

## **RAS DAIRY CATTLE SHOW CODE OF ETHICS**

### **PREAMBLE, PURPOSE AND COMPLIANCE:**

The practice of showing dairy cattle stimulates, encourages and promotes interest in the breeding of Registered dairy cattle. It is to the benefit of all breeders of registered cattle and the broader dairy industry that the reputation for integrity, good husbandry and animal welfare in dairy cattle shows is maintained.

The primary purpose of this RAS Dairy Cattle Show Code of Ethics (RASDCSCOE) is to ensure that all animals presented for exhibition will be free from any alteration or modification caused by unethical fitting practices.

The RAS Dairy Cattle Show Ethics Committee (RASDCSEC) has responsibility for the RASDCSCOE and consists of representatives from all RAS affiliated Dairy Cattle Breed Societies and Dairy Cattle Events, along with an RAS appointed representative.

The RASDCSCOE provides the standard for regulation of unacceptable practices and for maintaining exhibitor responsibility for animal preparation, presentation and exhibition. The RASDCSCOE covers animals registered or eligible for registration in the pedigree or appendix registers of all affiliated Dairy Cattle Breed Society Herd Books, as well as all unregistered dairy cattle that may be entered in local classes.

The application of this RASDCSCOE at all affiliated dairy cattle breed shows or competitions provides for absolute responsibility for an animals' condition by an Owner or Lessee, Exhibitor, Fitter or Responsible Party (each deemed to be within the definition of "Exhibitor"). This responsibility occurs whether or not he or she was instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this RASDCSCOE.

Compliance with this RASDCSCOE will be required of all members of all RAS affiliated Dairy Cattle Breed Societies and Events. The RASDCSCOE also applies to any other person, trust, company, partnership or other legal form who utilises or associates themselves with the name of those Breed Societies or their logo, or who in any way infers that an animal for exhibition is registered or is eligible for registration with those RAS affiliated Dairy Cattle Breed Societies and Events.

Any violation of this RASDCSCOE by an Exhibitor will be deemed to be a breach of the Exhibitor's Dairy Cattle Breed Society's applicable show ethics By-laws or Rules and will be subject to disciplinary action under those By-laws or Rules with the relevant society conferred the benefit of this code as necessary.

Exhibitors will at all times conduct themselves with honesty, good sportsmanship and maintain proper animal care so as to protect the health, safety and welfare of livestock and the food consuming public.

This RASDCSCOE will be subject to such modification by the RASDCSEC as this committee considers necessary and/or expedient to ensure that this RASDCSCOE complies with relevant National or Government legislation including the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Guidelines/Dairy Cattle Code of Welfare that applies to livestock care, handling, exhibition and welfare.

## DEFINITIONS:

Exhibitor:	The person responsible for the entry of the animal into the show or otherwise deemed to be an Exhibitor under this code.
Fitter:	The person or persons responsible for the preparing the animal for the show under the jurisdiction of the Exhibitor.
Handler:	The person responsible for the animal in the show ring under the jurisdiction of the Exhibitor.
Local Classes:	Classes where any animal regardless of breed can compete, but these classes/animals are not eligible for breed or championship prizes
RAS:	Royal Agricultural & Pastoral Society
RASDCSEC:	RAS Dairy Cattle Show Ethics Committee
RASDCSEC Appeals Panel:	RAS Dairy Cattle Show Ethics Committee Appeals Panel is to deal with any appeal regarding a decision made by the RASDCSEC. The RASDCSEC Appeals Panel will be made up of a nominee (this covers the eventuality if the concern is against the President or the Vice President) of the Breed Society concerned along with no less than two thirds of the RASDCSEC. The RASDCSEC Appeals Panel has the right to seek advice from an external source where necessary. The RASDCSEC will have the authority and responsibility to establish, appoint and remove members, and adopt any practice and procedure for the panel to the extent that the panel may not have its own inherent power in respect of same.
RASDCOE:	RAS Dairy Cattle Show Code of Ethics
RAS Affiliated Dairy Cattle Breed Society:	All affiliated Dairy Cattle Breed Societies as registered on the RAS website- <a href="http://www.ras.org.nz">www.ras.org.nz</a> .
Owner/Lessee:	The person or persons who as applicable is determined at law to be the Owner or Lessee of the animal and/or has ultimate responsibility for the animal being exhibited.
Responsible Party:	The person with the absolute responsibility for the animal at the show, including but not limited to the Owner, Lessee, Exhibitor, Fitter and Handler.
Shows/Events:	All affiliated A & P shows, competitions and events under the Royal Agricultural Society umbrella, where dairy cattle are exhibited.

Unethical Practice: Any practice or procedure that may harm an animal, the reputation of the breed and/or relevant breed society, or any other act or omission that the RASDCSEC reasonably determines to be an unethical practice or part of an unethical practice.

## 1 **Show Ethics Structures**

There are several related bodies that have an interest in ensuring the ethical showing of Dairy Cattle. The diagram below highlights these bodies.



### **RAS Affiliated NZ Dairy Cattle Breed Societies (Breed Societies)**

Breed Societies are responsible for maintaining their own rules and regulations regarding the conduct for showing dairy cattle in New Zealand in conjunction with the RASDCSEC. These rules and regulations generally include penalties and rights of appeal for their individual members.

### **RAS Dairy Cattle Show Ethics Committee (RASDCSEC)**

The RAS along with affiliated NZ Dairy Breed Societies have jointly to establish a standing Committee known as the RAS Dairy Cattle Show Ethics Committee (RASDCSEC) that has the responsibility for the development, regulation and enforcement of this RASDCSCOE. The RASDCSEC is made up of representatives from RAS affiliated NZ Dairy Cattle Breed Societies and the RAS. The RASDCSEC will seek professional advice where applicable.

The RASDCSEC has approved and endorsed this RASDCSCOE. The RASDCSEC requires the code to be enforced by all affiliated NZ Dairy Cattle Breed Societies, A & P Shows/Events and exhibitions throughout New Zealand to the fullest extent possible by each of these organisations from time to time.

The RASDCSEC will be responsible for establishing and implementing such procedures and processes as this committee determines as necessary to monitor alleged or actual violations of the RASDCSCOE. The RASDCSEC may investigate the report of any violation and determine the accuracy of the allegation. The RASDCSEC will have the authority to inspect animals and related material to determine if violations have occurred and will have the authority to apply penalties for violations it has found to have occurred.

The RASDCSEC shall be responsible for the co-ordination and review of the RASDCSCOE. A review will occur annually and following this review the RASDCSEC may amend the RASDCSCOE as it deems necessary, subject to following the current RAS rule change policy. The RASDCSEC will have the authority to mandate and impose penalties for violations including those of a serious nature, which may involve bans from multiple shows but is not limited to this.

*See section 3.5 for Enforcement Procedures*

## 2. **Exhibitor Responsibility**

The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the Owner or Lessee, Exhibitor, Fitter and/or any other Responsible Person falling within the definition of Responsible Party (each deemed to be within the definition of "Exhibitor") for the animal to the RASDCSEC to approach, investigate or enquire as to the preparation of the dairy cattle for exhibiting. This includes consent to inspect, examine or collect any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, milk or other samples from the animal to be used for the purpose of testing. Information may also be collected by ultrasound and photographic methods and by direct examination of an animal.

The act of entering dairy cattle in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the Responsible Party to disciplinary action for any violation or violations of this RASDCSCOE determined by the RASDCSEC in its absolute discretion.

The Responsible Party is to ensure the general welfare needs of each animal under their care in attendance at a show is met at all times in line with the Animal Welfare Act 2016.

The onus is on the Responsible Party to ensure all show entry forms are completed without false or misleading information and by signing the show entry form they agree to be bound by the declaration, warranty and waiver described in the show entry form.

Funding the cost of any testing annually will be set by the RASDCSEC and will be a levy on each Exhibitor at all RAS affiliated shows, including the NZ Dairy Event.

## 3. **Practices and Procedures; Hierarchy and Power of Amendment**

### Preamble

This code of ethics includes:

- 3.1 Allowed Practices
- 3.2 Proscribed Practices
- 3.3 Testing and Detection Methods
- 3.4 Penalties
- 3.5 Enforcement Procedures

In this code of ethics the hierarchy of documents/actions is:

- A Relevant National or Government legislation including the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Guidelines/Dairy Cattle Code of Welfare that applies to livestock care, handling, exhibition and welfare.
- B This code as a whole and/or any actions authorised or permitted to be taken pursuant to it where these are within the parameters of such authorised or permitted conduct by this code.
- C This preamble to clause 3 of this code.
- D Other provisions of this code.
- E Any regulation (other than under A) originating from outside of this code and intended by its nature and reach to apply to this code and/or all or any of its subject matter.

In the event of a dispute concerning or touching upon the interpretation and/or application of this code of ethics or any aspect of it (including the application of this preamble) to any particular

circumstance(s) the decision of the RASDCSEC will subject only to any express provisions in this code to the contrary be final and binding to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Where in any particular instance the RASDCSEC determines that any provision of this code of ethics is inconsistent with or contrary to the intent of this code as a whole then the RASDCSEC (subject to any constraints imposed by this code) may modify the offending provision as this committee considers necessary and/or expedient to ensure that such inconsistency or contravention is remediated. Upon the forgoing such remediated wording will be deemed to be incorporated into this code with full future but not retrospective effect.

### 3.1 Allowed Practices

Dairy cattle exhibitions are conducted under standards for evaluating conformation established by various Breed Societies with specific breed characteristics taken into consideration by the show judge.

In this connection, animals will be groomed and prepared for the Judge's evaluation in order to display the animal's natural contour, conformation, performance and mobility.

*Specifically:*

- (a) External applications of cosmetics that affect only appearance may be used, including hoof polishes, hoof trimming, glitter, hair products on the top line and other areas of the animal.
- (b) Fake switches are permitted.
- (c) **External teat sealing only** is an allowable practice but must not contravene clause 3.2.1 (vii) of this document
- (d) **External teat setting only** is an allowable practice and must not contravene clause 3.2.1 (vii) of this document
- (e) The use of udder treatments is allowed provided the product is registered for use on dairy cattle within New Zealand, excluding electrical appliances used for stimulating the teat and udder.
- (f) The following allowed practices require an Exhibitor Declaration (see Appendix 1) to be completed and returned to the head steward (or other show official as appointed by the (RASDCSEC) **BEFORE** an animal is allowed to enter the ring.
  - (i) The use of intra-uterine and intra-vaginal controlled drug release devices is allowed but Exhibitors must complete an Exhibitor Declaration declaring the use of such a device and including the name of the ET technician or vet involved in the case of an ET program. Only one such device per animal is allowable and dairy cattle are subject to examination.
  - (ii) The use of drugs before and during a show is allowed under certain conditions. All pharmaceuticals and nutraceuticals must be delivered according to label instructions, including dose rate, frequency of use, method of application and purpose.
    - A) Drugs allowed that have been prescribed by a veterinarian based on a therapeutic need as part of an animal treatment plan and declared in the Exhibitor Declaration:
      - I Anti-inflammatories (Flunixin meglumine, Meloxicam, Tolfenamic acid, Ketoprofen, Dexamethasone) and any subsequent anti-inflammatories that maybe registered for future use in NZ
      - II Anti-biotics, including intramammary anti-biotics
      - III Diuretics (Furosemide (INN), Frusemide (BNN))
      - IV Anti-histamines (Tripelennamine HCl, Chlorpheniramine maleate) and any subsequent anti-histamine that maybe registered for future use in NZ

- V Sedatives (xylazine, acepromizine) and any subsequent sedatives that maybe registered for future use in NZ
- VI Hormones (Oxytocin, Prostaglandin, Gonadatrophin (GnRH)) and any subsequent hormones that maybe registered for future use in NZ
- B) Substances allowed without an Exhibitor declaration:
  - I Vitamins and minerals
  - II Glucose

### 3.2 Proscribed Practices

The following are examples of procedures and practices that RASDCSEC will consider to be fraudulent, unethical or detract from the proper showing and image of dairy cattle. Addition of foreign objects, including but not limited to cloth or fibre, to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body is prohibited. Proscribed practices fall into two categories: major violations and minor violations, but are not limited to only those listed below:

#### 3.2.1 Major Violations

Major violations fall into two categories and both will be dealt with by the RASDCSEC through testing and under the RASDCSCOE enforcement procedures as detailed in Section 3.5 herein:

- (A) *Major violations that will be subject to RASDCSEC testing are as follows:*
- (i) Treating an animal externally including the udder, with an irritant or other foreign substance not registered for use on cattle within New Zealand
  - (ii) The use and attachment of a stimulating device and/or electrical appliance to massage or modify the teat or udder is not permitted.
  - (iii) Surgically or otherwise inserting any prohibited chemical, drug, gas, liquid (including milk), matter or foreign substance into the udder to artificially enhance or change the natural shape or appearance of the udder or achieving such change by any other procedure or means. This includes, but is not limited to:
    - (a) Dextrose
    - (b) Pure alcohol
    - (c) Gas of any sort
    - (d) Foam
    - (e) Silver protein
    - (f) Silver nitrate
    - (g) Transferring milk between quarters
  - (iv) Improper fitting practices, such as over filling and over bagging that causes an animal pain, discomfort or walking difficulty and is validated by ultra sound scanning detecting unacceptable levels of oedema in the udder according the following scores.
    - (a) Oedema Score:
      - i. 1 to 2: low to moderate – little or no oedema – acceptable
      - ii. 2 to 3: moderate to high – oedema apparent – unacceptable
      - iii. 3 to 4: high to extreme – oedema obvious – unacceptable
  - (v) Administering an injected or applied anaesthetic to alter the carriage of the tail or other body parts or achieving such changes by any other procedure or means.

- (vi) Surgically or otherwise inserting any matter or foreign substance under the skin or into any body cavity to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body or achieving such changes by any other procedure or means. This includes the administration of fluids by stomach tube or other similar device unless performed under the direct supervision of the show veterinarian for medical treatment.
  - (vii) Manipulation of the teat internally by surgically or otherwise inserting a foreign substance to alter its normal direction, length, or shape, or to hold the teat unnaturally plum is banned. The length of the teat must not be altered, either internally or externally, under any circumstances i.e. teats must not be shortened in anyway
  - (viii) Use of the following drugs or other drugs or chemical combinations that have substantially the same or materially similar effects are NOT permitted under any circumstances before or during a show:
    - (a) Any drug not registered for use on cattle in NZ
    - (b) Anabolic steroids
    - (c) Growth or milk promoting hormones other than those in 3.1.f (ii) A
    - (d) Diuretics and sedatives other than those in 3.1.f (ii) A
    - (e) Amphetamines
    - (f) Prescribed drugs without a veterinarians label attached
    - (g) Prescribed drugs with a veterinarians label attached but used outside the normal time frame allowed for the use of that drug or drugs not used in accordance with the label instructions
    - (h) Drugs used from an unmarked bottle, tube or container
    - (i) Any drug that is illicit or illegal in NZ
- (B) *Major violations regulated by the RASDCSEC complaints procedure are as follows:*
- (i) Mistreatment of an animal while in the show ring, show ring approaches, shed or stalls or while the animal remains within the perimeter of the show and event grounds.
  - (ii) Criticising or interfering with the judge, show management or other Exhibitors while in the show ring or other conduct detrimental to the breed or the show.
  - (iii) Challenging, threatening, criticising or interfering with the RASDCSEC member or volunteer appointed by show management to monitor the animals on exhibit on the show grounds.
  - (iv) Misrepresenting the age or lineage/breed for the class in which it is entered.
  - (v) Failing to provide proper/accurate animal identification when asked by show ethics personnel or show management.
  - (vi) Tampering with another Exhibitor's animal.

*Penalty:* Major violations will be reported to the RASDCSEC and can result in animals and/or Exhibitors, Owners, Lessees, Fitters or representatives being barred from future participation at shows.



### 3.2.2 Minor Violations

Minor Violations include but are not limited to:

- (i) Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of show Handlers, Exhibitors or Fitters while in the show ring, shed, stalls or show and event grounds. All Exhibitors entering the ring must display a high and respectable standard of dress appropriate for the showing cattle.
- (ii) Excessively manipulating top line and/or tail head hair beyond 3.80 centimetres (1.5 inches). Exhibitors have only one opportunity per show to check-in ringside and the animal will not be allowed in the ring for the duration of the show should excessive manipulation of the top line or tail head hair occur.
- (iii) Misrepresenting the number of lactations and/or milking status of the animal for the class in which it is entered.
- (iv) Using a device or product to artificially create or enhance the udder crease i.e. an icebar etc.
- (v) Animals 12 months of age or over which are not dehorned
- (vi) Female animals 12 months of age or over who are exhibited with a ring in their nose

*Penalty:* Minor violations will be considered by the RASDCSEC and awarded a penalty in line with the offence.

### 3.2.3 Unethical practices or procedures not listed

Any practice or procedure not listed above but reported as unethical will be reviewed by the RASDCSEC, who will determine as to whether the conduct is unethical and if so what disciplinary action (if any) is to be imposed.

## 3.3 Testing and Detection Methods

The primary principle of testing is that the animals placed first and second in each class plus a randomly selected animal will be scanned and tested in accordance with this section of the RASDCSCOE.

The secondary principle is that the animal should be tested after its last appearance in the show ring. This means that animals placed first and second in each class can be tested after their champion class with the exception of Champion and Reserve, which will be tested after the Supreme class.

### 3.3.1 Random Testing

Random selection of animals for testing will be conducted at all shows. All in-milk animals entered in the show or event are eligible to be randomly selected for testing.

The principle to be used for random testing shall be that one random animal is selected for each in-milk class. These random animals can be selected by one of two ways:

- (i) Animals can be drawn from the entry numbers issued to all exhibiting animals by class; or
- (ii) For each class, a placing can be drawn, not including 1st and 2nd which are tested in any case.

In all cases, the animals entry numbers should be randomly chosen by the RASDCSEC in accordance with section 3.3.1 herein by a method determined by the RASDCSEC prior to the

show commencing and kept confidential in a sealed envelope; one for each class. The envelopes shall remain in a secure place as determined by the RASDCSEC.

### 3.3.2 Judges Call for Testing

Judges shall have the option to call for an animal to be tested if they suspect the animal has been prepared and presented in a manner that contravenes this RASDCSCOE. The judge shall make the request confidentially to the head dairy steward and not directly to the Exhibitor. As soon as practical the head steward must report the judges request to the nominated member of the RASDCSEC and the animal shall be selected for testing. This is only available at shows where the scanning is present.

### 3.3.3 Ultrasound

Each nominated show is encouraged to use the services of an ultrasound machine and trained technician to detect the unethical manipulation of the udder.

### 3.3.4 Milk and Blood Tests

Each nominated show is encouraged to test both blood and milk samples of the first two placegetters in each class plus each animal in a spot (to be decided with each judge). The procedures for blood and milk sample taking and testing are included in clause 3.5.1 Enforcement Procedures – Decision Chain.

## 3.4 Penalties

If a violation of the RASDCSCOE has been proven to have occurred and the proper enforcement procedure has been followed, penalties against the Exhibitor can be enforced and may include any one, or combination, of the following:

### A. Minor Violations:

- (i) 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> violation: written letter of reprimand to the Owner or Lessee, Exhibitor, Fitter and/or Responsible Person;
- (ii) 3<sup>rd</sup> violation: disqualification of the owner or lessee, Exhibitor, Fitter and/or Responsible Person from exhibiting livestock at future show and competitions throughout New Zealand for 12 months from the date of the 3<sup>rd</sup> violation.

### B. Major Violations:

- (i) Forfeiture or return of awards, prizes, premiums or proceeds;
- (ii) Disqualification of the exhibiting livestock from further competition;
- (ii) Disqualification of the Exhibitor from the show;
- (iv) Disqualification of the Fitter from the show;
- (v) Disqualification of the Owner or Lessee, Exhibitor and/or Fitter from exhibiting livestock from future shows and competitions throughout New Zealand for a minimum 12 months to a maximum 24 months from date of violation.

### C. A breed society may impose penalties on its members in accordance with their own relevant rules and regulations.

NOTE: Disqualification may include any or all shows/competitions and classes, and maybe in accordance with provisions of show management and the relevant Breed Society.

## 3.5 Enforcement Procedures

In this sub-clause the following rules apply subject to such modification as the RASDCSEC determines is necessary to ensure better consistency and integration with the RAS rules. The

RASDCSEC (subject to any constraints imposed by this code and notwithstanding the preamble to clause 3) may undertake such modification as this Committee considers necessary and/or expedient to achieve the foregoing outcome. Upon being made such remediated wording will be deemed to be incorporated into this sub-clause with full future but not retrospective effect.

- (i) A RASDCSEC should include no less than three (3) individuals including an official breed Representative.
- (ii) The RASDCSEC will be responsible for monitoring and determining violations of the applicable Show's Code of Ethics and the RASDCSCOE by Exhibitors and/or their representatives.
- (iii) Complaints of alleged minor or major violations must be in writing and can be presented by any interested party to official breed representatives, representatives of the show management, the official show veterinarian or to the RASDCSEC.
- (iv) All complaints of alleged violations received by the above individuals will be presented to the RASDCSEC to determine investigative requirements.
- (v) The RASDCSEC has the authority to inspect all animals to determine if violations of the applicable Show's Code of Ethics or the RASDCSCOE have occurred.

To help in this regard, the RASDCSEC has the authority to perform the following:

- (a) Measure the top line and/or tail head hair
  - (b) Pull hair samples;
  - (c) Draw blood samples;
  - (d) Perform an ultrasound examination of the udder, prior to milk out;
  - (e) Perform a milk out of any individual cow or cows;
  - (f) Collect and test any of the animal's bodily fluids, including milk, blood and urine;
  - (g) Use any technology that may be useful in determining if a violation has occurred in any animal based on placement, random selection or suspect characteristics;
  - (h) Require delivery to the RASDCSEC of hypodermic syringe, needle or other devices, swabs, cloths, or other material, or samples or any medicine, preparation, or substance, whether in liquid or other form, in the possession or control of the Exhibitor, the Fitter, agents or persons acting on behalf of the Exhibitor for the purpose of laboratory analysis.
- (vi) An individual, partnership, trust, company or other legal form who is a member of a NZ Dairy Breed Society but not necessarily an Owner or Exhibitor who commits a violation of the RASDCSCOE will be subject to the same ethics enforcement procedures and sanctions as the Owner, Exhibitor or Responsible Person.
  - (vii) Any member of the public may inform the nominated representative of the RASDCSEC of what they believe to be a violation of the RASDCSCOE.
  - (viii) The judge may determine if a minor violation has occurred in the show ring. The judge may consider the minor violation in the placing of the class. The minor violation will be reported by the judge to the nominated member of the RASDCSEC.
  - (ix) If the RASDCSEC determines that a minor or major violation of the RASDCSCOE will occur if an Exhibitor shows an animal, the Exhibitor will be informed that the showing of the animal will be in violation of the RASDCSCOE and will result in a minor or major violation of the RASDCSCOE. If the Exhibitor decides not to show the animal, no violation will have occurred, except in cases where the Exhibitor will breach section 3.2.2 sub clauses (i) – (vi) herein relating to the mistreatment of animals and unacceptable Exhibitor behaviour where an investigation will occur regardless of whether an animal enters the ring or not.

- (x) Following the judging of the milking cow classes, the RASDCSEC or representatives will ultrasound the udders and take fluid samples from the animals placed first and second in each class plus at least one random animal in each in-milk class. Exhibitors who are selected to have fluid samples taken from their animals will be directed to the test sampling area. Animals may also be selected by the RASDCSEC, in their absolute discretion, to have samples collected.
- (xi) Following the completion of the Show and the evaluation of the hair measurements, ultrasound readings and upon the receipt of the fluid sample analysis (if samples have been taken) or other lab reports, the RASDCSEC will submit a copy of its findings to the show management if any violations have occurred. This reporting will happen as soon as reasonably possible after the end of the show.
- (xii) If the RASDCSEC determines that a violation occurred, the RASDCSEC will promptly notify the official breed society representative and the accused individual(s) of the alleged violation. Copies of the supporting evidence to the extent reasonably possible will be provided to both the official breed representative and the accused individual(s). The anonymity of the accused individual(s) and/or animal will be maintained by the RASDCSEC and show management throughout the enforcement process until any appeal has been heard.
- (xiii) If a major violation has been found to have occurred and breached this RASDCSCOE then the accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form may be subject to disciplinary proceedings, including penalties that can be imposed by the NZADBSEC in accordance with those rules. Any penalty imposed upon an Exhibitor must be in writing.
- (xiv) If a penalty is imposed and applies only to the current show or event where the violation occurred, the accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form has the right of appeal against the decision and can apply in writing to the RASDCSEC. An application to appeal must be made in writing within 7 days from the date of notification that the violation has occurred and accompanied by the appeal fee (which will be set annually by the RASDCSEC). An accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form must be notified in writing and the notice is to be sent by tracked courier to the accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form last known address.
- (xv) If a penalty is imposed by the RASDCSEC that applies beyond the current show or event where the violation occurred; the accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form has the right of appeal against the determination of the RASDCSEC and can apply to the RASDCSEC Appeals Panel. The panel will consist of the President (or Vice President) of the Breed Society concerned and no less than two thirds of the RASDCSEC. Application should be made in writing to the Chair of the RASDCSEC Appeals Panel within 7 days of accused person being notified of the penalty imposed and be accompanied by the appeal fee (which will be set annually by the RASDCSEC). The RASDCSEC Appeals Panel will notify the accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form of its ruling within 7 days. The accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form will be notified by tracked courier sent to the last known address of the accused individual(s) or party(s) in other legal form.
- (xvi) At the completion of the show the RASDCSEC will formally notify the breed society concerned of the violation and penalty if imposed. RASDCSEC shall also notify the Royal Agricultural Society Dairy Chairperson, and the management of NZ Dairy Event of the violation.

- (xvii) As a result of receiving notification from RASDCSEC that an Exhibitor has been found to have committed a major violation of this RASDCSCOE, the Royal Agricultural Society Dairy Chairperson, the relevant Breed Society and the management of NZ Dairy Event may impose their own penalties on the Exhibitor in accordance with their own rules and regulations.

#### 3.5.1 Enforcement procedures – Decision Chain

The enforcement procedure decision chain applies only if the RASDCSEC has determined that a violation has occurred.

If the RASDCSEC determines that a violation will occur if the animal is shown, the Exhibitor will be informed that the showing of that animal will result in a major violation of the RASDCSCOE. If the Exhibitor decides not to show the animal, no violation will have occurred.

**(i) Major violation arising from ringside testing**

*Applies only to examination of top line and teat setting*

- 1 • Testing occurs at ringside and is undertaken by a nominated person
- 2 • If a violation is confirmed, the animal cannot enter the ring
- 3 • No appeal is possible

**(ii) Major violation arising from testing AFTER showing for the last time**

*Includes examination of udder by ultrasound and/or blood, urine or milk sample test*

- 1 • Testing occurs after the animal leaves the ring for the last time and has completed showing in the event
- 2 • If a violation is confirmed, RASDCSEC is informed
- 3 • RASDCSEC to decide penalty for either current show or future show(s)
- 4 • Current Show – exhibitor, breed society and show informed of the penalty.  
• Exhibitor may appeal to RASDCSEC
- 5 • Penalty beyond current show, RASDCSEC to decide penalty – Exhibitor may appeal to the RASDCSEC Appeals Panel, RASDCSEC will inform Breed Society and RAS of result of appeal.

**(iii) Minor violation arising from unacceptable behaviour or misconduct PRIOR to and/or DURING judging**

- 1 • If a minor violation is confirmed, the exhibitor is notified by RASDCSEC or nominated person and asked to refrain behaviour
- 2 • RASDCSEC will inform the judge of the violation
- 3 • Judge may consider the violation in the placing of the class
- 4 • RASDCSEC will notify the show of the violation and issue the exhibitor with a letter of reprimand

