

Cruelty to Animals Act.

1. "animal" refers to any horse, mare, gelding, bull, ox, cow, heifer, steer, calf, mule, ass, sheep, lamb, pig, sow, goat, dog, cat or any other domestic animal of any kind or species whatever, and whether a four-legged animal or not.
2. Fighting or baiting of ANY species of animal is illegal. Organising, hosting or watching fights, or keeping and/or breeding animals for fighting or baiting carries a fine of up to \$100 for every DAY an offender engages/engaged in this activity. Receiving money for admission to fights and/or encouraging, aiding or assisting such fights, carries a fine of \$100 for every offence.
3. Any person confining any animal in any way MUST give that animal "sufficient quantity of fit and wholesome food and water". Failure to do so carries a fine of \$10 for every offence.
4. A person who observes an animal without sufficient wholesome food and water for more than 12 successive hours may (as often as is necessary) enter the area, public or private, and supply the animal with fit and sufficient food and water for as long as necessary. This person will not be liable to prosecution or action by the owner of the animal and they are also legally entitled to reimbursement of reasonable costs of providing such food and water before the animal can be removed.
5. \$100 fine is levied for the following: cruelly beating, ill-treating, over-driving, over-loading or torturing, any animal, either by direct action, encouragement, procurement, or fault. If the offender is not the owner, then they must also pay up to \$100 compensation to the rightful owner.
6. It is illegal to urge an animal to swim where it may be harmed (by snake or crocodile, or in over-deep water, for example).

7. It is illegal to raise or hoist up an animal by its horns, or use a noose/tackle etc to raise up un-horned animals, or to twist the tails or similarly torture an animal to aid driving of an animal. Offences carry up to \$100 fine.

8. Any member of the Belize Police Department who witnesses any such offences detailed in this Act may arrest the offender.

9. All penalties imposed by this Act shall be recovered on summary conviction.