

## **Timeline for Becoming a Virginia Cattlemen's Association Sponsored Feeder Cattle Sale**

**(Proposed July 2017)**

1. A livestock market currently conducting feeder cattle sales where cattle are inspected, graded and sorted by Livestock Marketing Specialist employed by the Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services must successfully solicit the sponsorship of a Virginia Cattlemen's Association affiliated member association. This sponsorship must be communicated in writing to VCA by the affiliated association.
2. If no VCA affiliated producer association support is available for sponsorship of the livestock market's graded sales, then interested producers local to the livestock market may seek to form a new cattlemen's association and become an affiliate association of VCA. To be considered for VCA affiliate membership, a local cattlemen's association must have at least 50 dues paying members, elected governance, written by laws or operating procedures and pay dues to VCA for affiliate member status.
3. Upon procurement of local cattlemen's association sponsorship of a graded feeder cattle sale, the sponsoring association for the livestock market where the sales will be conducted must solicit support from Virginia Cattlemen's Association through majority consent of the Feeder Council. This solicitation will be made, and determined, at a regular meeting of the VCA Feeder Council.
4. If the VCA Feeder Council approves support of a new graded sale for promotion as a Virginia Cattlemen's Association sponsored sale, then that recommendation will be offered for approval of the VCA Executive Committee at their next regular meeting. If there are no concerns, then the Executive Committee must approve the recommendation, by majority, and the following sale at the affiliate association sponsored livestock market will be sponsored and promoted by Virginia Cattlemen's Association.
5. New VCA sponsored sales will remain on probation for one year after sponsored sale commencement and operate without incident and have a record of timely payment of VCA dues. After successfully completing a probationary year, the VCA affiliate sponsoring association may obtain Director representation on the VCA Feeder Council as officially part of the appropriate geographic marketing region.
6. Rule #18 of the Virginia Cattlemen's Association Standard Operating Procedure for Special In-Barn Feeder Cattle Sales states *"The association may explore alternative feeder marketing cattle methods for up to 18 months before bringing the change to the membership for ratification."* For clarification, graded in barn feeder cattle sales are already a method of supporting the sale of feeder cattle in Virginia by the Virginia Cattlemen's Association, therefore this rule does not apply to recognizing feeder cattle sales as VCA sponsored sales without local affiliate association support.