	POLICY 3.9	Version:	3.0
	Millicent Saleyards Quality Policy	Date Adopted:	10/08/2021
		Next Review Due:	10/08/2025

1. STATEMENT

The Millicent Saleyards is an important stock selling centre in the South East of South Australia, with a commitment to quality of service, facilities and operations to ensure it meets customer needs. This is reflected in the activities of all who use the selling centre.

2. DEFINITIONS

Auction – the process by which sale of livestock occurs at the Millicent Saleyards.

Blind Livestock – livestock with Cancer Eye and/or demonstrating inability to see.

Bobby Calf – a calf not accompanied by its mother, less than 30 days old, weighing less than 80kg live weight and usually a dairy breed or dairy cross.

Bull – a male bovine with sexual organs intact and that is capable of reproduction.

Cattle – includes cows, heifers, lightweight calves, vealers, weaners, steers and bulls.

Distressed Livestock – livestock which is clearly unwell and unfit for sale.

Humanely – in accordance with the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals.

Electric Prodders – means implements which impose an electrical shock on an animal to encourage it to move in a certain direction.

Lame stock – disabled in the feet or legs.

Livestock – may refer to Cattle, Bobby Calf, Cows, Bulls and Horses.

Lightweight Calf – a bovine that is more than 30 days and less than 3 months old.

Millicent Saleyards – means the Saleyards facility owned by Wattle Range Council.

Muzzled – restraining device for animal: a device that is strapped over the nose and jaws of an animal to prevent it from opening its mouth, eg. to bite

Non-Weight Bearing – livestock is unable to move of its own accord.

NSQA – means National Saleyards Quality Assurance.

Sale – means the processing, for money, of the livestock presented for sale at the Millicent Saleyards.

Sick Livestock – livestock which is obviously unwell and distressed.

Suspect Livestock – any livestock which appears lame, non-weight bearing, blind, distressed or obviously sick.

Vealer – female or castrated male bovine with no evidence or eruption of permanent incisor teeth. Not weaned for more than 7 days.

Weaner – a young bovine that has been weaned from its mother's milk to live completely on pasture.

3. PRINCIPLES

3.1 Scope


This policy applies to all livestock presented for sale at a Millicent Saleyards sale/auction. This policy is to remain in place as it is a mandatory requirement under the National Saleyard Quality Assurance Program annual audit.

3.2 Quality and Efficiency

Millicent Saleyards' commitment to quality ensures that stock handling to maintain quality from receipt to delivery is of a high standard and producers are encouraged to deliver stock to the facility in the best possible condition to meet buyer needs.

Efficient sale of stock and handling stock in a safe and humane manner are priorities of the Millicent Saleyards.

File Ref:	Classification:	Department:	Position Responsible:	Review Frequency:
G/F 4.64.1/4 & G/F 3.63.1	Public	Development Services	Director, Development Services	4 yearly
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For producers, Millicent Saleyards strives to consistently deliver better prices through ensuring buyer satisfaction with the facilities and operation of the saleyards.

As part of Millicent Saleyards commitment to quality, it will encourage best stock handling practices amongst vendors, agents, saleyard management and staff, stockmen and drovers, buyers and transport operators:

- Minimise stress and injury to stock
- Minimise risks to food safety in the meat livestock supply chain; and
- Ensure the traceability of stock through the sale process.

3.3 Animal Welfare

Livestock are to be handled in a manner which minimises potential stress and injury.

Electric prodders are banned for use on sheep and lambs in NSQA saleyards which includes Millicent Saleyards. Electric prodders are however, allowable for use with cattle but restricted to the absolute minimum necessary to complete loading. They must not be used on any species other than cattle (but not bobby calves) and must not be applied to the face or genitals of any animal.

Wherever possible, hand held livestock guiding implements shall not be used to hit animals. Prodding of animals which have little or no room to move ahead is not permitted.

The excessive use of livestock canes, whips, or lengths of plastic piping is not permitted as methods of encouraging livestock to move. Lengths of metal piping and heavy leather belts must not be used.

All dogs must remain muzzled at all times at the Millicent Saleyards.

3.4 Suspect, Sick or Distressed Livestock

Blind, non-weight bearing, distressed or obviously sick or injured animals will not be accepted at the Millicent Saleyards under any circumstances.

If livestock is delivered in the above condition, the Saleyards Manager, in liaison with the parties responsible for the sale of the livestock, will ensure the removal of the livestock either back to the owner of the livestock, at the owner's expense, or if required, the livestock will be humanely destroyed according to the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals.

Should the selling party not be available, photographic evidence of the condition of the livestock will be used to verify the need for the humane destruction of the livestock.

Where possible the destruction of all livestock shall be carried out humanely at the direction of the Saleyards Manager.


Should Council staff be required to dispose of a blind, non-weight bearing, distressed or obviously sick or injured animal, a disposal fee as per Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges will apply to the disposal.

4. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every 4 years.

5. AVAILABILITY

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This Policy is available for inspection without charge at the following location during ordinary business hours:

- Principal Office, "Civic Centre", George Street, Millicent
- Council Website: www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au.

A copy of the Policy may be purchased from the Principal Council Office upon payment of a prescribed fee in accordance with Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.

6. REFERENCES & FURTHER READING

References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Code of Practice for Selling Livestock • National Standard for the Operation of Australian Saleyards • Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals • Meat Standards Australia (MSA) Standards
Relevant Legislation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Livestock Act 1997 • Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)
Relevant Policies / Procedures / Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure 3.9.1 - Millicent Saleyards

7. ADOPTION & AMENDMENT HISTORY

The table below sets out the adoption, review and amendment history of the policy.

Version No:	Issue Date:	Authorised by:	Description of Change:	Minutes Reference:
1	30/11/2011	ELT	Adoption	
2	18/02/2020	ELT	Adoption	Item 9.1 Page 4
3	18/08/2021	ELT	Adoption and the MSA standards have been reincluded.	Item 8.2 Page 4

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