

## YEPA SHOWMANSHIP IN A BOX

Showmanship for youth at poultry shows began as a way to get youth involved in the hobby and prevent boredom while parents exhibited their poultry. Many poultry clubs around the national adopted the 4h poultry showmanship standard for their show. This is an excellent program for production poultry, but lacks the attention towards the APA Standard of Perfection and the ABA Bantam Standard.

The Youth Exhibition Poultry Association (YEPA) is devoted to educating youth to build a strong foundation in keeping poultry bred to the standards of, and according to the American Poultry Association and the American Bantam Association. We are an educational program, we do not give out awards for showing their poultry but recognize their achievements in raising and showing a healthy flock of exhibition birds.

Sanctioning showmanship with YEPA helps show coordinators run the showmanship portion of their show with ease. For a \$20.00 sanctioning fee and the judging sheets that are premade with showmanship questions geared to each age group are sent to your show to be printed off for your individual classes. For a \$35.00 fee YEPA will supply the show with awards for the first (1st) and second (2nd) place winners in each class (juniors, intermediates & seniors). The awards supplied are for any youth that enters your showmanship competition, they do not have to be a member of YEPA.

Judging sheets come in numbered sets. This guarantees the same questions are asked in each age group but the same judging sheets are not used for more than one show in your area. This keeps it new and challenging for the competitors. Exhibitors are satisfied that the outcomes are fair because each section of the interview has standard values and are graded very similar as test are graded in school.

Exhibitors fit into age categories to reduce the confusion of what class to enter. Questions are age appropriate and within their expected level of knowledge.

The benefit for shows that sanction showmanship is having pre-made judging sheets available that are geared to each age level and if needed awards to help some clubs save a bit of money if needed for awards. The benefit to sanctioning for YEPA members is a point system and awards pins and patches.