



ABGA SANCTIONED SHOW RULES

American Boer Goat Association

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Rules & Regulations of the American Boer Goat Association

Rule 1400: Sanctioned Show Rules and JABGA Rule

- A. Eligibility of Animals
 - i. All goats must be registered in the ABGA herd book by the date specified by the show.
 - ii. All goats entered into ABGA sanctioned shows must be registered with the ABGA in order to acquire Ennoblement points.
 - iii. Original registration certificates are required, except that a copy of a registration application stamped with the date received by ABGA, can be accepted for kids less than 3 months of age. Animals over the age of 3 months must **be verified as registered** in the ABGA database at time of show. (6-2-2020)
 - iv. An animal that may be verified as registered in the web-based database of ABGA will be accepted in lieu of registration certificate. Verification must be provided by the exhibitor in either digital or print to the show secretary. JABGA ownership must be verified using the transfer history on the animal pedigree if the certificate is not provided. (6-2-2020)
 - v. All goats must be appropriately identified and comply with USDA Scrapie Eradication Program Guidelines. Call 1-888-USDA TAG (873-2824) or visit the following website for more information: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/scrapie/
 - vi. ABGA prohibits the transfer of any goat exhibited in a JABGA sanctioned show back to the seller and/or seller's agent for a period of one year from date of purchase for all goats that are not bred and owned by the JABGA exhibitor.
 - vii. Goats registered in a frozen or suspended account are ineligible to exhibit in an ABGA Sanctioned Show.
- B. Show Focus
 - i. The American Boer Goat Association will accept and permanently record all wins in Shows that have been determined to have met all requirements (as stated below) for ABGA sanctioning.
 - ii. Failure to comply with ABGA Show Rules may result in the loss of sanctioning and funding, where applicable.
 - iii. ABGA requires that an ABGA Sanctioned Show Application be submitted to the ABGA office no less than 90 days prior to the show.
 - iv. No show will be sanctioned during the week of the ABGA National Show.
 - v. No JABGA show will be sanctioned that occurs on a conflicting date and within 500 miles of a scheduled JABGA regional show. (7-20-2018)
- C. Purpose

The main focus of ABGA Sanctioned Shows is the genetic improvement of the Boer breed and promotion of the goat industry.
- D. Entries
 - i. Any show receiving ABGA sanctioning shall be open to **only** ABGA registered Boer goats. Show representatives may use their discretion and have the right to ban an individual if they consider it necessary for the good of the show.
 - ii. There should be no limit on the number of animals that can be entered in a class by an exhibitor, unless the sponsoring show deems this limit necessary.
 - iii. Any show limiting the number of entries in any way must state this in their rules.
 - iv. ABGA sanctioned shows may not require animals to sell in a sale as a condition of participating in the show.
 - v. When the **animal is verified as registered in the ABGA database or a stamped registration application is presented** at check-in, registered name, ABGA registration number and tattoos/**microchip number** of each animal must be recorded so that they may be displayed on the results that are turned in to the ABGA office. (12-12-2015, 6-2-2020)
- E. Ennobled Herd Book Points
 - i. Only goats entered **and verified as registered in the ABGA database** will be eligible to earn points for their actual placing in the show, as described in the ABGA Criteria for Ennoblement of a Boer Goat. (See Rule 1000, Ennoblement Program) (6-2-2020)
 - ii. Points for ABGA Sanctioned Shows will be awarded based on the following schedule:



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ABGA CLASS POINTS						
# Exhibited in Class	Placing in Class					
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
1 to 3	1					
4 to 5	2					
6 to 7	3					
8 to 9	4					
10	5					
11 to 25	10	5				
26 to 50	15	10	5			
51 to 100	20	15	10	5		
101 to 175	25	20	15	10	5	
176 or more	30	25	20	15	10	5

ABGA SANCTIONED SHOW DIVISION POINTS		
# Exhibited in Section	Division Champion	Division Reserve
1 to 25	3	1
26 to 50	5	2
51 or more	10	5

ABGA SANCTIONED SHOW OVERALL CHAMPION POINTS		
# Exhibited in Section	Overall Grand	Overall Reserve
1 to 10	5	2
11 to 25	10	5
26 to 50	15	10
51 to 100	20	15
101 to 175	25	20
176 or more	30	25

F. Tattoos

All goats must have legible tattoos consistent with the registration certificate or the animal will be disqualified. If an animal is disqualified due to illegible or inconsistent tattoos, all lower placing animals will be moved up in placement. Point winners from each class must have their tattoos read and recorded. The judge will be responsible for ensuring that tattoos are read and properly recorded. The show secretary will be responsible for recording the tattoos and informing the judge as to which point-eligible goats will need to be checked. Permanently implanted microchip identification **or permanent freeze brand will** be accepted by ABGA as official identification in addition to, or in lieu of, tattoos. The owner is responsible for providing the appropriate scanning device to read any microchip used for identification purposes. (7-14-2023)

G. Computing Ages

Birth dates, as listed on the registration certificate, will be used in determining class divisions. In order to calculate the class breaks, take the show date and count back to the birth date to determine the age and the class for the animal.

H. Classes

- All animals must be registered Purebred, Fullblood, or percentage Boer goats. Divisions are according to the chart below. (07/14/2025)
- Percentage bucks are optional to be added to sanctioned show classes until June 1, 2026, at which point they will be mandatory. Division rosettes will be added to the sanctioned show packs starting June 1, 2026. (07/14/2025)
- At the discretion of the judge and the superintendent, the animals may be let loose in the ring as a function of judging.
- The Champion and the Reserve Champion classes will be chosen from the first and second place animals in that division of the show.
Divisions will be defined as follows:
 - American Percentage Does 25% or higher.
 - American Percentage Bucks 25% or higher. (07/14/2025)
 - Fullblood/American Purebred Does.
 - Fullblood/American Purebred Bucks

I. Show Responsibilities

- It is recommended that the show provide a ring steward to assist in the ring.
- It is the responsibility of the Show Secretary to have a copy of the ABGA Official Show Rules available at all times in case any questions arise during the course of the show.
- In addition, the show report must be completed by the Show Secretary and should be forwarded to the ABGA office within 30 days of the show. The report must include the following:
 - Class.
 - Number of animals exhibited in the Class.
 - Each animal's name.



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- d. Each animal's ABGA registration number
- e. Identifying Tattoos (left and right) **or microchip number (12-12-2015).**
- iv. Any animal that is not checked in with **verification of registration in the ABGA database** will not receive recognition in any ABGA publication or website. Such animals are not eligible for ennoblement points. **(6-2-2020)**
- v. A copy of scheduled classes and applying entity rules must be sent to the ABGA.
- vi. Changes and/or corrections to the official show results, once they have been turned in to the ABGA office, will require the signature of the Show Secretary and one other show official.
- vii. Future sanctioning be withheld until complete show results are received in the ABGA office. **(12-14-2018)**
- J. Exhibitor Responsibilities
 - i. No animal bracing allowed at ABGA Sanctioned Shows.
 - ii. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to refrain from presenting any animal owned by the presiding judge within 90 days prior to the show date.
- K. Disqualification

Any goat exhibited at an ABGA or JABGA sanctioned show or event shall be subject to disqualification for any of the following:

 - i. Any pronounced defect or abnormality.
 - ii. Tattoos/**microchip numbers** that are illegible or inconsistent with the registration certificate. **(12-12-2015)**
 - iii. Any animal found not to be in accordance with Rule 1400.L. Acceptable Practices and Substances. Should any animal that has been awarded a prize be disqualified before its class has been dismissed from the show ring, the lower placing animals shall move up to fill the vacancy. Should any animal be disqualified after the class has been dismissed from the show ring, the lower placing animals will not move into any higher position.
- L. Suspended or Banned Members

If denial or revocation of show privileges includes denial of access or presence on show grounds, the person shall refrain from entry or presence on show grounds of any ABGA-approved show grounds during the term of his or her suspension or ban. Failure to comply with such restriction may result in (1) further disciplinary actions against such person and (2) disqualification of exhibitors and goats that such person helped prepare for the show or assisted at the show. (7-14-2023)
- M. Acceptable Practices and Substances

No person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate, or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate any part of these Rules & Regulations.

 - i. Permitted Practices and Substances
 - a. Drenches as needed, and as directed on the label, for animal health and well-being.
 - b. Drugs and other substances labeled for use in goats to treat health issues in an exhibited goat. Any extra-label usage requires a prescription, or statement for use from the attending veterinarian.
 - c. Grooming products that are not restricted from use in meat producing animals, including: brushes, combs, clippers, hoof trimmers, shampoos, conditioners, oils, mousse, alcohol/liniment, sprays, powder, and artificial coloring that enhances the goat's natural color.
 - ii. Conditionally Permitted Practices and Substances
 - a. Therapeutic medications given for the legitimate treatment of illness or injury are permitted if ALL the following conditions are met:
 - i. A completed medication report on file with show management before exhibiting the animal, which must include:
 - (a) Diagnosis of illness/injury, reason for administration, and name of administering and/or prescribing veterinarian.
 - (b) Signature of veterinarian or person administering the medication. If prescribed by written instructions, a copy must be attached to the medication report.
 - (c) Identification of the medicine; the name, amount, strength, and mode of administration.



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- (d) Date and time of administration.
 - (e) Identification of the animal: ABGA registration number, permanent identification (tattoo), age, sex.
 - ii. The animal must be withdrawn and kept out of competition for no less than 24 hours after the medication is administered.
 - iii. The medication report must be filed with show management within one hour of administration of the medication or one hour after show management is available, if administration occurs at a time other than during competition hours.
 - iv. The medication report must be signed by show management and the time of receipt recorded on the report.
- iii. Prohibited Practices and Substances
 - a. Injection or external or internal administration via any orifice of any substance (including drugs, chemicals, and any other forms of products) prohibited from use in meat producing animals by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and/or any Federal, State or Local Law.
 - b. Extra-label use of any drug or substance approved for use on meat producing animals, but not approved for use in goats (even though commonly used in goats), while on the show premises.
 - c. Injection or external or internal administration via any orifice of any allowed substance in any way that is inconsistent with the dosage and the route prescribed by the manufacturer or prescribing veterinarian.
 - d. Administration of any quantity of any diuretic, growth stimulant, or performance enhancing drug.
 - e. Filling and/or tubing of an animal.
 - f. Presenting any animal whose natural conformation and structure have been surgically altered in any way, with the exception of:
 - i. Removal of horns; and/or
 - ii. Removal in testicles in the case of wethers.
 - g. Using any inhumane or unethical treatments, including striking animals, using electrical contrivance, or other similar methods.
 - h. Artificial coloring that alters the natural color of a goat (12-14-2018)
 - i. Attaching any objects, including hair or hair substitutes, cloth, or fiber to the animal for the purpose of deception.
 - j. Injection or external or internal administration via any orifice of any substance, whether gas, solid, or liquid, not conducive to continued animal health or marketability.
 - k. Tissue or fluid manipulation, removal, surgical attachment or otherwise to change, conceal, enhance, or transform the true conformation or configuration of the animal.
 - l. Administering any substance that artificially induces lactation.
 - m. Any substance, regardless of how harmless or innocuous it might be, which might interfere with the detection or quantization of any substance prohibited by ABGA.
- iv. Drug Testing Policy

ABGA reserves the right to perform drug testing of any animal at any ABGA or JABGA sanctioned show. The cost of associated veterinary services and laboratory fees will be incurred by ABGA. Reasonable steps shall be taken to minimize any opportunity for animal tampering to occur. At the sole discretion of ABGA, all exhibited animals may be subject to collection of any appropriate samples upon arrival at a show facility where drug testing will take place. Collected samples shall be maintained for analysis and baseline comparison purposes in the event that an animal is found to be in non-compliance with the accepted practices and substances outlined herein.
- v. Responsibility

These rules provide for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by the currently listed owner, whether or not he was actually instrumental in, or had actual knowledge of, the treatment of the animal determined to be in violation of these rules.
- vi. Consent

By attending an ABGA or JABGA sanctioned show or event, the owner warrants that animals shall be presented free of violative drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a



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sanctioned show is the giving of consent by the owner for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. In the case that there is a violation of these rules, the act of entering the animal in a sanctioned show is giving consent to have any disciplinary action taken by the ABGA against such individual published in any publication of ABGA's choosing.

vii. Testing

The conclusions reached by the laboratory of ABGA's choosing shall be final and binding without recourse against the ABGA or any of its officers, agents, or sanctioned show officials. If the laboratory tests of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from an animal indicate the presence of any forbidden substance, this shall be prima facie evidence that such a substance has been administered to the animal internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance taken from the animal correctly reflect the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden of proving otherwise falling to the owner at any hearing conducted by ABGA regarding the matter.

viii. Notification

At such time as ABGA receives written notification of a positive drug test involving a violation of these rules, ABGA shall mail written notification of this result to the responsible party(s) and shall also give notification via telephone, when possible.

ix. Penalties

Any participant in an ABGA or JABGA sanctioned event found to be in non-compliance with the accepted practices and substances outlined herein shall be subject to any of the disciplinary actions available to the ABGA Board of Directors as part of Rule 900. Additionally, or alternatively, the Board may impose any or all the following disciplinary actions:

- a. Forfeiture. Forfeit awards, monies, points, placings, or titles earned.
- b. Animal Ineligible to Show. The animal may be banned from competing at any future ABGA and JABGA sanctioned shows. The owner must surrender the registration certificate to ABGA within 30 days of receipt of notice to be marked as ineligible to show. In the event the owner fails to surrender the certificate, they will be subject to additional sanctions by the ABGA Board of Directors. A list of these ineligible animals will be maintained by ABGA and provided to show superintendents.

N. Show Support System (All show support is at the discretion of ABGA)

- i. Upon request, ABGA will provide division rosettes to ABGA Sanctioned shows that are independent of a fair or livestock exposition.
- ii. Effective for Sanctioned Show Applications received after February 1, 2012, Monetary support will be determined by the following criteria:
 - a. The sponsoring organization must be a fair or livestock exposition;
 - b. The event must be a multi-species event;
 - c. Minimum prior year's gate attendance 200,000 (documentation must be provided by the requesting organization);
 - d. Must provide a proposed class breakdown, if the class breakdowns differ from the ABGA Class List;
 - e. Funding limited to one show per calendar year per fair or livestock exposition.

O. Required Show Classes

Beginning June 1, 2026, the standardized classes for percentage does, percentage bucks, Fullblood/Purebred Does, and Fullblood/Purebred bucks at all shows independent of a fair or livestock exposition shall be as follows: (07/14/2025)



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Percentage Does:

Class 1: 0 to under 3 months
Class 2: 3 to under 6 months
Class 3: 6 to under 9 months
Class 4: 9 to under 12 months
Class 5: Junior Division Champion
Class 6: Junior Division Reserve Champion
Class 7: 12 to under 16 months
Class 8: 16 to under 20 months
Class 9: 20 to under 24 months
Class 10: Yearling Division Champion
Class 11: Yearling Division Reserve Champion
Class 12: 24 to under 36 months
Class 13: 36 months plus
Class 14: Senior Division Champion
Class 15: Senior Division Reserve Champion
Class 16: Grand Champion
Class 17: Reserve Grand Champion

Percentage Bucks:

Class 35: 0 to under 3 months
Class 36: 3 to under 6 months
Class 37: 6 to under 9 months
Class 38: 9 to under 12 months
Class 39: Junior Division Champion
Class 40: Junior Division Reserve Champion
Class 41: 12 to under 16 months
Class 42: 16 to under 20 months
Class 43: 20 to under 24 months
Class 44: Yearling Division Champion
Class 45: Yearling Division Reserve Champion
Class 46: 24 to under 36 months
Class 47: 36 months plus
Class 48: Senior Division Champion
Class 49: Senior Division Reserve Champion
Class 50: Grand Champion
Class 51: Reserve Grand Champion

(07/14/2025)

Fullblood/Purebred Does:

Class 18: 0 to under 3 months
Class 19: 3 to under 6 months
Class 20: 6 to under 9 months
Class 21: 9 to under 12 months
Class 22: Junior Division Champion
Class 23: Junior Division Reserve Champion
Class 24: 12 to under 16 months
Class 25: 16 to under 20 months
Class 26: 20 to under 24 months
Class 27: Yearling Division Champion
Class 28: Yearling Division Reserve Champion
Class 29: 24 to under 36 months
Class 30: 36 months plus
Class 31: Senior Division Champion
Class 32: Senior Division Reserve Champion
Class 33: Grand Champion
Class 34: Reserve Grand Champion

Fullblood/Purebred Bucks:

Class 52: 0 to under 3 months
Class 53: 3 to under 6 months
Class 54: 6 to under 9 months
Class 55: 9 to under 12 months
Class 56: Junior Division Champion
Class 57: Junior Division Reserve Champion
Class 58: 12 to under 16 months
Class 59: 16 to under 20 months
Class 60: 20 to under 24 months
Class 61: Yearling Division Champion
Class 62: Yearling Division Reserve Champion
Class 63: 24 to under 36 months
Class 64: 36 months plus
Class 65: Senior Division Champion
Class 66: Senior Division Reserve Champion
Class 67: Grand Champion
Class 68: Reserve Grand Champion

P. Concurrent Show Rules

Definition: A concurrent show refers to multiple shows taking place at the same time, in the same ring, at the same venue. While the shows are going on at the same time and the same place, they are 2 separate shows and therefore must be treated as individual shows. The ABGA National Show and JABGA National Show are single placement shows judged by a team and do not fall under this category.

- i. No more than two shows may be run concurrently at any given time. (Example: 2 ABGA or 1 ABGA/1 JABGA). If one of the two shows is a JABGA show, the JABGA member must be the only one in the ring showing that animal. The JABGA Bred and Owned Champions must be placed after each Overall Division Drive. All JABGA rules must be followed.
- ii. The show secretary shall note on the show application defining which shows will run concurrently with each other.
- iii. The show secretary shall notify judges at the time of the contract that shows are going to run concurrently with each other.
- iv. The show secretary shall be required to provide judges with separate ring stewards and class lists to mark placings. The class placings must be completed before class reasons are given.
 - a. Ring stewards must submit the completed class placings to the show secretary prior to



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the class being placed.

- v. Judges are required to check all animals in a class themselves for any DQ faults, to promote consistency, judges may confer with each other regarding any DQ faults they may find questionable. (12-5-2024)
 - a. In the interest of time, in very large classes the judges are permitted to check only the animals from which each wish to make their final selections.
 - vi. If a cut is made from a large class and the animals pulled by each judge are different:
 - a. The judges may decide to take turns working the ring with the animals they selected to pull from the larger class.
 - b. The judges may work the ring at the same time, remembering to only make their final placements from the selection they chose to keep from the larger class.
 - vii. Division Drives and Overall Drives (especially those with different animals for each judge's show) will be handled differently than normal classes and are up to the show staff and the judges for how they would like to make their decisions:
 - a. The drive for one judge may be brought in, that judge decides on their champion and reserve, then makes note of it on a score card/to their ring steward. After that, the other judge's drive is brought in, they make their final decision, and talk their reasons. The first judge's drive is then brought back in, and they talk their reasons for their decision.
 - b. One judge leaves the ring and moves far enough away that they are out of earshot, and the other judge proceeds to treat the drive like any other show. After the results and reasons are completed, the judge who left may return and proceed to do the same and treat the drive like a regular show.
 - viii. Each judge is responsible for ensuring tattoos or microchips on all first place, division champion, and overall champion animals, as well as any other animals that stand to gain points during the show, are checked for their respective show. This is in effect even if both judges have the same animals being awarded any of the same placements.
 - ix. Judges are required to give reasons to at least fifth place for each of their respective shows. It's understood that people don't want to spend forever in the ring, but each show is its own entity and exhibitors deserve to hear the reasons for why they placed how they did in each individual show.
 - x. Discussion of the class between judges prior to the class being officially placed by both judges is strictly prohibited.
 - a. Short comments (asking one another if it's alright to walk the animals, asking to switch the angle of view, witty remarks, etc.) are fine.
 - b. Private conversations between judges are strictly prohibited.
 - xi. It is highly recommended that show secretaries only request experienced judges for judging concurrent shows. Two shows running simultaneously in this manner could be viewed as a bit overwhelming for a novice judge.
 - xii. All ABGA and JABGA Sanctioned Show Rules and Judges' Protocols still apply to the Concurrent Shows.
- Q. Show Ring Protocol for ABGA Judges
- The goal of this protocol is to ensure that each judge strives to provide a fair, unbiased, and objective inspection of each animal as it is presented for his/her evaluation and in so doing, provide a positive experience for all individuals involved including exhibitors, spectators, and show personnel. As a representative of the American Boer Goat Association, an ABGA Judge, through his or her appearance, evaluations, and presentations, is to conduct him or herself in a professional manner with show officials, exhibitors, and spectators at all times.
- i. A judge is at all times, to evaluate Boer goats in accordance with the ABGA Sanction Show Rules and the ABGA Boer Goat Breed Standard. Animals should be evaluated according to the degree with which they meet the desired traits outlined within the ABGA Breed Standard.
 - ii. Judges are required to check the following on Boer goats presented to be judged in order to ensure these areas are correct according to the ABGA Boer Goat Breed Standards:
 - a. Udder/teat structure on females.
 - b. Mouths on males and females.
 - c. Pigmentation on males and females.



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d. Testicles on males.

Recognizing the complication of time involved in judging very large classes, a judge is allowed discretion to check only those animals retained in the show ring from which the final selections will be made. In all classes, where practical, it is recommended that a judge check all animals presented.

- iii. Judges are required to set their final placement line in numerical order, beginning with the lowest placing animal and continuing in ascending order to the first-place animal, prior to giving reasons so that exhibitors and spectators can clearly see and understand the placements.
- iv. A judge shall be responsible for ensuring that the tattoos are read on the winner of each class plus any goats in that class other than the winner that, by virtue of class size, are eligible for points under ABGA rules including all GCH and RGCH animals before those animals leave the ring.
- v. Judges are responsible for ensuring that no bracing occurs during the judging portion of the show.
- vi. No judge shall judge an animal that:
 - a. Is owned partially or entirely by the judge.
 - b. Is owned partially or entirely by any member of the judge's immediate family, which includes children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, siblings, or spouse.
 - c. In which the judge has any pecuniary interest.
 - d. Over which the judge has any supervision.
 - e. It is strongly recommended that a judge refrain from knowingly judging any animal sold by the judge within 90 days prior to the show date.
- vii. Recognizing the need for judgment, it is strongly recommended that a judge not place animals that exhibit a serious degree of any fault according to the ABGA Breed Standard or a disqualification trait as defined by the ABGA Breed Standard. Display of any such trait should negatively impact an animal's placing.
- viii. Recognizing the need for judgment, it is recommended that single entry animals in a class not be automatically awarded a first place if the animal exhibits any serious degree of a fault according to the ABGA Breed Standard, a disqualification trait as defined by the ABGA Breed Standard or is otherwise deemed a quality that does not warrant placing the animal at the front of the class.
- ix. An ABGA judge should use terminology in accordance with the structure of Boer goats when giving reasons, so that spectators may more easily understand the judge's references and evaluations. "Canned" reasons are discouraged. A judge's reasons for placing classes are an educational tool and should be used as such by the judge.
- x. A judge should be courteous at all times and kind, when called for, in his/her evaluations, refraining from negative comments that would unnecessarily embarrass any exhibitor. All necessary criticism of the animal to be evaluated should be constructive in nature and should serve an educational purpose for the exhibitor of the animal, other exhibitors, and spectators.
- xi. A judge should always show personal discretion in his comments while in the show ring as an exhibitor or ring side as a spectator at any event where such comments may be overheard and perceived to be derogatory of the working judge.
- xii. A judge should at all times dress professionally and appropriately for the show ring.
- xiii. Recognizing the complications of arriving at a show arena within a prescribed time frame can create delays for a judge, it is therefore strongly recommended that upon arrival, a judge, with discretion, refrain from visiting the pen area or visiting with exhibitors where possible prior to judging the show.
- xiv. Personal solicitation of judging assignments is discouraged.