

Alpaca
Ontario
Show
Rules

2014

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CHAPTER 1 – ALPACA SHOWS DEFINED

SECTION 1: Immediate family shall be defined as: husband, wife, common-law husband, common-law wife, father, mother, daughter, son, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, step-son or step-daughter as well as any of the foregoing that might be associated through a common-in-law relationship of a husband and wife.

SECTION 2: The Show Steering Committee (SSC), where used in this document, shall mean the administrating body of individuals as assigned by and reporting to the Alpaca Ontario Board of Directors. The SSC shall be responsible for the drafting and implementation of the show rules. The SSC will also have the responsibility of maintaining the show rules by reviewing them on a regular basis, listening to membership input, and making any changes if necessary on an annual basis.

SECTION 3: For purpose of interpretation, the Grievance Committee will be a panel of 3 nominated individuals in good standing with Alpaca Ontario. They will have no conflict of interest with the author of a grievance. As a condition of their presiding on the Grievance Committee, they will be required to sign a statement of disclosure as well as take an oath of confidence to preserve the privacy of all matters of business of the aforementioned Grievance Committee. This will be an ad-hoc committee, struck only when a protest or grievance arises, and disbanded once a solution is reached.

SECTION 4: This guideline is to be interpreted so that it does not infringe against the Laws and Acts of Canada or any regulation made under those Laws and Acts. Any provision that does so infringe shall be read down to the extent necessary to give it, if possible, an operation of a partial character, but if it cannot be read down, it shall be deemed to be severable. If any provision is held invalid by a Court of Canada that provision shall be disregarded and the remainder of the Guideline shall continue in force.

SECTION 5: The show managers must have available at each event:

- a. A copy of Alpaca Ontario Show Rules (AOSR)
- b. A scanner in good working order which is capable of reading the industry accepted standard of microchips which are required to be implanted in the alpacas.
- c. “Notification and Replacement of Inactive Transponder” forms, a small supply of microchips, and a microchip inserter.

CHAPTER 2 – PARTICIPANT SHOW RULES

The following rules pertain to the responsibilities of the five major groups involved in the preparation and conduct of the show: SHOW MANAGERS, JUDGES, STEWARDS, EXHIBITORS, and VETERINARIANS. For a full understanding of the show rules, all persons involved in showing should familiarize themselves with all the material.

A. SHOW MANAGERS

NOTE: For a Full Fleece or Composite Halter Show, the Show Managers are the SSC Chair and the Halter Show chairperson. For a Fleece Show, Show Manager is the Fibre Show Chair.

SECTION 1: A copy of the current Alpaca Ontario Show Rules shall be available on site. A show should be organized by the show management team according to procedures set down in the AOSR.

SECTION 2: Show managers, ring stewards, recorders, gate stewards and any other show assistants whose role involves direct contact with the judge are eligible to have entries in the show. However, they should not personally exhibit any alpacas at the show in which they are working.

SECTION 3: Show managers should be available at all times and be familiar with the functions of all show officials.

SECTION 4: The show managers shall ensure that a show program is printed which records each class and details of every alpaca and fleece entered as exhibits.

SECTION 7: The show manager shall excuse an alpaca from being shown or excuse it from the premises if so recommended by the veterinarian officiating at the show.

SECTION 8: Show managers shall be held responsible for the enforcement of all the Alpaca Ontario Show Rules

SECTION 9: Show managers, upon closing of the show on the published date, shall secure all judges' records and safely file for a period of 1 year.

SECTION 10: Show managers will establish cancellation and refund policies.

SECTION 11: Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of show managers.

B. JUDGES

SECTION 1: Only those persons in good standing with and who are currently certified by at least one of the following shall be approved as judges:

- a. the Alpaca Owners Association Show System, AOA Show System
- b. the Australian Alpaca Association, AAA
- c. the British Alpaca Society, BAS
- d. the New Zealand Alpaca Association, NZAA

SECTION 2: **It is the responsibility of the judge** to excuse any entry from a class should they recognize said entry as being the offspring of a sire or dam that they own or have owned within 2 years of the scheduled date of the show.

SECTION 3: Immediate family of the judge may not have entries in the show nor be a handler. However, they may exhibit fleeces at that show. The immediate family of a judge may not enter fleeces at a show where the related judge is officiating as a fleece judge. However, they may exhibit alpacas in halter classes at that show.

SECTION 4: The judge shall not exhibit alpacas or alpaca fleeces at any show at which he or she is judging both alpacas and fleece. However, a fleece judge may enter alpacas in halter classes at a show provided that he or she is judging only fleeces at that show. An alpaca judge may enter fleeces at a show provided that he or she is judging only halter classes at that show.

SECTION 5: A judge who, after agreeing to judge alpacas or alpaca fleeces at a show, receives an invitation to be the overnight house guest of any alpaca owner just prior to the show, shall make appropriate enquiry to establish whether that person intends to exhibit or handle alpacas or alpaca fleeces at that show, and shall decline the invitation if the person does so intend to enter said show.

SECTION 6: Judges must be knowledgeable and familiar with the current Alpaca Ontario Show Rules. Judges are responsible for the correct interpretation and implementation of any and all Alpaca Ontario Show Rules.

SECTION 7: On arrival at a show the judge shall meet immediately with show managers.

SECTION 8: Judges must not engage in any candid conversations with any person or persons other than those directly associated with show managers prior to and during his or her assignment.

SECTION 9: A judge must not view the official show catalogue prior to or during judging and show managers 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 or her attention by any means until judging is completed.

SECTION 10: No person other than the judge, ring steward, and exhibitors in each class shall enter the show ring during judging without the express approval of show managers and judge.

SECTION 11: The judge may direct the immediate disqualification and removal from the judging ring of any exhibit whose handler addresses or attempts to address the judge while the class is being judged, except in response to a request from the judge.

SECTION 12: The judge may, in his or her absolute discretion, direct the chief steward to remove an alpaca or person from the competition on the grounds of inappropriate and unacceptable conduct.

SECTION 13: The judge may, in his or 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.

SECTION 14: Judges must give oral reasons for their placements at the conclusion of each class.

SECTION 15: The judge's decision shall be final. The judge has the right to withhold any, or all, prizes for want of merit. After a class has been judged in accordance with the Alpaca Ontario Show Rules, it shall not be re-judged. A class is considered judged when the judge has marked his or her class recording card, which must be done before the next class is examined.

Any changes to the class recording card must be initialled by the judge. No protest shall be made in relation to the recording card except on the grounds that a judge has committed a breach of these rules. Any protest must follow proper procedures as defined in CHAPTER 8.

SECTION 16: A judge may protest against an exhibitor in the case of an alleged infringement of these rules by lodging a written protest to show managers within 24 hours of the event and/or the Alpaca Ontario Board of Directors as defined in CHAPTER 8.

SECTION 17: A judge shall be supplied with recording cards for all classes on which he or she shall mark all awards and all excused or disqualified alpacas. The Judge should be responsible for recording the number of entries in the class. The original judge's records shall remain in the custody of the show managers until completion of judging. If a judge excuses or disqualifies an alpaca at any show, he or she shall make a note on the back of the class recording card giving his or her reasons for such disqualification or excusing.

SECTION 18: A judge's decision, as marked on the recording card, cannot be changed by him or her after filing, but an error appearing in the judge's records may be corrected by the show managers after consultation with the judge.

C. STEWARDS

SECTION 1: A chief steward or ring steward may not exhibit alpacas at a show at which they are officiating as a steward. However, they can have entries in the show. In the case of a chief steward, someone else will be appointed to check

in their alpaca(s). A ring steward cannot steward a class in which their alpaca is being judged. A replacement ring steward will be made available. With regards to fleece shows no person shall scribe as a score sheet recorder in a class where he or she is exhibiting a fleece.

SECTION 2: At a posted time by show managers, exhibitors must make their entries available to the chief steward for inspection. All class adjustments shall be determined by the chief steward with final approval of the judge when necessary. Show managers shall be notified of any class adjustments.

SECTION 3: The steward's checklist for the inspection of alpacas shall include:

- a. general health and soundness
- b. microchip matching registration
- c. correct colour, gender, age and fleece type for class entered
- d. minimum mid side fleece length 2 inches
- e. deliberate shaping or clipping, other than to allow proper vision and removal of dung from tail area

Note: Failure to meet these criteria may result in disqualification by recommendation of chief steward to show managers.

Note: If no chip is found then a chip will be inserted at the show and the "Notification and Replacement of Inactive Transponder" form will be filled out by the steward and sent in to CLAA by show managers. If chip is there but does not match, supporting documentation needs to be available. If it is a reversal of numbers or an obvious clerical error the alpaca will be accepted and the exhibitor will be asked to correct this error with CLAA. If none of the above conditions apply the alpaca will be disqualified. Show managers may levy a fee for the microchipping service, amount to be determined by show managers.

SECTION 4: During the official inspection, the only persons present for the inspection of an alpaca will be:

- a. the exhibitor or his/her nominated representative
- b. the chief steward or alternate inspection steward
- c. if assigned, a person recording and validating the inspection information

SECTION 5: The chief steward has the option to consult with the on call veterinarian if the health of the alpaca is in question.

D. EXHIBITOR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1: All exhibitors will be required to pay an entry fee per alpaca entered. The amount of the said entry fee will be at the discretion of the Show Steering Committee.

SECTION 2: All exhibitors must be the registered owner of the alpaca entered. If in transition of ownership, a completed permission to show form must be provided. This form is available on the Alpaca Ontario website.

SECTION 3: **It is the responsibility of the exhibitor** to prevent showing an alpaca before a judge where the judge was involved with the sale, brokering, promotion, training, management, or boarding of the alpaca within the last 12 months prior to the date of the scheduled show.

SECTION 4: **It is the responsibility of the exhibitor** to prevent showing an alpaca before a judge where the judge has owned the alpaca.

SECTION 5: Immediate family of the judge may not have entries in the show nor be a handler. Show managers may not personally exhibit alpacas but they may have entries.

SECTION 6: It shall be incumbent upon the exhibitor to not enter any class where the judge has/had ownership of the sire or dam of their entry within 2 years of the scheduled date of the show.

SECTION 7: An exhibitor or his appointed alternate who is unavailable to assist with the inspection of his or her alpaca(s) at the designated inspection time may have their entry disqualified.

SECTION 8: Exhibitors shall not engage the judge in conversation until the judge has completed his or her judging assignment.

SECTION 9: Exhibitors shall not 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.

SECTION 10: 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.

SECTION 11: The handler of an exhibit in the show ring shall remain with the exhibit until judging has been completed unless authorized by the judge.

SECTION 12: The following dress code shall apply:

- a. appropriate safe footwear (no open-toed shoes or sandals)
- b. no ranch, farm or personal logo or name shall be on the handler in the show ring Failure to comply may result in disqualification
- a. The following is recommended:
 - i. dark pants or skirt and white shirt or blouse
 - ii. black show halter and lead without any adornments

SECTION 13: Every exhibitor and handler 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.

SECTION 14: Exhibitors must remain on premises until the show has finished at the published time. Early departure may be authorized at the discretion of show managers.

SECTION 15: It is recommended that exhibitors should be 12 years of age to handle mature alpacas in the show ring.

E. VETERINARIANS

SECTION 1: Every Alpaca Ontario show shall have a veterinarian familiar with camelids on call in an official capacity for the duration of the show.

CHAPTER 3 – ALPACA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1: All alpacas to be entered in the show must be registered with the Canadian Llama and Alpaca Association (CLAA). A copy of the alpaca's CLAA certificate of registration must be readily available at the show.

- a. Pending registration status is not permitted

- b. Percentage purebred alpacas with CLAA certificates of registration are eligible to show.

SECTION 2: An alpaca may be entered either into full fleece halter classes or the composite class but not both at any given show.

SECTION 3: Every alpaca must be entered in the name of the person or persons of legal record who actually owns the animal at the time the entries closed. A completed Permission to Show form must be provided for those alpacas in midst of ownership change. This form is available on the Alpaca Ontario website.

SECTION 4: If an alpaca cannot meet the requirements of the steward's inspection checklist it will be disqualified. The steward's checklist for the inspection of alpacas shall include:

- a. general health and soundness
- b. microchip matching registration
- c. minimum mid side fleece length 2 inches
- d. deliberate shaping or clipping, other than to allow proper vision and removal of dung from tail area
- e. displays obvious disqualifying fault(s) as per the Canadian Breed Standard

Note: If no chip is found then a chip will be inserted at the show and the "Notification and Replacement of Inactive Transponder" form will be filled out by the steward and sent in to CLAA by show managers. If chip is there but does not match, supporting documentation needs to be available. If it is a reversal of numbers or an obvious clerical error the alpaca will be accepted and the exhibitor will be asked to correct this error with CLAA. If none of the above conditions apply the alpaca will be disqualified. Show managers may levy a fee for the microchipping service, amount to be determined by show managers.

SECTION 5: An alpaca cannot be surgically altered for cosmetic or conformational correction.

SECTION 6: Grooming shall be limited to removal of surface debris. Enhancements such as the use of sheens, dyes, and oils that compromise the true architecture of the fleece are prohibited. The alpacas fleece should display a natural growth pattern with no shaping or clipping other than top knots, tails, and lower legs below the front knee and rear hock joint.

SECTION 7: No ranch, farm, person's or alpaca's logo or name shall be exhibited on the alpaca during the class in which it is entered.

CHAPTER 4 – HALTER CLASSES

A. CRITERIA

SECTION 1: The Alpacas will be judged according to the Canadian Breed Standard. Refer to the Alpaca Canada Breed Standards available on the Alpaca Canada website (www.alpacainfo.ca). There will be no minimum class size. The judge does not have to award a first prize if there are one or more breed standard disqualifiers present. The judge has the right to withhold any, or all, prizes for want of merit.

SECTION 2: The Alpacas will be judged with the emphasis of **60% fleece and 40% conformation**.

B. HALTER CLASS DIVISIONS

SECTION 1: Classes of 13 entries or less shall be judged as a single class. When a class reaches entries of 14 or more it shall be split equally according to age with each split receiving awards.

SECTION 2: Classes will be divided as follows:

- a. Alpacas will be divided into huacaya and suri classes.
- b. Alpacas will be divided into male and female classes.
- c. Age divisions for halter classes will be as follows:
 - i. Juvenile - 6 months to under 12 months
 - ii. Yearlings - 12 months to under 24 months
 - iii. Two year olds - 24 months to under 36 months
 - iv. Mature - 36 months and over

Note: Age is as of check-in date
- d. The colour classes are as follows:
 - i. White
 - ii. Light (Includes Beige, Light Fawn)
 - iii. Fawn(Includes Medium Fawn, Dark Fawn,)
 - iv. Brown (Includes Light Brown, Medium Brown, Dark Brown)
 - v. Black (Bay Black and Black)
 - vi. Grey (Silver Grey, Rose Grey)
 - vii. Multi (see Section 3c for definition of multi)

Note: An alpaca is to be shown in the appropriate colour class, when it is predominantly that colour. The alpaca will be disadvantaged, at the judge's discretion, if it has any other coloured fibres present.

SECTION 3: Colour Definitions

- a. A current CLAA Colour Chart shall be used for colour differentiation. ARI colour charts may be used at the discretion of the Show Manager
- b. An alpaca with a variation in shade within a specific colour group will remain within its darkest colour group. Example: A fading fawn that has light fawn on **topline** and fades to white would remain in the light class. A fading fawn that has dark fawn on the **topline** and fades to light fawn would remain in the Fawn class.
- c. An alpaca is to be shown in the multi class if it exhibits a secondary colour that is distinct and immediately visible upon opening the fleece by hand, and is situated at the skin on the blanket. If any single secondary patch of colour is **greater than 6cm**, the alpaca will be considered a multi. Example: As per the colour divisions in Section 2d, a medium fawn alpaca with a dark fawn spot would not be a multi. A white alpaca with a brown spot on the blanket would be a multi. A predominantly grey alpaca is to be shown in a grey class, whether or not it has any other coloured spots present. An alpaca that has minimal, not easily recognizable white fibres interspersed in its prime blanket fleece is not considered a grey and goes into the appropriate solid class. Variations will be assessed at the judge's discretion.
- d. When a colour falls in between 2 colours on the colour chart it will be placed in the **darker** of the 2 colours.

C. CLASS PROCEDURE

Two options are available for Alpaca Ontario Shows. Suris may use Level 2 criteria at a show where huacayas are using Level 1 criteria. All numbers apply to the number of alpacas that enter the ring on the day of the show.

SECTION 1: **LEVEL 1 SHOWS** (Shows which **can** achieve at least **3 colour championships without combining sexes**, and have at least **30 huacaya (15 suris) of each sex.**)

- a. Ribbons will be awarded to **sixth** place.
- b. Colour Champions
 - i. Minimum number to award a colour championship shall be **10 huacaya** alpacas, **6 suri** alpacas per colour and per sex. Sexes **are not** combined.
 - ii. All first and second place alpacas in their respective colour and sex class shall return to the ring to compete for colour and reserve colour champion. If no first place is awarded in a class, the second place from that class is not eligible for championship.
(E.g. Juvenile black females, yearling black females, 2yr old black female and mature black female would compete for black female colour and reserve colour champion.)
 - iii. Six colour classification groups as follows: White, Light, Fawn, Brown, Black, and Grey
- c. Grand Champions
 - i. Minimum number to award a grand championship shall be **30 huacaya** alpacas, **15 suri** alpacas per colour and per sex. Sexes **are not** combined.
 - ii. All colour champions will come back to compete for grand champion. If there is no colour champion in any category, first place winners in their class shall compete for grand champion. If no first place is awarded in a class, the second place from that class is not eligible for championship.
 - iii. Grand Champion Female Huacaya, Grand Champion Male Huacaya, Grand Champion Female Suri, and Grand Champion Male Suri are awarded if numbers merit.
- d. Multi Champion
 - i. Minimum number to award a multi championship shall be **10 huacaya** alpacas, **6 suri** alpacas. Sexes **are** combined.
 - ii. All first and second place alpacas in their respective multi colour class shall return to the ring to compete for Multi Champion and Reserve Multi Champion. If no first place is awarded in a class, the second place from that class is not eligible for championship.

SECTION 2: **LEVEL 2 SHOWS** (Shows that **cannot** achieve at least **3 colour champions without combining sexes and/or has less than 30 huacayas (15 suri) of each sex.**)

- a. Ribbons will be awarded to **fourth** place
- b. Colour Champions
 - i. Minimum number to award a colour championship shall be 10 Huacaya alpacas, 6 Suri alpacas per colour. Sexes may be combined to attain colour champions where necessary. Sexes cannot be combined in any colour group that has at least 10 huacaya or 6 suri entries. Example: The white class could have a male and female championship but the black may have to have a combined black championship.
 - ii. All first and second place alpacas in their respective colour and sex class shall return to the ring to compete for colour and reserve colour champion. If no first place is awarded in a class, the second place from that class is not eligible for championship.
(E.g. Juvenile black females, yearling black females, 2yr old black female and mature black female would compete for black female colour and reserve colour champion.)
 - iii. Six colour classification groups as follows: White, Light, Fawn, Brown, Black, and Grey

- c. Supreme Champion
 - i. Minimum number to award a colour championship shall be **10 huacaya** alpacas, **6 suri** alpacas. Sexes **are** combined.
 - ii. All colour champions move forward to compete for Supreme Champion. If there is no colour champion in any category, first place winners in their class shall compete for best in show. If no first place is awarded in a class, the second place from that class is not eligible for championship.
 - iii. Supreme Huacaya and Supreme Suri are awarded.

- d. Multi Champion
 - i. Minimum number to award a multi championship shall be **5 huacaya** alpacas, **3 suri** alpacas. Sexes **are** combined.
 - ii. All first and second place alpacas in their respective multi colour class shall return to the ring to compete for Multi Champion and Reserve Multi Champion. If no first place is awarded in a class, the second place from that class is not eligible for championship.

CHAPTER 5 – COMPOSITE CLASSES

SECTION 1: All Halter Class Criteria, Divisions and Class Procedures above apply to Composite Classes.

SECTION 2: Composite judging procedure:

- a. Alpacas will be evaluated in a combined fleece and shorn conformation class.
- b. Fleeces will be submitted to fleece stewards prior to entry into the ring. It is recommended that the show employ TWO fleece stewards for this task.
- c. The fleeces will be presented as a skirted blanket fleece in the same way it would be presented at a fleece show.
- d. The judge evaluates the fleece and the alpaca together in the ring, at the same time.
- e. The fleeces are placed in the ring with the exhibitor number and the number of month's growth visible to the judge and in the same order as the alpacas enter the ring.
- f. The judge assesses the fleece using the same criteria as would be used in a full fleece halter class. The fleeces are judged on a comparative basis within the class.
- g. The judge assesses the alpacas in the ring using the same criteria as for full fleece halter classes (i.e. general conformation, soundness, and balance). Conformation is judged on a comparative basis within the class.
- h. The judge then places the alpacas using the comparative method of 40% conformation and 60% fleece.
- i. Exhibitors shall pick up their alpaca's fleece upon exiting the ring. Exhibitors are responsible for returning the appropriate fleece for championship classes.
- j. The fleece shown must be from the most recent shearing of the alpaca entered.

CHAPTER 6 – GROUP HALTER CLASSES

SECTION 1: All entries in group halter classes shall be in full fleece.

A. GET OF SIRE

- a. Entry shall consist of three progeny by the same sire.
- b. Entry shall be made in the name of the sire.

- c. Sire owner's permission shall be required for entry in this class.
- d. There shall be only one group entered per sire.
- e. All progeny must have been shown in their appropriate halter class.
- f. Offspring must be from a minimum of 2 dams.
- g. The sire is not shown with this group entry.

B. PRODUCE OF DAM

- a. Entry shall consist of two progeny from the same dam.
- b. Entry shall be in the name of the dam.
- c. Dam owner's permission shall be required for entry in this class
- d. There shall be only one group entered per dam.
- e. All progeny must have been shown in their appropriate halter class.
- f. The offspring must be from 2 different sires.
- a. The dam is not shown with this group entry.

CHAPTER 7 – PERFORMANCE CLASSES

A. YOUTH SHOWMANSHIP

SECTION 1: In this class, the young exhibitor's ability to showcase the alpaca is being judged. The alpaca itself is not judged. Judging and awards for youth showmanship will be at the discretion of show managers.

SECTION 2: It is recommended that exhibitors should be 12 years of age to handle mature alpacas in the show ring.

SECTION 3: Class Divisions:

- a. Junior Youth Showmanship - Exhibitor age: 6 through 12 years on the first date of the show.
- b. Senior Youth Showmanship - Exhibitor age: 13 through 18 years on the first date of the show.

B. OBSTACLE

SECTION 1: The obstacle/performance classes can be seen as an extension of showmanship class. Not only is the alpaca/handler team completing the obstacles, but also showing what they have accomplished on a trust level. The alpaca has to show that they trust the handler and will follow on a slack lead, stand when asked, and follow simple commands.

The obstacles are all designed to mimic what the alpaca will possibly see in their travels to and from farms as well as on the individual farms. The handler is to guide their alpaca through the course in the direct path that is set out. Deviation from the course will result in penalties and lower ranking.

SECTION 2: It is recommended that exhibitors should be 12 years of age to handle mature alpacas in the show ring.

SECTION 3: Class Divisions:

- a. Junior Youth Obstacle - Exhibitor age: 6 through 12 years on the first date of the show.
- b. Senior Youth Obstacle - Exhibitor age: 13 through 18 years on the first date of the show.
- a. Adult Obstacle – Exhibitor age: over 18 on the first day of the show.

SECTION 4: See the Alpaca Ontario website for a list of approved obstacles. (www.AlpacaOntario.ca)

SECTION 5: See Appendix A for an example judging sheet (from the 2013 course).

CHAPTER 8 – FLEECE CLASSES

This competition may be held at the same time as the halter classes but in a separate, secure area as designated by show managers, or it may be held as a stand-alone show.

A. FLEECE CLASS DIVISIONS

SECTION 1: Fibre Type Division - Huacaya and Suri

SECTION 2: Age Divisions (i.e. age of the alpaca when it is shorn)

- a. 6 months - under 14 months - 1st fleece - A
- b. 14 months - under 24 months - B
- c. 24 months - under 4 years of age - C
- d. 4 years of age - under 6 years of age - D
- a. 6 years of age and over - E

SECTION 3: Colour Divisions: Same options as for halter classes

SECTION 4: Sexes shall be combined for all classes

B. RULES GOVERNING FLEECE COMPETITION

- a. Each fleece entry must be accompanied by a completed entry form as provided by show managers giving requested information. A copy of the alpaca's CLAA registration certificate must accompany the entry form.
- b. The fleece shall be presented in clear plastic bags and have the required exhibitor information included in the bag.
- c. Show managers will not be held responsible for loss or misplacement of the fleece although every possible effort will be made to ensure the security of the fleece.
- d. The exhibitor shall be solely responsible for claiming their fleeces at the end of the show.
- e. No fleece under 6 months of age is eligible for fleece competition.
- f. Fleece must be from the most recent shearing of the alpaca.
- g. Fleeces with less than 3 inches (76mm) staple length shall be disqualified.
- h. Fleeces older than 14 months since shorn shall be disqualified.
- i. Maximum fleece length:
- j. JUNIOR CLASS (A) - There is no maximum staple length for this age category.
- k. ALL OTHER AGE CATEGORIES - maximum of 6.5 inches (16.51cm). Any fleece that exceeds maximum staple length will be disqualified.
- l. The show managers fleece steward shall weigh each fleece and calculate for age conversions if required, check for correct classing, and provide each fleece with a judge's scorecard identifying the fleece by number only.

- m. Weights to age conversions are calculated as follows: Weight divided by number of days of growth, multiplied by 365.
- n. Show managers shall provide adequate lighting for the judging of fleeces, a weigh scale, calculators, score cards, and appropriate stationary items required for adequate record keeping.
- o. No person shall scribe as a score sheet recorder in a class where he or she is exhibiting a fleece.

C. FLEECE PREPARATION - INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXHIBITORS

All fleece exhibits shall be the prime portion only which must conform to the same quality and length of the blanket area and shall be skirted of all short, stained, and other fibre that does not conform to the same quality and length of the blanket area. Once it is determined to be free of parasites, it should be properly skirted and all short, stained and coarse fibre, as well as heavy organic contamination, should be removed and the fleece shall be presented with cut side displayed out for huacayas and cut side in for suris. The fleece shall not be washed. Poorly prepared fleeces shall be compromised at the discretion of the judge.

D. FLEECE CLASS AWARDS

SECTION 1: General Fleece Classes

In order for a fleece to achieve a first place award in a class, the judge must award a MINIMUM score of 60 points. If no fleece in a class accumulates the minimum of 60 points, the class shall begin with a second place award.

- a. Ribbons will be awarded to fourth place.
- b. Colour champion and reserve colour champion in each colour class for huacaya and suri. First and second place fleeces will compete for colour and reserve colour champions. If no first place is awarded in a class the second place is not eligible for championship.
- c. Supreme Huacaya, Supreme Suri - colour champions compete for supreme.
- d. Above placings will be directly related to score awarded.

Colour champions have 7 colour classifications (white, light, fawn, brown, black, grey, multi). Unlike halter classes, no minimum number of entries is required in order to award colour champion or supreme champion. Only fleeces which have achieved a minimum score of 60 points are eligible to compete for fleece championships.

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. (Note: Scorecards and judge's worksheets available from the Alpaca Ontario Office).

SECTION 2: Optional Specialty Awards

- a. Judge's Choice
- b. Spinner's Choice
- c. Best Brightness
- d. Best Lustre
- e. Best Handle

Note: These awards may or may not be awarded at all shows. These awards are not based on final score awarded.

E. FLEECE SCORING CRITERIA FOR HUACAYA

SECTION 1: The aims of alpaca fleece judging are to provide a competition which recognizes those characteristics of alpaca which are desired by manufacturers, processors, and producers and enlightens those persons interested in the alpaca industry. The purpose of these explanatory notes is to enable all judges of alpaca to approach the assessment task using the same common information and standards. This should enable uniformity of judging. See Appendix B for judging schedule.

F. FLEECE SCORING CRITERIA FOR SURI

SECTION 1: The aims of alpaca fleece judging are to provide a competition which recognizes those characteristics of alpaca which are desired by manufacturers/processors, producers and enlightens those persons interested in the alpaca industry. The purpose of these explanatory notes is to enable all judges of alpaca to approach the assessment task using the same common information and standards. This should enable uniformity of judging. See Appendix C for judging schedule.

CHAPTER 9 – AWARDS

A. RIBBONS

SECTION 1: Ribbons shall be awarded to a maximum of sixth or fourth place, as indicated above.

SECTION 2: Mandatory Ribbon Colours are:

- a. First Place- Red
- b. Second Place - Blue
- c. Third Place – White
- d. Fourth Place – Yellow
- e. Fifth Place – Green
- f. Sixth Place - Pink

B. CANCELLATION OF AWARDS

During a show, if any award is revoked or cancelled, the alpaca judged next in order of merit shall be moved up one placing. If there is no alpaca to move up, the award shall be cancelled. Once the show is complete, if any award is revoked or cancelled, it shall not be re-awarded, and original class placing will remain unchanged. It is incumbent upon the exhibitor to return revoked awards to show managers within ten days of notice.

CHAPTER 10 – REGISTRATION, SHOW PROGRAMS AND SHOW RESULTS

A. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The following information will be made available on the Alpaca Ontario website:

- a. name of show
- b. the names of the judges and their assignments
- c. location of the show
- d. the date or dates on which it is to be held

- e. entry opening and closing dates
- f. requirement for late entries if applicable
- g. the times of the opening and closing of the show
- h. number of alpacas allowed per pen and/or pen size
- i. entry form or link to online registration
- j. entry fees
- k. emergency contact numbers of the Show Manager and at least one other show official

B. THE SHOW PROGRAM

The show program shall contain the following:

- a. show name
- b. location of the show
- c. the date(s)
- d. the name of the judge and judging assignments
- e. class list which includes the following information: alpaca class code number, number of entries per class, CLAA registration number of each entry, date of birth of each entry, name of sire and dam of each entry, name of owner of each entry
- f. Other relevant information about the show. i.e. Schedule, Judge's biography, Emergency contact number of show manager, etc.

C. SHOW RESULTS

The show results shall be posted to the Alpaca Ontario website within 30 days of the show completing. The show results shall include the following:

- a. Show name
- b. Location of show
- c. Date(s) of show
- d. The name of judges and their assignments
- e. Results of each class judged, which includes the following: alpaca class code number, number of entries per class, placement given, name of winning each entry, CLAA registration number of each winning entry, date of birth of each winning entry, name of sire and dam of each winning entry, name of owner of each winning entry

CHAPTER 11 – PROTESTS AND DEALING WITH MISCONDUCT

SECTION 1: Conduct that may be considered prejudicial to the industry may include but not be limited to:

- a. a demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge's decision, including refusal to accept an award or throwing an award on the ground
- b. altercations with officials or participants
- c. abusive or foul language in public and mistreatment of an animal

SECTION 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 show managers.

SECTION 3: Exhibitors who have a complaint, protest, or criticism shall direct all or any of the preceding concerns to the Alpaca Ontario Board as follows:

- a. must be in writing and signed by the exhibitor who has an issue to be dealt with
- b. rational and complete description of events that transpired must be included 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

SECTION 4: Said signed complaints, protests, or criticisms must be postmarked within 15 days after the scheduled closing of the approved show and shall be held in the strictest of confidence.

SECTION 5: A fee of \$50.00 must accompany all written complaints, protests, or criticisms.

SECTION 6 Anonymous letters of any critical intent will not be accepted or read.

SECTION 7: All signed complaints, protests, or criticisms will be reviewed by the Alpaca Ontario Grievance Committee and replied to by the Alpaca Ontario Board in as efficient a manner as possible.

SECTION 8: All written and signed decisions handed down by the Alpaca Ontario Board will be final and absolute.

APPENDIX A – EXAMPLE OBSTACLE COURSE JUDGE’S CARD

Clutter Walk

10	Make it through, no balking
8	Make it through, but with some difficulties
6	1 refusal, but make it through
4	Hit pylons and/or PVC pipes
2	2 refusals but make it through
0	3 refusals or skip

Back-up

10	Alpaca backs straight up, handler does not touch the alpaca
8	Alpaca backs straight up, handler does touch alpaca
6	Alpaca backs up, but goes sideways
4	1 refusal, but alpaca does back up
2	2 refusals, but alpaca does back up
0	3 refusals or skip

Mirror

10	Alpaca touches mirror with his/her nose
8	Alpaca looks at the mirror and comes within 2 inches of it
6	Alpaca comes within 4 inches but shy at reflection
4	1 refusal but alpaca comes within 4 inches
2	2 refusal but alpaca comes within 4 inches
0	3 refusals or skip, or alpaca does not come within 4 inches

Step Over

10	Alpaca steps over, feet do not clip step
8	Alpaca steps over, feet do clip step
6	Alpaca steps over, feet knock the step over
4	1 refusal, but alpaca does step over
2	2 refusals, but alpaca does step over
0	3 refusals or skip

Ramp

10	Alpaca walks up the ramp and jumps off the end
8	Alpaca walks up the ramp, shy at drop off, but does jump off
6	Alpaca starts walking up the ramp, but shys and goes off the side.
4	1 refusal or retry, but alpaca does go up the ramp and off the end
2	2 refusals or retries, but alpaca does go up the ramp and off the end
0	3 refusals or skip

Hind-Quarter Turn

10	Alpaca pivots ¼ turn, keeps 1 hind foot planted
8	Alpaca pivots ¼ turn, moves both hind feet, hindquarters remain in the same spot
6	Alpaca pivots ¼ turn, moves both hind feet, does not end up with hindquarters in same spot
4	Alpaca turns(not pivot), ends up with hindquarters in same spot
2	Alpaca turns(not pivot), does not end up with hindquarters in the same spot
0	3 refusals or skip

Hind-Quarter Turn

10	Alpaca pivots ¼ turn, keeps 1 hind foot planted
8	Alpaca pivots ¼ turn, moves both hind feet, hindquarters remain in the same spot
6	Alpaca pivots ¼ turn, moves both hind feet, does not end up with hindquarters in same spot
4	Alpaca turns(not pivot), ends up with hindquarters in same spot
2	Alpaca turns(not pivot), does not end up with hindquarters in the same spot
0	Skip

Tarp

10	Alpaca walks straight over tarp
8	Alpaca walks over the tarp, but shys at the noise
6	Alpaca walks over tarp, but tries to jump off the tarp
4	1 refusal, but alpaca does walk across
2	2 refusals, but alpaca does walk across
0	3 refusals or skip

Blind Corner

10	Walk through, alpaca does not hit sides, slack lead
8	Walk through, alpaca does not hit sides, tight lead
6	Walk through, alpaca hits sides
4	1 refusal, but alpaca does go through
2	2 refusals, but alpaca does go through
0	3 refusals or skip

Over-all

10	Slack lead at all times with confidence. Alpaca obviously trusts handler, no balking
9	Complete 9 obstacles with tight lead, or 8 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
8	Complete 8 obstacles with tight lead, or 7 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
7	Complete 7 obstacles with tight lead, or 6 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
6	Complete 6 obstacles with tight lead, or 5 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
5	Complete 5 obstacles with tight lead, or 4 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
4	Complete 4 obstacles with tight lead, or 3 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
3	Complete 3 obstacles with tight lead, or 2 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
2	Complete 2 obstacles with tight lead, or 1 obstacles with slack lead and confidence
1	Complete 1 obstacles with tight lead
0	Alpaca and handler do not complete any obstacle.

OBSTACLE SCORE CARD

TOTAL SCORE	_____
EXHIBITION NUMBER	_____
PLACE IN CLASS	_____
JUDGE’S INITIALS	_____

APPENDIX B – JUDGING SCHEDULE FOR HUACAYA

SECTION 1: In developing this judging schedule, fleece quantity and quality have been given equal status. It is important that fleeces which are either "very pretty and no weight" or "very heavy and no style" do not gain advantage because of their style or weight alone, but have a good combination of both.

SECTION 2: Maximum Points Awarded

- A. **Fineness and Handle** (25 POINTS) – This reflects the degrees of actual fineness of fibre displayed, expressed in microns as well as taking into consideration various levels of softness. When assessing fineness and handle consideration should be given to the age of the animal or class in which the fleece is entered.

1. **Fineness**

Points	Age Category A	Age Category B	Age Category C	Age Category D and E
20	16	17	18	19
19	17	18	19	20
18	18	19	20	21
17	19	20	21	22
16	20	21	22	23
15	21	22	23	24
14	22	23	24	25
13	23	24	25	26
12	24	25	26	27
11	25	26	27	28
10	26	27	28	29
8	27	28	29	30
6	28	29	30	31
4	29	30	31	32
2	30	31	32	33
1	31	32	33	34
0	Over 31	Over 32	Over 33	Over 34

2. **Handle** (5 POINTS) – This assessment reflects the relative degree of softness displayed by individual fleeces taking into consideration the age of the animal and micron of the fleece.
- i. Very soft 5 points
 - i. Soft 4 points
 - ii. Normal 3 points
 - iii. Hard 2 points
 - iv. Harsh 0 - 1 points

- B. **Uniformity of Micron** (10 POINTS) – This relates to the evenness of fineness/softness throughout the entire fleece.

- i. Very even / Even 8 - 10 points
- ii. Some irregularity 5 - 7 points
- iii. Irregular 3 - 4 points
- iv. Very Irregular 0 - 2 points

- C. **Brightness** (10 POINTS) – This relates to the light refraction of the alpaca fibre taking into account breed type.
- i. High 9 - 10 points
 - ii. Good 7 - 8 points
 - iii. Average 4 - 6 points
 - iv. Dull / Poor 0 - 1 points
- D. **Uniformity of Colour** (5 POINTS) – This relates to the evenness and regularity of colour throughout the entire fleece.
- i. Good Uniformity 4 - 5 points
 - ii. Some Irregularity 2 - 3 points
 - iii. Very Irregular 0 - 1 points
- Note: Multis will receive 0 because they do not have uniformity of colour.*
- E. **Character and Style** (10 POINTS) – This relates to the wave/crimp and crinkle within the staple relevant to the fibre type.
- i. Very well defined Crimp/Crinkle 9 - 10 points
 - ii. Good definition 7 - 8 points
 - iii. Average definition 5 - 6 points
 - iv. Poor/Plain definition 3 - 4 points
 - v. Straight fibred 0 - 2 points
- F. **Density** (5 POINTS) – This relates to the density of the individual staple formation throughout the entire fleece.
- i. Very dense 5 points
 - ii. Good density 4 points
 - iii. Average 2 - 3 points
 - iv. Thin/without substance 0 - 1 points
- G. **Uniformity of Length** (5 POINTS) – Relates to the uniformity of length throughout the entire fleece taking into consideration commercial lengths over 12 months growth period. Note: make deductions for over long or short fleece.
- i. Very even 5 points
 - ii. Some irregularity 4 - 5 points
 - iii. Irregular 2 - 3 points
 - iv. Very irregular 0 - 1 points
- H. **Impurities** (5 POINTS) – Penalties should be applied for excessive vegetable matter, staining within the fleece and/or any excessive tip damage. Penalties should also apply for excess sand or dirt.
- i. Healthy Fleece 5 points
 - ii. Stretchy 3 - 4 points
 - iii. Partly tender 2 - 3 points
 - iv. Tender or rotten fleece 0 - 1 points
- I. **Medullation (Guard Hair Content)** (10 POINTS) – The fleece should be as free as possible from narrow/broad continuous medullated fibres, which appear as straight, generally coarser fibres. Age and class should be considered.
- ii. Free or nearly free 9 - 10 points
 - iii. Light content 7 - 8 points

- iv. Medium content 4 - 6 points
- v. Heavy content 0 - 1 points

J. **Clean Fleece Weight** (15 POINTS) – Relates to the percentage of properly skirted clean fleece (fibre) after removing all extraneous matter (dirt, grease, burrs, seeds, and dung tags). NB. Fleece weights shall be scored relative to fleece weights presented in the competition. It will be at the discretion of the judge to withhold any score should the judge determine the fleece to be unacceptably light in weight. Note: 1 kg = 2.2046 lbs. Assume 90% yield

Points	Age Category A		Age Category B		Age Category C		Age Category D and E	
	kg	lb	kg	lb	kg	lb	kg	lb
15	1.9	4.2	2.8	4.4	2.1	4.6	2.2	4.9
14	1.8	4.0	1.9	4.2	2.8	4.4	2.1	4.6
13	1.7	3.7	1.8	4.0	1.9	4.2	2.8	4.4
12	1.6	3.5	1.7	3.7	1.8	4.0	1.9	4.2
11	1.5	3.3	1.6	3.5	1.7	3.7	1.8	4.0
10	1.4	3.0	1.5	3.3	1.6	3.5	1.7	3.7
9	1.3	2.9	1.4	3.0	1.5	3.3	1.6	3.5
8	1.2	2.6	1.3	2.9	1.4	3.0	1.5	3.3
7	1.1	2.4	1.2	2.6	1.3	2.9	1.4	3.0
8	1.0	2.2	1.1	2.4	1.2	2.6	1.3	2.9
5	0.9	2.0	1.0	2.2	1.1	2.4	1.2	2.6
4	0.8	1.7	0.9	2.0	1.0	2.2	1.1	2.4
3	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.7	0.9	2.0	1.0	2.2
2	0.6	1.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.7	0.9	2.0
1	0.5	1.1	0.6	1.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.7

APPENDIX C – JUDGING SCHEDULE FOR SURI

SECTION 1: In developing this judging schedule, fleece quantity and quality have been given equal status. It is important that fleeces which are either "very pretty and no weight" or "very heavy and no style" do not gain advantage because of their style or weight alone, but have a good combination of both.

SECTION 2: Maximum Points Awarded

- A. **Fineness and Handle** (25 POINTS) – This reflects the degrees of actual fineness of fibre displayed, expressed in microns as well as taking into consideration various levels of softness. When assessing fineness and handle consideration should be given to the age of the animal or class in which the fleece is entered.

1. **Fineness**

Points	Age Category A	Age Category B	Age Category C	Age Category D and E
20	18	19	20	21
19	19	20	21	22
18	20	21	22	23
17	21	22	23	24
16	22	23	24	25
15	23	24	25	26
14	24	25	26	27
13	25	26	27	28
12	26	27	28	29
11	27	28	29	30
10	28	29	30	31
8	29	30	31	32
6	30	31	32	33
4	31	32	33	34
2	N/A	N/A	34	35
0	Over 31	Over 32	Over 34	Over 35

2. **Handle** (Same as huacaya)

- i. Very soft.....5 points
- ii. Soft4 points
- iii. Normal3 points
- iv. Hard2 points
- v. Harsh0 - 1 points

- B. **Uniformity of Micron** (10 POINTS) – This relates to the evenness of fineness/softness throughout the entire fleece.

- i. Very even / Even8 - 10 points
- ii. Some irregularity5 - 7 points
- iii. Irregular3 - 4 points
- iv. Very Irregular0 - 2 points

C. **Lustre** (15 POINTS)

- ii. High Lustre 14 - 15 points
- iii. Good Lustre..... 11 - 13 points
- iv. Average Lustre 6 - 10 points
- v. Dull/Poor Lustre..... 0 - 5 points

D. **Uniformity of Colour** (5 POINTS) – This relates to the evenness and regularity of colour throughout the entire fleece.

- i. Good Uniformity 4 - 5 points
- ii. Some Irregularity 2 - 3 points
- iii. Very Irregular 0 - 1 points

Note: Multis will receive 0 because they do not have uniformity of colour.

E. **Style** (10 POINTS) – This relates to the twist/wave within the staple relevant to the suri breed type. This assessment is based on the most desired lock for breeding. Although the majority of types/styles listed below would be satisfactory for processing, some are more desirable than others.

- vi. Ringlet type which starts twisting close to the skin.....10 points
- vii. Slight wave with twist starting close to the skin.....9 points
- viii. Either of the above, which do not start its style close to the skin.....7 - 8 points
- ix. Larger wave with slight twist5 - 6 points
- x. Straight with a slight twist on the end..... 4 points
- xi. Bold large crimp like wave (Huasu).....3 points
- xii. Straight/plain with luster2 points
- xiii. Straight/chalky1 points

F. **Density** (5 POINTS) – This relates to the density of the individual staple formation throughout the entire fleece.

- i. Very dense 5 points
- ii. Good density..... 4 points
- iii. Average 2 - 3 points
- iv. Thin/without substance..... 0 - 1 points

G. **Uniformity of Length** (5 POINTS) – Relates to the uniformity of length throughout the entire fleece taking into consideration commercial lengths over 12 months growth period. Note: make deductions for over long or short fleece.

- i. Very even 5 points
- ii. Some irregularity 4 - 5 points
- iii. Irregular 2 - 3 points
- xiv. Very irregular 0 - 1 points

H. **Impurities** (5 POINTS) – Penalties should be applied for excessive vegetable matter, staining within the fleece and/or any excessive tip damage. Penalties should also apply for excess sand or dirt.

- i. Healthy Fleece..... 5 points
- ii. Stretchy..... 3 - 4points
- iii. Partly tender 2 - 3 points
- iv. Tender or rotten fleece..... 0 - 1 points

- I. **Medullation** (5 POINTS) – The fleece should be as free as possible from narrow/broad continuous medullated fibres, which appear as straight, generally coarser fibres. Age and class should be considered.
- i. Free or nearly free 5 points
 - ii. Light Content..... 4 - 5 points
 - iii. Medium Content..... 2 - 3 points
 - iv. Heavy Content 1 - 0 points
- J. **Clean Fleece Weight** (15 POINTS) – This relates to the percentage of properly skirted clean fleece (fibre) after removing all extraneous matter (dirt, grease, burrs, seeds, and dung tags). NB. Fleece weights shall be scored relative to fleece weights presented in the competition. It will be at the discretion of the judge to withhold any score should the judge determine the fleece to be unacceptably light in weight. Note: 1 kg = 2.2046 lbs. Assume 90% yield

Points	Age Category A		Age Category B		Age Category C		Age Category D and E	
	kg	lb	kg	lb	kg	lb	kg	lb
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13	1.7	3.7	1.8	4.0	1.9	4.2	2.8	4.4
12	1.6	3.5	1.7	3.7	1.8	4.0	1.9	4.2
11	1.5	3.3	1.6	3.5	1.7	3.7	1.8	4.0
10	1.4	3.0	1.5	3.3	1.6	3.5	1.7	3.7
9	1.3	2.9	1.4	3.0	1.5	3.3	1.6	3.5
8	1.2	2.6	1.3	2.9	1.4	3.0	1.5	3.3
7	1.1	2.4	1.2	2.6	1.3	2.9	1.4	3.0
8	1.0	2.2	1.1	2.4	1.2	2.6	1.3	2.9
5	0.9	2.0	1.0	2.2	1.1	2.4	1.2	2.6
4	0.8	1.7	0.9	2.0	1.0	2.2	1.1	2.4
3	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.7	0.9	2.0	1.0	2.2
2	0.6	1.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.7	0.9	2.0
1	0.5	1.1	0.6	1.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.7