



Budgerigar Association of America

Judge Trainee Program

General Judge Trainee Applicant Requirements

A person applying for Judge Trainee status must meet the following minimum requirements.

1. Six consecutive years as a member of a national budgerigar organization. He / she must be a current member of the Budgerigar Association of America and an affiliate in good standing.
2. The applicant must be a champion breeder exhibiting in the champion division for a minimum of 48 months prior to applying for Judge Trainee. As a champion He / She must have attained a minimum of 3 wins. Wins must be attained within the 60 month time frame. The following will also apply to the wins;
 - a. Wins must be the top six show places (First through sixth), one of which must be a Best in Show
 - b. The wins must be at three different shows.
 - c. The wins must be under three different BAA Panel Judges.
 - d. The wins must be with 3 different birds.
 - e. Minimum of 100 birds in show.
 - f. Minimum of 3 champion exhibitors showing birds.
 - g. Minimum of 30 champion birds entered.
3. The applicant will have performed various functions at the budgerigar shows such as steward and secretary. It is also recommended that the applicant study and be aware of all varieties.
4. When in the best interest of the BAA, one of the above requirements may be waived.

General procedures governing application to the BAA Judges Association.

1. A letter should be written to the Administrator of the Judges Association informing him / her of your intent to apply for admission and requesting an application form and a copy of the **General Rules and By-Laws** of the Judges' Association.
2. The Judge Trainee is required to pay all expenses when attending a show for assessment. The trainee must make prior arrangements with the show manager and judge to allow for testing time.

3. If approved, the administrator will notify the Editor of the Journal to list the name of the applicant in the Journal as a Judge Trainee. If the application is disapproved the reasons will be set forth in a letter to the applicant so that the applicant can make an effort to adjust / correct issue for further consideration.
4. The applicant must secure the endorsement of three BAA Panel Judges along with a letter from a sponsoring club.
5. Champion breeders who would like to judge but are missing requirements may participate in training sessions prior to applying, so that when their requirements are fulfilled they may test more quickly. These pre-qualifying training sessions would be good for a maximum two years prior to qualifying. Training sessions must be approved by the judge administrator, the hosting show, and the training judge.

Training Program for Judge Trainee

1. There are several assignments the trainee must complete before he / she is administered the final test, which will be given at the Grand National Show or a show that has been approved by the Judge Administrator. The Judge Trainee shall choose three BAA patronage shows as mandatory training programs where he / she will actively participate. The Judge Trainee will need to acquire the permission to schedule the training sessions, from the judge administrator, the club sponsoring the show and the BAA Judge who will be judging the show. The affiliated club choosing to participate in the training sessions may list in their show catalog the name of the Judge Trainee and the BAA Judge who will be supervising the training session. All of the decisions made by the Judge Trainee at these shows will be made under the watchful eyes of the residing Judge. The final placements of the birds will be a coordinated effort.
2. At each assessment show, the Trainee Judge will be required to judge a minimum of one division. The Trainee will also remain with the assessor for the entire show process. This will enable the Judge Trainee to participate in all aspects including the completion of forms and paperwork.
3. Once the Judge Trainee has successfully participated and completed all training sessions he / she will precede to the final testing at the next Grand National or Regional show approved by the Judge Administrator.
4. If the Trainee should receive an unfavorable evaluation, he / she should schedule an additional training session.

5. All expenses incurred to participate in these sessions are the sole responsibility of the Trainee.

Notes: A Trainee may not advance to the next session without the authorization from the Administrator of the Judges Association.

During the period of these training sessions a Judge Trainee should also try to judge parlor or baby shows in his / her area if possible. This will give the trainee more experience and be helpful towards future testing. BAA affiliates are encouraged to assist the trainee in this regard.

The trainee will not be allowed to exhibit his / her birds at the shows that the training sessions take place.

Final Test for the Judge Trainee

1. The final exam will be given at the Grand National or at any show deemed appropriate by the judge administrator where three active panel judges are in attendance. The final examination will require the Judge Trainee to judge 15 birds, (using a minimum of four hens) placing them in order from First to Tenth, Best Opposite Sex, Best Young, and Best Opposite Sex Young if available. The 15 birds may be from one division or a combination of divisions. The trainee will place the birds in order and explain their reasons.

The presiding Judges will then assess the Trainees selection and performance. The four Judges will provide a written report to the Administrator of the Association stating their evaluation of the trainee's performance.

2. Judge Trainees who fail the final test should reschedule the third training session and then be tested at the National Show or at any show deemed appropriate by the judge administrator where three active panel judges are in attendance.
3. The Administrator of the Judges Association will select three Judges to preside over the final test. The trainee must be passed by two of the three judges. The names of the three testing judges will NOT be included on the Judge Trainee Final Evaluation Form.
4. Once the Judge trainee has successfully passed the final test the Administrator will recommend his / her acceptance to the Judges Association.