

ANIMAL ABUSE

Inhumane treatment or abuse of livestock in any manner in the show arena, practice arena or on the show grounds is strictly prohibited.

- A. If show management, judge, or Board Directors at any SRCHA approved or sponsored event discovers inhumane treatment or abuse of a horse, he/she may immediately bar the responsible party and horse from further competition in the event. The SRCHA office must be notified within seven (7) days of the closing date of the show involved, and the complaint will be referred to the Board of Directors for investigation and consideration.
- B. Inhumane treatment is the exhibition of a crippled or injured horse, or a horse with any other health abnormality, which could thereby result in the horse's undue discomfort or distress. The decision of show management, judge or Board Director as to inhumane treatment should be based upon consultation with a veterinarian. If show management, judge, or Board Director determines, in their sole discretion, that the welfare of the horse requires immediate action, and a veterinarian is not available, show management, judge, or Board Director may implement any action allowed by this rule.
- C. Abuse includes excessive jerking, spurring, whipping and any other act intended to cause trauma or injury to a horse. Any act of abuse, or intent to abuse a horse, in the show arena or on the show grounds which could also potentially endanger the safety of other persons or animals will be dealt with in the strongest possible manner as provided in Article IX, Disciplinary Rules And Procedures, item C.
- D. Administration of drugs while on the show grounds, including show arena and practice area, is strictly prohibited unless administered in a lifesaving situation. Such an instance must be reported to show management. The decision of show management or Board Director as to lifesaving treatment should be based upon consultation with a veterinarian. Show management shall disqualify and/or refuse entry to any contestant and/or owner for violation of this rule.
- E. Abuse of cattle or livestock at any SRCHA event is strictly prohibited, either in the show arena, practice arena, livestock pens or unloading areas or anywhere on the show grounds. Abuse of cattle in performance as well as in handling will not be tolerated. Abuse includes excessive force used in handling, where it is not necessary for safety of either human or equine; failure to provide feed and water within reasonable time frames, and failure to provide suitable and adequate handling and housing facilities.
- F. The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures or veterinary standards or livestock handling procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive or inhumane.

FURTHER: Care and Maintenance of Cattle

- 1 A veterinarian should be in attendance, or reasonably available at every reined cow horse show and will attend to any injured animal after its removal from the arena. Should humane destruction of an animal be recommended, such destruction will take place as soon as possible and shall be carried out by the most humane means possible.
- 2 A conveyance of a type on which injured animals may be easily placed without causing additional injury should be made available at all reined cow horse shows to remove animals from the arena in case of injury.
- 3 Cattle are recommended to be between 500 and 650 lbs. They should appear strong and healthy.
- 4 Chutes, corrals, mangers, etc., should be so constructed as to prevent injury to cattle and horses. All areas in which cattle are kept and the arena shall be free of rocks, holes, and obstacles.
- 5 Arena help may be fined and/or contestant may be disqualified for mistreatment of cattle.
- 6 No cattle should be confined to vehicles beyond a period of twenty-eight (28) hours or as otherwise established by the federal government without being unloaded, properly fed and watered, provided that when animals are carried in conveyances in which they do have proper food, water, space, and opportunity to rest, the provision for unloading shall not apply.
- 7 Cattle that become excessively excited, so that they appear in danger of injuring themselves, should be released from the arena.
- 8 No sick or injured animals will be permitted to be used in competition. Blinded animals or animals with bad eyes will not be permitted to be used in competition.
- 9 Animals will be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated.
- 10 Any member tampering with competition livestock will be disqualified for the remainder of that particular reined cow horse show and will be subject to a fine.
- 11 If a rider kicks the animal being worked, or hits it with the romal or reins in an abusive manner, he or she will receive a score of 0.

Care and Treatment of Reined Cow Horses

THE SASKATCHEWAN REINED COW HORSE ASSOCIATION TAKES VERY SERIOUSLY THE WELFARE OF THESE GREAT HORSES THAT WE ARE DEVOTED TO. Inhumane treatment of a horse in any manner in the show arena, practice pen or on the show grounds is strictly prohibited.

- 1) Inhumane treatment is the exhibition of a crippled or injured horse, or a horse with any other health abnormality, which could thereby result in the horse's undue discomfort or distress. Abuse includes excessive jerking, spurring, whipping, slapping, or any other act intended to cause trauma or injury to a horse. Any act of abuse, or intent to abuse a horse, in the show arena or on the show grounds which could also potentially endanger the safety of other persons or animals will be dealt with in the strongest possible manner as provided by this standing rule.
- 2) If show management at any SRCHA approved event discovers inhumane treatment of a horse, it may immediately bar the responsible party and horse from further participation in the event. The decision of show management as to inhumane treatment shall be based upon consultation with a veterinarian. If show management determines in its sole discretion that the welfare of the horse requires immediate action and a veterinarian is not available, show management shall consult with the Ethics Committee or Show Representative before taking any action allowed by this rule.
- 3) In the event show management discovers any inhumane treatment of a horse, the SRCHA Management and the Ethics Committee shall be notified and a hearing to consider disciplinary action against the responsible party shall be scheduled.
- 4) Administration of drugs while in the show arena or practice arena is strictly prohibited unless administered in a life saving situation. Such an instance must be reported to show management. The decision of the show management as to life saving treatment should be based on consultation with a veterinarian. Show management shall disqualify and/or refuse entry to any contestant and/or owner for violation of this rule.
- 5) Humane Treatment.

No person shall exhibit any horse which appears to be sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired. No person on show grounds, including, but not limited to, barns, stalls, practice area and show arena, may treat a horse in an inhumane manner, which includes, but is not limited to: (1) Placing an object in a horse's mouth so as to cause undue discomfort or distress. (2) Tying a horse up or around in a stall or when lounging or riding in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress. In addition, leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time. (3) Use of inhumane training techniques or methods; poling or striking horses legs or body with objects, excessive spurring and/or excessive jerking of reins. (4) Use of inhumane equipment, including, but not limited to, saw tooth bits, hock hobbles, tack collars or tack hackamores. (5) Any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the tail. (6) Inhumane treatment which results in any bleeding.

6) **Prohibited medication, drugs, mechanical device or artificial appliance:** No person shall cause to be administered internally or externally to a horse, either before or during an approved event, any medication, drug, mechanical device or artificial appliance which is of such character as could affect its performance or appearance at that event, EXCEPT FOR THOSE CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED THERAPEUTIC MEDICATIONS, THE USE OF WHICH IS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR IN AND NOT OTHERWISE PROHIBITED BY GOVERNMENTAL REGULATIONS.