



How to become an **APA** licensed poultry judge.

Also see next pages for special opportunities for our YEPA club members in our Pre-Apprentice Judges program..

By: Jim Sallee, Judges Licensing Committee
APA-ABA Sanctioned 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 of Jerry Yeaw, Paul Monteith and Jim Sallee work 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 thru 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:

1. Contact Pat Horstman (the APA secretary) for an application form.
2. 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. She will forward a copy of that application and a copy of your receipt to me.
3. I will then send you 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. *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.

Jim Sallee, Chairman



**APA-ABA YOUTH POULTRY CLUB
PRE-APPRENTICESHIP JUDGING PROGRAM**
(For Potential Future Licensed Judges)

Pre-Apprentice Judges Program Advisors:

Doris Robinson, National Director, YEPA
Mr. Pat Malone, APA & ABA Licensed Judge
Mr. Jamie Carson, APA & ABA Licensed Judge

This program is available for those youth members that are seriously considering becoming ABA or APA Licensed Judges (or both).

This part of the program is not mandatory to reach the top level of the APA-ABA Youth Poultry Club A.C.E. Program.

OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this final stage of the youth ACE program is to help educate and train eligible young fanciers in the field of judging exhibition poultry. Both the APA and ABA always benefit from young fanciers taking a genuine interest in this aspect of our hobby. It is the hope of this program's organizers that the Pre-Apprentice Program will help prepare our youth to become knowledgeable judges and educators that will help see our great hobby into the next generation.

This part of the APA-ABA Youth Program is to encourage and help youth that have the future goal of becoming a certified, licensed poultry judge. This program is designed to help give our youth a head start studying the Standard's of the American Poultry Association or the American Bantam Association or both by working with licensed judges in each field.

Eligibility:

If you wish to participate in this portion of the program, a young person that has achieved all of the previous levels (Coop Tender, Flock Tender, Flock Master and Poultry Master) must request in writing permission to participate in the Pre-Apprenticeship Judging Program. This written request is mandatory. Your request should be sent to the National Director of the APA-ABA Youth Poultry Club. When your request is acknowledged you will be provided with an identification card stating that you are a participant of the APA-ABA Youth Program Pre-Apprenticeship Judging Program.

Age:

You must be age 17 or older to begin participating in the Pre-Apprenticeship Judging Program and the Poultry Master level must be achieved before you can move into this part of the APA-ABA Youth Poultry Club program. This part of the program must be completed by your 25th birthday.

PROJECTS:

Step 1: Clerking Assignments with APA-ABA Licensed Judges.

A. Each program participant must complete six clerking assignments (for a minimum of five hours each) with a judge licensed by either the APA and/or the ABA.

B. It is mandatory that two clerking assignments be completed in each of the following three areas: Bantams Chickens, Large Fowl Chickens
Waterfowl, Turkeys, Guineas (combined)

The judge for which the participant clerks must be fully licensed in that area (i.e. participants cannot clerk for an ABA judge who is judging Turkeys and receive credit.

C. Participant will be provided with "Report Forms" to be completed by each judge (1) stating the breeds clerked for that day and (2) giving a brief evaluation of the participant's knowledge of the judging process, etc. This form will be mailed to the APA-ABA Youth Program office when completed. (See more information below).

D. If you wish to apprentice clerk at a show, you must contact the show secretary in advance (a week or two) before the show to request permission to clerk. If you find you cannot attend the show you should have the courtesy to call and cancel your date so they can find a replacement. *Please* do not expect to walk into a showroom at the last minute and expect to clerk.

Step 2 – Written Essays

This section involves the participant writing three separate essays, a minimum of five hundred (500) words each. Each essay should be written on (1) bantams, (2) large fowl, and (3) waterfowl, turkeys and guineas (combined).

These papers are to include breed specific information on the judging of one breed within each class in that groups (i.e. SCCL, Medium Ducks, Asiatic Class, etc.) as well as general judging guidelines that would relate to judging all breeds and varieties in that specific group (i.e. general defects, disqualifications, etc.)

The information in these essays is to be taken from the APA and ABA Standards, with proper credit given at the end of the essay.

Step 3 – Written Exam

Following the submission of each essay, if the essay is deemed sufficient by the program supervisor, the participant will then take a written examination on the judging of poultry in that group.

This test will not be an "open book" format, and the written test is to be administered by a Licensed Judge or by an appropriate supervisor (as designated by the program supervisor).

The format of each of the three tests will be true/false and multiple choices. The minimum passing grade for each test must be 80%.