

# **2018 CALGARY STAMPEDE Animal Care Code of Practice**

## **SECTION 1.**

### **1.1. GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The wellbeing of animals participating in events at the Calgary Stampede must be safeguarded. It is essential that there is clear understanding and acceptance of responsibilities by all Stampede personnel, competitors, stock contractors and exhibitors.

The care of animals for competition, exhibition or education at the Calgary Stampede requires both experience and the observation of accountable standards. Unless that work is done well, the wellbeing of the animals cannot be adequately protected. Our guiding principles and practices are intended to ensure all those responsible for their implementation accept responsibility for the husbandry, care and handling outlined in the Animal Care Code of Practice.

The Calgary Stampede will keep current on regulatory policy and guidelines by meeting with various organizations and associations as needed and monitoring industry information related to animal care.

The Calgary Stampede will ensure the ongoing maintenance of its Codes of Practice to create an environment that results in the respect and care of our animals.

The Calgary Stampede is competent to handle and care for all the species of animals on Stampede Park and will only employ stock handlers who are competent to handle and care for those animals.

The Calgary Stampede will ensure that people who have responsibilities in the organization for the production of events are experienced to ensure that animal wellbeing needs are met.

### **1.2. REGULATORY**

Responsible management of our animals and their care at the Calgary Stampede is assured with guidance and/or regulatory frameworks from organizations such as: Alberta Animal Protection Act, Livestock Identification Services, Alberta Department of Agriculture, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Alberta SPCA, Calgary Humane Society, AFAC, International Association of Fairs & Expositions, Canadian Association of Fair and Exhibitions, as well as several specie specific organizations that sanction various Calgary Stampede competitions.

### **1.3. AUTHORITY**

The Calgary Stampede retains the right to dismiss, fine and/or suspend anyone not conforming to the Stampede's rules, conditions and codes of practice.

The Calgary Stampede has the ultimate and final authority on all matters of disciplinary action resulting in the mistreatment of any animals.

## **COMMON STANDARDS**

### **1.4. Official Stampede Veterinarian (OSV)**

1.4.1. The OSV is responsible for providing expert advice on the health, injury or disease status of an animal and its suitability for competition.

1.4.2. The OSV will be experienced in treating all species of animals participating in events on Stampede Park.

1.4.3. The OSV will be the sole arbiter on issues of animal wellbeing.

1.4.4. The OSV will complete a record of injuries and other defects, including treatment & medication in the Animal Care Treatment Log.

1.4.5. The OSV will be responsible for the approval of "accredited veterinarians" to practice on Stampede Park.

### **1.5 Accredited Veterinarians**

1.5.1 All Accredited veterinarians must be in good standing with the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (AB.VMA)

1.5.2 All accredited veterinarians must be approved by the OSV

1.5.3 All accredited veterinarians must complete a Calgary Stampede Animal Care Treatment Log for each animal examined or treated during the Calgary Stampede

1.5.4 Copies of all Animal Care Treatment Logs must be made available and delivered to the Calgary Stampede or the OSV(s) on a daily basis to a place specified by the Calgary Stampede.

### **1.6. Rodeo Contestants**

1.6.1. All contestants will comply with the requirements of the Calgary Stampede's Animal Care Code of Practice by acknowledging and signing in writing.

1.6.2. Each contestant is responsible for the animals he or she uses during an event and must comply with all applicable sections of the Calgary Stampede Animal Care Code of Practice.

1.6.3 Contestants must not intentionally treat animals in a way that is disrespectful and/or causes or potentially causes injury or harm. Violation of the Calgary Stampede's Animal Care Code of Practice could result in disqualification from the event.

### **1.7. Participation of Animals**

1.7.1. Any animal that is deemed unfit by the OSV will not be permitted to participate.

1.7.2. If an animal becomes sick or injured between the time it is inspected and the time it is to participate, that animal will not be used.

### **1.8. Care and Treatment of Animals at Stampede Events**

1.8.1. The Calgary Stampede, its personnel, contractors, contestants, competitors and exhibitors will clearly understand and accept their responsibilities. All people involved with and participating in Stampede events will be familiar with the Calgary Stampede Animal Care Code of Practice.

1.8.2. The Calgary Stampede, OSV and Calgary Stampede Pro Rodeo Officials will be empowered to discipline any person, including personnel, contestants and contractors who compromise the wellbeing of an animal.

- (a) Only qualified and experienced livestock handlers (three to five year livestock handling experience and must have the approval of either Ranch Manager or Director of Rodeo) will undertake the preparation of animals for events
- (b) Livestock under the care of the CS will have access to fresh water. (based upon participation schedule)
- (c) Livestock under the care of the CS will have access to good quality feed daily (based upon participation schedule)
- (d) Exterior livestock holding pens must have shavings or post peelings in place for bedding

### **1.9. Injured Animal Protocol**

1.9.1. Injured animals must be attended to as soon as possible with veterinary attention being sought immediately.

1.9.2. The "animal down" procedure is activated if an animal requires assistance or removal from an event.

1.9.3. Animal care ambulances are on site for all Calgary Stampede events involving animals and the OSV is used for injury assessment and action in these situations.

1.9.4. The OSV shall solely be responsible for the expeditious and humane destruction of an animal. Any animal that suffers a catastrophic musculoskeletal injury requiring euthanasia will be drug tested. Any animal that dies suddenly during the course of the event will be subject to a post-mortem examination and drug testing. The Calgary Stampede will incur the costs of these procedures, under the direction of the Official Stampede Veterinary Team.

### **1.9.5 Consent for Release of Necropsy Information**

Pursuant to the Calgary Stampede Animal Care Code of Practice, any animal that dies suddenly during the course of the Calgary Stampede shall be subject to a post-mortem examination and drug testing. The Calgary Stampede will incur the costs of these procedures, under the direction of the Official Calgary Stampede Veterinary Team.

#### **Owner Information and Consent:**

- 1) In order to preserve the integrity of the Calgary Stampede and to promote the future safety of the animals participating therein, I hereby authorize the Calgary Stampede, or its duly appointed representatives including the Official Calgary Stampede Veterinary Team, to release the findings of any such post-mortem examination or drug testing involving any one of my animals to such parties as deemed fit by the Calgary Stampede in its sole discretion, after said results have been reported to me.
- 2) I certify that I am the owner/agent of the animals submitted for competition at the Calgary Stampede.
- 3) I consent to the remains of any animal being submitted for:
  - a) Necropsy and related pathology procedures, and/or;
  - b) Bacteriology, and/or;
  - c) Toxicology, and/or;
  - d) Drug testing, and/or;
  - e) Such other tests or examinations as deemed appropriate by the Official Calgary Stampede Veterinary Team.
- 4) I will provide to Calgary Stampede, in advance, detailed information on any horses that I will be using at the 2018 Calgary Stampede. Detailed information will include:
  - a) Animal Name
  - b) Brand or Tattoo
  - c) Breed
  - d) Colour
  - e) Age
  - f) Sex

### **1.10. Infectious Disease**

Due to the number of animals on the grounds during this event, infectious disease is a concern. Any animal suspected of having an infectious disease should be isolated and examined by the Official Stampede Veterinarian immediately. If an infectious disease is suspected, the Official Stampede Veterinarian must be notified immediately by the competitor or the attending Accredited Veterinarian. Competitors must comply with prescribed isolation and quarantine protocols which may include removal from Stampede Park. Jurisdiction will be transferred to the Canadian Food and Inspection Agency (CFIA) in the case of reportable diseases (EIA, Foot and Mouth, Rabies, etc.)

## **SECTION 2.**

### **2.1. Competitor/Contractor Protocols**

All competitors/contractors will be aware of the requirements of the Calgary Stampede's Animal Care Code of Practice.

Each competitor/contractor is responsible for the animals he or she uses/supplies during an event.

- (a) Competitor/contractor must comply with all relevant sections of the Animal Care Code of Practice.
- (b) Competitors who intentionally treat animals in a way that is disrespectful and/or cause injury or harm and are in violation of the Code of Practice will be disqualified from competition.
- (c) Competitors who fail to agree to the Animal Care Code of Practice by signing the competition entry form will not be permitted to compete at the Calgary Stampede.
- (d) No person competing in rodeo events will be under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal drugs.

All contractors are representing the Calgary Stampede and therefore are expected to uphold all standards set forth in Code of Practice for Rodeo. Stock Contractors contracted for the Rodeo are responsible for the appropriate husbandry and handling of their rodeo stock. Stock Contractors will ensure:

- (a) stock provided by them are in good health and are suitable for the purpose for which they are intended
- (b) all halters and flanks are in good working order and in compliance with the CPRA Rule Book
- (c) stock that is deemed unfit to compete will be withdrawn from competition
- (d) all instructions of the Official Stampede Veterinarian are implemented
- (e) cattle and horses are penned separately in the yards
- (f) aggressive stock are separated from other stock
- (g) animals incompatible by nature cannot be housed together
- (h) injured stock will be treated appropriately and isolated and housed appropriately

### **2.2. Official Stampede Veterinarian**

The Official Stampede Veterinarian must be in attendance continuously from at least one hour before the start of the performance until one half hour after the completion of the last event.

### **2.3. Care and Treatment of Animals**

- a) Stock must not be exposed to fireworks that are likely to cause them fear or distress.
- b) Animals must be housed in stock proof pens and all loading/unloading chutes are to be safe.
- c) Stock should be removed from the arena immediately after completion of an event.

- d) The OSV will check for any conditions that may affect the wellbeing of an animal prior to competition or participation in any event.

#### **2.4. Fitness To Compete**

- a) All rodeo animals must be examined by the OSV prior to the start of the event.
- b) At the end of each event, the OSV will perform a visual inspection of each animal upon its exit from the arena.
- c) Any animal which is deemed unfit to compete will not be permitted to perform.
- d) If a rodeo animal becomes sick or injured between the time it is drawn and the time scheduled to compete, that animal will not be used and another animal will be drawn for the contestant.
- e) Cattle with horns that are likely to cause injury to other animals must have the tips (the outer 2.5 cm) removed.
- f) Freshly branded animals will not be accepted
- g) Rodeo animals must meet the following minimum weights:
  - Calves (tie down) – 70 kg
  - Steers (steer wrestling) – 180 kg

#### **2.5. Arena and Gear**

The size of the arena, the grooming of the track and the condition of gear used are critical in protecting stock from injury. Careful planning and construction of arenas will make the handling and removal of stock from the arenas easier and will increase stock and contestant safety.

##### 2.5.1. Arena:

- (a) The arena should have a suitable, soil based surface, groomed to a depth of approximately 8-10 cm. Other surfaces may be used provided that they are well drained, providing a secure footing and be deemed as safe for the animals as an appropriate soil based surface.
- (b) The arena must be of a size suitable for the events to take place and to minimize the likelihood of injurious contact with the perimeter fence.
- (c) The construction height and appearance of arena fencing should discourage stock from attempting to push through the fence or jump over it. Fencing will be 6 feet high.
- (d) Arena fences must be clearly visible and not appear open to the stock.

##### 2.5.2. Gear:

- (a) Before the rodeo commences, Calgary Stampede Pro Rodeo Officials must be satisfied that all gear and equipment to be used in a rodeo has been inspected to ensure that it meets all requirements of this standard.
- (b) In Bareback and Saddle Bronc riding the spur rowel must be dull and must rotate smoothly.
- (c) Any object that may irritate the skin of an animal, must not be permitted in the cinch, saddle, flank strap, bareback rigging or the braided rein attached to the halter.

### 2.5.3. Electric Prods:

- (a) Electric prods must be:
  - (i) Used with restraint and only as an aid for loading bulls
  - (ii) Used with restraint and only allowed on bulls, in the rump or shoulder area, in the lead up alleys to the chutes
- (b) Electric Prods must not be used:
  - (i) If a bull is loaded and standing in a closed chute
  - (ii) On bulls in the arena while performing
  - (iii) On horses, steers or calves
  - (iv) To harass any animal

## **2.6. Specific Rodeo Events**

### 2.6.1. Saddle Bronc Riding

- (a) The saddle must be correctly placed and fitted in order to avoid injury.
- (b) There must be sufficient clearance under the gullet of the saddle to prevent rubbing or injury to the withers.
- (c) The front cinch of the saddle must be of sufficient width to prevent cutting or chafing of the girth.
- (d) The back cinch must not be so tight as to cause the horse to fall down.
- (e) Flank straps must be of the quick release type with linings that are supple and in good condition. They must be placed on the animal in such way that the lined portion evenly overlies both flanks and the abdomen. Care must be taken to ensure that sand, grit and other abrasives do not accumulate in the lining of the flank strap.

### 2.6.2. Bareback Bronc Riding

- (a) The girth on the bareback rigging must be wide enough to prevent chafing or cutting of the girth.
- (b) Flank straps must be of the quick release type with linings that are supple and in good condition. They must be placed on the animal in such way that the lined portion evenly overlies both flanks and the abdomen. Care must be taken to ensure that sand, grit and other abrasives do not accumulate in the lining of the flank strap.
- (c) Bareback pads must completely cover the inside of the rigging and are to extend a full 2 inches behind the rigging.

### 2.6.3. Bull Riding

- a) Equipment used for bull riding must be fitted so as to fall off the bull once the rider falls or dismounts.
- b) The equipment used should be a loose rope with or without a handhold.
- c) In the bull riding a soft cotton rope of at least 5/8" in diameter is acceptable as a flank strap and does not require lining.
- d) There should be no knots or hitches preventing the rope from falling from the animal after the contestant has been thrown or dismounted.

#### 2.6.4. Tie Down Roping

- (a) All reasonable precautions must be taken to ensure that calves are not jerked down.
- (b) The contestant must adjust the rope and reins in a manner that will prevent the horse from dragging the calf. Contestant is fined and/or disqualified at judges' discretion.
- (c) After the tie is completed and has been signaled, the roper must immediately remount and loosen the catch rope. Contestant is fined at judges' discretion.
- (d) Ropes must be removed from the calf immediately after the tie is flagged.
- (e) All calves should be habituated by being walked or run through the arena from the release chute to the catch pen and being held by a neck rope, thrown and tied, prior to the event.
- (f) A contestant will be disqualified on a run if an animal is jerked down, whether intended or not.
- (g) A contestant will be disciplined if the rope horse drags the animal after it is roped and tied, whether intended or not. Penalty will be at judges' discretion.

#### 2.6.5. Steer Wrestling

- a) The steer must not be knocked down or thrown before it is brought to a stop and the catch is made.
- b) An automatic no time will be given to a contestant if a steer "dog falls".
- c) If a steer "dog falls", the contestant must release the steer immediately and assist the animal in recovering from the fall by turning the steer's head so it may stand up. Failure to do so will result in a disqualification from competition.

#### 2.6.6. Barrel Racing

- a) Barrels must not have sharp edges that can harm a horse.
- b) Horses cannot be struck on the neck or face with crop/whip.
- c) Harmful bits cannot be used on barrel horses.
- d) The use of bats and spurs and riding crops are allowed. Contestants will be fined \$500.00 for batting horse above the shoulder (above breast collar) at Judges' discretion.
- e) Contestants must adhere to the WPRA Equine Drugs and Medications Rules.

## **SECTION 3.**

### **3. Rodeo Contractors Livestock Transportation**

In Canada, the transportation of livestock is regulated by the **Health of Animals Act Part XII**. It defines the conditions that must be met in order for the transport of animals to be considered humane, including animals being transported to and from the Calgary Stampede.

Examples of the provisions contained in Part XII include:

- the prohibition of overcrowding of animals during transport,
- prohibition of transportation of animals that are unfit to travel,
- carriers cannot load, transport or unload animals in a way that would cause injury or undue suffering,
- requirements for provision of food, water, and rest at specific intervals,
- protection from adverse weather and adequate ventilation,
- use of proper containers and transport vehicles, segregation of incompatible animals.

Full disclosure of these regulations can found at:

[http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.%2C\\_c.\\_296/page-16.html#h-70](http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.%2C_c._296/page-16.html#h-70)

### **Per the Calgary Stampede Animal Care Codes of Practice for contract animals being transported to or from the Calgary Stampede**

#### **3.1. Vehicles**

- All vehicles used to transport animals must provide a safe environment for the animals. All transport vehicles must have:
  - proper flooring (stable and non-slip)
  - proper ventilation allowing for appropriate airflow.
  - adequate space for the species being transported is required for all modes of transport per the Health of Animals Act Part XII, including enough clearance to insure horses do not come in contact with the roof or deck while standing in a natural position.
  - allow for easy loading and unloading of animals. The height of the back gate of the trailer should be appropriate to the species being loaded.
  - all gates must swing freely and secure firmly shut.
  - have no sharp or protruding objects that can injure the animal.
  - protection from severe weather conditions.
  - be cleaned and sanitized regularly.

#### **3.2 Facilities**

All facilities used to load and/or unload animals will:

- be free of sharp or protruding objects that can injure an animal.
- have non slip flooring.
- have no areas where animals can get their head or legs trapped.
- if ramps are used they should not exceed 20° and have cleats securely in place 8" at center.

#### **3.3 Loading animals**

- the trailer must be backed up, level and flush with the loading dock/ramp.
- all animals must be fit for the journey. No injured or ill animals should be

tendered for transport.

- all animals must be allowed access to water before being loaded out from the Calgary Stampede.
- acceptable handling tools for loading include rattle paddles, flags and sorting sticks. Electric prods should only be utilized when all other acceptable methods have been utilized.
- animals must be loaded in a way they will not cause undue stress or injury.
- incompatible animals cannot be transported in the same compartment. They must be segregated. This includes animals of significant different sizes, different species and ones that are incompatible by nature. **Examples of this include miniature ponies with full size horses, cows and calves/mares and foals, other than one cow with her calf/one mare with her foal alone in a compartment, or bulls with calves.**
- animals must have appropriate space based on the species and length of the journey.
- animals must have enough clearance that their heads do not come in contact with the roof.
- all gates must be secure.
- doors or gates must not be shut or slammed on the heads or legs of animals.

### **3.4 Transport**

- in hot weather it is best to strictly limit the time that the trailer is stationary with animals loaded. Animals can overheat quite quickly.
- if the trailer must be stopped, it should be parked in the shade or an area where a cross breeze is present.
- animals should be unloaded as soon as possible.

### **3.5 Unloading**

- the trailer must be backed up, level and flush with the loading dock/ramp.
- acceptable handling tools for unloading include rattle paddles, flags and sorting sticks. Electric prods should be unnecessary for unloading.
- animals should not be rushed during unloading in order to avoid unnecessary slips and falls.
- any animals that become injured during the trip must be attended to immediately.

#### 4. 2018 CALGARY STAMPEDE RODEO ANIMAL CARE CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 All Rodeo participants will:
- a) Consistently demonstrate ethical conduct in the best interest of all rodeo animals;
  - b) Ensure their participation and the participation of any and all individuals associated with them are familiar with the 2018 Calgary Stampede Animal Care Code of Practice;
  - c) Promote a safe sporting environment in the Arena, stalling barns and back pens – before, during and after the rodeo;
  - d) Ensure responsible care in the handling, treatment and transportation of their horses as well as horses and/or cattle placed in their care for any purpose;
  - e) Exhibit standards of professional behavior which will maintain public confidence and trust in the integrity of the Calgary Stampede Rodeo, the sport of rodeo and the Calgary Stampede;
  - f) Cooperate in the enforcement of all relevant Rule Books referred to in the Calgary Stamped Ground Rules, the Animal Care Code of Conduct, and agree to accept the authority and decisions of the Calgary Stampede Pro Rodeo Officials and Stampede Officials.
- 4.2 Rodeo participants are subject to sanctions if they are found to have breached the Animal Care Code of Conduct.
- 4.3 Rodeo participants grant the Calgary Stampede the right to make any Code of Conduct sanctions public if the Stampede deems it appropriate in their sole discretion.
- 4.4 All animals will be transported in accordance with Government of Canada Health of Animals Act Part XII.
- 4.5 All animals provided for competition at the Calgary Stampede Rodeo will be in optimal health and meet all criteria as per the Calgary Stampede Animal Care Code of Practice.
- 4.6 **Rodeo participants will have read, understood, and agree to comply with the entire 2018 Calgary Stampede Animal Care Code of Practice, including 1.9.5 Consent for Release of Necropsy Information.**

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«First\_Name» «Last\_Name»

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Date