

The meeting of the Judges Committee was called to order by Committee Chair, Fran Soukup, at 7:03 PM CST on February 29, 2024. Nick Hauptly, Fran Soukup, Jerrika Mumford, Cathie Kindler, and Tami Lash were in attendance. Tor Sorensen joined the call at 7:13 PM.

Cathie motioned to approve the agenda, Jerrika seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes for the January meeting were approved via email and are posted on the ILR website.

Old Business:

The committee discussed the Open Book Test which was due on February 28th. Fran recognized Nick for an outstanding job managing the open book test. All active judges and apprentices submitted their open book test by the due date. The committee discussed some lower scores and if any action should be taken. The committee agreed that there is no requirement to obtain a certain score in the guidelines. Fran suggested contacting the judges/apprentices and asking them to review the guidelines before their next judging assignment. Fran will write an email. Cathie motioned to approve Fran emailing judges/apprentices that scored below 85%. Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jerrika discussed the On-Demand Judges training. She recently received a presentation on showmanship from Kohl and is working on finalizing it. She has contacted others for updates on their projects. Nick suggested a website for recording presentations.

The committee sent a survey regarding performance to help assess issues around performance scoring. Nick discussed the survey results. There were some questions with agreement between many judges/apprentices and some questions with a lot of differences. There didn't seem to be any specific trends (region/age/gender/certifying clinic). Tami suggested sending something out to the judges/apprentices list to help educate on the areas of concern. Tami will contact MaryJo regarding information recently sent regarding performance to the ALSA judges list.

The committee discussed the next newsletter. The committee agreed to discuss the performance survey and address the performance concerns in the newsletter. Nick will work on the newsletter for the committee to review and vote on via email. Fran suggested reaching out to the superintendent committee to discuss the opportunity for superintendents to complete evaluations on judges they hire.

The Indiana Judging Clinic at Mark Smith Farms was approved by the Governing Board at their recent meeting. The clinic will be held in May.

Apprentice Reflection Form will be brought forward to the Governing Board at the next Governing Board meeting.

New Business:

The committee discussed payment of judges dues. There was one apprentice who dropped off the list for nonpayment. Fran will email the apprentice with the guidelines on recertification if they are interested for next year.

The committee received an email for a proposed Fleece Clinic. Amanda Wick sent information, including a schedule and budget. She believes there is enough interest to cover the costs. Fran would be the Advanced Teaching Judge. Tami motioned to approve the proposed fleece clinic. Nick seconded. Motion

passed unanimously. Fran will take it to the Governing Board for approval and inform the fleece committee.

Nick and the ILR Office Manager, Susan, discovered a possible issue with an apprentice. The issue highlighted a clarification needed within the guidelines regarding the penalty for non-payment and the path to recertification. Fran suggested re-writing the guidelines on page 10 and 15 to clarify the clinic needs to be in the area in which they were previously certified.

The next meeting was set for April 4th at 7 pm central standard time. Cathie motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tami seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Adjourned at 8:03 PM CST.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerrika Mumford