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**
Personal Information

Your Primary Occupation
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Your Secondary Occupation
______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Education

High School
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

College or University
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Are you a current member of AQHA?

☐ No ☐ Yes 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQHA Judge</th>
<th>AQHA Member</th>
<th>Character Reference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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You may attach extra pages to this application if needed.
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 should be sent to
American Quarter Horse Association
Attn: Judges Department
P.O. Box 200
Amarillo, TX  79168

If you have additional questions please email 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: ________________

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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AQHA Specialized Judge’s Applicant Reference Letter-AQHA Judge

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: ____________________________

AQHA JUDGE

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

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FORMS 3700-16-939 JUDGES APPLICATION FORMS SPECIALIZED JUDGES 10-16-26
**AQHA Rule #SHW900**

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| Printed Name: | ____________________________ |
| Signed:       | ____________________________ | Date: ____________________________ |

**AQHA MEMBER**

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

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FORMS 3700-16-939 JUDGES APPLICATION FORMS SPECIALIZED JUDGES 10-16-26
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

Area of Specialization

________________________

AQHA Rule #SHW900

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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

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Comments concerning applicant's character and professional standards:

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