



Alpaca Association of Ireland

February 2024

AAI Show Rules

Alpaca Association of Ireland: Show Rules

(Adapted from The International Alpaca Show Rules)

The AAI have adopted the INTERNATIONAL HUACAYA AND SURI BREED STANDARDS of the International Alpaca Judging Standards (IAJS) and these should be used as a basis for determining the quality of alpacas entered in AAI shows.

JUDGING CRITERIA – HALTER

Judgment of alpacas in the AAI Show Ring shall be done according to the IAJS Standards for Huacaya and Suri alpacas.

The following two options shall be available for emphasis of judgment. Show management may choose the emphasis distribution that they wish to be implemented in their show but **MUST** indicate in the show information which option they have chosen:

Option 1

Allotment of % point allocation may be 60% Fleece and 40% conformation.

Option 2

Allotment of % point allocation may be 70% Fleece and 30% conformation.

AAI Option 3

Allotment of % point allocation may be 50% Fleece and 50% conformation.

A show steward shall scrutinise all alpaca entries for eligibility of entry prior to commencement of the show. The judge shall scrutinise any disputed decision and their determination or judgment shall be final.

RULES FOR SHOW CONVENORS/ORGANISERS/MANAGERS

1. A show should be organised by the show management team/convener according to procedures set down in the show schedule, with strict adherence to the Show Rules.
2. Only a judge approved of by the AAI and/or certified through IAJS shall be authorised to judge an AAI Show using IAJS based Show Rules.
3. Only a steward approved of by the AAI and/or certified through IAJS shall be authorised to steward an AAI Show using IAJS based Show Rules.
4. The show convener/manager shall ensure that alpacas and fleeces are entered and exhibited in the correct sections as determined by the show management.
5. The show management /convener shall ensure that a show catalogue that records each class, and details of every alpaca and fleece entered as exhibits is made available in a printed or electronic format. This catalogue will be provided free of charge to every exhibitor, and when feasible extra copies made available for spectators at the show who are not exhibitors.

6. Stewards may consult with the judges for the settling of any dispute prior to the show commencing.
7. Show management must ensure that the most effective lighting conditions possible are provided for the judging of both Halter and fleece classes in AAI shows. If a show is judged in daylight it may be appropriate to stage the darker colour classes at the beginning of the day when the light is good.
8. Show fees will be as determined from time to time.
9. Entrants to shows will be at the discretion of the AAI and will normally be restricted to alpacas on the AAI Register of Alpacas. Permission to include non registered or non members of the AAI to show classes must be specifically sought for each show from the AAI Executive which permission will be granted only if in the opinion of the AAI Executive such inclusion will further the development of the alpaca industry and/or alpaca welfare in Ireland.
10. The show organiser for the National Show must ensure that rosettes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place of each class are made available to be awarded as prizes at the discretion of the judge. Rosettes for 4th, 5th and 6th place if provided by the show organisers may also be awarded at the discretion of the judge. In addition the show organiser must ensure sashes are available to be awarded for the Champion class winners.

RULES FOR JUDGES

1. Judges will follow the AAI Show Rules laid out in this document.
2. The judge is expected to remain at a distance from any or all entrants to a show which it has been agreed he/she will judge.
3. The judge or the immediate family of a judge shall not exhibit alpacas or alpaca fleece in the classes that he/she is judging at any show
4. No person other than a show official or show steward shall speak with the judge before judging commences.
5. A judge must not view the official show catalogue prior to or during judging and show management must ensure that no opportunity arises for the judge to see the show catalogue. The judge shall refuse to examine any catalogue that comes to his/her attention by any means until judging is completed.
6. No person shall accompany the judge into the judging ring except persons appointed for that purpose by show management or trainee judges.
7. The judge may in his/her absolute discretion direct the removal of an alpaca or person from the competition on the grounds of bad conduct including attempting to address the judge while judging is in process.

8. The judge may in his/her absolute discretion direct the chief steward to remove an exhibit from the judging ring on the grounds of unsoundness or being unfit to compete.
9. A class that has been judged shall not be re-judged unless in the sole opinion of the judge a circumstance has arisen that would render the original class judging to be unsound taking into account only the interest of the alpaca industry as a whole in Ireland. Such re-judging can only take place within 2 hours of the original class judging and on the same day.
10. The decision of the judge is final and no protest shall be made in relation to it except on the grounds that a judge has committed a breach of these rules. Any protest must follow proper procedures as laid out elsewhere in these rules.
11. A judge may protest against an exhibitor in the case of an alleged infringement of these rules by lodging a written protest to show management within 24 hours of the event.

RULES FOR STEWARDS

1. AAI approved Stewards shall use the AAI Show Rules laid out in this document.
2. A Chief Steward, Inspection Steward or Ring Steward may not exhibit alpacas at a show at which they are officiating as a steward. A Fleece Steward may not exhibit fleece at a show where he/she is officiating as a score sheet recorder, working with the judge.
3. Stewards shall perform the official alpaca inspections, in a timely manner, before the commencement of judging.
4. The steward's checklist for the inspection of alpacas shall include:
 - (a) general health and soundness e.g. checking for lice
 - (b) correct colour and age for class entered
 - (c) disqualifying faults (These shall include all major faults as listed in the IAJS Huacaya and Suri International Breed Standards)
 - (d) fleece length for Huacayas minimum 50 mm (2") and maximum 150 mm (6")
fleece length for Suris minimum 75 mm (3")
no shaping or clipping e.g. poodle/lion clips, shall be allowed in the show ring.
 - (e) Identification:
Any microchip identification of an alpaca must be recorded clearly on the show entry form. All microchip identification must match the number entered on the show entry form at check in time.
Any ear tag identification must be recorded clearly on the show entry form. All ear tag identification must match the number entered on the show entry form at check in time.
All registration certificates must match the colour, age, type (Huacaya/Suri) and sex of the alpaca at time of check in.
Copies of pending registration applications will be accepted for the junior age category only (7-12 month) for identification of those alpacas that have not been registered with an official registry at the time of the show. However the copy of registration application must match with regard to colour, age, type (Huacaya/Suri), and sex of the alpaca.

During the official inspection, the only persons present for the inspection of an alpaca will be:

The exhibitor or his/her nominated representative and the Inspection steward and information recording assistant recording/validating the inspection information. Where non registered alpacas or fleeces are allowed to be entered in AAI competitions the Steward shall satisfy him/her self that the animals/fleeces are identifiable with appropriate tags, marks or microchips.

5. The chief steward shall reclassify an exhibit entered in a class for which it is not eligible for age, sex or colour immediately on becoming aware of the irregularity at the time of inspection. The reclassification shall be approved with the judge.
6. Classes may be combined at the combined discretion of the Chief steward and Judge. Combinations will be carried out in the following order of priority:
 - a. Colour,
 - b. Age,
 - c. Sex.
7. The chief steward or ring steward may disqualify an exhibit on the grounds of:
 - (a) The Handler being incorrectly attired. (Organising committees in individual shows may define their own dress code providing it projects an image of uniformity and professionalism. There will be no stud/farm, personal logo or identification displayed on either alpaca or exhibitor in any AAI Show ring.)
 - (b) Exhibit being infested with lice, or other communicable diseases determined by the onsite show steward at time of registration.
8. It is recommended that no identification of prize-winning alpacas will be disclosed prior to Supreme Champion Award. Spectators shall refer to the show catalogue for identification of exhibits. On going show results shall be recorded immediately after each class is judged. Tabulation on a results board at ringside in a position that is not visible to the judge may be provided if feasible. This tabulation shall include the name of the owner of the alpaca, farm of origin and identification of alpaca as related to the show catalogue, alpaca name.

RULES FOR EXHIBITORS

1. 1. At any show an alpaca is ineligible to compete if:
 - a) it is not registered in a register kept by the AAI, or in any other register approved of for the purposes of that show for the time being, and the information on the registration certificate does not match the alpaca entered for the show.
 - b) Or it does not have copy of pending official registration application form and the information on the registration application form certificate does not match the alpaca entered for the show.
 - c) it's identity cannot be verified to match the registration certificate.
 - d) it is of Suri type entered in a class for Huacaya alpacas.
 - e) It is of Huacaya type entered in a class for Suri alpacas.
2. An alpaca must be entered and exhibited in the name of the registered owner, or the owner represented on the pending registration form.

3. An alpaca is disqualified from competition at a show if:
 - a) the judge has a share of ownership in, or stands to make any financial gain from, the alpaca.
 - b) the alpaca during the six months prior to the date of the show has:
 - i. been boarded or agisted on a property under the said judge's control
 - ii. been purchased from the said judge.
 - iii. been trained by the said judge.Note: disqualification in b) above does not extend to an alpaca that has been under the control of the judge for mobile mating purposes.
 - c) The fleece is either too long or too short
 - d) The Alpaca is considered to be emancipated
 - e) If there are serious faults or irregularities with the one or more of the following:- face, ears, toes, tail, genitalia or parasite infestation.
 - f) Crias under 6 months of age
4. A person who, during the six months prior to the show, has received from or paid to the judge any fees or other remunerations in respect of alpacas (with the exception of mobile mating) is disqualified from exhibiting at that show.
5. An exhibitor, or his/her nominated representative who is unavailable to assist with the inspection of his/her alpaca (s) at the designated inspection time may be disqualified.
6. No person or exhibit shall enter or exit the judging ring after judging of a class begins, until judging of that class has been completed and awards for that class have been presented except with the consent of the judge, or at the direction of the judge or chief steward.
7. In the case of prize winning exhibitors and their alpacas, all shall remain in the judging ring until the completion of the Judge's comments.
8. The handler of an exhibit in the judging ring shall remain with the exhibit until judging has been completed unless the Judge authorises a change of handler or removal of the exhibit from the judging ring due to the handler's inability to control the alpaca.
9. Handlers shall be neatly attired and well groomed according to the dress code established by the show management committee. There shall be no identifying stud/farm or personal logo displayed on either handler or alpaca in the show ring.
10. Every exhibitor, alpaca handler and groom of alpacas at a show shall behave respectfully toward judges; show officials, other persons involved in alpaca classes and the general public during the show.
11. The owners of the Huacaya Supreme Champion Alpaca and the Suri Supreme Champion Alpaca at the AAI National Show must ensure that the trophies awarded for the honour of winning the Supreme Champion be returned to the AAI at least 1 week in advance of the date for the National Show of the following year.

CLASS CATEGORIES THAT ARE OFFERED UNDER AAI SHOW RULES

1. Halter classes that are offered for the competition of sound breeding alpacas.
2. Fibre/Fleece classes for the competition of fleece only of the alpaca.
3. Composite classes that combine the judgment of conformation of the shorn alpaca and the fleece shorn off that alpaca in the current shearing season of the age of alpaca presented for conformation judging.
4. Get of sire classes for the exhibition and competition of groups of either two or three offspring of a designated alpaca herd sire.
5. Produce of dam for the exhibition and competition of groups of either two or three offspring of a designated alpaca dam.
6. The following Irish bred Alpaca Classes Bred Classes may be used at the National Show and other selected shows.
 - Irish Female White
 - Irish Female Fawn
 - Irish Female Brown
 - Irish Female Black

 - Champion Irish Bred Female

 - Irish Male White
 - Irish Male Fawn
 - Irish Male Brown
 - Irish Male Black

 - Champion Irish Bred Male

The Champion Irish Bred Female Champion and the Champion Irish Bred Male will also be eligible to go forward to the Supreme Champion classes and Best in Show class if successful in the Supreme champion class.

Eligibility for the new Classes

An Alpaca is eligible to enter the Irish classes if one or both parents are Irish bred Alpacas. Irish Bred parents must have one parent born in Ireland. The determination will be based on the Pedigree details of the Alpaca parents and the qualifying grandparent.

7. The AAI Alpaca Conformation and Fleece shows will use the AAI Class Numbering system described below or the BAS Class numbering system.
The AAI class numbering structure consists of 3 digits for the Huacaya classes.
The Suri classes will use the same numbering structure as the Huacaya with the addition of the alphabetical identifier '-S'
The Irish Bred Classes will also use a 3 digit structure based on the Huacaya format with the addition of the alphabetical identifier '-IE'

Details of the Numbering Structure

The AAI Alpaca Class numbering structure is combination of a two character alphabetical identifier followed by a 3 digit number.

| Class Numbering System | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Two Alpha characters | Huacaya Female | Huacaya Male | | Suri Female | Suri Male | | |
| | HF | HM | | SF | SM | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| 1st Digit Female / Male | Female | Male | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| 2nd Digit Colour | Black | Brown | Fawn | Light | White | Grey | Multi Colour |
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 3rd Digit age | Junior | Intermediate | Adult | Senior | | Irish Bred * | |
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 9 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Irish Bred | IE | Irish Bred specific classes may be used at a future date. Supreme Irish born champion male and female classes are in use. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

* Notes

- * Irish Bred Classes will be grouped by colour for initial shows. The third digit will always be '9' in the Irish Bred Class numbers.
- * Light colour = Beige and Light Fawn
- * Multi colour includes Any Other Colour

Examples of the Numbering System

| Examples of Class numbers using the AAI Numbering System | | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Huacaya Class | Suri Class | Irish Bred Huacaya Class |
| Female Junior Black | HF100 | SF100 | HF109 |
| Female Intermediate Black | HF101 | SF101 | HF109 |
| Female Adult Black | HF102 | SF102 | HF109 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Female Senior Black | HF103 | SF103 | HF109 |
| | | | |
| Male Junior Black | HM200 | SM200 | HM209 |
| Male Intermediate Black | HM201 | SM201 | HM209 |
| Male Adult Black | HM202 | SM202 | HM209 |
| Male Senior Black | HM203 | SM203 | HM209 |
| | | | |
| Female Junior Brown | HF110 | SF110 | HF119 |
| Female Intermediate Brown | HF111 | SF111 | HF119 |
| Female Adult Brown | HF112 | SF112 | HF119 |
| Female Senior Brown | HF113 | SF113 | HF119 |
| | | | |
| Male Junior Brown | HM210 | SM210 | HM219 |
| Male Intermediate Brown | HM211 | SM211 | HM219 |
| Male Adult Brown | HM212 | SM212 | HM219 |
| Male Senior Brown | HM213 | SM213 | HM219 |
| | | | |
| Female Junior Black | HF100 | SF100 | HF109 |
| Female Junior Brown | HF110 | SF110 | HF119 |
| Female Junior Fawn | HF120 | SF120 | HF129 |
| Female Junior Light | HF130 | SF130 | HF139 |
| Female Junior White | HF140 | SF140 | HF149 |
| Female Junior Grey | HF150 | SF150 | HF159 |
| Female Junior Multi | HF160 | SF160 | HF169 |

COLOUR CLASSIFICATION

AAI shows may be run under either of two options dependant on the number of alpacas entered in the show.

Colour classification shall not be determined by the breeder but shall be the decision of the show stewards at the time of Steward checking for the show.

Colour classification shall be designated according to the seven colour groupings:

- black
- brown
- fawn
- light
- white
- grey
- multi-colour

The show steward shall place shades that do not conform to the main colour groupings in an appropriate class matching the most appropriate class for the shade. Where a colour falls between two colour shades on the colour chart the alpaca will be placed in the darker colour classification. Any arising dissension will be dealt with by the judges making the colour and class placement decision. The judge's decision shall be final.

Option 1.

1. Solid Colour.

An alpaca is to be shown in the appropriate colour class, when it is predominantly the colour stated for the name of the class. The alpaca will be disadvantaged, at the judge's discretion, if it has any other coloured fibres present. e.g. spots or any other colour markings.

White includes pure white, cream or beige.

Alpacas with a predominant colour to the fleece that have small amounts of alternate colour interspersed throughout, shall be placed in the colour class appropriate for the solid or predominant colour of the overall fleece. Any dissension shall be settled by determination of the judges and that decision shall be final.

White, Fawn, Brown and Black shall be considered solid colour designations.

2. Multi Colour.

An alpaca is to be shown in the Multi class if it has any unusual or striking distribution of two or more colours that are distinct and immediately visible and are situated on the alpaca below the ears and above the knees. Appaloosas, pintos and alpacas with white rings around the neck are examples of this designation. The colour pattern of the whole alpaca, not just its blanket shall be considered. Any greys with spots bigger 10cm x10cm shall be put into the multi class.

3. Grey/roan Colour designation

The Grey Alpaca is typically a mixture of coloured fibres occurring in a wide range of shades. Rose Grey is a mix of predominantly brown with white, grey and black fibre; Silver Grey is a reasonably uniform distribution of black and white and/or grey fibre. The traditional grey alpaca has what is referred to as a "tuxedo front" which means that it has white on the face, brow and the apron. There are also solid grey alpacas. The prime fibre may be a consistent shade of grey, or may exhibit small spots of secondary colour. Any greys with spots bigger than 10cm x10cm shall be put into the multi class

Alpacas with a predominant colour to the fleece that have small amounts of alternate colour interspersed throughout, shall be placed in the colour class appropriate for the solid or predominant colour of the overall fleece. Any dissension shall be settled by determination of the judges and that decision shall be final.

Option 2.

The following three solid colour designations may be used:

1. White (including beige)
2. Fawn.
3. Dark colours- brown , grey , black , and multi).

The alpaca will be disadvantaged, at the judge's discretion, if it has any other coloured fibres present. e.g. spots or any other colour markings. The category of multi and grey will not be scrutinised for the presence of alternate coloured fibres.

All colour classifications shall be determined by the colour classification that is designated to the alpaca at time of registration in the registry of the country of residence where the countries registry provides this designation. In countries where a registry does not provide the colour designation of the alpaca on the registration certificate, the Chief Steward and Judge shall determine this classification, prior to the alpaca entering the show ring. Where a colour classification allocation on a registration certificate does not match that of the alpaca presented for registration, the colour classification shall be determined and agreed upon by the Chief Steward and Judge. All colour classification rulings shall be final and binding at the discretion of the judge.

AGE CLASSIFICATIONS FOR ALPACA HALTER CLASSES

The following two options shall be available for age classification of alpaca halter classes:

Option 1

- Junior Male and Female 7 months to under 12 months
- Intermediate Male and Female 12 months to under 24 months
- Adult Male and Female 24 months to under 36 months
- Senior Male and Female 36 months and over.

Option 2

- Junior Male and Female 7 months to under 18 months
- Adult Male and Female 18 months and over

HALTER CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Colour Champions may be awarded in any designated colour category providing there are no less than 3 entries in that category and the exhibits have moved through their age grouping competition successfully.

Supreme Champions may be awarded where there are a minimum of 5 entries of one sex competing in the show i.e. for a supreme Huacaya male champion there must be a minimum of 5 Huacaya males competing in the show and likewise for a supreme female Huacaya champion.

In shows where the colour categories do not meet the required numbers stipulated to hold a colour Championship, the first alpacas of the colour groupings that do not qualify may move forward and compete for the Supreme Championship.

All colour reserves enter the ring for the Supreme Male and Supreme Female Championships. The reserves are on standby and one of them will be called forward to be eligible for selection as the reserve Supreme Champion. When the winning Alpaca is selected from the Alpacas that were placed first in the colour championships, the reserve

Alpaca with the same colour of the winning Alpaca will be included in the Judge's assessment for the reserve Supreme Champion.

FIBRE/FLEECE CLASSES

1. Fleece preparation.

All fleece exhibits shall be the blanket portion only, and shall be skirted of all short, stained and any fibre that does not conform to the quality of the blanket area. Contaminants such as vegetable matter and short cuts shall be removed. Poorly prepared fleeces shall be compromised at the discretion of the judge.

2. Age categories shall be as follows.

- i. 6 to under 18 months.
- ii. 18 to under 30 months.
- iii. 30 months and over.

These categories shall not apply in the composite class where the halter class age categories will be substituted.

3. Composite class exhibits.

All composite class conformation exhibits shall be eligible to enter a composite conformation show after they have been judged for the fleece show. Therefore all composite class fleece judging shall take place prior to the commencement of judging of conformation classes. The order of judging (fleece first or conformation first) is not strict and is at the Judge's discretion.

4. Judging criteria.

Suri and Huacaya fleeces shall be judged for the following criteria (to be finalised, work in progress January 2024).

- a) Fineness and handle. 20
- b) Uniformity - micron, length, colour 10,10, 5
- c) Character - crimp (Huacaya) 10, lock style twist / wave (Suri) 10
- d) Staple Type / Density 5
- e) Brightness (Huacaya) 10, Lustre (Suri) 15
- f) Lack of Guard Hair (Huacaya) 10, (Suri) 5
- g) Lack of Impurities 5
- h) Clean Fleece Weight 15

5. Fleece scorecards.

Fleece scorecards shall be provided for the judge by the show convener and shall be formatted individually for Suri and Huacaya fleeces. Each exhibit shall have its own scorecard and the scorecard shall remain with the fleece at all times. Identification shall be the official exhibit number issued by the convener at the time the exhibit is delivered for judging. No other identification shall be allowed on the scorecard or the fleece exhibit.

Work sheets shall be the property of the judge but may be photocopied for the records

of show management.

6. Fleece fineness judgment.
Fleece fineness judgement section is still to be completed.
7. Clean fleece weight points.
Clean fleece weight points section is still to be completed.

COMPOSITE CLASS

This class will comprise of two sections, which must both be entered in to become a composite class winner. Halter class rules shall apply in the areas of fibre type, gender, age divisions, colour groupings and ideal colour groupings. The exception will be fleece length for the conformation judging. Fleece class rules shall apply for the fleece section of the class.

Conformation Judging criteria

Huacaya and Suri conformation criteria are still to be defined specifically for the AAI. In the interim the conformation classes will be classified based on guidance provided by the show Judge and agreed with the show organisers.

Emphasis guide:

Conformation only of the shorn alpaca shall be judged in the show ring

Fleece shall be judged in stand-alone fleece classes held specifically for the alpacas entered in this class category.

Animal preparation:

Fleece length – other than top-knots and tails, alpacas must be completely shorn with a maximum of 1 inch on the cheeks, neck, legs and blanket.

Point allotment.

The following scoring system shall be used for the composite class:

1. The class placing awarded to the alpaca in the shorn section of the composite class shall be the point allotment for that section of the composite class. E.g. 1st place is allotted 1 point, 2nd place is allotted 2 points etc.
2. The class placing awarded to the alpaca in the fleece section of the composite class shall be the point allotment for that section of the composite class.
3. First and second score will be added together for the alpaca exhibited, with the lowest scoring accumulation winning the class.
4. The fleece scoring the lowest placing score in the fleece section shall break all ties.

SIRES PROGENY / GET OF SIRE

(Both Huacaya and Suri breeds are eligible to enter this class but shall be judged

separately.)

The class is for either two or three progeny by one sire.

Entry is made in the name of the sire.

Progeny may represent both sexes, but not geldings and must be from different females.

The sire is not shown with this group entry.

The progeny do not have to be owned by the owner of the sire or by the same owner.

All entries must have been shown in their appropriate halter class.

DAMS PROGENY / PRODUCE OF DAM

The class is for either two or three progeny from the same dam.

Entry is made in the name of the dam.

Progeny may represent both sexes, but not geldings.

The dam is not shown with this group entry.

The progeny must be from different sires.

All entries must have been shown in their appropriate halter class.

PROTESTS AND DEALING WITH MISCONDUCT

1. All shows run by the AAI Rules shall appoint a Show Grievance Committee (S.G.C.) if needed. Conduct that may be considered prejudicial to the industry may include but not be limited to:
 - a demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge's decision, including refusal to accept an award or throwing an award on the ground,
 - altercations with officials or participants,
 - abusive or foul language in public,
 - mistreatment of an alpaca.
2. Judges who are the target of abusive language and under whom an exhibitor refuses to follow their instructions, as well as being insulted with any suggestive language, gestures or request should report directly to the Chief Steward or Show Convenor/ Manager who shall then follow the appropriate disciplinary steps and code of ethics as set up by the Show System Grievance Committee.
3. Exhibitors who have a complaint, protest, criticism, comment or suggestion shall direct all or any of the preceding concerns to the Show System Grievance Committee of the current show. These must be in writing and signed by the exhibitor who has an issue to be dealt with. Provide a complete description of events that transpired as well as stating names of those witnessing the transgression if possible and who would attest to the fact that such an act of misconduct occurred.
4. Any signed complaints, protests, criticisms, comments or suggestions must be postmarked within 15 days after the scheduled closing of the approved show and shall be held in the strictest of confidence.
5. A fee of €50.00 must accompany all written protests.
6. Anonymous letters of any critical intent will not be accepted or read. They will be ignored.
7. All signed complaints; protests, criticisms, comments and suggestions will be reviewed by the Show System Grievance Committee (SSGC) of the show and replied to by the SSGC in as efficient a manner as possible.
8. All written and signed decisions handed down by the SSGC shall be final and absolute.
9. Disciplinary Action will be required by the SSGC as necessary to deter further misconduct and to give incentive to others within the industry to maintain as high a

level of integrity as possible. Any disciplinary action may include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- I. Show Management
 - i. Written warning
 - ii. Denial of future show approvals
 - II. Judges
 - i. Written warning
 - ii. Removal from Approved Judges' List
 - III. Exhibitor
 - i. Written warning
 - ii. Points and or awards revoked
 - iii. Denial of eligibility to participate in any approved show or event.
 - IV. Handlers
 - i. Written warning
 - ii. Denial of eligibility to participate in any approved show or event.
10. All participants including conveners, exhibitors, and judges agree that they will abide by the AAI Code of Ethics (In preparation.)