, is a top priority. Exhibitors, handlers, and participants must adhere to the following guidelines to ensure the well-being of all animals.

1. Prohibited Conduct:

- Any form of animal abuse, neglect, or mistreatment will not be tolerated.
- Excessive hitting, striking, or handling animals in an aggressive manner is strictly prohibited.
- The use of forceful techniques, including but not limited to excessive pulling, lifting, or improper use of equipment, is not permitted.
- Excessive striking of animals in the show ring to "brace" the animal (i.e. Market Type Lambs).
- Animals should not be tied up for extended amounts of time at the wash bay.
- Animals are required to be brought inside of the Expo Center; keeping animals on the trailer is not allowed.

2. Enforcement:

- The species chair will oversee compliance with this policy and consult the fair board as needed.
- Any individual found violating this policy will be subject to immediate disciplinary action.
- Violators will be excused from the premises and will forfeit all premiums, prizes, or awards.
- Further penalties, including potential bans from future participation, may be imposed at the discretion of the Fair Board.

3. Reporting Violations:

- Any concerns regarding the treatment of animals should be reported to Fair Board officials or designated show superintendents immediately.
- Reports will be taken seriously, and appropriate action will be taken following a fair and thorough investigation.

The Hamblen County Great Smoky Mountain Fair appreciates the cooperation of all exhibitors in maintaining a respectful and humane environment for livestock. Together, we can ensure a positive experience for both exhibitors and animals alike.