

## **HOW TO BECOME A LICENSED POULTRY JUDGE**

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APA-ABA Licensed Poultry Judge

Do you think you might like to become an APA Judge? That goal may not be as elusive as you might think. The Judges Licensing committee works hard to get prospective judges thru the apprentice program and into the judging arena. It is certainly not a walk in the park, but with some dedication and some midnight oil burning, we can get you through this process.

There are a few basic requirements to get started. First of all you must have been a member of the APA for three consecutive years. You must be 21 years of age. You must be a person of good character and have a genuine interest in exhibition poultry. You should have raised exhibition poultry for a minimum of three years as well. *The Committee likes to see as much diversity in raising birds as possible in large and bantam fowl as well as turkeys, waterfowl and guineas. Of course it is not necessary to raise all of these, but the more experience you have, the easier the learning process will be.*

To start the process of becoming an APA Licensed Judge you must:

- Contact the APA Secretary for an application form.
- Return the completed form to Pat, along the application fee of \$225 for the General License, or the appropriate amount for a Specialty License, as stated on the application. *(Remember, if you are a member of the APA-ABA Youth Program there are special compensations to these fees if you have completed the ACE Program & the Pre-Apprenticeship Judge Program)*
- The secretary will forward a copy of that application and a copy of your receipt to the judges licensing committee chairman.
- You will be sent a packet with all of the necessary information including eight clerking assignment sheets, to be filled out by a Licensed Judge during the next two years. *(Remember, if you are a member of the APA-ABA Youth Program there is also a time frame compensation if you have completed the Pre-Apprenticeship Judges program).*
- We will arrange for you to do the open book portion of the exam at the end of that two year period, this takes about 7 or 8 hours of research.
- Upon achieving a score of 95% on the open book portion, the Committee and the applicant will then set up a time and place for you to take the written test and the show room examination. You must make a score of 80% on the written test and 90% on the show room exam.
- If you are an ABA Licensed Judge, we will waive the clerking assignments, provided you have judged four or more shows, with over 1000 birds in each show, even if you only judge a portion of them. Any other variations from these rules will be discussed after we get your application.

*The real test for a licensed judge is to study the Standard and raise and exhibit as many breeds as possible and to exhibit them in as many shows as possible, in order to learn the finer points. Above all, a judge must have personal integrity and judge the birds, not the people. The Judges Licensing Committee will be glad to work with you to attain your goal; becoming an APA Licensed Judge.*