

## SRCHA LIVESTOCK HANDLING POLICY

- 1) Inhumane treatment of horses or cattle strictly is prohibited. NRCHA Rule Book: 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. **The SRCHA standards for Livestock Handling must be posted in a visible location at each event. bwb**
- 2) The Show host or the SRCHA Cattle Committee or appointees shall inspect the cattle immediately upon their arrival and prior to the start of competition. The cattle should be counted to verify numbers as they are received. Any animal that is injured, unsound in sight, air or limb must be sorted off and remain un-used, and reported to the cattle contractor. In the event of the contractor delivering horned cattle for use at the event they must be approved for use by at least two members of the SRCHA Directors or SRCHA Cattle Committee. Cattle that are unsound with any of the above conditions at off-load should not be paid for. The SRCHA assumes no responsibility for cattle injured during transportation and strongly recommends that transportation insurance be assigned to the contracted cattle by the transporter or contractor. Cattle must safely handled during the event. Cattle must have adequate space, feed and water with respect to their weight and weather conditions.
- 3) In the event of cattle death or injury during competition, the SRCHA Cattle Committee shall work with the show host and the cattle contractor to determine what value, if any, is to be made by the SRCHA in restitution to the owner of the cattle.
- 4) That the SRCHA will only pay compensation for animals injured or killed while being used for the competition. Animals injured or killed as a result of poor or dangerous livestock facilities or improper handling by cattle handlers will not be compensated for by the SRCHA. At least 2 Directors of the SRCHA or 2 members of the SRCHA Cattle Committee must see the injured or dead animal before compensation will be considered.

Article 11 – SRCHA Rule Book:

## **ANIMAL ABUSE**

Inhumane treatment or abuse of a horse 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. If show management, judge, or Board Director determines, in their sole discretion, that the welfare of the horse requires immediate action, 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 PROHIBITED 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.