



PARADER JUDGE PROCESS

Apprenticeship through to AAA Parader Judge

Application for the Parader Judge training program is the beginning of an exciting new direction for the successful candidates.

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 through an apprenticeship including the roles of AAA Apprentices and Parader Judges.

Apprenticeship application process

1. Submit Expression of Interest to become an Apprentice within Parader Judge program.
 - Written application, outlining industry experience and qualifications.
 - Together with any collated recommendations or relevant training from trainers/youth group committees or referees
 - Forward to AYE Chairperson ayechair@gmail.com
2. Experience may be completed at camps, workshops, shows or media events.
3. Membership with AAA remains current.
4. Consideration of application and integrity check by AYE Committee.
5. AYE committee recommend the Apprentice applicant be accepted into Parader Judge program by the AAA Board.
6. Welcome letter will be sent to successful applicants for apprentice program

Progression to Parader Judge status

7. To become a qualified Parader Judge:
 - a total of FIVE apprentice appointments at shows must be completed with no more than TWO apprenticeships under the same Parader Judge.
 - -Family connection is not desirable and will be assessed on a case by case occurrence
 - The FIFTH and final apprenticeship appointment, will be over judged by a Senior Parader Judge.
8. Senior Judges recommendations of the apprentice are submitted to the AYE Committee for review and assessment.
9. AYE recommends Apprentice to the Board for approval of Parader Judge qualification

10. Accreditation badge and congratulatory letter announcing full qualification will be received from the AAA.
11. Judges will be considered eligible for elevation to Senior qualification at AYE discretion.
12. Senior application should be forwarded by the AYE Committee to the AAA Board as a written submission for approval.
13. Parader Judges and Apprentices need to remain as AAA members to be considered active.

Notes:

- 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 their apprentice program. Mentor programs are available through relevant State AYE Representatives who can help develop a plan for apprenticeship 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 future that must also be completed to maintain the status of an AAA Parader Judge in so doing keeping our Judge qualifications current.
- Judge workshops are intended to be implemented for the future of our AYE judge knowledge/progression.

THE ROLE OF AAA PARADERS JUDGE

A Parader Judge is an accredited qualification of the AAA.

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 complete a desirable 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.
- When judging a Parader event the judge is a representative of the AAA and carries an important ethical responsibility. Judges are required to act ethically, honestly and impartially, possessing a professional attitude at all times.
- Endeavour to keep their skills current. Alpaca knowledge is crucial in both the Youth sector and overall alpaca industry. An understanding of Alpaca showing standards in Australia and any current changes.
- 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 program apprentice judges are required to fund their own travel/accommodation expenses. 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. Check the availability of mentors in your State.
- All apprentice and accredited judges are required to be AAA members and 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 at any time 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 and the public. They should show dedication to the objective of engaging and sustaining youth in our Alpaca industry.

Further support and information for prospective applicants can be requested from the AYE Committee.

Relevant documents and manuals should be read carefully prior to submitting an application.

The Information Kit will be made up of :

- AAA Paraders Manual
- AAA Paraders Material
- AAA Breed Standard
- Alpaca Youth Educations Operations Manual
- 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. Full, Youth or Associate Members are eligible.
- Have a sound knowledge of the alpaca industry and youth program.
- Experience as an educator e.g. as a mentor, parent, or in a teaching capacity.



- Competed as a Young Parader or been involved in the Young Parader program.
- 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 in your state.
- A good current working knowledge of the AAA Breed Standard and Parader Showing Rules reinforced 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 dedicate time to becoming a judge with flexibility to travel as required
- Able to commit to, and comply with the Judge's Code of Conduct.
- Preferably hold current driver's licence but not a prerequisite.

All relevant experience will be considered in accepting nominations, such as

- Holding a current AAA Halter Judge qualification
- Experience/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: AYE Chair - ayechair@gmail.com

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

The AYE considers your interest and commitment in making this application in high regard and is most welcome. We look forward to having your contribution as a Parader Judge.

FUNDAMENTALS OF JUDGING

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 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. (Neat attire with sensible footwear, no flowing garments. Jeans are not acceptable). Appropriate sunhats where necessary.



ACCEPTING THE ASSIGNMENT

You will be requested to nominate for any judging appointments indicating your availability. Once selected and invited to judge a show, you will receive a judge's show agreement. You should confirm your acceptance by completing the form and returning to both:

1. The show organiser
2. The AAA office

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

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

AYE Chair selects and notifies the judge within 14 days of invitation mail out. Just because you have responded to the Judge request may not mean you are allocated. You may need to negotiate with the show organisers for any special requirements you may have, e.g. trestle tables, additional animal pens and/or any special dietary requirements.

ATTENDING THE SHOW

Remember to

- be suitably dressed
- bring current rules manual
- arrive early
- go straight to the chief steward for direction
- avoid contact with exhibitors - you may acknowledge the youth however conversation is not allowed.
- check and approve the ring operation



PARADER JUDGING LEVELS

Level	Formal title	Restrictions
1	Apprentice Judge	Must complete 5 appointments including final over judging to become an Accredited Judge.
2	Accredited Judge	Able to judge independently
3	Senior Accredited Judge	Will judge A-grade shows ie. Royals, national etc.
4	Inactive Judge	A judge becomes inactive when out of service for 1 year or more. AYE will review reinstatement on a case by case basis.
5	Retired Judge	AYE values the experience and expertise of retired Judges and would appreciate their acceptance of invitations from time to time for training and education purposes.