

CFA JUDGING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Revised March 28, 1965

by Louise Sample



Any person desiring to apply for admission to the CFA Judging Program, may write to the chairman of the Program for blanks. A copy of the applicable rules and regulations regarding the Judging Program will be sent to each person asking for application blanks. In the event the prospective applicant has any misgivings as to his willingness to comply in all respects with the demands of CFA for those held out by it as its judges, it is expected that the prospective applicant will at that time abandon his efforts to obtain admission to the Program.

If after studying the Program, the prospective applicant desires to pursue admission thereto, the application blank should be completed in duplicate. The original should be returned to the Program Chairman and the duplicate forwarded to the Regional Vice President for the region in which the applicant resides. The recommendation of the Regional Vice President will be entered and forwarded by him direct to the Chairman of the Program. Absence of the Regional Vice President's endorsement does not necessarily constitute a barrier to the acceptance of the applicant.

The application blank, upon completion, should be signed and sworn to before a notary public, and only the original need be so executed. The original, as sworn to, should have enclosed with it when sent to the Program Chairman, a snapshot picture of the applicant and the required fee of Ten Dollars. If the applicant fails to gain admittance to the Program, the Ten Dollar fee will be retained by CFA. However, the applicant may re-apply for admission to the Program after the lapse of one year. Once having applied for admission to the Program, an applicant must obtain admission within two years of the date of the original application, or thereafter be barred from the Program.

If accepted to the Program, the Ten Dollar fee will be retained by CFA and will cover the expenses of CFA for the activities of the applicant until such time as he is advanced to the status of Approval Pending judge, at which time he will be required to pay a license fee of Five Dollars on December 1st of each year so long as he remains an Approval Pending judge.

The CFA Executive Board may, at its discretion, announce a moratorium on the acceptance of applications for admission to the Program for a specified time period.

FORMAL REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICANTS.

The applicant must be of good reputation, both in the Fancy, and in the community in which he resides. He must be a member in good standing in a CFA club, and shall not be a member, or in any way connected with an organization organized for purposes similar to those of CFA, at the time of his application. Former members of such organizations may be asked for proof of severance of such connections. The applicant must be the owner of a cattery registered with CFA.

The applicant must have a complete understanding of the standards and show rules as promulgated by CFA. Each applicant will be given one or more written tests designed to demonstrate his familiarity with these show prerequisites. Applications for All-Breed judge will not be accepted; the status of All-Breed judge may be attained only after a judge has been advanced to the category of 'Any Specialty' judge, together with the approval of the CFA Executive Board.

It is expected that each applicant will be so well known, and so highly respected for his background in the cat fancy that, having announced his intention to apply for acceptance to the CFA Judging Program, clubs and individuals who wish to recommend him will do so without pressure or undue influence. Club recommendations should be discussed at a regularly scheduled meeting and carry the signatures of the club President and club Secretary. Multiple recommendations stemming from one source will be treated as a single recommendation.

It is strongly recommended that all prospective applicants, Trainees and Apprentice judges attend as often as possible any CFA Judging Schools, and regional or other shows conducted by CFA judges in order to study and to obtain as much knowledge as possible through observation and participation.

INTANGIBLE REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICANTS.

The Executive Board of CFA is aware of its responsibility to its member clubs, to those exhibitors who patronize the shows licensed by it, and to the cat fancy, including those who pay to see the entries at shows, and the judging process. This responsibility includes the wise selection and retention of those held out by it as qualified judges. Although the applications of those desiring admission to the Program are informative, and give the Board valuable data upon which to base an informed judgment, in the last analysis, whether an applicant has the intangibles, as well as the more formal requirements to be a good judge, can only be determined in the judging ring.

For this reason, after demonstrating clerking abilities, including the use of the Summary Sheet, each Trainee will be required to judge color classes. This activity, under the eye of an Approved CFA All-Breed judge and the show officials, is partially for the observance of the ability of the Trainee to transfer his knowledge of the standards to the relative merits of the entries. However, the reports of the observers will cover much more than this technical knowledge. The ability of the Trainee to deftly and surely but gently handle the entries which are the loved possessions of the exhibitors who have entrusted them to be handled in the show, will be observed. The "presence" of the Trainee in the ring, his ability to dominate not only the entries,

but the spectators as well, is an important, but intangible ability. The presence of obvious judicial temperament is a valuable intangible.

Having filed an application as provided above, and having met the formal requirements, an applicant then must be judged by the Board on the basis of its opinion as to his possession of the intangibles. The presence or absence of these intangibles, and the experience necessary to possess them will vary in each individual applicant. For this reason, the Executive Board, based on its experience of many years in selecting those qualified to be judges, has set no fixed requirements to, for instance, the length of time a particular applicant has bred and shown a particular breed or color. If the applicant fulfills the requirements set out above, it is only necessary that he have such other qualifications as the Board in his case may deem necessary.

The names of those who have filed applications which meet the above requirements will be presented to the Executive Board of CFA at its first meeting not less than sixty days after the receipt by the Chairman of the Program of the applications including all required matters. Applicants will be accepted to the Program upon a favorable ballot vote of not less than two-thirds of the Board members present and voting. The Trainee, when accepted, is subject to all the rules and regulations promulgated by the CFA Executive Board, including those for the governing of the Judging Program. Trainees and Apprentice judges may be dropped from the Judging Program without notice or hearing for violation of any of the existing rules and regulations, and for violation of any which may hereafter be adopted. Each applicant for admission to the Judging Program, each Trainee, and each member of the CFA Panel of Judges will execute the following affidavit before being considered for admission or advancement, or permitted to function under this Program as a CFA judge:

"I do hereby agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of CFA, including the Show Rules, and Rules and Regulations of the Judging Program, including those which may hereafter be adopted, and I understand that failure to abide by these Rules and Regulations is sufficient cause for dropping me from the Program without hearing or notice if I am in a probationary status, or for the Board to institute disciplinary proceedings against me under Article VIII of the CFA Constitution, or both. I also understand that such violation may be a proper basis for failure to re-license me as a CFA Approval Pending or Approved judge, on the expiration of my license. In addition to the above mentioned Rules and Regulations, I specifically agree to be bound by the following, subject to the same penalty or action of the CFA Board as mentioned above.

"I will not criticize by act or word, in the show room or to anyone, the work or officiating of any CFA judge, and I will conduct myself in a manner which becomes an Ambassador for CFA and which will add to the dignity of this Association and to those who are its representatives. I pledge myself that no act or word of mine can properly be construed as damaging to the reputation and prestige which this Association enjoys. While in a probationary status, I agree to fulfill all the duties assigned me, and I further agree that when a member of the

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Panel of Judges, I will carry out all my obligations to the best of my abilities and I will be content in whatever category I find myself until advanced by a two-thirds favorable vote of the Executive Board members present and voting at a meeting of the Board."

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Signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me this..... day of..... 196.....
SEAL Notary Public.....

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The new application blank is designed to give the Executive Board much more information than any such blank used prior to this time. It is our hope that the new Judging Program information can be printed in booklet form, as it will include many things in addition to the requirements. Included in this booklet will be a sample of the application blank, delineation of clerking and color class procedures, together with recommended systems of catalog markings, Summary Sheet tabulations, a sample copy of the CFA Judge's Contract and sample copies of the report-forms used by officiating judges and clubs for the work of Trainees and Apprentices. This booklet will be available by late August of this year and will be sent to all CFA judges and Trainees as well as to any club or person asking for a copy.

Because of the many changes made in the Show Rules at the June meeting of the Executive Board, the Questionnaire for Judges will not be sent until a copy of the new Rules and Standards can be included with each Questionnaire mailed. This year, Rita Swenson will compile and correct the Questionnaire.

Louise Sample
Judging Program Chairman