

The OCA BEST Committee updated the program's rules for 2023-2024 to relax the severity of penalties associated with a positive test of an approved drug and to provide the committee with flexibility in handling a rule violation and its subsequent penalties.

- Approved drugs are those drugs the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) have approved for use in cattle. Under these new rules, tests with approved drug residue levels less than the FDA food safety allowance level will be considered Exhibition Drug Residue Legal and not a violation of program rules.
- The rules continue a zero tolerance for the use of any unapproved drug at any point in the animal's life. Unapproved means drugs not approved by the FDA for use in cattle that will ultimately be slaughter animals.
- Upon arrival at an OCA BEST show any animal, market or breeding, being tested (BEST or non-BEST) must be clear of any unapproved drug residue and be clear of any withdrawal periods for approved drugs.
- The artificial filling or pumping of animals is prohibited.
- The use of any material, gas, solid, or liquid, that conceals, transforms, or enhances the true confirmation or configuration of an animal, including by way of example, but not limited to rope, false hair, graphite, hemp and powders is prohibited.
- The use of pigmented grooming aides, i.e. paint, on the animal or its hooves while at a show is prohibited.
- The use of Pulsed Electro-Magnetic Field (PEMF) therapy on an animal while at an OCA BEST show will be permitted, although the treatment should be approved by the official show veterinarian.

For the complete OCA BEST rules [click here](#).

For information on the Ohio Livestock Reform Act and the Livestock Tampering Exhibition Rules [click here](#).