

AAA Parader Judge – Career Progression

Those interested in becoming an AAA Paraders Judge should make themselves familiar with the document titled ***The role of AAA Paraders Judge*** which outlines the expectations and requirements for Judge Training.

- The role of an AAA Paraders Judge and Apprentice
- Expression of Interest - Submission of written application, outlining experience and qualifications to be sent to AYE Chairperson.
- Consideration of application by AYE Committee
- Invitation to attend training (Letter A – 2017 Parader Judge Training & Mentorship
- Training, maybe carried out at camps, workshops or shows
- Recommendations for admission to judge apprenticeship training made by trainers to AYE
- AYE submits nominations to Board
- Board accepts
- Welcome letter, sent to successful applicants for apprentice program (Letter B - Congratulatory letter, along with.
Fundamentals AAA Paraders Judge
- 5 apprenticeships with review by judge and 1 appointment with a Senior Over Judge.
- AYE assessment and review of Senior Judges recommendations
- AYE recommendation to the Board (Letter C - Accreditation and congratulatory letter announcing full qualification.
- Judge Show Agreement
- Convenor/Judges Show Report
- Expenses claim form
- 2 years/ 5 shows eligible for elevation to Senior Judge by application to AYE

Notes:

- Application for the Parader Judge training program is the beginning of an exciting new direction for the successful candidates. If the candidate is accepted into the Parader Judge training programme, they must complete the following. A minimum of 5 apprentice appointments and a minimum of 1 appointment with a senior overjudge.
- This process may take some time to complete depending on available opportunities. Extra shows may be required if the apprentice is deemed to be less than fully competent. If the apprentice is identified as requiring extra work in any particular skills area, they should undertake specific coaching to assist them with the apprentice programme.
- After completion of a successful apprenticeship, the new judge must have at least 2 years' experience and independently judge a minimum of 5 shows before they are eligible to be accredited as a Senior Judge, by a process of written application to the AYE.
- Should the AYE not accept such an application, the Chair of the Youth Development Committee will assist the candidate to develop a plan for their progress.
- Judges who are inactive for over 12 months may be required to complete a co-judging placement before returning to their previous level.
- It is anticipated that a judge's accreditation program will be developed in the near future that must also be completed to maintain the status of an AAA Parader Judge.

The Role of AAA Paraders Judge

All Parader judging is centred on delivering an accurate and fair assessment.

The AAA Parader judge training, examination and ongoing accreditation programme is designed to ensure this accuracy and fairness is carried out in a logical and systematic manner to achieve the end result.

- The role of the judge in any show is to make sound, accurate and informed decisions of both the Handler and the teamwork with their alpaca based on knowledge of the Animal handling as per the recommended protocols set by the Judge training programme based on recommendations from the Paraders' Manual & Material.
- When judging a Parader event the judge is a representative of the AAA and carries an important ethical responsibility. All judges must act ethically, honestly and impartially at all times.
- The judge must possess a professional attitude, have knowledge and experience of Youth competitions within the industry, know alpacas and the overall alpaca industry, together with a thorough understanding of shows and showing in Australia.
- The role of a judge is also seen as educational and informative. It therefore requires a level of proficiency to speak in public. This skill can be learned and refined over time and with practice, your mentors can also help with this.
- Parader Judges need to have an ongoing commitment to the alpaca industry with a desire for continual improvement, further self-education and an ability to keep up to date with evolving industry standards. Training Sessions must be attended by all judges.
- Becoming an AAA Parader judge requires a serious commitment in time and effort. Time away from home, study demands and/or work and the costs that may be incurred are a constant reality for all judges. Whilst transport, meals and accommodation may be sponsored, time is not.
- Once accepted into the apprenticeship programme apprentice judges are required to fund their own travel/accommodation expenses during the course of their apprenticeship. Intending applicants need to be aware of the financial implications surrounding their ongoing training to become a fully accredited parader judge. Home state appointments will be prioritised, to assist with financial commitment.
- All apprentice and accredited judges must sign off on the AAA Judges Code of Conduct.

Expressions of Interest to become an AAA Parader Judge

Judge Training process **Assessment and pre-course requirements**

Applications are invited from members wishing to become an accredited AAA Parader Judge.

Applicants must be prepared to undertake training and assessment to judge the Parader event. Our future judges will be required to exhibit a range of skills and qualities, including active participation in the industry, good general knowledge of the industry, a capacity to communicate positively with competitors, teachers, caregivers etc. and the public and dedication to the objective of engaging and sustaining youth in, and thereby securing the future of, the Australian alpaca industry. .

Further Information for prospective applicants is available on the AAA website or will be made available to them. Those documents and manuals should be carefully scrutinised and understood prior to submitting the application.

The Information Kit will be made up of :

- AAA Paraders Manual
- AAA Paraders Material
- AAA Breed Standard
- Paraders Judges Roles and Responsibilities
- Paraders Judges Career Progression
- Judges Code of Conduct

Prior to attendance at the Judge Training and Assessment Course, successful applicants will be allocated a Parader Judge Mentor to assist and advise them in their preparation for the course. Participants will be responsible for their own accommodation and travelling expenses for all training activities. Intending applicants should provide a written application including reasons for wishing to become an accredited AAA Parader Judge and their personal alpaca CV, and demonstrate an ability to meet the following selection criteria:

Essential selection criteria:

- Be a minimum of 18 years of age.
- Be a current financial member of good standing with the AAA, Youth or Associate Members are eligible.
- Have a sound knowledge of the alpaca industry and youth program as well as experience as an educator, eg.as a mentor, as parent, or in a teaching capacity.
- A thorough understanding of the AAA Paraders Youth Manual.
- A demonstrated ability to work and educate children in safe and non confrontational environments.
- Current Working with Children accreditation.
- A good current working knowledge of the AAA Breed Standard and Parader Showing Rules reinforced by through stewarding, convening or otherwise volunteering at AAA Paraders shows.
- Experience and confidence to speak in public.

- The skills and professionalism to exercise sound judgement, expressed with empathy and understanding appropriate to the age group being judged.
- A contributor to the industry with a volunteering ethos; must be in a position to commit the time to becoming a judge with flexibility to travel as required
- Able to commit to, and comply with the Judge's Code of Conduct.
- A current driver's licence

All relevant experience will be considered in accepting nominations, such as being a AAA Halter Judge, experience in educational roles in other areas, previous attendance at AAA Paraders events or industry courses. Previous Youth involvement, including advancement through the Paraders program.

Please email your application to:
The Chair - AYE

All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application by return email.

Your interest and commitment in making this application is acknowledged, and is most welcome.

FUNDAMENTALS OF JUDGING (For the website)

Judging competitions involving youth is an art, based on a good understanding of youth behaviour, thoughts and emotions.

Judging requires keen observation, decision-making skills, sound judgement and a lot of practice. You must cast aside all prejudices and approach the task in an honest and open-minded manner.

JUDGING RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibility for becoming a judge should not be taken lightly. It is a great honour to become a judge, and another to be asked to judge at a show. Judges must be diplomats, arbitrators, experts and professionals, conducting themselves with courtesy politeness and respect at all times. Most of all judges must be committed. We would all like to pick and choose which judging appointments we accept; however, once you have committed to become a judge, you have committed to all shows, large and small. You will be requested to nominate for appointments in order to be allocated to a particular show.

Judges are required to complete a report for each show judged. Over Judges are also required to complete a progress report so that their apprentice receives appropriate written feedback.

APPLICATION OF THESE PRINCIPLES TO ALPACA PARADER COMPETITIONS.

A judge must be impartial if hoping to have a distinguished future in the field. He/she must be totally familiar with the AAA Inc. Paraders Handbook and Showing Rules Manual. These manuals are the foundation for all shows and have been thoughtfully and carefully written.

A judge must be confident in the ring procedure. The spectators, exhibitors and stewards look to the judge as the manager of all that happens in the ring. The judge has absolute authority and control of the situation and should use that power wisely. The stewards are there to implement the authority of the Judge. Stewards should be made aware of all expectations of themselves and exhibitors whilst inside the ring. Exhibitors should have procedures thoroughly explained to them by the ring steward. A judge should be polite and precise in giving direction to stewards and exhibitors.

A judge must remember his/her responsibility and live up to the high standards expected of them. A failure to do so brings criticism, disrespect and ill repute to themselves, their fellow judges, and the industry as a whole.

SUMMARY OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD PARADERS JUDGE

A good judge will

- be able to observe positive and negative traits (in animal management and behaviour).
- be able to logically analyse, compare and rank the differences between handlers and vocalise his/her analysis in a clear and concise way.
- always be suitably attired.

ACCEPTING THE ASSIGNMENT

You will be requested to nominate for any judging appointments indicating your availability. Once invited to judge a show, you will then receive a judges show agreement, and upon receipt of this you should confirm your acceptance by completing the form and returning to:

1. The show organiser, and ...
2. The A.A.A. National office

You will, in time, receive the necessary details of the show:

- Venue
- Date
- Estimated number of entries
- Classes
- Accommodation
- Transport (if required)

You may need to negotiate with the show organisers for and any special requirements you may have, e.g.

Tressle tables, additional animal pens and / or any special dietary requirements.

ATTENDING THE SHOW

Remember to

- be suitably dressed (jeans are not acceptable)
- bring current rules manual
- arrive early
- go straight to the chief steward
- avoid contact with exhibitors - you may acknowledge the youth however conversation is not allowed.
- check the ring operation

Peer Review:

Co-judging appointments may involve completing a peer review on each other. This is not to be used as a complaints medium it is for the use for education and improvement of our judges to keep us all on the same page, consistent and fair.

Parader Judging Levels:

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|
| 1 | Apprentice Judge | - must complete 5 appoints.
plus 1 over judging. |
| 2. | Accredited Judge | - able to judge independently |
| 3. | Snr Accredited Judge | - will judge A grade shows
ie. royals, national etc. |
| 4. | Inactive | - an inactive status may be granted in
extreme circumstances. 1 successful
co-judge appt and review to reinstate. |
| 5. | Retired | - Retired judges may be utilised for
youth training events. |

JUDGES' CODE OF CONDUCT (For the Website)

This AAA Judges' Code of Conduct is to be used in addition to the provisions in the AAA Showing Rules to guide judges in their responsibilities and behaviour:

1. Judges must act impartially and in a professional manner at all times.
2. Judges are in a position of privilege in their capacity interact with Youth in a show and must not abuse that privilege by acting in any manner detrimental to exhibitors or their alpacas.
3. Judges have a responsibility to accept AAA invitations to judge unless exceptional circumstances prevent them from attending.
- 4. An AAA Parader Judge may not officiate or judge at a non AAA sanctioned event. Disqualification of accreditation may arise if this occurs.**
5. Judges must be committed to the task. It is an honour to be invited to judge and once you have undertaken to become a Judge you have committed to all shows large and small.
6. If a Judge accepts an invitation to judge and for any reason cannot make the appointment it is imperative he/she notifies the Show Convenor of the Parader Section and the Chair of the AYE as soon as possible.
7. Judges must notify AAA National Office within 7 days after accepting an invitation to judge at any alpaca show, to allow for proper rotation of Judges' names being put forward.
8. Judges will refrain from commenting on the capabilities/performance of a fellow Judge in a negative manner particularly during the conduct of a show and/or in the public domain.
9. In the event of a written complaint about a judge, a panel of three shall be formed, the panel to comprise (at least) the Chair of AYE, a current or past Board Member, and a member of AYE, one to be an accredited Judge, to properly investigate the complaint. The individual Judge is to be kept fully informed of any complaint received and given the opportunity to speak to their

defence. The privilege of acting as an accredited AAA Parader Judge may be withdrawn temporarily or permanently as the result of any unethical or unprofessional behaviour as determined by the above panel.

Note: Complaints against Judges to be put in writing, within one week of the alleged incident, addressed to the Chair of Training & Education, accompanied by a \$50 fee, which will be refunded in the event that the complaint is upheld.

10. Judges can expect to receive the full support the AAA whilst carrying out their duties in a competent and professional manner in accordance with the Judges' Code of Conduct.

11. Judges must be aware that their position and status as a Judge continues outside the show ring. When commenting on particular competitors in any forum, Judges have a responsibility to act ethically and professionally and should not speak publicly in any way that may be detrimental to the competitors or alpacas.

ACCEPTANCE OF JUDGES CODE OF CONDUCT

Signature: Date:

Print Name:

