

REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME A WHAO JUDGE

Requirements to become a Junior Judge

- ⇒ The minimum age to apply to become a WHAO Judge is 25 years
- ⇒ In order to apply for a WHAO Judge's Ticket, you must be a paid member, up to date and in good standing of the Association. You must also have been a member for 12 months preceding your application
- ⇒ You must send a \$50.00 Application Fee, this is non-refundable
- ⇒ You will then be asked to complete the prescribed application form on which you must list your experience in the horse industry and give (3) three references. This application must be completed and returned to the Chairman of the Judge's Committee along with your Resume.
- ⇒ Your Resume will list all your horse related experiences and accomplishments
- ⇒ You must forward with your application, a photograph of yourself in appropriate western judging attire
- ⇒ The Judge's Committee will review your application as well as letters from your (3) three references and decide to accept or decline your request to become a WHAO Junior Judge
- ⇒ If your request is denied, your \$50.00 Application Fee is non-refundable and you must wait a period of (1) one year before you may re-apply
- ⇒ If your request is accepted, you will be contacted for an interview and Rule Book test with the Judge's Committee. The test will be a closed Rule Book test made up by the Judge's Committee. 80% is a pass. For your interview, you will be questioned orally by the Judge's Committee, on your knowledge of bits, horse show procedure and other questions relating to the actual judging of a show. Each question is scored out of (10) ten – 80% is a pass
- ⇒ After your interview and Rule book testing, the Judge's Committee will contact you with your results. If you were successful in passing all components, you will become a Junior Judge. However, if you were unsuccessful in any one component, you will be required to wait a period of (6) six months before you can re-apply. Your \$50.00 Application Fee is non-refundable
- ⇒ Designation as a WHAO approved Junior or Senior Judge is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the Judge's Committee according to formal procedures to individuals whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honor. An individual's conduct as a Judge, must be exemplary and is subject to constant review

Promotion from a Junior Judge to a Senior Judge

- ⇒ A Junior Judge has (18) eighteen months from the date they were accepted by the WHAO Judge's Committee to obtain their Senior Ticket. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the continuation in the WHAO Judging Program. The Judge's Committee may grant an extension
- ⇒ A Junior Judge must judge a **minimum** of (10) ten shows, which use WHAO rules, on their own. A Junior Judge must submit a list of **ALL** the shows which he/she will be judging to the Judge's Committee.
- ⇒ From the list of shows provided to the Judge's Committee by the Junior Judge, the Committee will choose one of those shows to do a live evaluation of the Junior Judge. This is mandatory before a Junior Judge can be promoted to a Senior Judge. The following will be judged:
- Appearance
 - Pattern Presentation
 - Knowledge of Rules
 - Interaction with Exhibitors
 - Time taken to judge a class
 - Show Committee comments
- ⇒ All Junior Judges must submit and evaluation form for each show judged during their status as a Junior Judge. These reports must be sent directly to the Secretary of the Judge's Committee and **MUST NOT BE VIEWED BY THE JUNIOR JUDGE**
- ⇒ The Chairperson of the Judge's Committee must be in receipt of a **minimum** of (10) ten letters of SATISFACTORY recommendation from the shows judged by the Junior Judge
- ⇒ If the Judge's Committee feels it is necessary after reviewing the (10) ten letters of recommendation, the Junior Judge may be asked to judge more shows and provide more letters of recommendation AND/OR be asked to judge with one or more Senior Judges. A report will be written by the Senior Judge and submitted to the Judge's Committee for review
- ⇒ Once the Judge's Committee feels the Junior Judge has satisfactorily met all the requirements, the Junior Judge will be asked to attend an interview as well as a closed Rule Book test. 80% is a pass for the interview and the Rule Book Test
- ⇒ Prior to promotion to a Senior Judge, the Junior Judge must attend one workshop or clinic, per year, that has been approved by the WHAO Judges Committee (excused only at the discretion of the Judges Committee), and will be asked to donate their time as a ring steward at the WHAO Extravaganza
- ⇒ The Judge's Committee will then evaluate the entire performance of the Junior Judge and decide whether to promote them to Senior status or not
- ⇒ The Judge's Committee may request further tests to ensure the Junior Judge is at a level of performance that is required of him/her.