

The meeting of the Judges Committee was called to order by Committee Chair, Fran Soukup, at 7:04 PM CDT on August 15th, 2024. Nick Hauptly, Tor Sorensen, Fran Soukup, Jerrika Mumford, and Tami Lash were in attendance. Cathie Kindler joined the call at 7:06 PM.

Jerrika motioned to approve the agenda, Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

*The minutes from the last meeting were approved via email and will be posted to the ILR website.*

### **Old Business:**

Kelsi Matthew, Kelsee Robinson, and Austin Wright were all approved as apprentices by the ILR BOD. Amanda Wick was approved for permanent certification by ILR BOD.

Fran had reached out to the superintendent committee to discuss the opportunity for superintendents to complete evaluations on judges they hire. Fran checked in with the superintendents committee for feedback on the committees working together but did not receive a response. There are still no updates from the Superintendents Committee.

Cathie and Nick provided an update on the H/P/Y clinic they are planning for 2025. It will be held the 2nd weekend in May. Cathie and Nick have reached out to instructors and are working on planning and developing curriculum. Jerrika will be flying in for the clinic in order to record presentations for the on-demand clinic. Cathie and Nick will continue to plan and update the committee.

The committee discussed if a maximum length of time in which an apprentice completes their apprenticeships before applying for approval as a judge should be added to the guidelines. Discussion was had about no limitations, and 1, 2, or 3 years. Jerrika and Nick spoke in favor of leaving the guidelines as is, with no time requirement. Tami, Fran and Cathie spoke in favor of time limitations. Cathie motioned that an apprentice should complete the requirements within 3 years. 3 approved, 2 opposed. Motion passed with a majority.

### **IV.A.3.f.1) Apprenticeships must be completed no later than 3 (three) years from entering the apprentice program.**

Fran suggested the committee review and clarify Guidelines section IV.B.3. regarding judges applying to become teaching judges. The current guidelines state that to apply to become a teaching judge they must "Attend one or more days of an approved ILR-SD Educational Judging and Refresher Seminar or Fleece clinic or complete a mentorship under an approved Teaching Judge." The committee discussed the last few teaching judges approved and whether this was taken into account, and the importance of this guideline. Tami shared background on the guidelines and shared that the seminar may not be needed if the judge has a clean file and good recommendations. Tor shared that treatment has not been equal between judges. Nick motioned to remove the requirement of re-attending a clinic in order to become a teaching judge. Jerrika seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV.B.3 ~~Attend one or more days of an approved ILR SD Educational Judging and Refresher Seminar or Fleece Clinic or complete a mentorship under an approved Teaching Judge.~~

#### **New Business:**

Cindy Ruckman requested approval as a permanently certified fleece judge. Tami moved to approve Cindy Ruckman's request for permanent certification as a fleece judge. Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously. This will complete her certification as an Advanced Teaching Fleece Judge.

Venesa Carter requested approval as a P/Y judge. Tami motioned to approve Venesa Carter as a P/Y judge pending completion of the P/Y section of the open book test. Cathie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jacob Keller requested approval as an H/P/Y apprentice. He has not completed his open book test. Nick will send him a link to complete his test.

Mary Jo asked the ILR Judges Committee to consider use of the ALSA developed rubric for clinics. Nick expressed concerns about the scoring system. The committee will further review and consider at the next meeting.

The committee agreed to postpone discussion regarding an update to the planning guide for clinics and adding a requirement to complete the open book test at the clinic. The committee will revisit at the next meeting.

Cathie motioned to enter an executive session to discuss multiple letters of concerns received by the committee. Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Nick motioned to leave the executive session. Cathie seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The committee left executive session at 8:15 PM. The committee entered executive session at 7:55 PM. Fran will contact a judge regarding a letter of concern and the letter will be placed in their file. Fran will bring to the Governing Board the committee's recommendation that no action be taken regarding recent grievances filed.

The committee discussed changes to the Guidelines, to be submitted for their Aug. 25 meeting.

IV.A.3.a.(1) Clinic attendees must submit their application to the apprenticeship program within 90 days of completion of their clinic or mentorship.

IV.A.3.d.(3) Apprentices and clinic attendees, for all apprenticeships and seminars, must complete and return the "Apprentice Reflection" form to the judges committee within 15 days of completing an apprenticeship or seminar.

IV.A.3.h) Interested parties may enter the apprenticeship program any time during **on** or after the year of their 18th birthday.

IV.A.3.i) Upon satisfactorily completing "a" through "f" above the apprentice will be named on the ILR-SD Approved Judges List.

Renumber current IV.A.3.i) to read IV.A.3.j). Fleece apprentices need to have evaluated a total of 50 Shorn and 75 Fleece On and One Dozen Fleece Products during this time.

IV.A.3.k) Judges may request Permanent Certification after completing at least one year as an approved judge, having judged at least three (3) ILR-SD shows, and upon reaching their 21st birthday. The request may be sent to the ILR-SD Judges Committee for Permanent Certification status.

Jerrika motioned to approve the guidelines changes as discussed. Nick seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting was set for October 17th at 7 pm central daylight time. Tami motioned to adjourn the meeting. Nick seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Adjourned at 8:30 PM CDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerrika Mumford