



# American Boer Goat Association

4258 South Jackson St. San Angelo, Texas 76903  
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## SHOW RING PROTOCOL FOR ABGA JUDGES

The goal of this protocol is to ensure each judge strives to provide a fair, unbiased, and the objective inspection of each animal as it is presented for his/her evaluation and, in doing so, provide a positive experience for all individuals involved including exhibitors, spectators, and show personnel.

As a representative of the American Boer Goat Association and an ABGA Judge, through his or her appearance, evaluations, and presentations, is to conduct him or herself in a professional manner with show officials, exhibitors, and spectators at all times.

1. A judge is at all times to evaluate Boer goats in accordance with the ABGA Sanction Show Rules and the ABGA Boer Goat Breed Standards, disregarding any personal preferences. Animals should be evaluated according to the degree with which they meet the desired traits outlined within the ABGA Breed Standards.
2. Judges are required to check the following on Boer goats presented to be judged to ensure these areas are correct according to the ABGA Boer Goat Breed Standards.
  - (a) Udder/Teat Structure on Does
  - (b) Mouths on Bucks and Does
  - (c) Pigmentation on Does and Bucks
  - (d) Testicles on Bucks
  - (e) Ears on Bucks and Does

Recognizing the complication of time involved in judging very large classes, a judge is allowed discretion to check only those animals retained in the show ring from which the final selections will be made. In all classes, where practical, it is recommended that a judge check all animals presented.

3. Judges are required to set their final placement line in numerical order, beginning with the lowest placing animal and continuing in ascending order to the first-place animal, prior to giving reasons so that exhibitors and spectators can clearly see and understand the placements.
4. A judge shall be responsible for ensuring that the tattoos are read on the winner of each class plus any goats in that class other than the winner that, by virtue of class size, are eligible for points under ABGA rules including all GCH and RGCH animals before those animals leave the ring.
5. Judges are allowed to:
  - (a) Judge animals they do not own.
  - (b) Judge animals that are not partially owned by them.
  - (c) Judge animals that are not owned partially or entirely by any member of the judge's immediate family, which includes children, grandchildren, parents, sibling, or spouse.
  - (d) Judge animals that they do not have a conflict of interest such as following:
    1. Fitting an animal that is being shown under the said Judge within 90 days.
    2. Consulting or having an advisory roll over an animal within 90 days.



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3. Judging an animal, he/she have sold within 90 days.
  4. Inspecting an animal that he/she own or previously owned and or bred.
  5. Judging after handling animals for private treaty sales.
  6. Judging animals that reproductive work from said judge within 90 days
  7. Judging one dual show (two judges in same show ring) at the same show location within a weekend period on different days.
  8. Riding to a show as a Judge with an exhibitor and judging the animals of the exhibitor you are traveling with.
  9. Two Judges traveling to the same show sharing lodging and judging on same day.
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6. Recognizing the need for judgement, it is allowed that a judge place animal that exhibit a serious degree of any fault according to the ABGA Breed Standards or a disqualification trait as defined by the ABGA Breed Standards, display of any such trait should negatively impact an animal's placing and/or be grounds to dismiss animals from the ring.
  7. Recognizing the need for judgement, allowance for a single entry in a class not to automatically be awarded first place, if the animal exhibits a single fault or any serious degree of faults according to the ABGA Breed Standards, or if the judge deems a quality that does not warrant placing the animal in the first or second spot.
  8. An ABGA judge should use terminology in accordance with the structure of Boer goats when giving reasons so that spectators may more easily understand the judge's reference and evaluations. "Canned" reasons are discouraged. A judge's reasons for placing classes are an educational tool and should be used as such by the judge.
  9. A judge should be always courteous and kind, when called for in his/her evaluations, refraining from negative comments that would unnecessarily embarrass any exhibitor. All should serve an educational purpose for the exhibitor of the animal, other exhibitors, and spectators.
  10. A judge should always show personal discretion in his/hers comments while in the show ring, an exhibitor, or ring side as a spectator at any event where such comments may be overheard and perceived to be derogatory of the working judge. At all times you as an American Boer Goat Certified Judge are a represented of the Association. This behavior will not be tolerated.
  11. A judge should always dress neatly and appropriately to be distinguished between an exhibitor and the judge.
  12. Recognizing the complication of arriving at a show arena within a prescribed time frame can create delays for a judge, it is therefore only allowed that a judge take in this and arrive in a timely manner.
  13. At the time of arrival, it is allowed for a judge to go straight to the show secretary or fair office and report, refraining from visiting with exhibitors or at pens before the show or during the show. Judges are not allowed to visit with anyone exhibiting animals, the show faculty before the show, or pen areas prior to the show.
  14. No solicitation of judging assignments is allowed at any time on social media platforms, in person and or calling shows.

Judges Committee is asking the ABGA board to implement a conflict-of-interest form to be signed by each Certified ABGA Judge.