



AGRICULTURAL SHOWS
AUSTRALIA

**AGRICULTURAL SHOWS
AUSTRALIA HANDBOOK**

**NATIONAL ASA ALPACA (ANIMAL AND FLEECE)
JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP**

(Draft Final 12 June 2018)

JUDGING INSTRUCTIONS

**THE JUDGING CARDS FOR THIS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOULD BE ON
WHITE COLOURED PAPER.**

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

ALPACA (ANIMAL AND FLEECE) JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

INDEX

Rules and Regulations	.....	3
Notes for Host State/ Territory/ Region	.....	3
Procedure for Running the National Championship	.....	4
Parading of Animals	.....	5
Use of Judging Cards	.....	5
National Championship Timing	.....	6
Competitor Placings Card (animal and fleece)	.....	7
Competitor Judging Card (Suri fleece)	.....	8
Competitor Judging Card (Huacaya fleece)	.....	9
Championship Judge Oral/Visual Assessment Card/ Notes (animal)	.....	10
Championship Judge Oral/Visual Assessment Card/ Notes (fleece)	.....	11
Oral Section Guidelines	.....	12
Alpaca Fleece Characteristics and Preferred Fleece Characteristics	.....	13
Animal Conformation and Structure (Judging points of and Alpaca)	.....	14
Notes for Championship Judge	.....	15
Master Score Sheet (animal and fleece) (Sydney Royal Sheet)	.....	16
Master Score Sheet (animal and fleece)	.....	17
Reason Card for Competitors (animal)	.....	18
Reason Card for Competitors (fleece)	.....	19
Master Card - Championship Judge Final Placings (animal and fleece)	.....	20
How to Use the Computer Scoring Program	.....	21
Handy Hints on the Hormel Slide and Judging Championship	.....	23
How to Use the Hormel Slide	.....	24

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

The National Agricultural Shows Australia (ASA) Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship (National Championship) is designed to determine the Competitors whose placings after careful inspection and consideration would likely agree to those of the Championship Judge.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. To be eligible to compete in the National Championship each Competitor must have lived, worked or attended school within the State/ Territory they represent in the previous three (3) months prior to the State/ Territory Final and can only represent one State/ Territory at a National Championship in any given year.
2. Competitors must be fifteen (15) and under twenty five (25) years of age on first (1st) May in the year of the Competitor's State Final. Competitors under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by a chaperone.
3. Each year one (1) Competitor is to represent each State/ Territory and one (1) Competitor to represent the Region (New Zealand).
4. The Computer Scoring Program and the Hormel Slide are to be used at the National Championship Final for calculation of the points and placings.
5. The Championship Judge **must** not have access to any Master Score Sheet prior to the announcement of the winners of the National Championship.
6. At no time during the National Championship should a Competitor talk with the Championship Judge unless directed to do so by the Ring Steward.
7. State/ Territory/ Region Secretaries **must** inform the ASA Secretariat of the name, contact address, telephone number and email address of **their** Competitor in a Judging Championship going on to a National Championship Final. The ASA Secretariat will advise these Competitors of the venue and times of the National Championship Final.
8. The winner and runner-up of the National Championship should be requested to do a report on any travel tour they undertake to validate sponsorship money.
9. Winners are ineligible to compete again after winning the final of this National Championship.
10. Competitors will be eliminated from the Championship if the Judge's Steward considers they are receiving outside assistance.

Notes for Host State/ Territory/ Region

1. Agricultural Shows Australia will provide one (1) Data Reader Steward, one (1) Ring Steward and one (1) Timekeeper.
2. Host State/ Territory/ Region is to provide one (1) Data Entry Steward, one (1) Ring Steward and one (1) Announcer Steward.
3. The role and activities of Officials are listed in the 'Young Judges Championships Handbook for Description of Officials' Duties.
4. One (1) Championship Judge is required for the Championship.
5. The Host RAS or nominated Show is to provide place ribbons to Exhibitors/ Competitors.
6. Rules and Regulations for the National Championship to be sent out to Competitors through the Agricultural Shows Australia Secretariat.

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

Please Note:	i	This is a master set of Alpaca Judging Instruction Sheets to photocopy for the Championship.
	ii	Championship Judge receives all pages.
	iii	Competitors receive Pages 7, 8, 9, 10,18 and 19.
	iv	Scoring Steward receives pages 3,4,5, 6, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23 and 24
	v	Pages should be given to the Championship Judge and Competitors with time for them to read through before the Championship begins.
	vi	Pages 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15 and 20 are for the use of the Championship Judge's Steward.
	vii	Additional requisites – Competitor Numbers and 3 sets of Pen numbers (1 to 4).

The arrangements for the conduct of this National Championship are as follows:

A. PROCEDURE FOR RUNNING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. There are two Classes: One (1) Class consisting of four (4) animals (either Suri or Huacaya) and another one (1) Class consisting of four (4) fleeces (either Suri or Huacaya), to be judged by Competitors. Animals and fleeces may be used that have already been exhibited at the Show in which the National Championship is being held.
2. Animals must be identified by 'breastplates' or 'armbands' numbered one to four (1 to 4), and **not** A B C D with relevant measurements recorded on them. Fleeces must be identified by cards numbered one to four (1 to 4), and **not** A B C D. This is essential when the Computer Scoring Program or Hormel Slide are used.
3. Visual/ Physical judging of the fleeces will take place first or, simultaneously with the judging of animals. If there are 8 competitors 4 competitors judge the fleeces whilst the other 4 judge the animals and then switch over. Competitors will be allowed ten (10) minutes (in total) to judge the four (4) fleeces and ten (10) minutes (in total) to judge the four (4) animals. Competitors are to complete each respective Judging Card and Score Card.
4. All Competitors will take part in the Oral judging and use the card/ sheet marked 'Oral Class'. Competitors are allowed three (3) minutes each for speaking on either the animal Class or, the fleece Class). The announcer will call one (1) minute prior to completion of the three minutes. Penalty points apply – One (1) point may be deducted for every ten (10) seconds or part thereof over the allotted three (3) minutes.
5. Before the commencement of the Oral presentation, each Competitor may be required to sash the line-up or, (if time is limited) give instruction to the Ring Steward to place the ribbons on the animal or fleece in their placement order. The ribbon colour order being Blue – First (1st), Red – Second (2nd), White – Third (3rd), Yellow – Fourth (4th).
6. The winner of the National Championship is marked out of a maximum of one hundred and fifty (150) points: Fifty (50) points for the placing in each Visual/ Physical Class (ranking), fifty (50) points for the Oral Class (presentation), and fifty (50) points for visual judging (judging technique). Where both the fleece and animals Classes are judged, the placing in the Visual/ Physical Class (ranking) should be added together and divided by two (2).
7. Competitors in the Oral Class are scored on their judging craft, accuracy of observation, their comparative statements, speaking ability and general presentation and technique.

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

8. In the case of a dead heat, the Competitor with the highest total points for visual judging will be declared the winner, or if there is still a dead heat, the Championship Judge will decide the winner, based on oral or/and handling. All tie-break details are to be confirmed by the the Judge's Steward.

B. PARADING OF ANIMALS

1. Animals are to be lead individually into the ring in a clockwise direction in numerical order, one, two, three, four (1, 2, 3, 4) and lined up as per normal halter Classes in frontal profile. The Competitors will be allowed to observe the animals as they are being paraded to assess gait and conformation. The parade diagram must allow for clear visual of gait and conformation, by use of straight lines in their parade.
2. Timing commences at the point all animals are lined up.
3. Over the next ten (10) minutes Competitors will inspect the animals from the rear, frontal and lateral profiles, and collectively and comparatively assess each animal. Within this time handlers may be requested to profile the lineup side on or parade an animal by the competitor if additional inspection is sort.
3. A bell will sound two (2) minutes prior to the completion of the allocated time.
4. Judging Cards to be handed in at the conclusion of ten (10) minutes.

C. USE OF JUDGING CARDS

1. Competitor Judging Cards and Placing Cards are provided. Competitors are to use the Judging card to assess each fleece (Fleeces) and Placing cards for the order of placings from one to four (1 to 4).
2. It is essential that one (1) Championship Judge officiate for the Classes.
3. The Championship Judge, when filling out his/ her Master Card, is to note a numerical difference between fleeces and animals, as directed in the instructions for use of the Hormel Slide.

The Hormel Slide shows the degree of penalty (splits) as related to the degree of difference between fleece and animal placings and the Competitor is scored accordingly.

4. The Oral Section Guideline's Reason Card may be retained by the Competitor. It is designed to ensure Competitors use comparative details in their Oral description of the Class and to note the features of each animal or fleece and the reason it was placed in its position.

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

D. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TIMING

To maintain the interest of Competitors, the animals and the spectators, it is important the entire Championship is completed in approximately fifty (50) minutes. The timing should be as follows:-

Visual Judging - Fleeces

Judging one (1) Class of fleeces 10 mins

Data Reader Steward to finalise Competitors Visual score 3 mins

Visual Judging - Animals

Judging one (1) Class of animals 10 mins

Data Reader Steward to finalise Competitors Visual score 3 mins

Oral Judging

Note: On the basis of 8 Competitors, All except one (1) should be taken out of hearing range of Judging Ring

Competitors placings – One (1) minute each 8 mins

Competitors' oral tests – Two 2 minutes speaking 16 mins

Changeover times 6 mins

Comments from Championship Judge on Oral Class 10 mins

Announcement and Presentation of Awards 10 mins

Total Time 50 mins

In order to maintain the impetus of the National Championship, immediately the Championship Over Judge has completed his/ her final comments, the National Championship results should be ready to be announced and the Awards and Presentations made.

COMPETITOR ALPACA ANIMAL PLACINGS CARD

(Visual/ Physical Class Placings)

Competitor's No:					
Class:					
Placings:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Max. Points)50)

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COMPETITOR ALPACA FLEECE PLACINGS CARD

(Visual/ Physical Class Placings)

Competitor's No:					
Class:					
Placings:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Max. Points)50)

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

COMPETITORS ALPACA FLEECE JUDGING SURI CARD

(Suri Fleece)

Competitor's No:

Class:

Class	Description	Max. Points	Score
Fineness / Annualised Weight	Average fibre diameter from multiple sites (as related to annualized weight from matrix)	30	
Handle	Softness, independent of fineness	5	
Uniformity of micron: <i>across entire fleece</i>	Across entire fleece (lacks variation)	10	
Uniformity of micron: <i>within lock</i>	Within lock (lack of / low presence of guard hair)	10	
Uniformity of length	Consistent length throughout	5	
Uniformity of colour	Lack of colour contamination and variation within lock and across fleece	5	
Style/Density of Lock	Well-defined lock formation and style, displaying solidity of lock.	10	
Lustre	Ability to reflect light	15	
Impurities	Lack of tenderness and impurities such as coting, vegetable matter, dirt, seed, stain and tip damage etc.	5	
Effective skirting	Effective removal of coarse fibre and other contaminants from around fleece presented	5	
TOTAL		100	

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

COMPETITORS ALPACA FLEECE JUDGING HUACAYA CARD

(Huacaya Fleece)

Competitor's No:

Class:

Class	Description	Max. Points	Score
Fineness / Annualised Weight	Average fibre diameter from multiple sites (as related to annualized weight from matrix)	30	
Handle	Softness, independent of fineness	5	
Uniformity of micron: <i>across entire fleece</i>	Across entire fleece (lacks variation)	10	
Uniformity of micron: <i>within staple</i>	Within staple (lack of / low presence of guard hair)	10	
Uniformity of length	Consistent length throughout	5	
Uniformity of colour	Lack of colour contamination and variation within staple and across fleece	5	
Character and style	Crimp definition and alignment within staple and throughout fleece	10	
Density of staple	Staple density and definition; alignment and solidity throughout fleece	5	
Brightness	Ability to reflect light	10	
Impurities	Lack of tenderness and impurities such as cotting, vegetable matter, dirt, seed, stain and tip damage etc.	5	
Effective skirting	Effective removal of coarse fibre and other contaminants from around fleece presented	5	
TOTAL		100	

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE ORAL/VISUAL ASSESSMENT CARD

(Animal Class)

Competitor's No:

Class:

Class					Score	Max. Points
Competitor's Placing						50
Oral Order:						
(a) Assessing conformation and fleece accuracy						10
(b) Ability to compare animals						15
(c) Speaking Ability						10
(d) Competence and ringcraft						10
(e) Presentation and dress						5
SUB TOTAL						50
PENALTIES						
TOTAL						

Championship Judges Notes

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

OVER JUDGE ORAL/VISUAL ASSESSMENT CARD

(Fleece Class)

Competitor's No:

Class:

Class					Score	Max. Points
Competitor's Placing						50
Oral Order:						
(a) Accuracy of observation						15
(b) Ability to compare fleeces						15
(c) Speaking ability						10
(d) Presentation and technique						10
SUB TOTAL						50
PENALTIES						
TOTAL						

Championship Judges Notes

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

ORAL SECTION GUIDELINES

Before the commencement of the Oral Presentation, each Competitor may be required to sash the line-up or, in the case of fleeces, sash them in their placement order. If time is limited they may be asked to give instruction to the Ring Steward to place the ribbons on the animal or fleece in their placement order. Ribbon colour order being Blue – First (1st), Red – Second (2nd), White – Third (3rd), Yellow – Fourth (4th).

Competitors are allowed two (2) minutes to clearly express their oral reasoning to the Championship Judge and the spectators why they placed the Exhibits in a particular order. **Penalty points apply** – One (1) point should be deducted for every ten (10) seconds or part thereof over the allotted two (2) minutes.

Competitors should have their oral reasons organised and emphasise the most important points they wish to make.

When giving the oral reasons, the main objective is to inform the Championship Judge that the Competitor has assessed and compared each fleece or animal in the Classes.

It is important to make comparisons between the fleeces or animals rather than describe individual fleeces or animals.

Below is an example of how a competitor may commence their Oral Reasoning:-

‘I placed this Class four, one, three, two (4, 1, 3, 2)’.

Give the most important reasons first and remember to use comparative terms. Where necessary the Competitor can then follow with comparative comments:

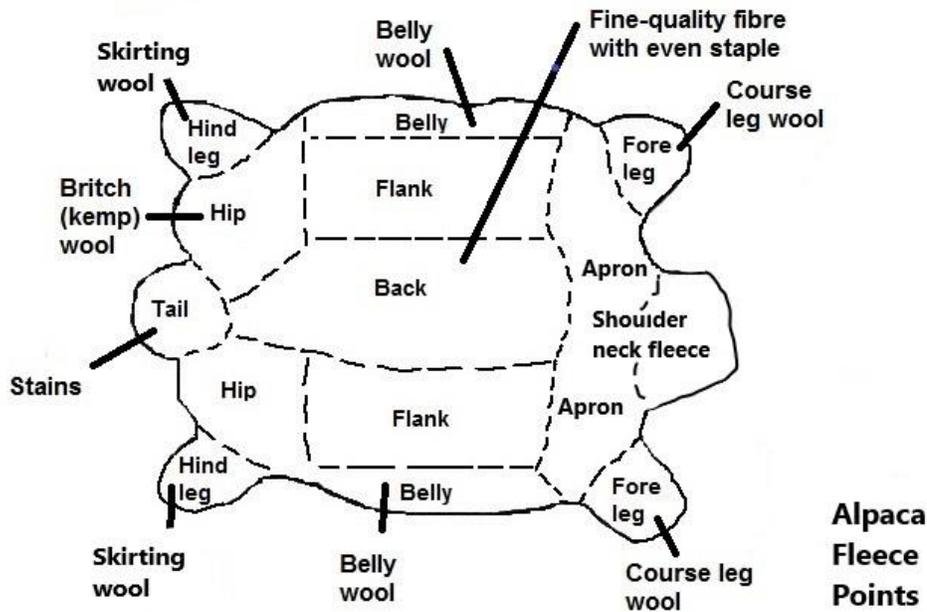
Today No one (1) is better than No four (4) in

This demonstrates to the Championship Judge the accuracy of any priorities. Major faults can be identified by praising or distinguishing the strengths of the alpacas standing above it. Continue in similar manner by comparing each fleece or animal with the one below it.

Remember: Be concise;
 Show conviction in the placings;
 Give important reasons first;
 Use comparative terms.

DRESS - Competitors must be neatly and suitably attired with either long sleeved shirt and jacket, and male Competitors must wear a tie and long pants. Long hair is to be restrained and only minimal jewellery is acceptable. Closed in shoes are essential. Shorts, chewing gum and poor presentation is unacceptable and will be marked down accordingly.

ALPACA FLEECE CHARACTERISTICS



Brightness

Ability to reflect light

Colour

Uniformity of colour over whole fleece

Condition

Even nourished fibre

Crimp

Excellent crimp formation

Density

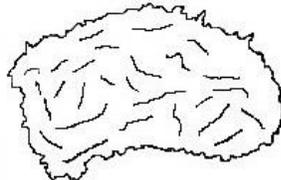
High staple length and lignment formation across the fleece

Fibre Diameter

Uniformity of micro aver the whole fleece

Fleece Length

Fibre length constant over the fleece



Handle

Feel of the fleece for softness and silky feel

Minimal Guard Hair

Good skirting and little presence of guard hair

Staple Strength

Constant strength over the fleece

Tip

Even nourished tips across the fleece

Trueness to Type

Trueness to the type or evenness of the wool

Wool Coverage

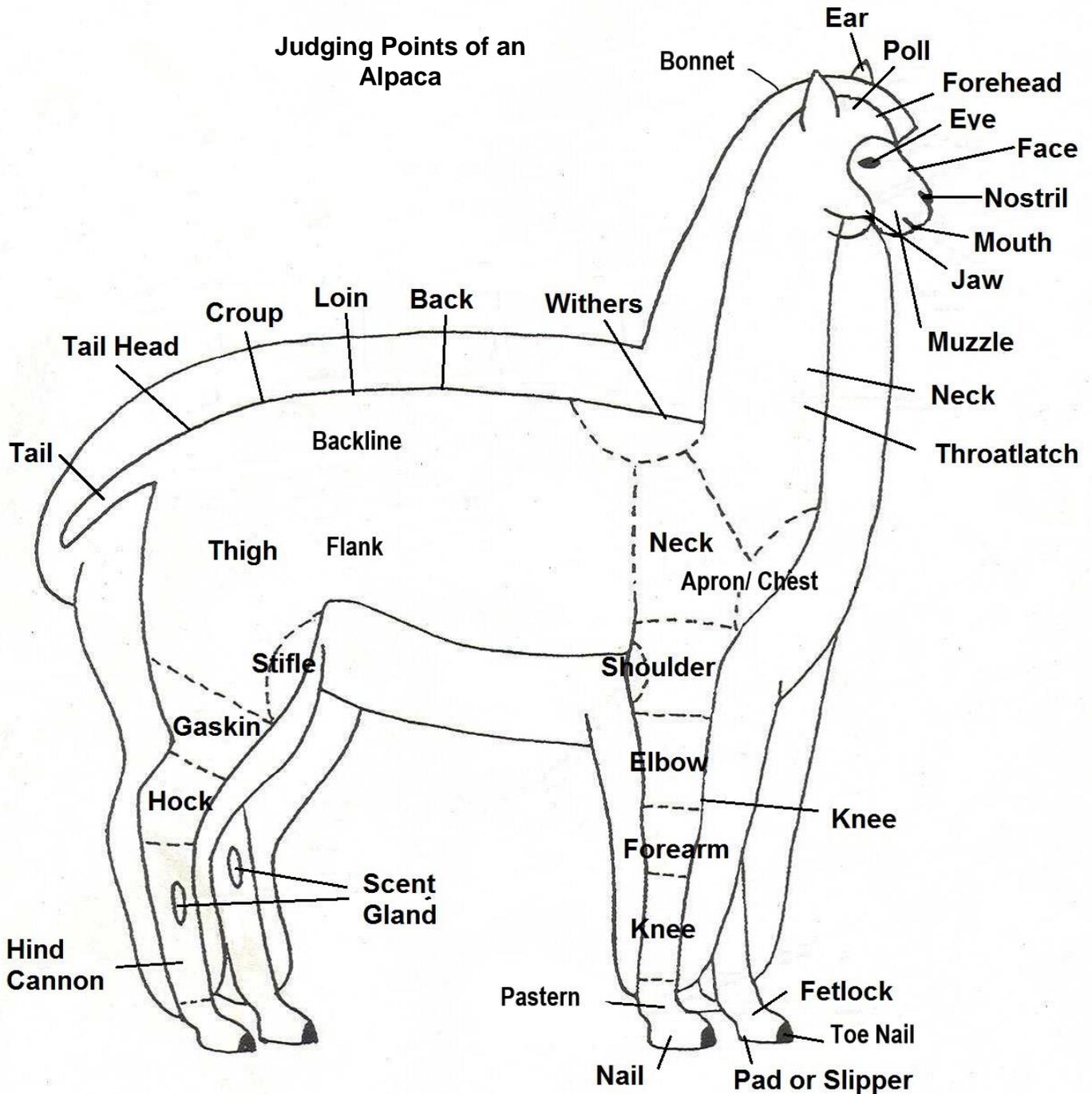
Covering of wool of good length and density

Wool Style

Good combination of evenness of crimp definition and lignment formation

Preferred Fleece Characteristics

ANIMAL CONFORMATION AND STRUCTURE



National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

NOTES FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE

In the selection of a Class of animals or fleeces for the National Championship, the aim should be use four (4) animals and four (4) fleeces upon whose placing experienced Judges, after careful inspection and consideration, would be likely to agree. As a general rule the four (4) animals selected are in full fleece OR, should be of similar length of fleece.

A suitable group of animals or fleeces might be made up of a fairly clear leader, a fairly obvious 'tail', and two others that present a more difficult choice. They will be judged against the standard of what is considered a good alpaca type, rather than one that pays strict attention to specific breed points.

Where animals of widely different ages have to be used, the ages should be given and it should be made clear to the Competitors that each animal is to be judged on its present showing and not on which it has done or might do. It is probably better if animals of relatively similar age are selected for the National Championship.

Prior to the National Championship the Championship Judge will select the animals to be judged – if required this can be done a day or two before the Championship. On the day of the Championship the Championship Judge will decide on the correct placing of the animals in each pen and note on the Master Card.

In filling out the Master Cards, the Championship Judge is required to note a numerical difference between animals as directed in instructions for use of the Computer Scoring Program or Hormel Slide. Both the Computer Scoring Program and Hormel Slide show the degree of penalty as related to the degree of difference between animal placings and the Competitor is scored accordingly.

A Competitor is in as good a position as is the Championship Judge to observe both the good and bad points of the animals. But even if he/ she does so, he/ she may draw different conclusions because he/ she does not give those good and bad points the same importance as does the Championship Judge. This difference of opinion will be reflected in the Competitor's low score for placing, and he/ she should not be further penalised in the Oral Test if his/ her observation has been accurate and the Championship Judge considers the reasoning to be logical.

Each Competitor in the Oral Class is allowed one (1) minute to line up the animals in his/ her order of merit and two (2) minutes to state his/ her reasoning for the placings. If he/ she finishes in less than this time, but has said all that was needed to support his/ her case, he/ she should not be penalised. If he/ she exceed the two (2) minutes, marks should be deducted from the maximum fifteen (15) points allowed for 'speaking ability'. One (1) point should be deducted for every ten (10) seconds or part thereof over the allotted two (2) minutes.

At the conclusion of the the Championship the Championship Judge is asked to give his/ her own reasons for the placing of the animals. If possible with the animals present. Comment on the various oral and ringcraft styles of the Competitors may also be made.

As far as possible to maintain Competitor and spectator interest in the Championship, it is important that it is confined to a time limit. Championship Judges are asked to confine their comments to the times suggested in the 'Competition Procedure' for all Alpaca Judging Competitions.

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

REASON CARD FOR COMPETITOR'S NOTES – ANIMAL (NOT TO BE HANDED IN)

Breed:

Placings: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

* Please remember when speaking to say why you put first (1st) place over second (2nd), second (2nd) place over third (3rd), etc.

1st PLACE NO: Why you placed 1st:	
2nd PLACE NO:	Faults:
3rd PLACE NO:	Faults:
4th PLACE NO:	Faults:

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

REASON CARD FOR COMPETITOR'S NOTES – FLEECE (NOT TO BE HANDED IN)

Breed:

Placings: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

* Please remember when speaking to say why you put first (1st) place over second (2nd), second (2nd) place over third (3rd), etc.

1st PLACE NO: Why you placed 1st:	
2nd PLACE NO:	Faults:
3rd PLACE NO:	Faults:
4th PLACE NO:	Faults:

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

MASTER CARD - CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE FINAL PLACINGS FLEECE CARD

Breed:

Placings:

1	2	3	4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Gaps:

1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



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MASTER CARD - CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE FINAL PLACINGS ANIMAL CARD

Breed:

Placings:

1	2	3	4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Gaps:

1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

HOW TO USE THE COMPUTER SCORING PROGRAM

The Computer Scoring Program acts similar to the Hormel Slide and is relatively easy to use. Like the Hormel Slide, the Program adds up the scores of the Competitors and provides the Data Reader Steward with the order of placings for the Championship. A Results Page can be printed and distributed to Competitors.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF THE PROGRAM:

1. Data can only be **entered** into selected spreadsheets and cells. All other cells are locked.
2. A number of cells are automatically filled in through their connections with other TABS and therefore cannot be changed.
3. When the Program is first opened there will be a Security Warning. Select *Enable Content*. The File will need to be **named** and **saved** to a selected destination. The FILE TYPE is an '*Excel Macro-Enabled Workbook*'. Save the File on a regular basis.
4. TABS located across the bottom of the Program allows data to be entered. An Instruction TAB is also included.

5. **Title TAB:**

Under the **headings coloured green** enter the name of the Championship/ Competition, location (Agricultural Show) and date of Competition.

6. **Results TAB:**

At the top right of the spreadsheet enter the number of '**Groups**' being judged, e.g. if there are two (2) Classes of ALPACA (Fleeces or/and Animals) being judged then write in two (2). If there are three (3) Classes of ALPACA being judged then write in three (3).

In the '**Name**' column enter each Competitor's name. The '**Entrant No**' is the Competitor's identification number for the particular Championship being judged.

Where a Competitor does not turn up for the Championship then either delete the Competitor's name that may have been entered or leave the '**Name**' column blank.

7. **Group One (1) TAB:**

At the top of the spread sheet under '**Group One (1)**' enter the name of the Group being judged, e.g., Angus, Merino, etc.

'**Judge's Placings**' is where the Championship Judge's placings are entered, e.g. three, one, two, four (3 1 2 4) or two, four, one, three (2 4 1 3) or one, three, two, four (1 3 2 4), etc.

'**Judge's Cuts**' is where the Championship Judge's cuts are entered. The total of the three (3) numbers of the cuts/ gaps should not be more than fifteen (15) or less than three (3). If the total cut equals fifteen (15), the middle cut must not be more than eight (8) or if the total cut equals fourteen (14) the middle cut must not be more than eight (8). A **Warning** will appear if these conditions are not met. The Championship Judge must adjust the cuts to meet these conditions.

Note that the '**Entrant No**' will appear automatically once a Competitor's name has been entered next to a number on the '**Results TAB**' spread sheet, e.g. if Fred Smith's name has been entered in the '**Results TAB**' spread sheet as the third (3rd) Competitor, then a three (3) will appear under the '**Entrant No**'.

Once each Competitor has completed their placings and have handed in their placings, enter their information in order under '**Placings**' e.g. three, one, two, four (3 1 2 4) or two, four, one, three (2 4 1 3) or one, three, two, four (1 3 2 4), etc.

Note that the score will automatically be calculated and can be seen under '**Score**'.

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

Group Two (2) TAB:

The process for Group Two (2) spreadsheet is the same as for **'Group One (1)' TAB**.

8. Group Three (3) TAB:

The process for Group 3 spreadsheet is the same as for **'Group One (1)' TAB**.

9. Group Four (4) TAB:

If a Group 4 is required, then the process for Group 4 spreadsheet is the same as for **'Group 1' TAB**.

10. Oral TAB:

This spread sheet lists all of the Competitors and their scores to date. For the Oral part and depending on what order the Championship Judge chooses, the Competitors can be asked to speak in order of their score.

The blue arrow on the left puts the Competitors in order of their **'Entrant No'**.

The green arrow on the right puts the Competitors in order of their **'Score'**, in Rank Order from highest to lowest score.

When the Championship Judge has listed each Competitor's Handling Score then the scores can be entered on the **'Results' TAB** spread sheet.

Note:

In the Championships where there are no Handling scores, e.g. Beef Cattle Judging and Dairy Cattle Judging, a '0' should be entered against each Competitor. Handling scores only apply to Merino Fleece Judging, Merino Sheep Judging and Meat Breeds Sheep Judging.

11. Scoring Oral and Handling Scores:

Once the Championship Judge has given the Competitor their Oral and Handling scores (where appropriate), then enter these scores in the **'Results' TAB** spread sheet.

Note that these scores then carry through to the remaining TABS.

12. Final TAB:

This spreadsheet contains all of the scores that allow the Competitors to be sorted into **'Entrant No'** order or **'Placing'** order.

If there are any ties, then go to the **'Final' TAB** spread sheet and click the green arrow. This will list the Competitors in Rank Order. Use this information and the Championship Rules to determine the **'Placings'** if ties are not permitted. There will be a need to go to the **'Final' TAB** spread sheet and enter the placings in the **'Placings'** column.

13. Print TAB:

This spread sheet has all of the information that has been provided in the previous TABS.

To get the **'Place'** column completed, there is a need to go back to the **'Results' TAB** spread sheet and enter the top three placings under **'Place'**. This is easily known via the **'Rank'** column which is located to the left.

The entered information will then automatically transfer through to the **'Print' TAB** spread sheet.

Where print facilities are available, print off the **'Print' TAB** spread sheet and distribute the Championship results to Competitors.

A copy of the Championship final results should be retained for the Federal Council Secretariat.

14. Save file:

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE FILE.

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

HANDY HINTS ON THE HORMEL SLIDE AND JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

By Geoff Mayo

This is an American invention that is held copyright by George A Hormel & Co., invented in 1975.

Four animals, are to be used at all times. It is usual to have Competitors place two or three Classes of four.

Always use the Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 not A, B, C, D. By using Numbers, they can be put into twenty four possible placings.

Competitors can obtain a maximum of fifty (50) points per Class and are scored down according to variations in their placings compared to the Championship Judge's placings.

The Championship Judge will have previously inspected the animals and have a good idea how he/ she will place them before they enter the Judging Ring. It is recommended that the Championship Judge has another look at the animals in the pens, so that he/ she views them under the same conditions as the Competitor sees them.

After completing placing decisions, the Championship Judge will then proceed to put what is called a cut or spilt between the first (1st) and second (2nd) placing, second (2nd) and third (3rd) placing, and third (3rd) and fourth (4th) placing.

The Championship Judge arrives at the decision of the cuts as follows:

- By adding the cuts together they must not be under three (3) and not more than fifteen (15). If the cuts fifteen (15), then the middle number cannot be larger than five (5). If the cuts total fourteen (14), the middle number cannot be larger than eight (8).
- Where the first two animals are very close, the Championship Judge will put a cut of one (1) or two (2) between the animals. If the Championship Judge feels that there is a lot of difference, then a much larger cut will apply. The same applies between second (2nd) and third (3rd) placing and between third (3rd) and fourth (4th) placing.

From the Competitor's point of view it simply means that if they have two (2) animals that have been placed opposite to the Championship Judge and there is a small cut between them, very few points will be lost. Where the Competitor has made a greater cut then they will lose more points. The fewer the faults between the animals the smaller the cut and vice versa.

An Oral is then conducted, which means that the selected Competitor must tell the Championship Judge and spectators why they have placed the bird in a particular order.

In Championships where Competitor numbers are larger than say ten (10), it is usual to select those Competitors with the higher total points after judging the Non-Oral Classes to speak at the Oral Class. This applies particularly for bird Classes as the animals get very agitated being moved constantly, especially after the Class Judging. The spectators need to be considered - if Championships are too long, they become bored and leave the Judging Ring.

The Oral is judged on one (1) Class only. This Class may be selected by the Championship Judge or the Competitors – it varies with the type of Competition.

National ASA Alpaca (Animal and Fleece) Judging Championship

Agricultural Shows Australia Handbook

HOW TO USE THE HORMEL SLIDE

By Geoff Mayo

Points to Look For:

- Four (4) animals (or whatever is being judged) are to be used at all times.
- Make sure the animals are numbered one, two, three, four (1, 2, 3, 4) and not A, B, C, D. Using A, B, C, D can be converted but with a large numbers of Competitors, it takes a lot of time and leaves room for error.
- After completing placing decisions, the Championship Judge will then proceed to put what is call a cut or split between each placing, first (1st) and second (2nd) placing, second (2nd) and third (3rd) placing, third (3rd) and fourth (4th) placing.

Using the following as an example:

Placings:	3	1	2	4
Cut between animals:	4	1	5	
Total cut adds up to:				10

Now to Set the Hormel Slide

1. Take all Cards from the Hormel Slide.
2. Find the White Card that has the Number ten (10) at the top of the Card. Place this Card on top of the remaining Cards.
3. Find the Clear Plastic Card with the red numbers, and then find the numbers three, one, two, four (3, 1, 2, 4) at the top of the Card.
4. Place the Clear Plastic Card on top of the White Card being used and place all other Clear Plastic Cards at the back.
5. Gently put all Cards back into the Hormel Slide as this keeps them tight.
6. Now push the Clear Plastic Card along until the Numbers three, one, two, four (3, 1, 2, 4) appear at the top on the left side of the viewing space in the centre of the Hormel Slide.
7. Move White Card along until the Numbers four, one, five (4, 1, 5) appear at the bottom of the viweing area on the Hormel Slide.
8. After making sure that the placings and cut are lined up correctly it is suggested to place a clip in the Hormel Slide to ensure that the cards do not move.
9. Let the Championship Judge or personnel at the table check to make sure that the placings and cut are lined up correctly.
10. Correct scores will now appear directly opposite all twenty four (24) possible placings at the Competitors have placed them.
11. Note that a copy of the Championship final results should be retained for the Federal Council Secretariat.