

Rules for Judges and Apprentices for Helping at Shows

Excerpt from the IBC Standards, 2014

Apprentices

Apprenticeship Stage One: The Seminars

1. Apprentices just starting out and taking Seminars 1 and 2 can do all other show work, up to and including Show Chairing. There are no restrictions on seeing the fish for Apprentices doing Seminars 1 and 2. They can enter fish in the show without restriction. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process.
2. Apprentices taking Seminar 3 are allowed to help in the show room, including benching the fish and receiving the fish boxes. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. They are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice's judge to other classes. During Best of Variety and Best of Show judging, an apprentice taking Seminar 3 who has fish in the show must step back and observe only. The apprentice with fish in the show is not allowed to participate directly in BOV or BOS judging. There are no restrictions on apprentices without fish in the show during BOV or BOS showing. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process.

Apprenticeship Stage Two: First Show

1. Apprentices working their first show are allowed to help in the show room, including benching the fish and receiving the fish boxes. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. They are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they or a member of their household have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice's judge to other classes. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries. If an apprentice or a member of their household has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging, even by observing (they must be well out of earshot, either in a different room or on the far side of where the judging is taking place). There are no restrictions on apprentices without fish in the show during BOV or BOS showing.

Apprenticeship Stage Three: Second Show

1. Apprentices working their second show may only receive fish boxes if there are literally no other club members who can do it, and they should not open the boxes unless the boxes are wet or there is other indication they might need immediate help. Assistance in preparing a show (which is encouraged) must be done so as to avoid viewing the fish closely or reading any show entry records. They are allowed to assist with the show set up in general, but should refrain from lengthy or close-up viewing before the start of judging (we encourage help that

doesn't come into contact with the fish, like filling the containers with water). They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. They are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice's judge to other classes. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries. If an apprentice has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging, even by observing (they must be well out of earshot, either in a different room or on the far side of where the judging is taking place). There are no restrictions on apprentices without fish in the show during BOV or BOS showing.

Apprenticeship Stage Four: Third Show

1. Apprentices working their third show may only receive fish boxes if there are literally no other club members who can do it, and they should not open the boxes unless the boxes are wet or there is other indication they might need immediate help (every effort should be made to find another club member who could receive fish if the apprentice is in their third show). Assistance in preparing a show should be restrained to only help that doesn't come into contact with the fish, like filling the containers with water. Benching fish is not allowed. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. An apprentice working their third show is not allowed to enter fish in that show so they may participate in the full judging process.

Apprenticeship Stage Five: Visual Test

1. Apprentices who are undergoing their final visual tests are not allowed to receive fish or be in the show room while there are fish present. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. Apprentices doing their visual testing are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice's judge to other classes. If an apprentice has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging, even by observing (they must be well out of earshot, either in a different room or on the far side of where the judging is taking place).

Judges

1. All Judges who are going to Judge at a show are not allowed to be in the show room while fish are being unpacked and benched. They may help with pre-work such as setting up stands or filling water, but discussion about entries is prohibited while that judge is present. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer before or during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process.

2. The Head Judge involved in judging a show and members of their households may not have fish entered in the show. The Head Judge may not receive fish.

A Head Judge should have been an IBC Judge for a minimum of one year, and have judged at least two shows under another judge. If a chapter has a need for an exemption from this (due to location or other circumstances), they may request an exemption from the Judging Board prior to the show. When a judge has been asked to be a Head Judge by a Show Chair, the Head Judge must check in with the Judging Board to be briefed on any items that should be paid particular attention to during the show year. The Head Judge should also give a report back to the Judging Board after the show.

3. Other Judges who will be judging that show may enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge and the Show Chair should work together to ensure that judges don't judge classes they have fish in. If a judge has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging, even by observing (they must be well out of earshot, either in a different room or on the far side of where the judging is taking place). Judges may only receive fish boxes if there are literally no other club members who can do it, and they should not open the boxes unless the boxes are wet or there is other indication they might need immediate help (every effort should be made to find another club member who could receive fish other than a participating Judge).
- Exception to benching fish - A Judge may bench their own fish if they have fish entered in the show. However, they may not bench near other competitors benching, and discussion of other entries is forbidden. Giving the fish to the show committee to bench instead is highly encouraged.
 - If a Judge is bringing other people's fish to a show (hand-carrying in, for example), the Judge must report this to the show chair and head judge and the Head Judge and Show Chair should exercise judgement in whether the judge should judge or not judge classes those fish are in. The preference would be for the judge not to judge those classes, however the Head Judge and Show Chair have the option of allowing it based on circumstances. The Judge should hand those fish to the show committee to bench and should not bench them directly unless a specific exemption is granted by the Head Judge and Show Chair.