



# RULES

## HOLSTEIN NIGHT 17 March 2018

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### I. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION

#### 1. *Heifers*

Heifers cannot have calved. Heifers and their mothers must be tracked from birth. The mothers shall also be subject to official milk control.

#### 2. *First-calf heifers and mature cows*

The animals must be tracked from birth and subject to official milk control.

### II. HEALTH CONDITIONS

Each farmer must ensure that their vet completes the mandatory certification for the transport of their animals.

**ATTENTION: a STRICT, MANDATORY health check will be carried out by an authorised person when the animals are unloaded.**

### III. INCLUSION in the CATALOGUE

#### 1. *Catalogue*

Each animal is listed in the name of its owner. If there are two owners, this can be indicated in the catalogue upon request of the farmer responsible for entering the animal into the catalogue. The contact person is the individual who enters the animal into the catalogue.

#### 2. *Entry fees*

Entry is free. **Please also note that if we are not informed by 8 March 2018 that an animal that has been registered will not be able to attend, a charge of €25 per animal will be payable.**

### IV. INSTRUCTIONS for the COMPETITION

#### 1. *Arrival of animals*

Animals may arrive at the Libramont Exhibition and Congress (LEC) **from Tuesday 13 March (from 1 pm) to Friday 16 March.** Before you arrive, please contact the organisation to tell us your approximate arrival time (+ 32 477 32 83 14 or +32 470 28 40 25).

#### 2. *Access to the hall*

On Saturday 17 March, the main hall doors will be shut from **10 am**. No animals can leave the LEC before the end of the competition. **The same applies for bringing your equipment in and out of the hall. Use the storage spaces available and make sure you bring everything**

you need. Only the “public” entrance will remain open, through which you can gain access with your Holstein Night entry pass or bracelet.

### **3. Competition schedule**

The competition schedule is outlined in detail in the official competition catalogue on the website: [www.nuitdelaholstein.be](http://www.nuitdelaholstein.be).

So that we can make sure that we stick to this schedule and that the various categories run on time, farmers must be present with their animals at the pre-ring entrance at the start of the competition directly before theirs - 15 minutes in advance for heifer competitions and enough in advance for mature cows **for the ethics inspection**.

**ATTENTION: late-comers will not be allowed to enter the ring.**

### **4. Dress code**

Each farmer must respect the required attire: white trousers, black “**Holstein Night**” shirt, tie supplied by the organisers, and black shoes.

Holstein Night shirts can be purchased for €25 or hired for €5 with a deposit (ID or €25 per farmer). The same applies for ties.

### **5. Access to the ring**

Before entering the ring, animals must be wearing their designated numbers around their necks. Only one person per animal is authorised to enter the ring, and this person must be wearing the correctly numbered bib provided by the organisers. All animals **must** be wearing a **halter** (leather strap with small chain) provided by the owner of the animal. Animals must not leave the ring until the judges have announced their final ranking and the ring steward has signalled for them to leave. **Animals must leave the ring in order of ranking.**

**Farmers who are not wearing the correct clothing and/or do not have absolute control over their animals will not be allowed to enter the ring.**

## **V. JUDGING**

The single judge is appointed by the Organising Committee. Judging will be conducted without the catalogue and will not take the animals' production capacities into consideration. Animals will be ranked based on their external conformation according to the criteria fixed by the breed associations.

## **VI. CHAMPIONSHIPS AND special prizes**

Five championships and two special prizes will be awarded:

- **Heifer championship**
- **Up-and-coming championship**
- **Intermediate championship**
- **Adult championship**
- **Best RED Holstein:**

The highest ranked cow or heifer **Red Holstein** in each category shall be selected for the special red prize.

- **Udder championships (youth/adult)**
- **Grand champion**

**Please note:**

**This year, we wanted to recognise the highest-producing cows. In the six years and above category, the five cows to produce the highest quantity of valuable milk before 1 March 2018 will participate in an additional category called 'BEAUTY UTILITY'. We will let the farmers concerned know at the farmer meeting. Farmers with animals in this category will be contacted individually.**

The **top two animals** of each category will participate in the **conformation championship** within their relevant category.

The best udders in each section will take part in the udder championship (youth or adult).

From the four general conformation championships, a **Grand Holstein Night Champion** will be announced.

The most deserving exhibitor will be awarded the **banner for the best EXHIBITOR**. The top five animals in each category will be given the following points:

1st place in a heifer category:	10 points
2nd place in a heifer category:	8 points
3rd place in a heifer category:	6 points
4th place in a heifer category:	4 points
5th place in a heifer category:	2 points
1st place in a lactating category:	20 points
2nd place in a lactating category:	16 points
3rd place in a lactating category:	12 points
4th place in a lactating category:	8 points
5th place in a lactating category:	4 points

It should be noted that if an animal is co-owned, each animal's points will be allocated to the farmer who owns it in health terms.

The most deserving breeder will be awarded the **banner for the best CATTLE FARMER**. The top five animals in each category will be given the following points:

1st place in a heifer category:	10 points
2nd place in a heifer category:	8 points
3rd place in a heifer category:	6 points
4th place in a heifer category:	4 points
5th place in a heifer category:	2 points
1st place in a lactating category:	20 points
2nd place in a lactating category:	16 points
3rd place in a lactating category:	12 points
4th place in a lactating category:	8 points
5th place in a lactating category:	4 points

For both banners, in the event of a tie, the farmer with the highest number of first places, then second places and so on will be declared the winner.

## VII. PHOTO

A head shot of the top animal in each category will be taken in the ring, followed by a professional photo taken by Giorgio Soldi. **These photos are free but compulsory.** You will also have the chance to have other professional photos taken in the designated photo stand.

## VIII. TREATMENT FOR THE ANIMALS

From Saturday 17 March, a sworn vet will be available on site to dispense treatment. We will bear the cost of all the vet's services (aside from medication). However, we request a participation of €5 per cow registered.

## IX. PREPARATION OF ANIMALS

Each farmer taking part must respect the **attached code of ethics**.  
An Ethics Committee will be appointed.

## X. RESPONSIBILITY

Owners are entirely responsible for their animals for the entire duration of the competition.

## XI. RESPONSIBILITY of the ORGANISATION

The organisers shall not be held liable in the event of any accidents or thefts suffered in relation to the animals, individuals or goods during the loading (and unloading) and transporting of the animals, as well as during the time in which they (animals, individuals and goods) remain inside the halls and the surrounding areas.

Farmers are obliged to inform their civil liability insurance provider of their participation in the competition in order to ensure that they are covered.

## XII. DISPUTES

Any farmer who shows a lack of courtesy towards the Organising Committee, one of the judges or members of the Ethics Committee shall not be ranked and will be asked to leave the competition area immediately. Furthermore, such farmer shall no longer be entitled to any awards already won by the animal and will also be banned from participating in subsequent categories. All Holstein Night participants are deemed to have acknowledged these regulations and the code of ethics and to undertake to adhere to them.

**XIII. The Holstein Night Organising Committee** shall make the irrevocable final decision in all cases not mentioned either in these rules or in special regulatory provisions set out by the host association.