

# Alpaca Canada Show Rules 2025 (ACSS)

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## **\*CHAPTER 1 – Alpaca Shows Defined**

**SECTION 1.** For purposes of interpretation, ACSS where used in this Manual, means the ALPACA CANADA SHOW SYSTEM and includes its successors.

**SECTION 2.** The Alpaca Canada Board can delegate an ACSS Alpaca Show Committee to work along with the Alpaca Canada Board of Directors in maintaining the Show Rules, by reviewing them on a regular basis, listening to membership input, and making any changes if necessary.

**SECTION 3.** Alpaca Canada’s purpose is to have a uniform show system with all sanctioned shows acting under one set of rules, and to give guidance to show committees.

**SECTION 4.** For purpose of interpretation, the Grievance Committee will be a panel of 5 nominated individuals in good standing with Alpaca Canada and who represent a minimum of three (3) provinces. All shall be approved by the Alpaca Canada Board of Directors and must have a good working knowledge of the ACSS Manual. They will have no conflict of interest with the author of a grievance. As a condition of their presiding on the Grievance Committee, they will be required to sign a statement of disclosure as well as take an oath of confidence to preserve the privacy of all matters of business of the aforementioned Grievance Committee. This committee will not be a permanent committee but one struck when a protest or grievance arises, and disbanded once a solution is reached.

## **\*CHAPTER 2 –Application to Hold a Sanctioned Alpaca Show**

**SECTION 1.** A club, association or individual must apply to the Alpaca Canada Office on a standard official form for approval to hold a sanctioned show. The application requires the date, location, and judge information. Application forms are available from the Alpaca Canada Office or online under Show System.

- a) Upon obtaining approval, show entry shall be open to all Alpaca Canada members without bias.
- b) Show management may limit entries due to lack of facility space.

**SECTION 2.** Any ACSS sanctioned application must include:

- a) A fee of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars to the Alpaca Canada Office for each show (halter, fleece or composite).
- b) Provide a list of names of the judges whom it has selected, from approved list in Chapter 3.B.1

If the ACSS Alpaca Show Committee declines the application, the license fee will be returned to the club, association or individual.

**SECTION 3.** The ACSS will not approve, sanction, be associated with, or be held responsible for any sale held either in conjunction with a show or as a separate event.

**SECTION 4.** The ACSS Committee and/or Alpaca Canada will not be responsible for any insurance liability claims as may be filed by any individual or individuals that may have cause to make such a claim against said club or association holding an Alpaca Canada sanctioned show.

**SECTION 5.** All clubs, associations or individuals holding alpaca shows under ACSS rules must have available at each event, through their show management committees:

- a) Copy of ACSS Manual which includes rules and regulation governing an ACSS sanctioned show.
- b) A scanner in good working order which is capable of reading the industry accepted standard of microchips which are required to be implanted in the alpacas.
- c) Notification and Replacement of Inactive Transponder forms, a small supply of microchips, and a microchip inserter.

## **\*CHAPTER 3. Participant Show Rules**

The following rules pertain to the responsibilities of the five major groups involved in the preparation and conduct of the show: SHOW MANAGEMENT, JUDGES, STEWARDS, EXHIBITORS, and VETERINARIANS. For a full understanding of the show rules, all persons involved in showing should familiarize themselves with all the material. The rules & regulations are in effect to ensure show volunteers and participants are aware of the expectations and conduct for various positions.

### **A. Show Management**

**SECTION 1.** A copy of the current ACSS Rules and Regulations shall be available on site. A show should be organized by the show management team according to procedures set down in the show schedule, as per the ACSS Rules and Regulations. Upon sanction approval Show Management is to provide a copy of the current ACSS Rules and Regulations and Canadian Breed Standards to the show judge(s).

**SECTION 2.** Show managers, stewards, recorders, gate stewards and any other show assistants whose role involves direct personal contact with the judge are eligible to have entries in the show. However, they should not personally exhibit any alpacas, acting as handler in the ring, at a show in which they are working. Any show management personnel who do not directly contact the judge may exhibit their alpacas.

**SECTION 3.** A member of the show management should be available at all times and be familiar with ACSS and the official functions of the show management.

**SECTION 4.** The show management shall ensure that alpacas and fleeces are entered and exhibited in the correct classes.

**SECTION 5.** Show management must post time and location of exhibit inspection at the show.

**SECTION 6.** The show management shall ensure that a show program is printed which records each class and details of every alpaca and fleece entered as exhibits.

**SECTION 7.** The show manager shall excuse an alpaca from being shown or excuse it from the premises if so recommended by the veterinarian or judge officiating at the show with valid reason.

**SECTION 8.** Show management shall be held responsible for the enforcement of all the Rules and Regulations for alpaca shows as set out by the ACSS.

**SECTION 9.** It is a requirement by ACSS that the show management, upon closing of the show on the published date, secure all judge's records and hold copy of records for a varied time period to allow for grievances. It is the responsibility of the Show Management to see that Alpaca Canada receives the winners information/Judges worksheet within 45 days in an approved format starting spring 2020 – see approved excel format under members/show committee area on A/C website

- a) The Show committee, NOT Alpaca Canada is responsible for posting of results on their individual websites.
- b) ACSS awards and result posting to AC website will be after A/C office receives and confirms results.
- c) Any correspondence sent to the office by email will receive a confirmation back, Please call the office or board of director is no confirmation is received.
- d) It is the responsibility of the Show Management to verify CLAA registration for each alpaca prior to commencement of the show or the show will lose sanction.

**SECTION 10.** Show management will establish its own cancellation and refund policy.

**SECTION 11.** Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of show management.

### **B. Judges**

Once the judge is known, it is the responsibility of the Show Committee to email the newest rules from the Judges section of Alpaca Canada sanction rules to the judge so there is no misunderstanding of expectations.

**SECTION 1.** Only those persons in good standing with and who are currently certified by at least one of the following shall be approved as judges:

- a) The Alpaca Owners Association Show System, otherwise known as the AOA Show System.
- b) The Australian Alpaca Association, otherwise known as the AAA.
- c) The British Alpaca Society, otherwise known as the BAS.
- d) The New Zealand Alpaca Association, otherwise known as the NZAA

**SECTION 2.** It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to prevent showing an alpaca before a Judge where the Judge was involved with the sale, brokering, promotion, breeding, training, management, or boarding of the alpaca within the last 12 months prior to the date of the scheduled show.

**SECTION 3** It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to prevent showing an alpaca before a Judge where the Judge has previously owned the alpaca.

**SECTION 4.** It is the responsibility of the Judge to excuse any entry from a class should they recognize said entry as being the offspring of a sire or dam that they own or have owned within 2 years of the scheduled date of the show.

**SECTION 5.** Immediate family of the Judge may not have entries in a show nor be a handler. However, they may exhibit fleeces at that show, if the fleece show is presided over by different judge. The immediate family of a Judge officiating at a fleece show may not enter fleeces, however, they may exhibit alpacas in the halter classes at that show in a halter class If presided over by different judge.

**SECTION 6.** The Judge shall not exhibit alpacas or alpaca fleeces at any show at which he or she is judging both alpacas and fleece. However, a fleece Judge may enter alpacas in halter classes at a show provided that he or she is judging only fleeces at that show. An alpaca Judge may enter fleeces at a show provided that he or she is judging only halter classes at that show.

**SECTION 7.** A Judge who, after agreeing to judge alpacas or alpaca fleeces at a show, receives an invitation to be the overnight house guest of any alpaca owner just prior to the show, shall make appropriate enquiry to establish whether that person intends to exhibit or handle alpacas or alpaca fleeces at that show, and shall decline the invitation if the person does so intend to enter said show

**SECTION 8.** It is the responsibility of the Judge to be knowledgeable and familiar with the current ACSS Rules. Judges are responsible for the correct interpretation and implementation of any and all ACSS Rules. A Judge is to be knowledgeable about Alpaca Canada's rules and regulations for the members and show committees for animal's colour classifications, fleece rules, class sizes, grooming standards and Canadian Breed Standard.

**SECTION 9.** On arrival at a show the Judge shall meet immediately with show management.

**SECTION 10.** Judges may after approval by show committee attend exhibitors function with designated official(s).

**SECTION 11.** A Judge must not view the official show catalogue prior to or during judging and show management must ensure that no opportunity arises for the Judge to see the show catalogue. The Judge shall refuse to examine any catalogue that comes to his or her attention by any means until judging is completed.

**SECTION 12.** No person other than the Judge, ring steward, and exhibitors in each class shall enter the show ring during judging without the express approval of show management and Judge.

**SECTION 13.** The Judge may direct the immediate disqualification and removal from the judging ring of any alpaca whose handler addresses or attempts to inappropriately address the Judge while the class is being judged, except in response to a request from the Judge.

**SECTION 14.** The Judge may, in his or her absolute discretion, direct the chief steward to remove an alpaca or person from the competition on the grounds of inappropriate and unacceptable conduct.

**SECTION 15.** The Judge may, in his or her absolute discretion, direct the chief steward to remove an alpaca/fleece from the judging ring on the grounds of unsoundness or being unfit to compete.

**SECTION 16.** Judges shall give oral reasons for their placements at the conclusion of each class.

## **B. Judges Continued**

**SECTION 17.** The Judge's decision shall be final. The Judge has the right to withhold any, or all, awards for want of merit. After a class has been judged in accordance with the ACSS Rules, it shall not be re-judged. A class is considered judged when the Judge has marked his or her class recording card, which must be done before the next class is examined. Any changes to the class recording card must be initialed by the Judge. No protest shall be made in relation to the recording card except on the grounds that a Judge has committed a breach of these rules. Any protest must follow proper procedures as defined in CHAPTER 9.

**SECTION 18.** A Judge may protest against an exhibitor in the case of an alleged infringement of these rules by lodging a written protest to show management within 24 hours of the event and/or the ACSS Grievance Committee as defined in CHAPTER 9.

**SECTION 19.** A Judge shall be supplied with recording cards for all classes on which he/she shall mark all awards and all excused or disqualified alpacas. The Judge shall be responsible for recording the number of entries in the class. The original Judge's records shall remain in the custody of the show management until completion of judging. If a Judge excuses or disqualifies an alpaca from a class, he or she shall make a note on the back of the class recording card giving his or her reasons for such disqualification or excusing.

**SECTION 20.** A Judge's decision, as marked on the recording card, cannot be changed by him or her after filing, if an error occurs a new card is to be introduced and have the Judge resign it. NO CARDS SHOULD HAVE ERRORS ON THEM.

**SECTION 21.** Judges must point out to a show committee if a person in the fleece room is communicating in a disrespectful manner or not keeping the confidentiality of their own personal fleeces. The penalty of this infraction is disqualification for these fleece(s) in question.

## **C. Stewards**

### **SECTION 1.** Chief Stewards

- a) At a time posted by show management, exhibitors must make their entries available to the chief steward for inspection. All Class adjustments shall be determined by the chief steward with final approval of the Judge when necessary. Show management shall be notified of any class adjustments. There may be more than one inspection steward who will report to the chief steward. Chief Steward will be the only one having contact with the Judge.
- b) Chief Stewards may not personally exhibit alpacas at a show at which they are officiating as a steward. However, they can have entries in the show. Someone else to be appointed to check in their alpaca(s).
- c) The steward's checklist for the inspection of alpacas shall include:
  1. General health and soundness.
  2. Microchip matching registration
  3. Correct colour, gender, age and fleece type for class entered
  4. Minimum mid side fleece length 2 inches, no maximum length
  5. Trimming is only allowed for facial region regarding vision & tail region to remove dung (Examples of trimming not allowed is for guard hair or leg shaping)
  6. Displays obvious disqualifying fault(s) as per the Minimum Breed Standards on AC website
  7. Shearing of animals must be done in health conscious way. When shearing animals that will be shown in the show ring, they shall be shorn to the skin everywhere on the body with the exception of the top knot, the tail, the lower legs below the carpus or knee joint on the front leg, and below the hock joint on the hind legs if the exhibitor prefers.
  8. Grooming shall be limited to removal of surface debris. Enhancements such as the use of sheens, dyes, and oils that compromise the true architecture of the fleece are prohibited. The alpacas fleece should display a natural growth pattern with no shaping or clipping other than top knots, tails, and lower legs below the front knee and

rear hock joint. Shearing lines above the knee/hock are to be considered leg shaping and may result in disqualification.

\* Failure to meet these criteria may result in disqualification by recommendation of chief steward to show management.

**Microchip Note:**

*If no microchip is found, a chip will be inserted at the show.*

*The "Notification & Replacement of Inactive Transponder" form to be filled out by the steward and sent in to CLAA by show management. If a chip is found but does not match the registration papers, supporting documentation needs to be available. If it is a reversal of numbers or an obvious clerical error the alpaca will be accepted and the exhibitor will be asked to correct this error with CLAA. If none of the above conditions apply the alpaca will be disqualified.*

*Show management may levy a fee to the owner of the alpaca in question for the microchipping service, the amount to be determined by show management.*

*(As of 2020, up to 3 microchips (if applicable), will be reflected on the CLAA registry.*

d) During the official inspection, the only persons present for the inspection of an alpaca will be:

1. The exhibitor or his/her nominated representative.
2. The chief steward or other inspection steward.
3. If assigned, a person recording and validating the inspection information.

e) The chief steward has the option to consult with the on call veterinarian if the health of the alpaca is in question. The owner may be present during the veterinary call.

f) If an exhibitor disputes the findings of the Chief Steward regarding colour classification, condition of the alpaca or disqualifying faults present, he/she may request a final decision to be completed by the Judge prior to the commencement of the show. The animal is taken by the Chief Steward and Owner before the Judge with the owner present in full show attire; this shall occur after the Judges address. In such circumstances, the decision of the Judge is final.

g) Any Show Steward shall be allowed to take the Judge for a meal as long as they are not showing animals in the show ring for that event.

**C. Stewards continued**

**SECTION 2. Ring Stewards**

The function of a Ring Steward is to offer assistance in ensuring the show ring operates in an efficient manner by assisting the Judge at their direction. Duties can include directing exhibitors to follow specified ring procedure, assisting the Judge and exhibitors with proper restraint of alpacas during hands on inspection to ensure safety and ensuring the Judge has ready access to class placement cards and ribbons at the appropriate times. Final duties and expectations of a Ring Steward are at the sole discretion of the Judge.

All persons accepting to act as a Ring Steward shall make themselves familiar with the ACSS rules which apply specifically to the position. They are:

- a) The Ring Steward(s) is present in the ring with the Judge during the duration of the show.
- b) Ring Stewards may not exhibit alpacas at a show at which they are officiating as a Steward. However, they can have entries in the show.
- c) The Ring Steward will assist the judge so they can complete the hands on evaluation safely.
- d) AT DIRECTION OF THE JUDGE - the Ring Steward will record on the placing cards the number of alpacas in the ring and the placement of the winners.
- e) The Ring Steward will follow the code of conduct.

**RING STEWARD CODE OF CONDUCT**

The following points apply to the conduct of a Ring Steward. A Ring Steward should:

- a) Prior to the start of the first class, discuss with the Judge their directions for ring procedure



- b) Convey the Judge's directions to the exhibitors.
- c) Not attempt to examine an alpaca during the hands on inspection process or inspect pulled fleece samples.
- d) Not follow the Judge when the Judge does their walk around assessment of the alpacas unless directly requested to do so
- e) Maintain a reasonable distance from the Judge while the Judge is contemplating the placings.  
If the Judge needs assistance, they will ask.
- f) Not offer comment or personal opinion of any exhibit to the Judge at any time.
- g) A Ring Steward is placed in a unique position where they may see or hear comments from a Judge(s) or to a handler which they otherwise would not be privy to. Therefore, they MUST provide complete confidentiality regarding all handlers in the show ring.

### **SECTION 3. Fleece Show Managers:**

- a) Shall **be allowed to** have fleeces entered in the show in which they are managing.
- b) Shall put fleeces in the correct colour class, the Judge shall have final say with any discrepancies. Fleeces shall be weighed using a single scale, which shall be present during the judging process to allow verification. **Noodled fleeces will be on ONE plastic sheet and be weighed with only the noodling sheet. Fleeces that are not noodled will be weighed in a single clear plastic bag.**
- c) Shall prepare the Judge's worksheets and make available to the Judge the micron and weight charts.
- d) Shall supervise the judging process and the scribes
- e) Shall ensure scorecards are filled out, signed and ribbons distributed accordingly.
- f) Are responsible for submitting final information to Alpaca Canada. Please see Chapter 3, A. Section 9 for full info.

## **D. Exhibitor Eligibility Requirements**

**SECTION 1.** All exhibitors must be current Alpaca Canada/CLAA members prior to start of a sanctioned Alpaca Canada show to receive any prize monies that may be awarded **directly from Alpaca Canada.**

**SECTION 2.** It is incumbent upon the exhibitor to read and be familiar with the entire document of the ACSS and the rules and guidelines contained therein.

**SECTION 3.** All exhibitors will be required to pay an entry fee per alpaca entered. The amount of the said entry fee will be at the discretion of the show management committee.

**SECTION 4.** All exhibitors must be the registered owner of the alpaca entered. If in transition of ownership, permission to show forms will be provided. This form is available on the Alpaca Canada website.

**SECTION 5.** It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to prevent showing an alpaca before a Judge where the Judge was involved with the sale, brokering, promotion, training, management, or boarding of the alpaca within the last 12 months prior to the date of the scheduled show.

**SECTION 6.** It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to prevent showing an alpaca before a Judge where the Judge has owned the alpaca.

**SECTION 7.** Immediate family of the Judge may not have entries in the show nor be a handler. Show management may not personally exhibit alpacas but they may have entries.

**SECTION 8.** It shall be incumbent upon the exhibitor to not enter any class where the Judge has/had ownership of the sire or dam of their entry within 2 years of the scheduled date of the show.

**SECTION 9.** An exhibitor or his appointed alternate who is unavailable to assist with the inspection of his or her alpaca(s) at the designated inspection time may have their entry disqualified.

**SECTION 10.** Exhibitors shall not engage the Judge in conversation until the Judge has completed his or her judging assignment.

**SECTION 11.** Exhibitors shall not enter or exit the judging ring after judging of a class begins, until judging of that class has been completed and awards for that class have been presented except with the consent of the Judge, or at the direction of the Judge or chief steward.

**SECTION 11.** In the case of prize winning exhibitors and their alpacas, all shall remain in the judging ring until the completion of the Judge's comments.

**SECTION 12.** The handler of an exhibit in the show ring shall remain with the exhibit until judging has been completed unless authorized by the Judge.

**SECTION 13.** The following dress code is recommended for all exhibitors in the show ring:

- a) Appropriate safe footwear (no open-toed shoes or sandals)
- b) No ranch, farm or personal logo or name shall be on the handler in the show ring
- c) Dark pants or skirt and white shirt or blouse.
- d) Black show halter and lead without any adornments.

**SECTION 14.** Every exhibitor and handler of alpacas at a show shall behave respectfully toward Judges, show officials, other persons involved in alpaca classes, and the general public during the show.

**SECTION 15.** Exhibitors must remain on premises until the show has finished at the published time. Early departure may be authorized at the discretion of show management.

**SECTION 16.** It is recommended that exhibitors should be 12 years of age to handle mature alpacas in the show ring.

## E. Veterinarians

**SECTION 1.** ACSS recommends having a veterinarian familiar with camelids on call in an official capacity for the duration of the show.

## \*CHAPTER 4. Alpaca Eligibility Requirements

**SECTION 1.** All alpacas to be entered in the show must be registered with the Canadian Llama and Alpaca Association (CLAA). A copy of the alpaca's CLAA certificate of registration (or official letter of recording) must be readily available at the show.

- a) Pending registration status is not permitted.
- b) Percentage purebred alpacas with CLAA certificates of registration are eligible to show.
- c) 0% and recorded alpacas are permitted.

**SECTION 2.** An alpaca may be entered either into full fleece halter classes; or the composite class; or the walking fleece class, but may only be entered in one of these classes at any given show.

**SECTION 3.** Every alpaca must be entered in the name of the person or persons of legal record who actually owns the animal at the time the entries closed. Permission to Show forms will be provided for those alpacas in midst of ownership change. These forms are available on the Alpaca Canada website.

**SECTION 4.** If an alpaca cannot meet the requirements of the steward's inspection checklist it will be disqualified. The steward's checklist for the inspection of alpacas shall include:

1. General health and soundness. The alpaca is "to be shown as is on the day of judging" and any previous injuries or circumstances which affect the presentation of the animal shall not be taken into account by the Judge.
2. Microchip matching registration.
3. Correct colour, gender, age and fleece type for class entered.
4. Minimum mid side fleece length
  - a) for halter class is 2 inches, no maximum length
  - b) for composite class there is no minimum and no maximum
5. Trimming other than top knot for vision and tail region to remove dung is not allowed (e.g. trimming guard hairs).
6. Displays obvious disqualifying fault(s) as per the Minimum Breed Standards on AC website.
7. Shearing of animals must be done in health conscious way.



When shearing animals that will be shown in the show ring, they shall be shorn to the skin everywhere on the body with the exception of the top knot, the tail, the lower legs below the carpus or knee joint on the front leg, and below the hock joint on the hind legs if the exhibitor prefers.

**8.** Grooming shall be limited to removal of surface debris. Enhancements such as the use of sheens, dyes, and oils that compromise the true architecture of the fleece are prohibited. The alpacas fleece should display a natural growth pattern with no shaping or clipping other than top knots, tails, and lower legs below the front knee and rear hock joint. Shearing lines above the knee/hock are to be considered leg shaping and may result in disqualification.

**SECTION 5.** An alpaca cannot be surgically altered for cosmetic or conformational correction.

**SECTION 6.** No ranch, farm, person or alpaca's logo or name shall be exhibited on the alpaca during the class in which it is entered.

## **\*CHAPTER 5. Halter Classes**

### **A. Criteria**

**SECTION 1.** The basis for judgment shall be according to the Minimum Breed Standards

The judge shall not give an award to any alpaca exhibiting one or more breed standard disqualifiers (congenital defects).

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**Please refer to Minimum Breed Standards  
www.alpacainfo.ca and click on CLAA Breed Standards**

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### **SECTION 2.**

- a) There shall be no minimum class size.
- b) Single entry classes are permitted.
- c) A judge may withhold placement with a named valid and consistent reason for any classes for lack of merit if deemed necessary, but must do so bearing in mind reasoning is to be done for all classes if necessary.

**SECTION 3.** The alpacas will be judged with the emphasis of 60% fleece and 40% conformation.

### **B. Halter Class Divisions**

**SECTION 1.** Show committees have the option to choose class sizes pending on size of show between two categories:

Classes of 9 entries or less shall be judged as a single class. When a class reaches entries of 10 or more it shall be split equally according to age (as defined in 5.B.2.c) or by colour (as defined in 5.B.2.e) with each split receiving awards.

**SECTION 2.** Classes will be divided as follows:

- a) Alpacas will be divided into huacaya and suri classes.
- b) Alpacas will be divided into male and female classes where applicable
- c) Age divisions for halter classes will be as follows and will be determined by the age of the animal on the first day of the show.

1. JUVENILES - 6 months to under 12 months
2. YEARLINGS- 12 months to under 24 months
3. TWO YEAR OLDS - 24 months to under 36 months
4. MATURE - 36 months and over

**NOTE:** Show Management may choose to restrict the number of age divisions and/or restrict entry to one breed type.

**d)** The colour classes are as follows (listed in order of judging):

1. Grey (Silver Grey, Rose Grey)
2. Black (Bay Black and Black)
3. Brown (Includes Light Brown, Medium Brown, Dark Brown)
4. Fawn (Includes Medium Fawn, Dark Fawn,)
5. Light (Includes Beige, Light Fawn)
6. White
7. Multi

**\*\*Multi's are to be included in all championship ranking to compete for Supreme Alpaca**

An alpaca is to be shown in the appropriate colour class, when it is predominantly that colour. The alpaca will be disadvantaged, at the judge's discretion, if it has any other coloured fibres present over the 3 cm. Judges are obligated to show exhibiter these coloured fibres present to explain reasoning of decisions.

e) All classes may be split into a light and dark class depending on the predominate colour at the discretion of the Show Committee and number of animals to make a class.

### SECTION 3. Colour Definitions

- a) A current CLAA Colour Chart shall be used for colour differentiation.
- b) An alpaca with a variation in shade within a specific colour group will remain within its colour group.  
Examples: A fading fawn that has light fawn on mid-side and fades to white would remain in the Light class. A fading fawn that has dark fawn on the midline and fades to light fawn would remain in the Fawn class.
- c) Multi class definition is an alpaca to be shown in the multi class if it exhibits two or more colours that are distinct and
  - i. instantly visible. The colour differences on an alpaca in show would be situated below the jawline and above the elbow joint of the front leg and the knee joint (stifle) of the hind leg. (see Appendix\_ "A" pg 19 )
  - ii. If an alpaca has a single spot at skin level less than 3 cm in diameter below the head and above the aforementioned leg joints, the alpaca will go into its predominant colour class Examples: As per the colour divisions in Section 2d,
- d) Medium fawn alpaca with a dark fawn spot would not be a multi.
- e) White alpaca with a brown spot 4 cm in size above the right shoulder would be a multi.
- f) Black alpaca with a white spot 2 cm in size on right shoulder would not be a multi.
  - i. A particular spot like these examples is to be excluded from the Judges critique.
- g) A predominantly grey alpaca is to be shown in a grey class, whether or not it has any other coloured spots present.
  - i. Grey alpacas may or may not exhibit a tuxedo front colour pattern. An alpaca that has minimal, not easily recognizable
  - ii. white fibres interspersed in its prime blanket fleece, is not considered a grey and goes into the appropriate solid class.
  - iii. Variations will be assessed at the judge's discretion.
- h) **When a colour falls in between 2 colours on the colour chart it will be placed in the lighter of the 2 colours except with beige to white. ONLY WHITE ANIMALS WILL COMPETE IN THE WHITE CLASS.**

### C. Class Procedure

Two options are available for ACSS Shows. Suris may use Level 2 criteria at a show where huacayas are using Level 1 criteria. All numbers apply to the number of alpacas that enter the ring on the day of the show. Distinct Colour classes are never to be mixed together to achieve class numbers

#### **Level 1 shows**

- a) Shows which can achieve at least 3 colour championships without combining sexes, and have at least 30 huacayas of each sex
- b) **Ribbons** will be awarded to a minimum of second and maximum of fourth place at the discretion of Show Management.
- c) **Colour Champions class qualifications**
  - i. A minimum of two 1<sup>st</sup> place class ribbons, either of same age or different, are needed to continue to compete for a colour championship for each colour category. If there is only one 1<sup>st</sup> place singular class, the winner proceeds on to the Supreme class without getting a Colour Champion ribbon. (e.g. Juvenile black females, yearling black females, two year old black female and senior black female would compete for Black female colour and reserve colour champion.)
  - ii. There is to be a minimum of 6 Huacayas and or 4 Suri's in a particular colour to have a colour champion class.
- d) **Supreme Champions class qualifications**
  - i. The minimum number of animals needed to award supreme is 30 Huacaya alpacas or 12 Suri alpacas in each sex and fibre type.
  - ii. The show management may wish to hold a pre-supreme round with only the 1<sup>st</sup> place winners to lessen the congestion for the judge with no ribbon presented to the winner who continues on to the supreme round. Winner then goes against the colour champions to vie for the Supreme Champion award.

- iii. All colour champions will come back to compete for supreme. If there is no colour champion in any category, 1<sup>st</sup> place winners in their class shall compete for supreme – see previous if applicable.
  - iv. Supreme Female Huacaya, Supreme Male Huacaya, Supreme Female Suri, Supreme Male Suri are awarded if numbers merit.
- e) **Optional Specialty Awards** may be awarded at the discretion of show managers and judges. These would be considered additional awards and not to be posted in the show results or conducted with any merit by ACSS.

## **Level 2 Shows**

- a) Shows that cannot achieve at least 3 colour champions (based on Level 1 minimums) without combining sexes and/or has less than 30 Huacaya of each sex.
- b) **Ribbons** will be awarded to a minimum of second and maximum of fourth place at the discretion of Show Management
- c) **Colour Champions class qualifications**
  - i. A minimum of two 1<sup>st</sup> place class ribbons, either of same age or different, are needed to continue to compete for a colour championship for each colour category. If there is only one 1<sup>st</sup> place singular class, the winner proceeds on to the Supreme class without getting a Colour Champion ribbon  
Example: The white class could have a male and female championship but the black may require a combined black championship. All first and second place alpacas in their respective colour and sex class shall return to the ring to compete for colour and reserve colour champion. If no first place is awarded in a class, the second place from that class is not eligible for championship.
  - ii. There is to be a minimum of 6 Huacaya and or 4 Suri in a particular colour to have a colour champion class.
- d) **Supreme Champion class qualifications**
  - i. The show management may wish to hold a pre-supreme round with only the 1<sup>st</sup> place winners to lessen the congestion for the judge with no ribbon presented to the winner who continues on to the supreme round. Winner then goes against the colour champions to vie for the Supreme Champion award
  - ii. All colour champions will come back to compete for Supreme Champion. If there is no colour champion in any category, first place winners in their class shall compete for Supreme. See previous if applicable.
  - iii. As males and females are mixed in a Level 2 show there is only one (1) Supreme Champion awarded
  - iv. There are to be a minimum of 6 Suri alpacas competing in a show to qualify for a Supreme Suri Champion
- e) **Optional Specialty Awards** may be awarded at the discretion of show managers and judges. These would be considered additional awards and not to be posted in the show results, or conducted with any merit by ACSS

## **D. Composite Classes**

**SECTION 1.** All halter class criteria, divisions, class procedures and qualifications above apply to Composite classes.

Colour designations shall be the same as for full fleece halter classes. In a case where a submitted fleece appears slightly darker or lighter than the actual alpaca, the colour designation shall be determined by the shorn fleece.

**SECTION 2.** Composite judging procedure:

1. Alpacas will be evaluated in a combined fleece and shorn conformation class.
2. Fleeces will be submitted to fleece stewards prior to entry into the ring. It is recommended that the show employ At least TWO fleece stewards for this task.
3. The fleeces are to be presented as per the preference of the Judge
4. The judge evaluates the fleece and the alpaca together in the ring, at the same time.
5. The fleeces are placed in the ring with the exhibitor number and the number of month's growth visible to the judge and in the same order as the alpacas enter the ring.
6. The judge assesses the fleece using the same criteria as would be used in a full fleece halter class. The fleeces are judged on a comparative basis within the class.
7. The judge assesses the alpacas in the ring using the same criteria as for full fleece halter classes (i.e. general conformation, soundness, and balance).
8. The judge then places the alpacas using a balance of 40% conformation and 60% fleece.
9. The fleece shown must be from the most recent shearing of the alpaca entered.

## **E. Walking Fleece Classes**

Walking fleece classes are designated as opportunities for exhibitors to compete in a fleece-style competition, where the prime fleece is scored while still on the animal in a halter class setting; highlighting the fibre production potential of the animals being exhibited. These classes may be held in conjunction with any halter show, provided show management has a designated ring of appropriate size; or as a stand alone show.

As Walking Fleece classes are time consuming, for larger shows Alpaca Canada recommends using two judges and two rings when holding a Walking Fleece competition in conjunction with a Halter or Composite show simultaneously on the same day; allowing for one judge to oversee the Halter or Composite show classes; and one judge to oversee the Walking Fleece classes. For smaller shows where only one judge may be present, Alpaca Canada recommends that if a Walking Fleece competition is being held in conjunction with a Halter or Composite Show but classes are being held consecutively.

**SECTION 1.** The following criteria, divisions, class procedures and qualifications apply to Walking Fleece Classes.

**SECTION 2.** Criteria:

- a) The basis for judgment shall be according to the Minimum Breed Standards.
  - i. There shall be no minimum class size.
  - ii. Single entry classes are permitted.
  - iii. A judge may withhold placement with a named valid and consistent reason for any classes for lack of merit if deemed necessary, but must do so bearing in mind reasoning is to be done for all classes if necessary.
  - iv. Non-breeding/gelded animals are eligible to compete, provided they meet all other alpaca eligibility requirements.
- b) The alpacas will be judged solely on their fleece, on an absolute basis as determined by fleece scores, as is the standard in all other fleece class divisions, not on a comparative basis as per halter class divisions.

**SECTION 2.** Walking Fleece Class Divisions:

- a) Show committees have the option to choose class sizes pending on the size of the show between two categories: Classes of 9 entries or less shall be judged as a single class. When a class reaches entries of 10 or more, it shall be split equally according to age (as defined in 5.G.2.c.) or by colour (as defined in 5.B.2.e) with each split receiving awards.
- b) Classes will be divided as follows:
  1. Alpacas will be divided into huacaya and suri classes.
  2. Alpacas will be divided into male and female classes where applicable.
  3. Age divisions for walking fleece classes will be as follows, and will be determined by the age of the animal on the first day of the show.
    - i. 6 months to under 14 months – 1st fleece – A
    - ii. 14 months to under 24 months – B
    - iii. 24 months to under 4 years of age – C
    - iv. 4 years of age to under 6 years of age – D
    - v. 6 years of age and over – E
  4. Colour Class Divisions: Same as in Halter classes, designated in 5.B.2.d
  5. Colour Definitions: Same as in Halter classes, designated in 5.B.3.

**SECTION 3.** Walking Fleece Class Procedure:

Level 1 and Level 2 show options are available for ACSS Shows. Suris may use Level 2 criteria at a show where huacayas are using Level 1 criteria. All numbers apply to the number of alpacas that enter the ring on the day of the show. Distinct Colour classes are never to be mixed together to achieve class numbers

- a) All the alpacas entered in a walking fleece class are to be judged consecutively, as per any halter class procedure.
- b) Each alpaca in the walking fleece classes is evaluated in the ring separately.
- c) For efficiency, a table may be placed in the centre of the judging area to create two judging stations, allowing the Judge to evaluate the first alpaca on one side of the table, and when finished, turn to the other side of the table to evaluate the second alpaca waiting there. After being evaluated, the first alpaca will then move away from the judging area to its place in the ring, to allow the third alpaca to take its place for judging.
- d) All alpacas in a class should remain in the ring until all have been evaluated.

#### SECTION 4. Rules Governing Walking Fleece Classes

- a) Each entry must be accompanied by:
  - i. Proof of Alpaca's CLAA Registration or a letter of 0% Recordation; pending registration is not allowed.
  - ii. Accurate date of last shearing.
  - iii. Method of Shearing (Electric or Hand)
  - iv. Accurate total days of Growth, as per the date the animal was last shorn, and the start date of the first day of the show.
- b) Show management shall provide adequate lighting for the judging of fleeces, calculators, scorecards, and appropriate stationary items required for adequate record keeping.
- c) The following positions are required per walking fleece class judge:
  - i. One Scribe
    1. To write the scores in pencil as the judge calls out points on the Walking Fleece judges worksheet for each entry. Will tabulate the scores as the judge concludes that fleece's scoring. The judge will sign each worksheet in pen.
  - ii. One Transcription Clerk
    1. Will take the judge's worksheet and will transcribe the information for each entry in the class, in pen, from the Judge's worksheet onto the Individual Scorecard for that entry. Each scorecard will be re-added by the Transcription clerk to verify accuracy of the scorecard. The scorecard is to be returned to the judge with the appropriate Judge's worksheet, and the judge shall sign the scorecard in ink.
  - iii. One Ring Steward
- d) Each exhibitor shall have their own scorecard.
- e) Each exhibitor shall be prepared to return to the ring with their animal for further evaluation in the event that they may need to be present, to break a tied score.
- f) Identification shall be the official exhibit number issued by the convenor at the time the exhibit is delivered for judging. No other identification shall be allowed on the scorecard or walking fleece exhibitor.
- g) ONLY scorecards and judge's worksheets from Alpaca Canada's office or website are to be used.
- h) A Walking Fleece show concludes only once all judging is complete, the worksheets and scorecards are verified, and the judge declares the Walking Fleece show complete. Completed scorecards and corresponding awards will be distributed by show management at a time to be determined by show management.
- i) Only the approved Alpaca Canada form for show results will be accepted starting in 2020 – approved excel format on show committee section of website.
- j) No animal under 6 months of age is eligible to compete in Walking Fleece classes.
- k) Fleeces with less than 2 Inches(50mm) of staple length at midside shall be disqualified.
- l) Animals with fleeces older than 14 months since shorn shall be disqualified.
- m) Maximum fleece length:
  - i. JUVENILE CLASS (A) – There is no maximum staple length for this age category.
  - ii. ALL OTHER AGE CATEGORIES – maximum of 6.5 inches (16.51cm).
  - iii. With the exception of suri fleeces, any fleece that exceeds maximum staple length will be disqualified.

#### SECTION 5. Awards and Qualifications:

- a) In order for a walking fleece to achieve a first place award in a class, the judge must award a MINIMUM score of 51 points. If no walking fleece in a class accumulates a minimum of 51 points, the class shall begin with a second place award.
- b) Walking fleece scorecards shall be provided for the judge by the show convenor, and are formatted individually for Suri and Huacaya fleeces.
- c) Ribbons are to be awarded to a minimum of second place and a maximum of fourth place, at the discretion of Show management.
- d) There is to be a minimum of 6 Huacaya or 4 Suri in a particular colour category to have a colour champion class, with a minimum of 2 first place winners in that colour category.
- e) Grand/Reserve Colour Champion Huacaya/ Suri –placings are then directly related to score awarded. Highest score in each Colour class receives Grand Colour Champion. If applicable Runner up receives Reserve.
- f) Supreme Huacaya/ Suri –placing is directly related to the score awarded. The highest score awarded of all the fleeces is the Supreme Champion. There are to be a minimum of 6 Suri fleeces competing to award a Suri Supreme Champion.
- g) Multis are to be included in all championship ranking to compete for Supreme Alpaca

## **F. Walking Fleece Scoring Criteria for Huacaya**

### **SECTION 1. Aims**

The aims of alpaca fleece judging are to provide a competition which recognizes those characteristics of alpaca which are desired by manufacturers, processors, and producers and enlightens those persons interested in the alpaca industry. The purpose of these explanatory notes is to enable all judges of alpaca to approach the assessment task using the same common information and standards. This should enable uniformity of judging.

### **SECTION 2. Maximum/Forfeited Points Awarded**

Fineness	20	Impurities Max Loss:	
Handle	5	Tender Fleece	
Uniformity of Micron	10	Excessive Debris	
Character (Crimp)	10	Matted Fleece	
Brightness	10	Rotten Fleece	
Uniformity of Colour	5		/-5
Uniformity of Length	10		
Density/Type	5		
Lack of Guard Hair	10		
	/85		

Forfeited points has been developed to allow for present impurities. In this method, the fleece characteristics allow for a top mark of 85, with fleece characteristics which may negatively affect end product detracting from this total.

### **SECTION 3. Explanatory Notes**

Explanatory notes are the same as per 5.E.3., Excluding Clean Fleece Weight.

## **G. Walking Fleece Scoring Criteria for Suri**

### **SECTION 1. Aims**

The aims of alpaca fleece judging are to provide a competition which recognizes those characteristics of alpaca which are desired by manufacturers, processors, and producers and enlightens those persons interested in the alpaca industry. The purpose of these explanatory notes is to enable all judges of alpaca to approach the assessment task using the same common information and standards. This should enable uniformity of judging.

### **SECTION 2: Maximum/Forfeited Points Awarded**

Fineness	20	Impurities Max Loss:	
Handle	5	Tender Fleece	
Uniformity of Micron	10	Excessive Debris	
Character (Crimp)	10	Matted Fleece	
Lustre	20	Rotten Fleece	
Uniformity of Colour	5		/-5
Uniformity of Length	5		
Density/Type	5		
Lack of Guard Hair	5		
	/85		

Forfeited points has been developed to allow for present impurities. In this method, the fleece characteristics allow for a top mark of 85, with fleece characteristics which may negatively affect end product detracting from this total.

### **SECTION 3. Explanatory Notes**

Explanatory notes are the same as per 5.F.3., Excluding Clean Fleece Weight.



## **H. Group Halter Classes**

### **SECTION 1. Get of Sire**

- a) Entry shall consist of three progeny by the same sire.
- b) Entry shall be made in the name of the sire.
- c) Sire owner's permission shall be required for entry in this class.
- d) There shall be only one group entered per sire.
- e) All progeny must have been shown in their appropriate halter class.
- f) Offspring must be from a minimum of 2 dams.
- g) The sire is not shown with this group entry.

### **SECTION 2. Produce of Dam**

- a) Entry shall consist of two progeny from the same dam.
- b) Dam owner's permission shall be required for entry in this class
- c) There shall be only one group entered per dam.
- d) All progeny must have been shown in their appropriate halter class.
- e) The offspring must be from 2 different sires.
- f) The dam is not shown with this group entry.

## **I. Youth Showmanship Alpaca Canada recommends that all shows offer a youth showmanship class**

**SECTION 1.** In this class, the young exhibitor's ability to showcase the alpaca is being judged. The alpaca itself is not judged. Judging and awards for youth showmanship will be at the discretion of show management.

**SECTION 2.** It is recommended that exhibitors should be at least 12 years of age to handle mature alpacas in the show ring.

### **SECTION 3. Class Divisions:**

- a) Junior Youth Showmanship - Exhibitor age: 5 through 12 years on the first date of the show.
- b) Senior Youth Showmanship - Exhibitor age: 13 through 16 years on the first date of the show.

## **\*CHAPTER 6. Fleece Classes/Shows**

This competition may be held at the same time as the halter classes but in a separate, secure area as designated by show management, or may be held as a stand-alone show.

### **A. Fleece Class Divisions**

**SECTION 1.** Fibre Type Division - Huacaya and Suri

**SECTION 2.** Age Divisions (i.e. age of the alpaca when it is shorn)

- a) 6 months to under 14 months - 1st fleece - A
- b) 14 months to under 24 months - B
- c) 24 months to under 4 years of age - C
- d) 4 years of age to under 6 years of age -D
- e) 6 years of age and over to E

**SECTION 3.** Colour Divisions: Same options as for halter classes

**SECTION 4.** Sexes shall be combined for all classes

### **B. Rules Governing Fleece Competition**

- a) Each fleece entry must be accompanied by
  - i. A completed entry form as provided by show management.
  - ii. Proof of Alpaca's CLAA registration; Pending registration is not allowed
- b) The fleece shall be presented in clear plastic bags and have the required exhibitor information included in the bag.

- c) Alpaca Canada will not be held responsible for loss or misplacement of the fleece.
  - d) The exhibitor shall be solely responsible for claiming their fleeces at the end of the show.
  - e) No fleece under 6 months of age is eligible for fleece competition.
  - f) Fleeces with less than 3 inches (76mm) staple length shall be disqualified.
  - g) Fleeces older than 14 months since shorn shall be disqualified.
  - h) Maximum fleece length:
    - 1. JUVENILE CLASS (A) - There is no maximum staple length for this age category.
    - 2. ALL OTHER AGE CATEGORIES - maximum of 6.5 inches (16.51cm).
 Any fleece that exceeds maximum staple length will be disqualified.
  - i) The show management fleece steward shall weigh each fleece, calculate for age conversions if required, check for correct classing, and provide fleece with a judge's scorecard identifying the fleece by ID number only.
- NOTE:** Weight to age conversions are calculated as follows: **Weight divided by number of days of growth, multiplied by 365.**
- j) Show management shall provide adequate lighting for the judging of fleeces, a weigh scale, calculators, scorecards, and appropriate stationary items required for adequate record keeping.
  - k) Confidentiality regarding ownership of fleeces must be maintained, and fleeces are to be disqualified if communication of any sort to the judge is in breach of this.

### C. Fleece Preparation – Instructions for Exhibitors

1. All fleece exhibits shall be the prime portion only.
2. Fleece must conform to the same quality and length of the blanket area and shall be skirted of all short, stained, and other fibre that does not conform to the same quality and length of the blanket area. Points can be lost for impurities: see section (j)
3. Once the fleece is determined to be free of parasites, it should be properly skirted. To do this all short, stained, and coarse fibre, as well as heavy organic contamination, should be removed. A fleece showing signs of parasitic infestation will be disqualified
4. A fleece shall be presented with cut side displayed out for Huacaya and cut side in for Suri.
5. If a juvenile fleece has been cria shorn, it must be shorn to the skin; the date of this shearing can be noted on the Fleece Identification form. If only the tips of the fibres have been trimmed, no previous shear date is to be noted.

Please do not wash or brush the fleece. Courses are available to help with the mistakes of poorly prepared fleeces

### D. Fleece Class Awards

#### SECTION 1. General Fleece Classes

- a) Fleece Colour Categories use same options as in halter classes:  
7 colour classifications (grey, black, brown, fawn, light, white, multi)
- b) Juvenile fleeces can be entered as either cria shorn, or not cria shorn. Cria shorn requires the cria blanket region be shorn **to the skin**, and this date can be used on the Fleece Identification form as the previous shear date. If the cria is not shorn to the skin, this is to be considered cria tipping and the alpaca's date of birth shall be used for the previous shear date.
- c) In order for a fleece to achieve a first place award in a class, the judge must award a MINIMUM score of 60 points. If no fleece in a class accumulates the minimum of 60 points, the class shall begin with a second place award.
- d) Fleece scorecards shall be provided for the judge by the show convener and are formatted individually for Suri and Huacaya fleeces.
- e) Each exhibit shall have its own scorecard and the scorecard shall remain with the fleece at all times.
- f) Identification shall be the official exhibit number issued by the convener at the time the exhibit is delivered for judging. No other identification shall be allowed on the scorecard or the fleece exhibit.
- g) **ONLY Scorecards and judge's worksheets from Alpaca Canada's office or website are to be used**
- h) Only the approved Alpaca Canada form for show results will be accepting starting in 2020 –approved excel format on show committee section of website
- i) Ribbons to be awarded to a minimum of second place and maximum of fourth place at the discretion of Show management.

**SECTION 2. Colour Champions class qualifications**

- a) There is to be a minimum of 6 Huacaya or 4 Suri in a particular colour category to have a colour champion class, with a minimum of 2 first place winners in that colour category
- b) Grand/Reserve Colour Champion Huacaya/ Suri –placings are then directly related to score awarded. Highest score in each Colour class receives Grand Colour Champion. If applicable Runner up receives Reserve.

**SECTION 3. Supreme Huacaya, Supreme Suri**

- a) Supreme Huacaya/ Suri –placing is directly related to the score awarded. The highest score awarded of all the fleeces is the Supreme Champion. There are to be a minimum of 6 Suri fleeces competing to award a Suri Supreme Champion.
- b) **Multis are to be included in all championship ranking to compete for Supreme Alpaca**

**SECTION 4. Optional Specialty Awards acknowledged by A/C**

Judge’s Choice	Best Lustre
Spinner’s Choice	Best Handle
Best Brightness	<b>Most Uniform Fleece</b>
<b>Spirit of Longevity</b>	<b>Advanced Fleece Award</b>

These awards may or may not be awarded at all shows. Optional awards are not based on final score awarded.

**E. Fleece Scoring Criteria for Huacaya**

**SECTION 1. AIMS**

The aims of alpaca fleece judging are to provide a competition which recognizes those characteristics of alpaca which are desired by manufacturers, processors, and producers and enlightens those persons interested in the alpaca industry. The purpose of these explanatory notes is to enable all judges of alpaca to approach the assessment task using the same common information and standards. This should enable uniformity of judging.

**SECTION 2. MAXIMUM/FORFEITED POINTS AWARDED**

Fineness	20	IMPURITIES MAX LOSS:	
Handle	5	Tender Fleece	
Uniformity of Micron	10	Excessive Debris	
Character (Crimp)	10	Matted Fleece	
Brightness	10	Rotten Fleece	
Uniformity of Colour	5		<del>-5</del>
Uniformity of Length	10		
Density/Type	5		
Lack of Guard Hair	10		
Clean Fleece Weight	<del>15</del>		
	<b>100</b>		

Forfeited points has been developed to allow for present impurities. In this method, the fleece characteristics allow for a top mark of 100, with improper skirting or damaged fleece detracting from this total.

**SECTION 3. EXPLANATORY NOTES**

**Fineness and Handle** - This reflects the degrees of actual fineness of fibre displayed, expressed in microns as well as taking into consideration various levels of softness.

When assessing fineness and handle consideration should be given to the age of the animal or class in which the fleece is entered.

**Fineness** –use Appendix “B” form for points (sent in your sanctioning package)

**Handle**-This assessment reflects the relative degree of softness displayed by individual fleeces taking into consideration the age of the animal and micron of the fleece.

Very soft 5 points  
Soft 4 points  
Normal 3 points  
Hard 2 points  
Harsh 0 / 1 points

**Uniformity of Micron** - This relates to the evenness of fineness/softness throughout the entire fleece.

Very even / Even 8/10 points  
Some irregularity 5/7 points  
Irregular 3/4 points  
Very Irregular 0/2 points

**Character (Crimp)** - This relates to the wave/crimp within the staple relevant to the fibre type.

Very well defined Crimp 9/10 points  
Good definition 7/8 points  
Average definition 5/6 points  
Poor/Plain definition 3/4 points  
Straight fibred 0/2 points

**Brightness** - This relates to the light refraction of the alpaca fibre taking into account breed type.

High 9/10 points  
Good 7/8 points  
Average 5/6 points  
Dull 3/4 points  
Poor 0/2 points

**Uniformity of Colour** - This relates to the evenness and regularity of colour throughout the entire fleece. **\*\*\*In the case of Multis, the evenness and regularity of its individual coloured areas shall be judged individually and given a score out of 5 points for the entire fleece. These fleeces are to be judged out of 100 points.**

Good Uniformity 4/5 points  
Some Irregularity 2/3 points  
Very Irregular 0/1 points

**Uniformity of Length** - Relates to the uniformity of length throughout the entire fleece taking into consideration commercial lengths over 12 months growth period. Note: make deductions for over long or short fleece.

Very even 8/10 points  
Some irregularity 5/7 points  
Irregular 2/4 points  
Very irregular 0/1 points

**Density** - This relates to the density of the individual staple formation throughout the entire fleece.

Very dense 5 points  
Good density 4 points  
Average 2/3 points  
Thin/without substance 0/1 points

**Lack of Guard Hair** - The fleece should be as free as possible from narrow/broad continuous medullated fibres, which appear as straight, generally coarser fibres. Age and class should be considered.

Free or nearly free 9/10 points  
Light content 7/8 points  
Medium content 4/6 points  
Heavy content 0 / 3 points

**Clean Fleece Weight** (use Appendix D Huacaya/Suri Fleece Weight Chart– sent with sanctioning package)

This relates to the percentage of properly skirted clean fleece (fibre) after removing all extraneous matter (dirt, grease, burrs, seeds, and dung tags).

NOTE: Fleece weights shall be scored relative to fleece weights presented in the competition. It will be at the discretion of the judge to withhold any score should the judge determine the fleece to be unacceptably light in weight.

Note: 1 kg = 2.2046 lbs. Assume 90% clean yield

**Impurities/Excessiveness** - Penalties to be applied for any of the following with a total loss of 0 TO -5 points

Tender Fleece  
Excessive Debris  
Matted Fleece  
Rotten fleece

Showing parasitic infestation is automatic disqualification of fleece

## F. Fleece Scoring Criteria for Suri

### SECTION 1. Aims

The aims of alpaca fleece judging are to provide a competition which recognizes those characteristics of alpaca which are desired by manufacturers, processors, or producers and enlightens those persons interested in the alpaca industry. The purpose of these explanatory notes is to enable all judges of alpaca to approach the assessment task using the same common information and standards. This should enable uniformity of judging.

### SECTION 2. MAXIMUM/FORFEITED POINTS AWARDED

Fineness	20	IMPURITIES MAX LOSS:	
Handle	5	Tender Fleece	
Uniformity of Micron	10	Excessive Debris	
Style	10	Matted Fleece	
Lustre	20	Rotten Fleece	
Uniformity of Colour	5		-5
Uniformity of Length	5		
Density/Type	5		
Lack of Guard Hair	5		
Clean Fleece Weight	15		
	<del>100</del>		

### SECTION 3. Explanatory Notes

**Fineness and Handle** - This reflects the degrees of actual fineness of fibre displayed, expressed in microns as well as taking into consideration various levels of softness. When assessing fineness and handle consideration should be given to the age of the animal or class in which the fleece is entered.

**Fineness** – use Appendix “C” form for points  
(See website member/show committee’s area)

**Handle** this assessment reflects the relative degree of softness displayed by individual fleeces taking into consideration the age of the animal and micron of the fleece.

Very soft 5 points  
Soft 4 points  
Normal 3 points  
Hard 2 points  
Harsh 0/1 points

**Uniformity of Micron.** This relates to the evenness of fineness/softness throughout the entire fleece.

Very even / Even 8 / 10 points  
Some irregularity 5 / 7 points  
Irregular 3 / 4 points  
Very Irregular 0 / 2 points

**Style** - This relates to the twist/wave within the staple relevant to the suri breed type. This assessment is based on the most desired lock for breeding. Although the majority of types/styles listed below would be satisfactory for processing, some are more desirable than others.

Ringlet type which starts twisting close to the skin. 9 / 10 Points  
Slight wave with twist starting close to the skin. 8 points  
Either above, which do not start its style close to the skin. 6 / 7 points  
Larger wave with slight twist. 4 / 5 points  
Straight with a slight twist on the end. 3 points  
Bold large crimp like wave. (Huacaya/suri style) 2 points  
Straight/plain with luster 1 point  
Straight/chalky – 0 points

**Lustre** is a quality in suri fleece that reflects the light

High Lustre 15/20 points  
Good Lustre 10/14 points  
Average Lustre 5/9 points  
Dull/Poor Lustre 0/4 points

**Uniformity of Colour** this relates to the evenness and regularity of colour throughout the entire fleece.

\*\*\*Multi class fleeces shall be judged on uniformity of colour within each individual coloured area, and given a total score for this attribute out of 5

Good Uniformity 4/5 points  
Some Irregularity 2/3 points  
Very Irregular 0/1 points

**Uniformity of Length** Relates to the uniformity of length throughout the entire fleece taking into consideration commercial lengths over 12 month's growth period.

**Note:** make deductions for over long or short fleece.

Very even 5 points  
Some irregularity 4 points  
Irregular 2/3 points  
Very irregular 0/1 points

**Density** - This relates to the density of the individual staple formation throughout the entire fleece.

Very dense 5 points  
Good density 4 points  
Average 2/3 points  
Thin/without substance 0/1 points

**Lack of Guard Hair**- The fleece should be free as possible from narrow/broad continuous medullated fibres, which appear as straight, generally coarser fibres. Age and class should be considered.

Free or nearly free 5 points  
Light Content 4 points  
Medium Content 2/3 points  
Heavy Content 0/1 points

#### **Clean Fleece Weight**

(use Appendix D Huacaya/Suri Fleece Weight Chart located on website under show committee)

This relates to the percentage of properly skirted clean fleece (fibre) after removing all extraneous matter (dirt, grease, burrs, seeds, and dung tags).

NOTE: Fleece weights shall be scored relative to fleece weights presented in the competition. It will be the discretion of the judge to withhold any score should the judge determine a fleece to be unacceptably light in weight.

Note: 1 kg = 2.2046 lbs. Assume 90% clean yield

**Impurities/Excessiveness** - Penalties to be applied for any of the following with a total loss of 0 TO -5 points

Tender Fleece  
Excessive Debris  
Matted Fleece  
Rotten fleece

Showing parasitic infestation is automatic disqualification of fleece

## **G. Innovative Fleece Assessment**

This competition allows for fleeces from a single grade to compete against other fleeces in a single colour category regardless of age. This highlights the importance of all fleece grades in production of end products. Micron counts for each fleece entered are measured at the show and based on the average micron reading of four samples from each fleece. Uniformity across the blanket of grade and staple length are emphasized in scoring.

### **SECTION 1. Show and Class Structure**

- a) There shall be a minimum of 36 fleece entries.
- b) A single fleece cannot be entered in IFA and a regular Fleece Show at the same event.



## SECTION 2. Colour Rules

- a) White fleeces shall not be combined with any other colour.
- b) If there are less than 12 fleeces in a single grade, only white and grey will be separated.
- c) If there are 12-20 fleeces in a single grade, these shall be split into White, Light, and Dark colour groups, with separate placings and awards for each group.

## SECTION 3. Colour Groups (Listed in Order of Judging)

- a) Grey
- b) Dark (Includes Black and Brown)
- c) Light (Includes Fawn, and Light)
- d) White
- e) Multi

If there are 21 or more fleeces in a single grade, all regular fleece show colour categories can be used.

## SECTION 4. Awards

- a) Awards are determined for each grade, and the colour groups within that grade. Placements are based on a final score determined by scores given for Fleece Traits and Management Faults
- b) There shall be no tie breakers; if identical final scores are achieved by multiple fleeces, there will be 2 fleeces of that placement. For example, 1 first place, 2 second places, 2 third places, etc..
- c) A minimum score of 60 points is required to award first place
- d) A minimum score of 70 points is required to award a Championship placement.
- e) A minimum score of 80 points is required to award an Advanced Fleece Award.

## SECTION 5. Championships

- a) Championships may be awarded to grades with more than 6 Huacaya or 4 Suri fleeces.
- b) Ties for Championships are to be broken by points from the traits in the following order:
  - i. Uniformity from four locations
  - ii. Visual uniformity
  - iii. Uniformity of Length
  - iv. Lack of fibres greater than 30 microns

## SECTION 6. Optional Specialty Awards Acknowledged by A/C

Most Uniform Fleece (by Grade)	Spirit of Longevity (by Grade)
Advanced Fleece Award	Best Brightness
Best Lustre	Best Handle
Judge's Choice	Spinner's Choice

## \*CHAPTER 7. Awards

### A. Ribbons:

Ribbons will be awarded to a minimum of second and maximum of fourth place at the discretion of Show Management.

Mandatory Ribbon colours are:

**First Place- Red**

**Second Place – Blue**

**Third Place – White**

**Fourth Place – Yellow**

## **B. Prize Money and Trophies:**

Prize money may be offered at a show at the discretion of show management. Trophies may be presented in addition to or in lieu of ribbons, provided that they recognize specific awards within the ACSS Show System and still show the A/C logo same as the ribbons.

**For the 2025 year Alpaca Canada is paying \$1000 to the Show Committee of each sanctioned Halter/Composite Show and \$500 to the Show Committee of each sanctioned Fleece Show to be used as needed in the production of the show.**

## **C. Titles on Certificates**

Members have the option to update their alpaca's registration certificates as their animals achieve Titles.

## **Information to be found on the website under Members area**

## **D. Annual Awards**

Alpaca Canada will be announcing annual awards based on a point system recognizing Top Alpacas, Top Breeders and/or Top Farms.

## **Please see more information on the website under Members area**

## **E. Cancellation of Awards:**

Individual:

During a show, if any award is revoked or cancelled, the alpaca judged next in order of merit shall be moved up one placing. If there is no alpaca to move up, the award shall be cancelled. Once the show is complete, if any award is revoked or cancelled, it shall not be rewarded, and original class placing will remain unchanged. It is incumbent upon the exhibitor to return revoked awards to show management within 2 weeks of notice.

Group:

If a Sanctioned show committee does not follow sanction rules, the sanction number can be revoked and all awards, titles, prize moneys will not be awarded.

## **\*CHAPTER 8. Show Program Requirements**

### **A. Show Program**

The Show Program shall contain the following:

- 1) Show Name
- 2) ACSS Sanction number
- 3) Location of the show
- 4) Date of the show
- 5) The name of the Judge
- 6) Program list which shall include
  - a. Class code number
  - b. Individual entry number
  - c. CLAA registration number
  - d. Date of birth
  - e. Name of the sire and dam
  - f. Name of the owner

## **\*CHAPTER 9. Protests and Dealing with Misconduct**

**SECTION 1.** Conduct which may be considered prejudicial to the industry may include but not be limited to:

- a) A demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge's decision, including refusal to accept an award or public discard of award.
- b) Altercations with officials or participants.

c) Abusive or foul language in public or mistreatment of an animal.

**SECTION 2.** Judges who are the target of abusive language and under whom an exhibitor refuses to follow their instructions, as well as being insulted with any suggestive language, gestures or request should report directly to show management. In addition, they may submit a grievance to the AC board or as per the following SECTIONS 3 and 4 as outlined for exhibitors.

**SECTION 3.** Exhibitors who have a complaint, protest, criticism, comment or suggestion shall direct all or any of the preceding concerns to the Alpaca Canada board as follows:

- a) Must be in writing and signed by the exhibitor who has an issue to be dealt with.
- b) Rational and complete description of events that transpired must be included as well as stating names of those witnessing the transgression, if possible, and who would attest to the fact that such an act of misconduct occurred.

**SECTION 4.** Said signed complaints, protests, criticisms, comments or suggestions must be postmarked within 15 days after the scheduled closing of the approved show and shall be held in the strictest of confidence.

**SECTION 5.** A fee of \$50.00 must accompany all written protests

**SECTION 6.** Anonymous letters of any critical intent will not be accepted or read.

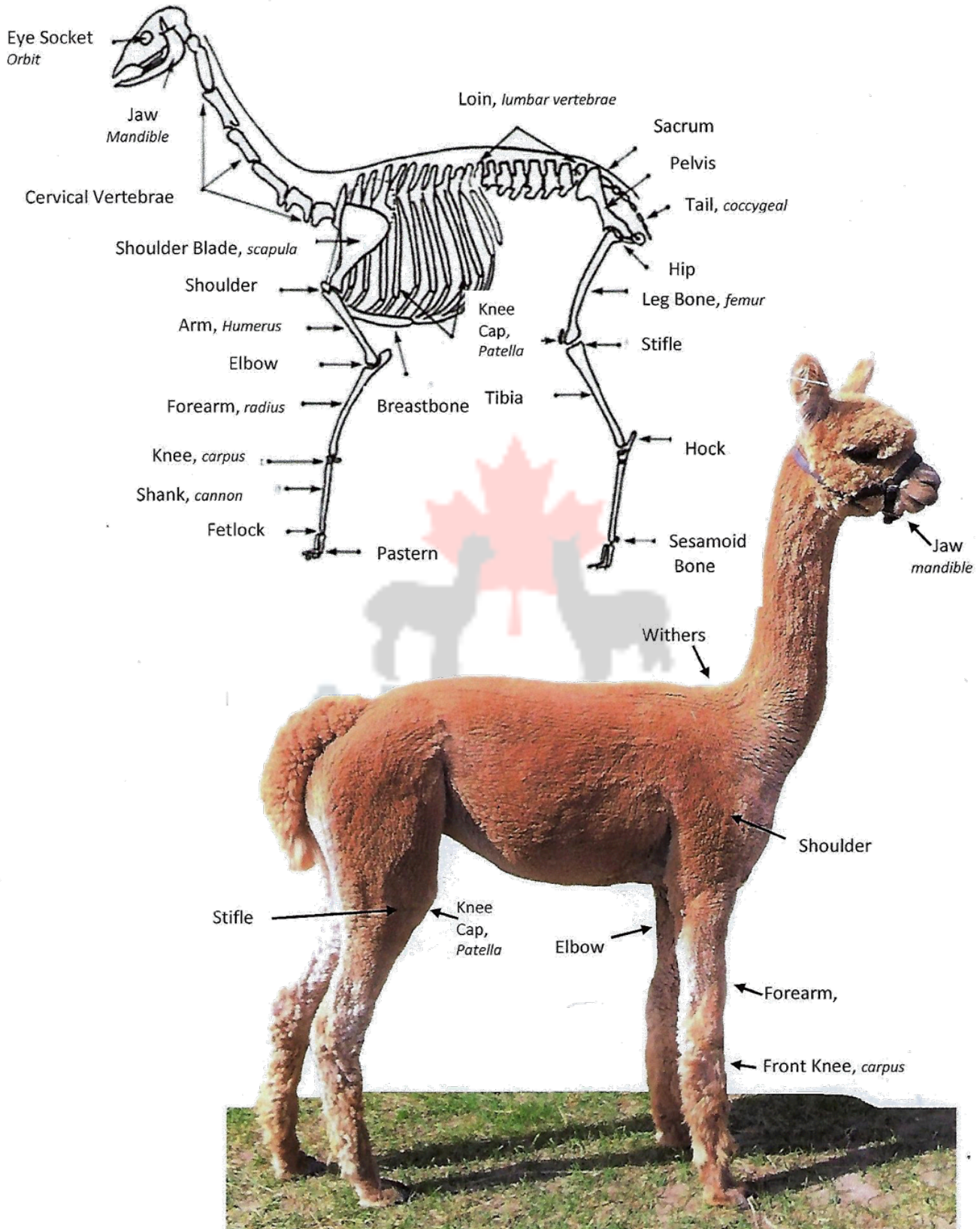
**SECTION 7.** All signed protests will be reviewed by the ACSS Grievance Committee and replied to by the Alpaca Canada Show System Grievance Committee in as efficient a manner as possible.

**SECTION 8.** All written and signed decisions handed down by the ACSS Grievance Committee will be final and absolute.

**SECTION 9.** Disciplinary action may include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- a) Show Management
  - i. Written warning
  - ii. Denial of future show approvals
- b) Judges
  - i. Written warning
  - ii. Removal from Alpaca Canada Approved Judges List
- c) Exhibitor
  - i. Written warning
  - ii. Points and or awards revoked
  - iii. Denial of eligibility to participate in any approved show or event.

# Appendix "A"



**Appendix “B”**

**Appendix “C”**

**Appendix “D”**

**Forms for catalogues/results of  
Fleece, Halter, Composite, Walking, Innovative  
Fleece Shows**

**Judge’s cards**

**Available by contacting Alpaca Canada at  
[info@alpacacanada.com](mailto:info@alpacacanada.com)**