

## OFFICIAL ABA SHOW RULES

Any poultry association, club, or society may host a show and offer the special prizes furnished by the ABA if it holds its show in accordance with the Rules of the American Bantam Association, subject to the following provisions: (this includes a \$50 per show sanction fee)

### I. JUDGING REQUIREMENTS:

**SPECIAL -STATE – DISTRICT MEETS:** All judges at all ABA sanctioned meets must be members in good standing of the ABA. At District, State, or Provincial and Special Meets; a minimum of one judge must be ABA Licensed and not less than 50% of the judging staff must be ABA Licensed. All other judges must be APA Licensed or Canadian Provincial Licensed and must be ABA members in good standing.

**NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETS:** All judges who judge bantam chicken classes shall have a Bantam Chicken Specialty license or a General license. All Judges who judge the bantam Champions shall have a current ABA General license. All judges must be ABA members in good standing. No Judge shall exhibit and judge birds in the same bantam classification.

### II. EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS:

**A.** Only breeds and varieties admitted to the ABA Bantam Standard may compete for Association special prizes and awards.

**B.** Only members of the ABA in good standing are eligible to receive the special prizes and awards of the association.

**C:** All ABA members are expected to practice good judgement in communicating with judges, specifically leading up to and during shows. Exhibitors should recognize that any communication (verbal, written and/or social media) with officiating judges, specifically related to their entries, with the intent of identifying their bird(s)/entries is improper showroom etiquette. This and similar types of actions violates the integrity of the judges and can be construed as gaining an unfair advantage. These actions will be governed by the Constitution, By Laws and Code of Conduct for disciplinary action.

### III. SHOW ROOM RECOMMENDATIONS

#### A. Sanitation;

1. Show coops and cups must be made of such material that they can be kept sanitary.
2. Litter shall be of adequate quality and quantity.
3. Ventilation shall be appropriate for the season and free of drafts.
4. Participation in a swap section associated with a show should be limited to exhibitors at the show.
5. Swap participants should be limited to a certain number of birds per cage/coop to insure overcrowding is not a problem.
6. An officer of the show or designee should inspect the swap/sale section to ensure that obviously disease birds or animals are removed immediately.

**B. Water and feed:** Exhibitor's and show management must insure adequate care, feed and water are provided all birds on the premises.

Show Management is encouraged to additionally have all water cups filled before the show hall is open.

**C. Caging:** Shall be adequate size for the type, size, and sex of the bird being shown.

**D. Display areas:** Shall be adequately illuminated for viewing or judging.

### IV. SUGGESTION TO SHOW MANAGEMENT:

**A.** The show management shall guard against contagious poultry diseases and shall immediately remove any bird showing symptoms of disease.

**B.** Aisle ways shall be of adequate width for comfortable viewing and judging. Cages shall be no higher than double decked.

**C.** During judging the Aisle ways should be blocked from spectator movement.

**D.** The show secretary shall complete the ABA show report form and forward it to the ABA within 90 days after the show.

**E.** Management shall determine the currency of membership and licensing of the judges. If in doubt they shall check with the ABA secretary.

**F.** Special awards, as offered by the ABA. shall be listed in the premium book.

**G.** The ABA Bantam Standard shall be used in judging bantams

### V. SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR ABA MEMBERS ONLY:

**A.** Master Exhibitor Program: When a member, over any period of years, accumulates twenty starred wins (defined as best or reserve in a class of 100 or more birds), he or she becomes an ABA Master Exhibitor.

**B.** Master Breeder Program: When a member, over any period of years (but not less than 5), accumulates 20 starred wins in one variety, he or she becomes an ABA Master Breeder.

**C.** Citation of Merit Program: When a member, accumulates 5 starred wins in one variety, he or she is awarded a Citation of Merit.

**D.** Lifetime Achievement Award: This is the highest and final achievement for exhibitors in the ABA awards system> It is outlined in ABA Constitution and By-Laws. ([www.bantamclub.com](http://www.bantamclub.com) and ABA annual yearbook publication)

### VI STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS

Some State and Federal laws regulate the possession and propagation of two breeds of bantam ducks. The ABA recommends that both individual members and the management of shows hosting ABA meets ensure that they comply with any federal or state regulations which apply to any type of bantam duck.

### VII. PROTEST OF AWARDS:

Protests may be entertained in case of apparent dishonesty on the part of a judge, or apparent carelessness that has resulted in the placing of a disqualified specimen. The protest must be in writing and presented to the local show chairman as soon as possible and before the awards are handed out, accompanied by a \$25.00 deposit. The local show committee, consisting of three persons from the local association including the show chairman, working closely with the ABA judge or judges at the show, shall make a decision which shall be final. If the protest is sustained, the deposit shall be returned to the protester, otherwise, it becomes the property of the local association.

### VIII NON-RECOGNIZED BREEDS OR VARIETIES:

Breeds or Varieties not recognized by the ABA. Non-recognized varieties may place no higher than BV or RV. Non-recognized breeds may place no higher than BB or RB.

### IX. ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

**A.** A copy of ABA Show rules shall be posted in the show hall on the day of show.

**B.** When compiling exhibitor lists and any other show papers, the show secretary is strongly advised not print personal information on the junior exhibitors, 18 years and younger. This is recommended for security purposes and privacy concerns.