



**YOUTH EXHIBITION POULTRY ASSOCIATION  
PRE-APPRENTICESHIP JUDGING PROGRAM**  
(For Potential Future Licensed Judges)

**Pre-Apprentice Judges Program Advisors:**

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Mr. Pat Malone, APA & ABA Licensed Judge  
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This program is available for those youth members that are seriously considering becoming ABA or APA Licensed Judges (or both).

The rules and guidelines set forth in this program are based on the rules and requirements of the American Poultry Association and the American Bantam Association

This part of the program is not mandatory to reach the top level of the Youth Exhibition Poultry Association ACE Program known as the Poultry Master.

**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 out youth to become knowledgeable judges and educators that will help see our great hobby into the next generation.

This part of YEPA 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 Standards 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 YEPA. When your request is acknowledged you will be provided with an identification card stating that you are a participant of the YEPA 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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, Standard 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**

**A.** 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**

**A.** 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%.
- ⇒ Should the participant not be successful in obtaining this grade, he or she will have the opportunity to take the test a maximum of two more times to reach the passing grade of 80%.
- ⇒ Upon successful completion of the first test, the participant can then proceed to write their next essay, followed by a written test, until three essays and three tests are completed.
- ⇒ The participant is free to choose which topic (i.e. Large Fowl, etc.) that he or she would prefer to complete first, second, and third.

### **Rewards:**

Upon the successful completion of the three above described steps, the participant will have finished the APA-ABA Youth Program's Pre-Apprenticeship Program and will be awarded a certificate stating such and a Youth Program Logo Patch stating "Pre-Apprenticeship Judge".

The successful applicant will also have their accomplishment noted in each organization's regular newsletter.

### **APA and ABA BONUS:**

Any graduate of this program that wishes to enter either organizations "true" Judge License Program as agreed upon by the American Poultry Association and the American Bantam Association may:

1. Use this achievement at any time he is ready to begin the APA or ABA judge apprenticeship program if this part of the program is completed by their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.
2. Will have the opportunity to waive 50% of the clerking assignments required by these associations and will be required to pay only 50% of the required Judge License application fee.