

LEGAL NOTICE No. 155

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS ACT, 1990

BYE-LAWS

MADE BY THE COUVA/TABAQUITE/TALPARO REGIONAL CORPORATION UNDER  
SECTION 208 AND CONFIRMED BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER SECTION 223 OF  
THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS ACT

THE ABATTOIR (COUVA/TABAQUITE/TALPARO) BYE-LAWS, 1996

1. These Bye-Laws may be cited as the Abattoir (Couva/ Citation  
Tabaquite/Talparo) Bye-Laws, 1996.

2. In these Bye-Laws—

Interpretation

“abattoir” means the premises where animals are slaughtered  
or dressed for human consumption and includes all  
buildings, erections and appurtenances provided for the  
purpose;

“Act” means the Municipal Corporations Act;

Act No. 21 of  
1990

“Administrator” means the officer for the time being appointed  
by the Local Authority to be in charge of the abattoir;

“animal” includes a bull, cow, ox, steer, bullock, heifer, calf,  
sheep, lamb, pig, goat, turtle and any other animal which  
the Council may declare to be included within such term;

“Chief Executive Officer” has the meaning assigned to it in  
section 38 of the Act;

“Inspector” means a veterinary surgeon, sanitary Inspector or  
other qualified person appointed by the Local Authority to  
inspect animals and meat at the abattoir;

“Local Authority” means the Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo  
Regional Corporation;

“meat” means the flesh of any animal and the carcass, organs  
and viscera thereof;

“Medical Officer” means the Medical Officer of Health.

3. The abattoir shall, subject to the direction of the Local Authority, Supervision  
be under the supervision of the Chief Executive Officer.

4. The Administrator shall be responsible for the care and Care and  
cleanliness of the abattoir and shall without undue delay report any cleanliness  
mechanical, structural or other defects in relation to the abattoir and  
shall secure the due observance of these bye-laws.

- The register      5. The Administrator shall keep a register in which he shall record in respect of every animal admitted to the abattoir the following particulars:
- (a) the name and address of the owner;
  - (b) the name and address of the person bringing it to the abattoir;
  - (c) its kind, sex, colours, or any brands;
  - (d) its place of origin;
  - (e) the date and hour of its arrival at the abattoir.
- Hours of trading      6. (1) The abattoir shall be opened daily at 6.00 a.m. and shall be closed at 6.00 p.m.
- (2) No animal shall be admitted into the abattoir outside the hours of 6.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. unless the permission of the Chief Executive Officer is obtained.
- Inspection of animals      7. (1) No person shall slaughter an animal in the abattoir before such animal has been inspected and approved for slaughter by the Inspector on the day on which it is intended to be slaughtered.
- (2) The Inspector may inspect any animal in the abattoir and may order the removal of any animal which, upon examination, appears to him to be diseased or otherwise unfit for human consumption.
- Slaughter of animals      8. (1) No animal shall be slaughtered outside the period of 12.00 noon to 4.00 p.m. unless the permission of the Chief Executive Officer or an officer duly authorised by him in that behalf is obtained.
- (2) Subject to paragraph (3) no person shall slaughter an animal which has been at the abattoir for less than twenty-four hours before the time fixed for slaughter unless the permission of the Chief Executive Officer is obtained.
- (3) Where an animal is injured as the result of an accident the Inspector may order it to be slaughtered forthwith.
- Emergency slaughter      9. No undressed carcass shall be admitted into an abattoir unless accompanied by a certificate given by a veterinary surgeon or sanitary Inspector stating the reason for the emergency slaughter.
- Stunning instrument      10. (1) Every abattoir shall be equipped with a mechanically or electrically operated stunning instrument for use in the slaughter of animals.
- (2) No person shall slaughter an animal in the abattoir with an instrument other than a stunning instrument unless the permission of the Inspector is obtained to do otherwise.

11. (1) No person shall remove the meat of a slaughtered animal from the abattoir unless the Inspector has inspected and certified the same to be fit for human consumption and to have been thoroughly cleansed. Inspector's certificate

(2) The Inspector shall mark the meat of animals slaughtered in the abattoir in the manner approved by the Local Authority so as to indicate that the same is fit for human consumption.

12. (1) The owner of any animal or of any meat which is certified by the Inspector to be diseased or unfit for human consumption, shall upon the order of the Inspector forthwith, at the owner's cost, cause such animal or meat to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of to the satisfaction of the Inspector in such manner and at such place as may be specified in the order. Diseased animals or meat

(2) The destruction of an animal or meat in paragraph (1) shall be carried out under the supervision of the Inspector.

13. (1) No meat shall be removed from the abattoir except— Removal from abattoir  
 (a) in the vehicle provided by the Local Authority for that purpose; or  
 (b) in a cart, truck, tray or other receptacle approved by the Local Authority.

(2) No person shall remove from the abattoir or use for human consumption the blood of any animal slaughtered there, unless such blood has been collected in a clean metal vessel and has been examined by the Inspector along with the carcass of the animal and certified by him as being free from disease and otherwise fit for human consumption.

14. (1) The owner of an animal slaughtered in the abattoir shall cause the hide and skin of such animal to be disinfected and removed from the abattoir within twenty-four hours after the completion of the slaughtering of such animal. Hide and skin of animal to be removed

(2) The hide or skin shall not be removed or carried in the same container as fresh meat.

15. (1) Every animal brought into the abattoir shall be sufficiently fed and provided with water by the owner of such animal to the satisfaction of the Inspector. Feeding

(2) Where the owner of such animal fails to comply with this bye-law the Local Authority may feed and water such animal and may recover the cost of so doing from the owner.

16. Every animal kept in a pen or other place shall be kept at the risk of the owner. Animal kept in place other than abattoir

- Fee Schedule      17. No animal shall be slaughtered unless all charges due as set out in the Schedule in respect to such animal have been paid to the Administrator.
- Restricted area      18. (1) No person shall be allowed in the abattoir unless he is the owner of an animal brought into the abattoir or the servant of such owner or a licensed slaughterman.  
(2) No person shall enter the abattoir or any part thereof except for the purpose of slaughtering, feeding or providing water for an animal unless he obtains the permission of the Chief Executive Officer or an officer duly authorised by him.
- Slaughterman's licence      19. (1) No person shall perform the functions of a slaughterman in an abattoir unless he obtains a slaughterman's licence from the Local Authority.  
(2) A slaughterman's licence shall not be granted to a person under the age of eighteen years.  
(3) An application for a licence shall—  
    (a) be in writing, signed by the applicant;  
    (b) state the name and address of such applicant; and  
    (c) be accompanied by—  
        (i) a certificate of good character;  
        (ii) a medical certificate stating that the applicant is not suffering from any infectious or contagious disease; and  
        (iii) a fee of \$25.00.  
(4) A slaughterman's licence shall be granted for one year.  
(5) A slaughterman's licence may be revoked for misconduct or other sufficient cause by the Local Authority on the recommendation of the Medical Officer.
- Contagious disease      20. (1) Where the Inspector at any time suspects that a licensed slaughterman is suffering from any infectious or contagious disease, he shall at once report the fact to the Medical Officer, and such slaughterman shall, if required by the Medical Officer, produce a medical certificate of his freedom from infectious or contagious disease.  
(2) No person afflicted with or suffering from any infectious or contagious disease shall be allowed on any part of the abattoir and the Inspector or any of his assistants or any constable may remove such person from the abattoir.
- Slaughterman's clothing      21. (1) A licensed slaughterman shall wear a distinctive overall and washable cap of a type to be determined by the Local Authority.

(2) A slaughterman shall provide himself with clean towels for dressing the carcass before taking it away from the abattoir.

22. (1) No person shall fight or assault another person in the abattoir. Offences

(2) A person who commits an offence in paragraph (1) may, in addition to the penalty incurred by him for the offence, be forcibly removed from the abattoir by the Administrator or by a constable.

(3) No person removed from the abattoir for breach of this bye-law may re-enter the abattoir unless the permission of the Chief Executive Officer or an officer duly authorised by him in that behalf has been obtained.

(4) No person shall, in the abattoir—

- (a) curse, swear or make use of any violent, abusive, offensive, indecent or obscene language;
- (b) behave in a noisy, quarrelsome or indecent manner or cause a disturbance;
- (c) sing loudly or play a musical instrument;
- (d) light a fire or cook food except in such part of the abattoir as may be set apart for that purpose;
- (e) bring any intoxicating liquor within the precincts of the abattoir;
- (f) molest, hinder or obstruct the Inspector or any other officer of the abattoir in the performance of his duties;
- (g) smoke in any part of the abattoir;
- (h) spit or throw or drop on the floor or ground any offal, garbage, refuse or other matter.

(5) No person using the abattoir shall, at any time refuse, neglect or omit to comply with the instructions of the Chief Executive Officer or other officer for the maintenance of order or regularity or for carrying any bye-law into effect.

(6) No person shall bring a dog or permit a dog to follow him into the abattoir.

(7) No person shall by contrivance or device or in any manner whatever, tamper with a scale, balance, beam or weight for the time being in the abattoir whether or not the same is the property of or in the possession of or under the control of such person.

(8) No person shall in any way damage a part of the abattoir or any bench, table, furniture, appliance or thing therein.

23. The charges to be paid at the abattoir are set out in the Charges  
Schedule

24. (1) Where an owner does not comply with any bye-law imposing a duty on him with respect to an animal belonging to him, the Local Authority may without prejudice to its rights to institute summary proceedings for the breach of such bye-law undertake the execution of such duty. Execution of  
duty by Local  
Authority

(2) The expenses incurred for the purpose shall be a debt due from such owner to the Local Authority.

Recovery of  
expenses by  
Local  
Authority

25. (1) Where an owner defaults in the payment of any expenses due to the Local Authority, the Local Authority may recover the expenses due by summary proceedings or by the sale of an animal of the owner which is in the abattoir.

(2) The sale shall be by public auction after seven days advertisement and the proceeds realized from the sale shall be applied to defray the cost and expenses of the sale and the sum due to the Local Authority, and the surplus, if any, shall be paid to the person entered as the owner of the animal in the books of the Local Authority.

Penalty

26. A person who is guilty of an offence under these Bye-Laws is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine of one hundred dollars for each day that such offence is continued.

Repeal

27. All previous bye-laws relating to the management of abattoirs are repealed.

#### SCHEDULE

##### A. Slaughtering Fee

<i>Small Type</i>				<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
Ox/Cattle	...	...	...	\$ 10.00 + VAT	\$40.00 per head
Calf	...	...	...	8.00 +VAT	\$30.00 per head
Pig/hog	...	...	...	5.00	\$30.00 per head
Sheep	...	...	...	5.00	\$15.00 per head
Goat	...	...	...	5.00	\$15.00 per head

##### B. Processing of By-Products

<i>Small Type</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
Preparation of pudding, tripe/offal	\$0.15 per lb or equivalent kg	\$0.30 per lb or equivalent kg

##### C. Lairage Fee

<i>Small Type</i>				<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
Ox/Cattle	...	...	...	\$1.00 per day	\$ 3.00 per day
Calf	...	...	...	1.00 per day	\$ 3.00 per day
Pig/Hog	...	...	...	1.00 per day	\$ 3.00 per day
Sheep	...	...	...	1.00 per day	\$ 3.00 per day
Goat	...	...	...	1.00 per day	\$ 3.00 per day

NB: Council may charge/fix fee at the minimum, maximum or a figure between these rates, according to the circumstances within its confines.

Adopted by the Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo Regional Corporation at its monthly statutory meeting held on the 24th day of August, 1993.

Made by the Council of the Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo Regional Corporation this 30th day of July, 1996.

M. LEWIS  
*Chairman,*  
*Couva / Tabaquite / Talparo*  
*Regional Corporation*

Confirmed by the President on the 31st day of December, 1996.

C. SOOKRAM  
*Secretary to Cabinet*