



What Judges Will Expect From Youth When Judging Showmanship

The Youth Exhibition Poultry Association has put together the following list of knowledge expectations in an effort to help judges become more familiar with what showmanship participants are expected to know. The information is broken down by age groups to help make showmanship judging more uniform.

Junior Level (Ages 8–10)

At this age judges should expect youth exhibitors to have attained more knowledge about poultry. Exhibitors should present birds to judges that are in good show condition. This shows the judge that they are capable of choosing a bird that is of good type and proper color for the variety of the breed being shown. The bird should be in “show condition” and the best bird they have to choose from.

Although the bird itself is not judged, the child’s capacity to choose a good quality bird and have it in show condition is judged.

Junior Knowledge Expectations:

At the junior level the youth exhibitor should demonstrate a fundamental understanding of poultry.

They should be able to:

- Identify the sex of a bird.
- Identify the external body parts.
- Know the breed, variety and breed class of the bird used for showmanship.
- Be able to examine a bird for external parasites properly.
- Be able to name at least one or two external parasites that are common on poultry.
- Have a basic understanding about common internal parasites (worms) and how poultry get

them. They should also understand how to help prevent their birds from getting them.

☐ Be able to explain how many toes, the type of comb, leg color and the appropriate color of the eyes for his breed on the bird he is using in showmanship. *In other words they need to begin to study the APA & ABA standards & be prepared to answer questions about the “standard” of their bird.*

☐ Be learning the basics of feed used for chicks and adult “exhibition” poultry.

☐ Know how many days it takes to hatch an egg (chicken, duck, turkey, goose, etc).

☐ Know the basics of reading a coop tag following judging. BB, RB, BV, RV

☐ Begin to learn the basic understanding of how the birds are judged by the judge and why.

☐ Have a fundamental understanding of show ethics, what to do and not to do (showroom courtesy, cheating, faking, not touching other exhibitors birds, etc.)

☐ Know what the N.P.I.P. (National Poultry Improvement Plan) is and why they bleed their bird when they enter them in a show?

☐ Be able to remove his bird from the cage properly, carry the bird properly, pass the bird to another person properly; he should be able to pose his bird properly for the judge to view. This is the side view as shown in the pictures of the APA and ABA Standards. Be able to adjust the birds pose for the judges special view of perhaps the head if asked.

☐ Be learning the basic names of diseases that are common to poultry. (Fowl Pox, Chronic Respiratory Disease, Coccidiosis, Coryza) .

☐ Know the parts of a Wing

☐ Know the parts of a Feather

☐ Know the external body parts and describe them using proper terms.

☐ Handling Skills: The competitor should be learning and watching a judge examine a bird when being judged and be able to duplicate this same procedure when choosing a bird from his home flock to bring to an exhibition. ie: holding the bird properly, examine the bird from the end of the beak to the tip of the toes explaining what he is looking at and why. Proper beak, proper eye color, width of head, etc. At this level, handling would be noted, beginning to learn the basics of an examination will be noted.