

The meeting of the Judges Committee was called to order by Committee Chair, Steve Auld, at 7:04 pm CDT on September 7, 2022. Steve Auld, Jerrika Mumford, Cathie Kindler, Ramona Simpson, Nick Hauptly, and Fran Soukup were all in attendance.

Cathie motioned to approve the agenda, Fran seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

*The minutes for the May 2022 meeting were approved via e-mail and are available on the ILR website.*

### **Old business:**

The judges committee received an apprentice application from Connor Cook for HPY & F. He completed a clinic for HPY but has not yet completed a fleece clinic. The judges committee approved via email Connor's apprenticeship in HPY. The Governing Board & BOD also approved. Steve will follow up with Connor on next steps.

The judges committee received an application from Eugene Robinson to become a judge in HPY. Eugene has met the requirements. The judges committee approved Eugene as a judge in HPY via email. The Governing Board & BOD also approved and he is listed on the ILR website.

The judges committee received an application from Kim Schechinger to become a Fleece judge. Kim has met the requirements. The judges committee approved Kim as a fleece judge via email. The Governing Board & BOD also approved and she is listed on the ILR website.

The judges committee received a request from Elaine Brovont to become a teaching judge for HPY&F. The committee received three letters of recommendation. Elaine's request was approved via email for HPY. Fran said she thought she would make a good fleece teaching judge as well. Fran motioned to accept Elaine as a fleece teaching judge in addition to HPY. Steve seconded. Unanimous approval. Steve will send it to the Governing Board for approval.

Jerrika discussed the virtual clinic. She tried contacting Walton Webcasting and was not able get a response. Steve mentioned he knew an aspiring llama judge with video experience that may be a good option. Jerrika discussed the outline and Steve agreed the outline covered the necessary requirements for a clinic. The outline will be reviewed before the next meeting. After approval of the outline, the next steps will be to develop a budget.

Fran discussed the option of working with a collegiate judging program that has already developed educational judging materials for other species. Fran will see if she can find the name of someone to contact. Everyone agreed that the virtual clinic is a worthy cause and we want something that will be of high quality.

### **New Business:**

The committee received a request from Cindy Ruckman to become a Teaching & Advanced Teaching Judge for Fleece. The committee received several letters of recommendations. The committee agreed that she is very qualified. Cathie motioned to approve Cindy as a Fleece Teaching Judge & Advanced Fleece Teaching Judge. Fran seconded. Unanimous approval. Steve forwarded the request to the Governing Board for approval.

Jerrika shared a concern from a former judge that they did not renew due to the cost of judging dues. The committee discussed the amount of annual judges' dues and concluded that the cost is fair and discussed the benefits the ILR-SD provides, including a printed copy of the updated guidelines annually. Steve motioned that no changes should be made. Cathie seconded. Unanimous approval.

The committee discussed animals being entered in the incorrect wool divisions at halter shows. Steve & Nick discussed the practice and if there is nowhere to move the llama then taking that into consideration when placing and educating exhibitors through oral reasons. We discussed the issue of show superintendents requesting judges not to bump due to clerking difficulties. The committee agreed that it is up to the judges to make the right decisions. Jerrika drafted an eblast to send to judges and remind them of the guidelines. Steve will review the eblast, make modifications and send it out for review. The committee will review and discuss the eblast at the next meeting with a goal to send out by the end of the year.

Fran discussed a possible fleece venue for a clinic in 2023. Fran offered a fleece clinic in conjunction with Llamapalooza about seven years ago that worked very well. She believes they could hold another clinic in conjunction with Llamapalooza next year located in Austin, Minnesota in October of 2023. The committee agreed this was a great idea and Fran should continue pursuing.

The open book test questions will be due soon for the 2023 Judges Test. The guidelines sections were assigned as follows:

General - Steve

Performance - Cathie

Halter - Jerrika

Youth - Nick

Fleece - Fran

Steve will discuss this at the next governing board meeting to let committee chairs know this is upcoming. Each section will need 5-7 questions.

The judges committee received an email concern about a judge from a judging apprentice. Steve will reach out to the judge and discuss it with them directly.

Fran noticed there are a few different evaluation forms for apprentices on the ILR website. They also do not include a spot for the number of fleeces judged for fleece apprentices. Steve will begin researching the best form and we will discuss it at the next meeting.

The next was set for Wednesday, October 5th at 7 PM central time. Steve motioned to adjourn the meeting. Fran seconded. Unanimous approval. Adjourned at 8:25PM CDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerrika Mumford