

FORMAT AND RULES FOR THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BUDGERIGAR COUNCIL ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS

Format

The Australian National Budgerigar Council (A.N.B.C.) Annual Championship Show shall be conducted annually *from the Friday prior to the weekend commencing the fourth Saturday in May*. Every member body of the A.N.B.C. is invited to provide and exhibit a team of birds for the competition. Each team shall consist of a maximum of three birds per class (two for exhibition and one reserve), to be housed in the host State / Zone nominated secured area. No other entries shall be accepted whatsoever.

Each team shall consist of young birds owned and bred by exhibitors representing that State / Zone and must be rung with *one* closed ring of the appropriate colour and marked with the nominated symbol (as designated by the A.N.B.C. Secretary) for that year. No other rings, be they plastic or metal, are permitted on any exhibit. There shall be no entry fee charged for competing teams. Proof of ownership of an exhibit shall be the responsibility of the State / Zone which it represents.

A two day format *may* be adopted by a State / Zone with the number of classes being distributed over the two days at the discretion of that State / Zone. The adoption of classes for each day in a two day format is to be on an odds and evens system via the matrix, where possible and practicable. Two years in advance notification of the proposed show format (one or two day) is to be advised by each State/Zone.

On the morning of the show, two birds where possible are to be nominated by each State / Zone for each class on a form provided by the host State / Zone. Benching and judging commencement times are to be advised by the host State / Zone well in advance of the Show, noting that the judging commencement time is to be *no later than 10a.m.* on any given day.

Classes for the Show are:

1. NORMAL A.S.C. GREEN	2. NORMAL A.S.C. GREYGREEN
3. NORMAL A.S.C. BLUE	4. NORMAL A.S.C. GREY
5. BLACK EYED SELF COLOUR A.S.C.	6. LUTINO
7. ALBINO	8. CLEARWING A.S.C.
9. GREYWING A.S.C.	10. CINNAMONWING A.S.C.
11. SPANGLE DOUBLE FACTOR A.S.C	12. OPALINE A.S.C.
13. OPALINE A.O.S.V., A.S.C.	14. CLEARBODY A.S.V., A.S.C.
15. LACEWING A.S.V., A.S.C.	16. FALLOW A.S.V., A.S.C.
17. YELLOW FACED BLUE A.S.V,A.S.C.	18. SPANGLE A.S.V., A.S.C.
19. DOMINANT PIED A.S.V., A.S.C.	20. DANISH RECESSIVE PIED A.S.V., A.S.C.
21. CRESTED A.S.V., A.S.C.	22. HENS A.S.V., A.S.C.

Note: A.S.V. = Any Standard Variety (see Standard). A.S.C. = Any Standard Colour.

Show Rules

At least one representative from each competing State / Zone is to be in attendance to select, identify and nominate its team for competition. Teams may be finalised at the venue prior to the commencement of the Show (day 1), as there may be birds for selection from outside centres or borderline towns. Substitution of birds into a team after this time is not permitted. Excess birds are not to be housed with the team.

All entries within a class shall be judged from first through to last in view of exhibitors and the public. First placed bird gains maximum points last placed gains the minimum. Birds disqualified for whatever reason within a class shall gain no points.

If there is any evidence of trimming (other than spots), dying or bleaching of feathers or any other practice that is deemed to be not sporting in relation to the removal or inserting of feathers or any other activity, this shall cause reason for the disqualification of that exhibit.

A bird shall be disqualified if it is exhibited with a ring that has been tampered with. Note: other reasons for disqualifications relating to rings appear in para 2 of Format at the commencement of this document (Format and Rules).

The judges of any exhibit may initiate disqualification if in their opinion a breach as per the above or as per the ANBC Penalty and Disqualification clauses has occurred. This disqualification will be announced after consultation and agreement by the majority of at least 4 of the officiating judges to ensure absolute support for each of them. (Note: in some shows there may be more than two pair of judges officiating).

There shall be no avenue available for delegates, team carers or any other persons to lodge a protest or protests against the exhibits or the judging thereof at A.N.B.C. Championship Shows. On the question of merit, the judges' decisions are absolute and final. On the question of eligibility, if there is some doubt, all of the judges officiating on the day shall adjudicate and their decision shall be absolute and final.

An individual bird is eligible to be shown once only in a one or two day formatted Show.

General Rules

No variation in the base colour of the year ring is acceptable, as rings are purchased from the same source Australia wide.

Colour sequence is:

2008 Black
 2009 Red
 2010 Blue
 2011 Purple
 2012 Gold
 2013 Green
 2014 Black

All A.N.B.C. recognized rings which display the chosen annual symbol, be made available to fanciers in all States/Zones only through the State/Zone Ring Registrars of the Council, being Qld Nth and CEN Zone, S.Q.B.B.A., B.S.N.S.W., B.C.V., B.C.T., B.C.S.A., and W.A.B.C. No other bodies are to be supplied rings by the nominated ring supplier which display the chosen annual symbol. A.N.B.C. Member Bodies are to be responsible for the distribution of the coded and uncoded ring issue and subsequent orders.

The initial ring issue date is to be from the 1st of September annually. Each State / Zone has the responsibility to decide when it shall issue rings, initially and internally, but not prior to the 1st of September. As a guide, States/Zones are not to issue or post any rings ordered for distribution at the initial order stage, more than five (5) working days prior to the change over ring issue date.

All A.N.B.C. recognized rings which display the chosen annual symbol, be made available to fanciers in all States/Zones only through the State/Zone Ring Registrars of the Council, being Qld Nth and CEN Zone, S.Q.B.B.A., B.S.N.S.W., B.C.V., B.C.T., B.C.S.A., and W.A.B.C. No other bodies are to be supplied rings by the nominated ring supplier which display the chosen annual symbol. A.N.B.C. Member Bodies are to be responsible for the distribution of the coded and uncoded ring issue and subsequent orders.

The A.N.B.C. Secretary is to notify the designated / contracted ring manufacturer before April each year of the chosen symbol which shall be etched onto all rings distributed to A.N.B.C. affiliated societies. Each exhibit at the A.N.B.C. Championship Show must have the designated symbol upon the ring.

Judges

- Panels of two judges shall judge the AN.B.C. Championship Show.
- No more than half the number of judges are to be home State / Zone Judges.
- Half or more of the number of judges may be Interstate judges.
- Two judges may be appointed from a State/Zone if these judges are in partnership and A.N.B.C. accredited.
- No two Interstate judges can be appointed from within the same State / Zone unless they are in partnership.
- One International Judge may be appointed in any one year provided that the appointee is recognised by the World Budgerigar Organisation and [the use of an International Judge is limited to once only in four years. The once in four years limitation is effective immediately upon the first appointment of an International Judge post 2009.](#)

A list of eligible accredited A.N.B.C. Judges shall be made available to the host State / Zone annually by the A.N.B.C. Judges Panel Co-ordinator to enable selection of judges for the A.N.B.C. Championship Show under the current guidelines.

Judges appointed to the A.N.B.C. Championship Show must:

- (1) Have no exhibit in the event;

- (2) Take no part in team selection;
- (3) Be completely isolated from judging associated events conducted prior to or on the same day/s as the A.N.B.C. Championship Show.
- (4) Be totally isolated from competing teams of birds prior to and during the competition.
- (5) Not be used more than twice in any seven year period.
- (6) Judge in accordance with the A.N.B.C. Judges Code of Performance.
(and the Format for National Shows)

Judges' expenses that **MAY** be borne by the host State / Zone are as follows:
Accommodation for Friday, Saturday and Sunday;
Complimentary admission to all activities during this period;
Transportation.

Note: None of the above can be presumed.

Host State/Zone

The host State / Zone shall provide a venue for the competition, together with A.N.B.C. Standard Show cages for visiting teams.

The A.N.B.C. through the host State / Zone shall provide trophies for the class winners.

The host State / Zone shall provide a rosette / ribbon or a similar award for every bird in every class.

The host State / Zone shall provide three (3) 1500mm holding cages for each team represented. These three cages will be assembled in a block with a secured cover over the face to create a secured habitat for the individual teams. Each of the cages is to be of standard size as depicted by the attached drawings and are to contain six (6) perches together with feed, grit and water containers. Each 'individual' holding cage is to have two (2) removable partitions (slides) to facilitate the handling of birds i.e. 3 cubicles per holding cage or 9 per the complete unit when all slides are in place.

Note: Guidelines for conducting A.N.B.C. Championship Shows and Associated Events are attached at the end of this document.

The host State / Zone shall provide mixed seed for all holding cages and show cages. The mixed seed to be of a premium budgerigar mix.

Adequate facilities to hold visiting teams with flying space after the A.N.B.C. Championship Show should be provided for a period of up to forty eight (48) hours until the visiting teams depart, if the facility is requested 3 months in advance.

The host State / Zone shall ensure that general entry to the nominated secured area (bird holding area) is restricted to four (4) representatives (bird handlers/carers) from each State / Zone by the issue of an appropriate pass. States/Zones have the ability to nominate up to four carers for the birds for the nationals. The fourth nominee is only to be permitted access to the bird holding area on the Friday prior and the Monday following

the competition. Special entry to this area by interested persons shall be at the sole discretion of the host State / Zone show manager and if granted, they shall be accompanied by a designated person from the host State/Zone.

The host State / Zone shall advise all visiting States / Zones of any travel concessions arranged for teams.

The host State / Zone shall provide judging stands suitable for the exhibits to be benched on two levels. It is desirable that judging stands at the A.N.B.C. Championship Shows be adjustable for height and have fixed shelving. This shelving should have a raised rear lip but no front lip.

The cage number sticker / award placement number is to be placed on the right hand side of the bottom rail of the show cage and an identification sticker placed on the left hand side of the bottom rail when viewed from the front.

The host State / Zone shall arrange the itinerary for the event to encompass Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday to allow **FULL TIME** for the A.N.B.C. Sub-Committee meetings, Judges Panel examinations, the A.N.B.C. Championship Show (one or two day) and the A.N.B.C. Annual Meeting on the Monday.

- **A one-day show** - a local show on the Saturday, the A.N.B.C. Championship Show on the Sunday.
- **A two-day show** -the judging of all classes of the A.N.B.C. Championship Show on the Saturday and Sunday (see **Format** above),

The host State / Zone shall supply at least one isolation cage per team and have veterinary assistance available to the state teams.

The host State / Zone shall reserve twenty-two (22) seats at the front of the viewing gallery of the A.N.B.C. Championship Show, three (3) per State / Zone being for their representatives and one (1) for the veterinary surgeon.

Shield

An A.N.B.C. Championship Show shield is to be provided for the competition. This shield is to be perpetual and engraved with the name of the annual winning State / Zone. The cost to be borne equally by the member bodies.

New Member Bodies

Any new member body must be a State / Zone and must make application to the A.N.B.C. for membership. When membership is accepted, the new member body must participate in the competition for three (3) consecutive years to qualify as a host for the A.N.B.C. Championship Show.

Attachment:

1. Guidelines for Conducting A.N.B.C. Championship Shows and Associated Events.

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING A.N.B.C. ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW AND ASSOCIATED EVENTS

Venue

- The venue is the priority. It should have an area of at least 500 sq metres for the judging area and gallery. Anything larger is a bonus as the gallery varies from zone to zone, with as many as 100 to 250 people watching the judging. As a guide, one basketball court with one metre surrounds, is 510 sq metres.
- Another area of approx 100 sq metres is required in close proximity for the holding cages/aviaries.
- The whole venue should have plenty of light, natural or artificial. Preferred lighting at the National Competition Show is daylight natural light. If this is not available a non spotlight artificial daylight equivalent should be used.
- No less than 2 metres of space between aisles when birds on display.
- Ample aisle space in judging auditorium – remember judging may take in excess of 4 hours and people will want to move around.
- Good viewing conditions during the show, i.e. raised judges dais – or tiered seating in auditorium – or TV monitors.
- Seating accommodation for at least the number of registrations received.
- Score board, (fixed, portable or electronic) large enough to be seen by all and be displayed in a suitable position.
- Uniform two tier judging stage.
- Uniform approach to methods of judging i.e. from left to right on both tiers, etc
- Adequate training of Stewards to expertly move birds as required.
- Training of a head steward to take particulars of placings for the scorers.
- It is preferred that judging commence at 9:30am but not later than 10.00am on show day (s). That surely allows enough time for birds to be selected, prepared and caged as well as settling down for the first two classes.

- Sheets with each zone cage numbers can be issued to spectators once judging has commenced. This will make it easier to name the winning exhibitor for record purposes and to extend congratulatory remarks.
- A good PA system is necessary and other electronic enhancements add value to the event.

Viewing Time

- The minimum viewing time should be 1 ½ hours. Again, people have paid a lot of money to see the exhibits.
- The zone delegates/representatives should have first access to the birds for photographs and slides to be taken. Approximately 1/2 hour is needed before the general public is permitted to take photographs.
- There should be no lectures, presentations or activities programmed for immediately after the Show. i.e. during viewing time.
- Apart from the show, the venue should have some facilities for food and drinks, not necessarily hard drink, as people are going to be there all day and will be looking for something during the day.
- Holding cages/aviaries to be adequate size and if possible to be positioned so they have natural light and ventilation.
- Sufficient room and bench space for each team to prepare birds prior to the show.
- If at all possible, the venue and the accommodation should be under one roof. Where this is not possible, a regular shuttle bus service between accommodation and show venue should be available.
- If an ideal venue, visitors not using the accommodation cannot or should not expect to be brought to the venue from all over the city. However, they should be met on arrival.
- The needs of the bird carers should be given particular attention i.e. meals, where because of their duties they are unable to access what is available to other fanciers. Transport arrangements should be made, where transport to the team venue is necessary. Carers should not have to make their own way to the venue simply because they need to travel at early/late times.
- Host State to organize with sponsor airline the return of birds to home states or zones for minimal costs. (Only applicable if birds return unaccompanied)
- Making videos, photographs and slides available is something to be commended.

Tours

- Family members not interested in budgies should be catered for, so that everybody enjoys "the Nationals". States/Zones have benefited from giving out a handout with a list of possible tours and activities in the year prior to the show.

Social Events

- These events contribute enormously to the meeting and mixing of people from all over the country and overseas. It is a belief that tours and other social events need just as much planning and attention to detail, as putting on the Championship Show. It is particularly desirable that advertised descriptions of tours should reflect the reality of the actual tour, otherwise people will feel let down and disappointed.