

# AQHA Specialized Judges Applicant Fact Sheet

The following criteria must be met before becoming an AQHA-approved specialized judge:

1. Have individual, current-year AQHA membership, in good standing
2. Be at least 25 years of age.
3. Each applicant's name must be listed on the AQHA Website or appear in at least one issue of *The Quarter Horse Journal* prior to review by the Judges Committee.
4. Receive approval from AQHA State Selection Committee for judges.
5. Receive approval from AQHA Judges Committee.
6. Receive approval from AQHA Executive Committee.
7. If favorable approval is received, the applicant will be notified by AQHA that applicant must:
  - a. attend the next new judge orientation
  - b. complete mandatory testing (if applicable)
  - c. complete and return Judges Code of Ethics and Social Media Guidelines
8. Required to complete recertification as determined by the Judges and Executive Committee.
9. The Judges Committee will review specialized applications three times per year:
  - a. March – **Deadline for application is December 1.**
  - b. June – **Deadline for application is March 1**
  - c. September – **Deadline for application is June 1.**
10. An individual may not re-apply for AQHA Specialized judges credentials after being denied 2 times for any of the following:
  - a. Denial of permission to attend a qualifying examination by the Judges Committee;
  - b. Failure to pass the qualifying examination; or
  - c. Failure to obtain approval from the Judges Committee or AQHA Executive Committee, for any reason.

**\*\*\$150 non-refundable application fee must be submitted with application\*\***

# AQHA Level 1 Judges Applicant Fact Sheet

The following criteria must be met before becoming an AQHA-approved judge:

1. Have individual, current-year AQHA membership, in good standing
2. Be at least 21 years of age.
3. Submit application by designated deadline.
4. Must complete the required testing.
  - a. Rule Book Test (90% minimum score required).
  - b. Required to judge approximately 6-10 video classes (70% minimum score required).
  - c. Will be interviewed by Judges Committee Members, and evaluated for expertise in various classes as well as particular judging situations.
  - d. Only top scoring applicants will be approved.
5. Receive approval from AQHA Judges Committee.
6. Receive approval from AQHA Executive Committee.
7. Required to complete recertification and/or a rulebook test each year via online testing.
8. The Judges Committee will review Level 1 Testing Scores during their June Conference Call.
9. An individual may not re-apply for a period of five years for AQHA judges credentials after being denied 2 times for any of the following:
  - a. Denial of permission to attend a qualifying examination by the Judges Committee;
  - b. Failure to pass the qualifying examination; or
  - c. Failure to obtain approval from the Judges Committee or AQHA Executive Committee, for any reason.

**\*\*\$150 non-refundable application fee must be submitted with application\*\***

*You may attach extra pages to this application if needed.*

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APPLICANT'S NAME: LAST-FIRST-MIDDLE

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ADDRESS

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CITY

STATE/PROVINCE

COUNTRY

ZIP/POSTAL CODE

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PHONE

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BIRTHDATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

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EMAIL

**I am applying for the following specialized judge's card(s):**

- Cutting   
 Reining   
 Roping   
 Over Fence Classes   
 Working Cow Horse   
 Versatility Ranch Horse   
 Ranch Riding  
 Team Penning & Ranch Sorting   
 Speed Events   
 Halter   
 Level 1

**Personal Information**

Your Primary Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Your Secondary Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

**Education**

High School \_\_\_\_\_

College or University \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a current member of AQHA?

- No     Yes

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AQHA ID #

If you are a life member,

please list the date purchased. \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a local, state or provincial AQHA Affiliate?

- No     Yes

If yes, give name(s) of affiliate(s). \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever held an office in a local, state or provincial affiliate?

- No     Yes

If so, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of AQHA's Professional Horsemen?

- No     Yes

Have you enrolled or previously attended an AQHA Judges Educational Seminar?

- No     Yes

If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_

**References**

*You must submit reference forms provided by AQHA. These should be returned by the individual giving the reference. Required references include one (1) from an AQHA-approved judge, one (1) from an AQHA member and one (1) from a character reference not involved in the American Quarter Horse industry.*

List those individuals submitting references on your behalf.

**AQHA Judge**

**AQHA Member**

**Character Reference**

Name

Address

City

State & Zip Code

Name

Address

City

State & Zip Code

Name

Address

City

State & Zip Code

## General Information

Each application must be accompanied by a recent photograph of the applicant. The photograph should be 3 1/2" x 5" or larger and include only the head and shoulders of the applicant. The photo does not have to be professionally done; it can be a snapshot; however, it must be printed, no email photos or discs.

**Applications and supporting materials become the property of AQHA and cannot be returned.**

**Applications and \$150 fee should be sent to**

**American Quarter Horse Association  
Attn: Judges Department  
P.O. Box 200  
Amarillo, TX 79168**

<input type="radio"/> CHECK	<input type="radio"/> MONEY ORDER	<b>IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:</b>	
<input type="radio"/> AMERICAN EXPRESS		<input type="radio"/> MASTERCARD	<input type="radio"/> VISA
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CARD NUMBER			
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
EXP. DATE (MMYY)		DAYTIME PHONE	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CARDHOLDER NAME			
<input type="text"/>			
CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE			
<b>DO NOT SEND CASH - U.S. FUNDS ONLY</b>			

If you have additional questions please email [judges@aqha.org](mailto:judges@aqha.org)

The undersigned does hereby waive any right he or she may have to require disclosure to him or her by AQHA of any information obtained to evaluate him or her as a prospective judge, agreeing that the accuracy of information concerning the undersigned's character, reputation and judging abilities is paramount to his or her disclosure rights, if any.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor and judge must be exemplary; is subject to continual Judges Committee review, with an automatic review after (5) five years of becoming an AQHA judge; and such designation is revocable by the Judges Committee with or without notice and formal hearing, subject only to ultimate review by the Executive Committee, with or without notice and formal hearing.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## American Quarter Horse Information

Have you ever owned an American Quarter Horse, or do you own one now?

No  Yes

If so, list horse/s' names dates owned:

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you, or have you ever been, a breeder of American Quarter Horses?  No  Yes

If so, how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever shown an American Quarter Horse in the class you are applying for the specialized judge's card?  No  Yes

If so, list horse/s' names and dates shown:

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us (on a separate sheet of paper, if needed) why you consider yourself a specialist in the area for which you are applying.

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### Judging Information

What do you perceive as the role and responsibilities of an AQHA-approved judge?

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Have you ever been, or are you, an approved judge for any other equine association or group (NRHA, NCHA, NSBA, NRCHA, WCHA, etc.)?

No  Yes *If so, list:*

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Have you judged any type of horse show not requiring a judge's card? (i.e. Open shows, 4-H, etc.)

No  Yes

Explain and list (on a separate sheet, if needed) the names and locations of shows you have judged in the previous year and the names and locations of the shows you plan to judge during the current year.

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Comments concerning applicant's character and professional standards:

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Comments concerning applicant's expertise as a horse person and their judging ability:

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Comments concerning applicant's character and professional standards:

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Comments concerning applicant's expertise as a horse person and their judging ability:

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# AQHA Specialized Judge's Applicant Reference Letter-Reference

FOR OVERNIGHT DELIVERY TO AQHA: 1600 QUARTER HORSE DR, AMARILLO, TX 79104 • MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 200, AMARILLO, TX 79168  
WWW.AQHA.COM • © • FAX: 806-378-4675

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APPLICANT'S NAME: LAST-FIRST-MIDDLE

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ADDRESS

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CITY

STATE/PROVINCE

COUNTRY

ZIP/POSTAL CODE

Area of Specialization \_\_\_\_\_

### **AQHA Rule #SHW900**

Designation as an Association-approved judge is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the Judges Committee according to procedures formulated by it, to individuals whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honor. An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor and judge, and his ability must be exemplary.

I understand the above named individual is applying for approval as an AQHA specialized judge. I am aware of the seriousness of this position and that being an AQHA judge requires integrity, character and financial responsibility, as well as equine knowledge and expertise. With this in mind, I submit the following information for your review regarding this applicant.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE**

***THIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL REPORT THAT MUST BE SENT  
DIRECTLY TO AQHA BY THE PERSON SIGNING THE REPORT***

Return to:  
AQHA  
Attention: Judges Department  
P.O. Box 200  
Amarillo, TX 79168

*(Both pages of the report must be completed)*

Comments concerning applicant's character and professional standards:

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