

# DES MOINES BIOSECURITY PLAN

*Adopted for the 2025 National Junior High Rodeo Association*

This plan is designed to address risks related to the introduction and transmission of infectious animal diseases during the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. Animal diseases are handled very differently depending on the disease, exposure, and severity of the outbreak. This plan is not intended to be all inclusive, but rather, provide a basic communication outline as well as starting points for both preventive and reactionary response measures when handling animal disease issues. Any response will utilize the attached Incident Command System (ICS) to coordinate between the Rodeo and Facility Administrations, Animal/Public Health Officials and any other involved entities. The Des Moines Biosecurity Plan will be divided into three main areas:

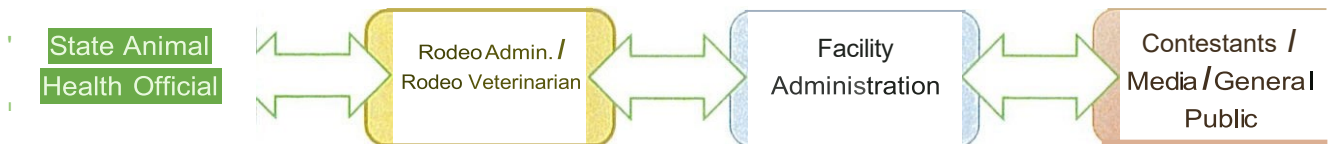
- 1. Communication:** Communication is essential between Rodeo Management, Event Staff, State Animal Health Officials, and Rodeo Contestants. This plan will outline the flow and exchange of information to ensure consistent information.
- 2. Preventative Measures: Necessary** precautions will be taken to prevent a livestock disease outbreak at NHSRA events.
- 3. Response Measures:** Measures taken and necessary steps after an animal has become sick or an animal disease outbreak has occurred at an NHSRA event.

## COMMUNICATION

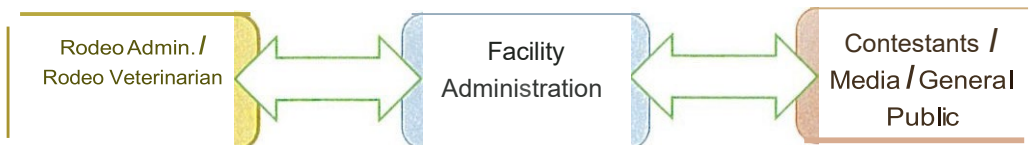
Effective and efficient communication is essential to handling animal disease issues at an NHSRA event. When handling animal disease issues, four main parties will communicate and coordinate actions or responses. Each stake holder will appoint an individual as the designated contact or spokesperson. The designations are as follows:

1. Rodeo Administration -James Higginbotham, 870-510-8498
2. Facility Administration –Liz Ley, 515-344-0924
3. Rodeo Veterinarian –**Dr. Abbey Smith, 515-238-8422**
4. **State Animal Health Official—Dr. David Scott, 515-669-3527**

These individuals are the only officials designated to offer official statements or commentary relating to an animal disease issue during the event. It is critical to share important and relevant information in a timely manner with all parties involved. Due to sensitivities with animal disease issues, it is essential to have unity when dealing with the media. Local Public Information Officers (PIO's) may be used to help control information and give feedback on appropriate responses. These individuals will collectively review, agree on and approve any official statements or commentary to the public, media, contestants or participants during the event. To simplify and ensure that communication is efficient and effective, the following flow chart will be implemented during an outbreak of a reportable disease.



In the case of a non-reportable animal disease outbreak the following flow chart will be used:



For communication purposes between Rodeo Administration and contestants, a contact list will be maintained by NHSRA Office Personnel. Any communication with contestants will use the quickest and most effective method to expedite information. Other tactics to distribute information to the contestants, media, and general public will be used based on the judgement of Rodeo Administration.

#### **PREVENTATIVE MEASURES**

1. Healthy Animal Policy: Only healthy animals will be allowed entry on rodeo grounds. Determining if an animal is healthy is based on the judgement of the Rodeo Veterinarian. Animals displaying signs of sickness or disease will not be allowed onto the grounds. Signs of disease may include coughing, runny nose, oral blisters, elevated temperature or neurological symptoms.
2. In accordance with NHSRA policy, all livestock must have current CVI and EIA Test documentation if applicable. Entry will not be allowed until current documents are provided. CVI and EIA Test requirements are to be in line with current state import requirements regardless of livestock origins.
3. Feed and water for livestock may only be provided in designated areas. Unless otherwise noted, feed and water will only be permitted in the stall area or pen area and the contestant's personal trailer.
4. Due to the high biosecurity risk, large water troughs or communal watering will not be permitted.
5. Pens and stall areas are to be kept clean.
6. Sharing of tack, unnecessary movement of animals between stalls or barns, and sharing of medical supplies is discouraged.
7. Any dogs or pets are to be kept on a leash at all times and will not be allowed to roam freely. All waste must be cleaned up by the pet owner.

#### **RESPONSE MEASURES**

1. Any animal exhibiting signs of sickness or disease should be reported to Rodeo Administration using the contact information on page 1. Rodeo Administration will work with the contestant and the Rodeo Veterinarian to ensure that the health of the animal is properly assessed and addressed.
2. It is the responsibility of the contestant to cover any veterinary tests and expenses.
3. Any animal exhibiting signs of sickness or disease may be removed from the stall or pen area and moved into an isolation area. The isolation area will be listed on the facility map given to each contestant.
4. The pen or stall of a sick or diseased animal will be stripped of all feed and bedding and be properly disinfected by Des Moines personnel according to established guidelines and requirements.
5. In the event of a reportable disease outbreak, the Rodeo Veterinarian will notify the State Animal Health Official. Protocol will be followed if any Federal assistance is needed. In the event of a zoonotic disease, Public Health officials will be involved and integrated into the communications and response plan with similar authority as the State Animal Health Official.
6. Following the official diagnosis from the Rodeo Veterinarian, or State Animal Health Official, any animals that have had contact with the sick or diseased animal will be inspected and assessed.
7. If the nature of the animal disease outbreak requires a quarantine, Rodeo Administration, State Animal Health Official and the owner of the animal will discuss the best course of action.

# DO YOUR PART TO PROTECT RODEO LIVESTOCK

1. AVOID SHARING WATER BUCKETS AND FEEDERS.
2. AVOID SHARING TACK AND OTHER EQUIPMENT.
3. REPORT SICK LIVESTOCK TO THE RODEO VETERINARIAN.
4. CLEAN UP AROUND YOUR TRAILER BEFORE YOU LEAVE.
5. KEEP YOUR STALL OR PEN AREA CLEAN.
6. AVOID UNNECESSARY HORSE-TO-HORSE AND HUMAN-TO-HORSE CONTACT.

*Rodeo Veterinarian:* Dr. Abbey Smith 515-238-8422

*Rodeo Administration:* James Higginbotham - 870-510-8498

## Arena Director Checklist for Injured Animals NJHFR and NHSFR Events

Prior to the performance, determine:

- >-- \_\_\_\_\_ Where the equipment for removing an animal is located
- >-- \_\_\_\_\_ Who will be operating the equipment for removing an injured animal.
- >-- \_\_\_\_\_ Where the injured animal will be transported to.

### Process for Injuries that occur during the Rodeo Performance

\_\_\_\_\_ Restrain the animal (if necessary) to prevent further injury (Arena Director.  
Stock Contractor)

\_\_\_\_\_ Contact Event Veterinarian for preliminary diagnosis in the arena (if time permits)  
(Arena Director. Stock Contractor)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sedate the animal if necessary (Stock Contractor)

\_\_\_\_\_ Remove the animal from the arena; injured animal sled for larger animals,  
stretcher or pickup for smaller animals (Animal Welfare Coordinator)

\_\_\_\_\_ Contact the Event Veterinarian for additional triage on animal. Event  
Veterinarian will consult with the animal's owner or Stock Contractor to determine if  
transport to a clinic is warranted or if animal can be treated on-site. (Animal Welfare  
Coordinator. Event Veterinarian)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CONTACT INFORMATION</u>
Jay Wagner	Rodeo Coordinator	406-490-9104
Randy Conklin	TE Arena Director	573-489-5168
B J Ragatz	RS Arena Director	608-778-6211
Paul Compton	Shooting Director	520-560-2387
Kurt Walbert	Animal Welfare Coordinator	443-978-0327
Herbert Theriot	Stock Contractor	601-365-9115
Travis Parr	Goat Contractor	715-828-2454
Dr. Abbey Smith	Event Veterinarian	515-238-8422