



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 one win per year in three different years. These wins do not have to be in 3 consecutive years, but must be attained within the 48 month time frame. The following will also apply to the wins;
 - a. Wins must be the top four show places, one of which must be a Best in Show
 - b. They must be at three different shows.
 - c. The wins will be under three different BAA Panel Judges.
 - d. 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, some 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. The applicant will require the signed endorsement of three BAA Panel Judges.
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 along with a letter from a sponsoring club.

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. 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 both 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 show.
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 Show. The final examination will require the Judge Trainee to judge 15 birds, (using 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 judges, who reside over the test, will first put these birds in order thus establishing a guideline for the trainee. The Trainee will then evaluate the birds giving his / her reasons for the placing. The presiding Judges will then assess the Trainees selection and performance and provide the Trainee with an explanation as to why they agree or disagree with the placement. The three 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 of the following year.
3. The Administrator of the Judges Association will select the Judges to reside over the final test.
4. Once the Judge trainee has successfully passed the final test the Administrator will recommend his / her acceptance to the Judges Association.

The new judge will be required to pay any annual Judge's membership fee that the Association has levied on its members. Currently there are no annual fees.