

## ~RABBIT SHOW BASICS~

If you are new to ARBA rabbit showing, you probably have many questions – to help you along, we've put together some rabbit show basics. The first thing you should do is get a **Rabbit Show Catalog** (find shows at [www.arba.net](http://www.arba.net) and call or write show secretary for a show catalog). The show catalog will tell you if the show is a Pre-Entry Show or a Day-of-Entry Show, plus give lots more info like; entry deadlines, location/directions, contact people, starting time and starting breeds (breeds judged first) **Good luck at the show!**

### ENTERING THE SHOW

- ♣ **Each exhibitor must fill out a separate entry form**- entry forms can be found in your **show catalog**, (you can usually copy it) our website ([www.lopsandcavies.com/](http://www.lopsandcavies.com/)), through rabbit pedigree software, or through the ARBA website ([www.arba.net/](http://www.arba.net/))
- ♣ Exhibitors that are adults (age 19 or over) must show in OPEN against other adult (open) exhibitors
- ♣ Exhibitors who are at least 5 and under age 19 (not yet 19) are YOUTH, *but can show in OPEN if they want*
- ♣ Rabbits entered *under your name* must be owned by YOU
- ♣ All rabbits must have a permanent, readable tattoo in their LEFT ear!
- ♣ For most local shows (but check your catalog) you don't need to be a rabbit club or ARBA member to enter the show (but your points earned won't count unless you are a member), and your rabbits *do not* need to be registered, pedigreed or even purebred. You can enter as many rabbits in a class as you want but each rabbit can only be shown *one time* at each show.
- ♣ Remark cards are used to record your rabbit's show placement at the judging table. Most shows require you to turn in (with your entry form) one remark card for each rabbit you enter. You can get remark cards from ARBA, rabbit supply stores, or at the show.
- ♣ **Pre Entry Shows:** mail or submit your entry forms, remark cards and entry fees **by the deadline listed in your show catalog**.
- ♣ **Day of Entry Shows:** turn in your entry forms, remark cards and pay your fees **the morning of the show** (day of entry shows may require you to enter by a certain time in the morning – check your show catalog so you are on time!)

### AT THE SHOW

- ♣ Pay attention to when your breed is called. Sometimes breeds are announced over public-address systems, sometimes the next few breeds will be written on a sign posted near each judging table and updated thru the day. Ask around if you are not sure!
- ♣ **JUDGING ORDER: Breed variety or group classes** – most are judged in alphabetical order, example: in Polish, first *blacks* are shown, then *blue*, then *broken*, etc. If your breed only has solid and broken as groups, usually all the solids are judged first. (there are a few exceptions – check the Standard of Perfection to be sure.)
- ♣ **JUDGING ORDER: In every variety or group class, rabbits are judged in the following order:** 1) senior bucks 2) senior does 3) intermediate bucks 4) intermediate does (IF your breed has an intermediate class) 5) junior bucks 6) junior does
- ♣ When your rabbit's class is called, promptly put your rabbit in a box or coop at the judging table- *don't go behind the table though*
- ♣ Watch any rabbits in front of you to make sure they stay inside their judging boxes or coops – loose rabbits distract the judge!
- ♣ Some etiquette: don't talk during judging, don't go behind the judging tables, don't point out/talk about your rabbit to the judge
- ♣ The judge will inspect, pose and judge your rabbit – listed carefully to his/her comments
- ♣ The 'writer' will record your rabbit's placement and comments on the remark card and leave your copy on the writer's desk
- ♣ Promptly take your rabbit off the table if he/she doesn't win the class. *Always congratulate the winner!* ☺
- ♣ Class winners stay to compete against other breed class winners for Best of Variety (BOV) or Group (BOG) and Best of Breed.
- ♣ You can usually leave the show when you are finished showing all your rabbits – don't forget to take your remark card copies and stop at the desk to get your ribbons or awards (If you've entered a 'cooped show' check with show committee before you leave)
- ♣ If you won **Best Of Breed (BOB)** (congrats!!!) don't leave yet- stay for the Best In Show (BIS) competition later in the day!

### AFTER THE SHOW

About a month after the show, your 'exhibitor show report' (how you did/points earned) will be available for you to pick up – usually at the next few local rabbit shows in your area (ask at the show desk). If you don't pick it up in person, it will eventually be mailed to you. We encourage you to join rabbit clubs –an important club to join is The American Rabbit Breeders Association ([www.arba.net](http://www.arba.net)), plus join your breed clubs, state rabbit clubs and local rabbit clubs. *You can find clubs through the ARBA website.*

*We hope your first rabbit show was fun! After only a few shows you'll feel right at home, and make some new friends!*