

# 2012 AOBA CERTIFIED FLEECE COMPETITIONS

## AOBA Fleece Judging System

In the AOBA Fleece Judging System, fleeces are judged individually against the AOBA Fleece Judging Scorecard and are judged anonymously. Fleeces are judged by comparing them to an ideal fleece, which is expressed by a perfect score of 100 on the AOBA Suri or Huacaya Fleece Scorecard. The Scorecard is divided into sections, with each section describing a particular fleece characteristic and the maximum number of points allocated for the ideal of that characteristic. A fleece is evaluated for each characteristic and a number of points are assigned according to how close it comes to the ideal. The scores from all sections are then added to give the total score for the fleece. The fleece with the highest score wins the class.

Four categories fall under AOBA's Fleece Competitions:

Fleece Show Competition

Handcrafter's Spin-Off Competition

Cottage Fleece Competition

Auxiliary Fleece Competition (Refer to Part 15, Appendix B)

## Section 1. Fleece Show

### A. Show Format

1. Fleece Show levels – The level of show shall be determined by adding the total number of Huacaya entries with the total number of Suri entries for a combined total for the show and rules for the determined level of show shall apply equally to Huacaya and Suri.
  - a. Level I – 36 to 74 fleeces
  - b. Level II – 75 to 174 fleeces
  - c. Level III – 175 to 349 fleeces
  - d. Level IV – 350 or more fleeces
2. All Fleece Show levels:
  - a. Must use AOBA Certified Judge
  - b. Must have a minimum of 5 individual breeders or farms with a minimum of 36 total entries and must maintain three age divisions
  - c. Huacaya and Suri shall be shown separately.
  - d. Must offer a minimum of eight Color Groups (see Fleece Show Color Rules)
  - e. When entries of a particular color designation do not result in a minimum of four entries per age, the classes within a Color Group may be combined with other classes of the same age in the closest color designation within that Color Group to form a class.
  - f. Any color designation may be shown as a separate class when four or more fleeces of one age division are entered within that color designation. Color designations refer to the specific color (for instance LF = Light Fawn, etc.).
  - g. Maximum class size per color designation is 15; classes of 16 or more must be split into equal size class by age. When this rule is exercised, separate awards must be given.
  - h. A class containing a single color designation cannot be split until it exceeds the maximum class size of 15; classes of 16 or more must be split into two classes of equal size, and divided by age. When this rule is exercised separate awards must be given.

3. Level I, II, and III:

- a. Huacaya and Suri shall be shown separately.
- b. Must maintain three age divisions (A, B and C) based on age at time of shearing:
  - 1) [A] = 6 through 12 months (juvenile)
  - 2) [B] = First birthday through 24 months (yearling)
  - 3) [C] = Second birthday and older (two-year-old and older)
  - 4) [D] = Third birthday through 60 months (adult) (optional)
  - 5) [E] = Fifth birthday and older (mature) (optional)
- c. Assemble classes as follows:
  - 1) First, divide by breed type
  - 2) Second, divide by age division
  - 3) Third, divide by Color Group, following rules for Championship minimums as stated in Halter Rules, Color Championship Classes
  - 4) Last, divide by single color designation, if possible
- d. Exhibitor Rule: The owner may enter only three alpacas per breed type, per age division, per color designation. (Example: An owner may enter a maximum of three Suri juvenile dark fawns and three Suri juvenile medium fawns. If the show combines color designations or color groups, then properly entered alpacas may still exhibit even though the owner would have more than three alpacas in the combined class):
  - 1) Take care if single color designations are split into two or more classes due to the maximum class size rule. Regardless of the number of classes due to a split for a single color designation, the Exhibitor Rule of three per color designation is applicable.
  - 2) In the event that an alpaca's color designation is changed as a result of the color compliance process, the Exhibitor Rule of three entries applies. Example: An owner enters three Huacaya juvenile whites and one Huacaya juvenile beige in the Fleece Show. During compliance check, the beige juvenile Huacaya is reclassified as a white juvenile Huacaya. One of the resulting four white entries must be scratched in order to comply with the Exhibitor Rule.

4. Level IV (350 or more fleeces):

- a. Huacaya and Suri shall be shown separately.
- b. Males and females shall be shown separately.
- c. Age divisions based on age at time of shearing:
  - 1) [A] = 6 through 12 months (juvenile)
  - 2) [B] = First birthday through 24 months (yearling)
  - 3) [C] = Second birthday and older (two-year-old and older)
  - 4) [D] = Third birthday through 60 months (adult) (optional)
  - 5) [E] = Fifth birthday and older (mature) (optional)
- d. Assemble classes as follows:
  - 1) First, divide by breed type
  - 2) Second, divide by gender
  - 3) Third, divide by age division
  - 4) Fourth, divide by Color Group, following rules for Championship minimums as stated in Halter Rules, Color Championship Classes
  - 5) Last, divide by single color designation, if possible
- e. Exhibitor Rule: The owner may enter only three alpacas per breed type, per gender, per age division, per color designation. (Example: An owner may enter a maximum of three Suri female juvenile dark fawns and three Suri female juvenile medium fawns. If the show combines color designations or Color Groups, then properly entered alpacas

may still exhibit even though the owner would have more than three alpacas in the combined class):

- 1) Take care if single color designations are split into two or more classes due to the maximum class size rule. Regardless of the number of classes due to a split for a single color designation, the Exhibitor Rule of three per color designation is applicable.
- 2) In the event that an alpaca's color designation is changed as a result of the color compliance process, the Exhibitor Rule of three entries applies.  
Example: An owner enters three Huacaya male juvenile whites and one Huacaya male juvenile beige in the Fleece Show. During compliance check, the beige juvenile Huacaya is reclassified as a white juvenile Huacaya. One of the resulting four white entries must be scratched in order to comply with the Exhibitor Rule.

## B. Fleece Show Rules

1. Entry must be made in the name of the alpaca and current owner as matched to the ARI Registration Certificate or Owner of Record for Show Entry Form and is subject to the Exhibitor Rule.
2. Partnership investment on the ARI Registration Certificate will be considered as full ownership in determining show entry and is considered as an entry subject to the Exhibitor Rule for the entering farm. Partners in these alpacas are eligible to enter the fleeces in their own names subject to these same restrictions.
3. Each fleece entry shall be accompanied by the following (incomplete or missing information may result in disqualification of entry):
  - a. Copy of ARI Registration Certificate
  - b. Accurate date of this shearing
  - c. Accurate date of prior shearing
  - d. Method of shearing (hand or electric)
  - e. Accurate total days of growth
  - f. Owner identification
4. Fleece shall consist of the prime fiber only (defined as blanket area which may include portions of the upper leg and neck that are consistent with the blanket in quality and length) and shall be displayed full and intact, not prepared or artificially enhanced in any manner (see full rules prohibiting enhancement in Halter Rules – does not include “dryer sheets” used for moth/pest control), must be skirted, and shall be displayed cut side out for Huacaya, cut side in for Suri. The exhibitor must enter the fleece in a clear plastic bag of 1 mil or less thickness and approximately 30 gallons.
5. Fleece entries shall be judged by entry number only, with exhibitor information being removed from Fleece Tag prior to judging.
6. Length of fiber:
  - a. Huacaya: Minimum length of entire fleece presented to be three inches with no maximum under first birthday, with a maximum of eight inches for first birthday and older.
  - b. Suri: Minimum length of entire fleece presented to be three inches with no maximum under second birthday, with a maximum of nine inches for second birthday and older.
7. Fleeces with a high degree of vegetable matter or contamination are difficult to evaluate and may be marked down accordingly.
8. Fleeces shall not be washed, artificially enhanced or trimmed/blocked (see full rules prohibiting enhancement in Halter Rules – does not include “dryer sheets” used for moth/pest control).

9. Fleeces shall not be shown beyond 380 days of shearing date.
10. A Fleece Scorecard shall be completed in ink for each fleece entered in the show unless the fleece is disqualified. If disqualified, the reason shall be stated on the Scorecard and the Judge's Worksheet.
11. Fleece Scorecards represent feedback from the Judge, shall be signed by the Judge, and shall be returned to the exhibitor in the fleece bag after judging.
12. A Judge's Worksheet is completed in pencil and signed in ink by the Judge for each class, reflecting the exact scores and placements on the individual scorecards and is forwarded to the AOBA Show System Office to be retained as the official record of the show. If the fleece is disqualified, the reason shall be stated on the Judge's Worksheet.
13. Maximum class size per color designation is 15; classes of 16 or more must be split into classes of equal size class by age. When this rule is exercised, separate awards must be given.
14. A class containing a single color designation cannot be split until it exceeds the maximum class size of 15; classes of 16 or more must be split into two classes of equal size, and divided by age. When this rule is exercised separate awards must be given.
15. The following ribbon colors shall be used for fleece classes:
  - a. First place....blue
  - b. Second place...red
  - c. Third place...white
  - d. Fourth place...pink
  - e. Fifth place...yellow
  - f. Sixth place...green
  - g. Champion (ribbon or banner)...purple
  - h. Reserve Champion (ribbon or banner)...lavender
16. The Fleece Show is over when all judging is complete, results are verified and the Judge declares the show is over.

#### C. Shorn Fleece Judging Criteria

The following are the judging criteria used and maximum points that may be awarded. The points are recorded in ink on a Fleece Show Scorecard and in pencil on the Judge's Worksheet for both Huacaya and Suri fleeces.

1. Huacaya points
  - a. Fineness and Handle (20)
  - b. Uniformity of: Micron (8), Length (7) and Color (5)
  - c. Style: Character (Crimp) (10) and Staple Type/Density (5)
  - d. Brightness (10)
  - e. Absence of guard hair (10)
  - f. Absence of impurities/stains/fleece damage (5)
  - g. Annualized fleece weight (20)
2. Suri points
  - a. Fineness and Handle (20)
  - b. Uniformity of: Micron (8), Length (7) and Color (5).
  - c. Style: Lock Style (10) and Density (5)
  - d. Luster (20)
  - e. Absence of guard hair (5)
  - f. Absence of impurities/stains/fleece damage (5)
  - g. Annualized fleece weight (15)

3. Tender fleece, matted fleece and fleece with excess debris will be marked down accordingly but will not be disqualified in a show.
4. The minimum fleece score to award a blue ribbon is 60. If none of the fleeces in a class achieve 60 points or above then the Judge shall start placements with a red ribbon in that class, in which case the second place winner will be ineligible to compete in a Championship class.
5. Grey fleeces are eligible to receive full points out of 5 for uniformity of color. Multicolor designations and Indefinite color fleeces receive 0 points for uniformity of color and have a total possible point value of 95 instead of 100. In these classes, the minimum fleece score required to award a blue ribbon is 57.
6. Fleeces shall be disqualified that:
  - a. Are showing parasitic infestation.
  - b. Do not meet the three inches minimum or that exceed maximum length.

The reason for disqualification shall be recorded on the Scorecard and the Judge's Worksheet.

#### D. Optional Fleece Classes

##### 1. Championship Classes

###### a. Fleece Show Color Championship class

- 1) Color Championships may be offered in any level of show where 10 Huacaya fleeces or 8 Suri fleeces are exhibited in a Color Group or combination of Color Groups according to the combining rules (see Halter Color Championship Rules for color combining).
- 2) If a total of 10 Huacaya fleeces or 8 Suri fleeces exhibited in a Color Group or Combined Color Group is not met, a Fleece Color Championship shall not be awarded in that Color Group.
- 3) First place fleeces from each age/color group will progress into the Color Championship final.
- 4) First place fleeces are lined up following class order.
- 5) The Color Champion Fleece is the highest scoring first place fleece.
- 6) The corresponding second place fleece is then placed with the remaining first place fleeces. The Reserve Color Champion fleece is the next highest scoring fleece.
- 7) A minimum of 60 points is required for a Championship or Reserve Championship award (57 points required for Multicolor and Indefinite).
- 8) In the event that any two Huacaya alpacas which are tied have identical fleece scores, the tie will be broken based on the Fleece Scorecard in the following order: Fineness and handle first, then lack of guard hair, then character/crimp, then brightness.
- 9) In the event that any two Suri alpacas which are tied have identical fleece scores, the tie will be broken based on the Fleece Scorecard in the following order: Luster first, then fineness and handle, then lock style, then uniformity of color.
- 10) If a Fleece Color Championship is awarded, all breeder identification on the Fleece Scorecards of those fleeces competing for the award shall remain anonymous until judging is completed.
- 11) A Judge's Worksheet must be completed and signed by the Judge for the Championship class.

2. Judge's Choice: (One award per breed type) The Judge's Choice will be awarded from any superior fleece in the show that has achieved a minimum fleece score of 80 points (based upon a 100 point maximum fleece score), or a minimum fleece score of 76 points (based upon a 95 point maximum fleece score in the multicolor and indefinite Color Groups).

### 3. Fleece Production Classes

#### a. Get of Sire Fleece Class

The Get of Sire class is comprised of three alpacas that are the progeny of the same sire. All three of these progeny's fleeces are evaluated simultaneously and should represent their sire's ability to transmit the positive traits to each progeny in a uniform and consistent manner.

- 1) Alpacas of Get must be eligible and entered in the Fleece Show in their respective fleece class.
- 2) Both genders can be represented, but must be from three different dams.
- 3) The color and age of each alpaca within the group shall not be a discriminating factor.
- 4) Show entry is made in the name of the sire on the show entry form and must be accompanied by a copy of the sire's ARI Registration Certificate.
  - a) A copy of the ARI Registration Certificate for each of the three progeny must also be provided to the Show Superintendent.
  - b) Show Superintendent shall verify the qualification of the three progeny.
- 5) Limit one entry per sire
- 6) The sire's fleece is not shown with this group entry. If the exhibitor is not the owner of the sire, that exhibitor must obtain the sire owner's written permission prior to the time of show entry.
- 7) Entry is limited to three sire entries per owner.
- 8) Judging criteria for the Get of Sire class shall include:
  - a) Consistency of positive fleece traits exhibited by all of the alpacas within the group.
  - b) Uniformity of positive fleece characteristics exhibited by all of the alpacas within the group.
  - c) Uniformity of type and style exhibited by all of the alpacas within the group.
  - d) Absence of negative traits.

#### b. Produce of Dam Fleece Class

The Produce of Dam class is comprised of two alpacas that are the progeny of the same dam. Both of these progeny's fleeces are evaluated simultaneously and should represent their dam's ability to transmit her positive traits to each progeny in a uniform and consistent manner.

- 1) Alpacas of Produce must be eligible and entered in the Fleece Show in their respective fleece class.
- 2) Both genders can be represented.
- 3) The color and age of each alpaca within the group shall not be a discriminating factor.
- 4) Show entry is made in the name of the dam on the show entry form and must be accompanied by a copy of the dam's ARI Registration Certificate.

- a) A copy of the ARI Registration Certificate for each of the two progeny must also be provided to the Show Superintendent.
  - b) Show Superintendent shall verify the qualification of the two progeny.
- 5) Limit one entry per dam
  - 6) The dam's fleece is not shown with this group entry. If the exhibitor is not the owner of the dam, that exhibitor must obtain the dam owner's written permission prior to the time of show entry.
  - 7) Entry is limited to three dam entries per owner.
  - 8) Judging criteria for the Produce of Dam class shall include:
    - a) Consistency of positive fleece traits exhibited by both of the alpacas within the group.
    - b) Uniformity of positive fleece characteristics exhibited by both of the alpacas within the group.
    - c) Uniformity of type and style exhibited by both of the alpacas within the group.
    - d) Absence of negative traits.
- c. Judging protocol for fleece production classes
- 1) Both of these classes will be judged relatively, not using the absolute Scorecard for fleece judging.
  - 2) Both of these classes will be judged by all of the Fleece Judges judging at the show. Decisions on final class placements will be made by consensus.
  - 3) A written comment (similar to oral reasons) will be provided for the top placing six entries only.
  - 4) Both of these classes will be judged at the conclusion of all other Fleece Show judging and once the Fleece Show has been declared completed by the Judges.
  - 5) It is highly recommended that the Fleece Show Superintendent assign one volunteer to oversee the task of managing the identification and staging of these classes in an area designated for group class judging.

#### 4. Special Awards (One award per breed type)

Special awards such as "Best Hand", "Best Luster", "Best Lock Formation", "Best Crimp", "Best Brightness", "First Time Fleece Show Exhibitor" and "Best Prepared Fleece" (recognizes the Judge's selection of best preparation in regard to appropriate skirting) may be offered at Fleece Shows for both Huacaya and Suri fleeces.

See Part 14, Appendix A for Fleece Show Procedures.

## Section 2. Handcrafter's Spin-Off

The Handcrafter's Spin-Off competition is an opportunity for the exhibitor to enter a sample of fleece which is evaluated on criteria relevant to the production of finished goods. Rules generally follow the rules for Fleece Shows with breed, age divisions, Color Groups and class size. The "AOBA- Approved Event" logo may be imprinted on ribbons awarded in these classes. Color Championships shall not be offered because they are outside the scope of normal fleece judging criteria. An AOBA Certified Fleece Judge is not required for either Judges or judging criteria for these classes.

- A. This competition provides exhibitors with an opportunity to have a small amount of fiber from their best fibered alpacas spun by expert hand spinners.
- B. A two ounce sample of clean prime fleece is submitted at least three months prior to the show.
- C. Entries are to be submitted in a clear, unmarked, plain, gallon-size zipper type plastic bag with the completed "AOBA Handcrafter's Spin-Off Entry Tag" inserted in the bag. A photo no larger than 4" x 6" of the alpaca from whom the fiber sample was collected shall be included with the entry.
- D. Fiber shall not be carded, combed, washed or otherwise enhanced, but should be handpicked to remove debris and vegetable matter.
- E. Length of fiber:
  - 1. Huacaya: Minimum length of entire two ounce fleece sample presented to be three inches with no maximum under first birthday, with a maximum of eight inches for first birthday and older.
  - 2. Suri: Minimum length of entire two ounce fleece sample presented to be three inches with no maximum under second birthday, with a maximum of nine inches for second birthday and older.
- F. Entry must be made in the name of the alpaca and current owner as matched to the ARI Registration Certificate or Owner of Record for Show Entry Form and must accompany exhibitor's entry signed by owner of record of the alpaca as shown on ARI Registration Certificate. A copy of the ARI Registration Certificate must accompany the entry form.
- G. Entries are subject to the Exhibitor Rule and are limited to three entries per breed type, per age division at time of shearing, per color designation.
- H. Entries shall not be shown beyond 380 days of the shearing date.
- I. Classes will be divided according to the number of entries that determine Fleece Show Levels I, II, and III as follows:
  - 1. First, by breed type
  - 2. Second, by age of alpaca at time of shearing
  - 3. Third, by Combined Color Group
  - 4. Fourth, by Basic Color Group
  - 5. Last, by color designation
- J. Classes will be divided according to the number of entries that determine Fleece Show Level IV as follows:
  - 1. First, by breed type
  - 2. Second, by gender
  - 3. Third, by age of alpaca at time of shearing
  - 4. Fourth, by Combined Color Group
  - 5. Fifth, by Basic Color Group
  - 6. Last, by color designation
- K. Age divisions with less than four entries may be combined and judged with other age divisions in a Color Group as per Fleece Show rules for level of show (i.e. ages C, D and E can be combined into one age division "C" (second birthday and older) for Levels I, II and III shows. Age division A and B are never combined in any level show. All age divisions must remain separate in a Level IV show).
- L. Judging criteria: Judges will card and spin an equal portion of the fiber from each sample entered. No washing or scouring of the sample prior to spinning is allowed, but the spun skein sample shall be washed as part of the evaluation process. The skein shall be washed by the Judge using only soap and rinsed in clear water with no other enhancing products added (i.e. fabric softener,

conditioner and other enhancing products) using the same method and procedure for each skein. Scoring will be based on:

1. Fleece criteria (40)
    - a. First impression (5)
    - b. Cleanliness – absence of vegetable matter (6), absence of dirt or other contamination (4)
    - c. Absence of second cuts (5)
    - d. Absence of guard hair (5)
    - e. Uniformity of length (5), uniformity of micron (5)
    - f. Handle (5)
  2. Spinning criteria (35)
    - a. Preparation for spinning – ease of debris removal (7), ease of carding (5)
    - b. Ease of drafting (8)
    - c. Ease of spinning (10)
    - d. Degree of production loss (5)
  3. Finished product (25)
    - a. First impression of yarn (6)
    - b. Useability of yarn (7)
    - c. Brightness/luster of yarn (6)
    - d. Handle of yarn (6)
- M. Fiber that is unsound, felted, contains tender breaks, mats, or excessive debris will be discounted appropriately but will not be disqualified. However, fiber samples exhibiting parasitic infestation or fiber not meeting the three inches minimum or exceeding the maximum staple lengths shall be disqualified and the reason for disqualification shall be recorded on the Judge's Scorecard and the Judge's Worksheet.
- N. Points may be deducted for failure of exhibitor to submit at least two ounces of fiber for proper and adequate sampling and judging. Point deductions would result in one point deducted for every 0.1 ounce short of the two ounce sample.
- O. When more than four ounces are submitted, a one point deduction would result for every 0.1 ounce over the four ounce sample.
- P. There shall be no ties in scores.
- Q. Judge's decisions are final.
- R. The following ribbon colors shall be used for Spin-Off classes:
  1. First place...blue
  2. Second place...red
  3. Third place...white
  4. Fourth place...pink
  5. Fifth place...yellow
  6. Sixth place...green
- S. Special awards such as "Judge's Choice" and "Highest Scoring Fleece in a Color Group" may be offered for Handcrafter's Spin-Off for both Huacaya and Suri. The "Judge's Choice" is limited to one award per breed type and will be awarded to any superior Spin-Off entry that has achieved a minimum score of 80 points. The intent to offer such awards must be indicated when the show certification is requested and is subject to approval by the AOBA Show Rules Committee.
- T. Spinners shall:

1. Evaluate, prepare and spin a portion of the sample, taking care to ensure that all samples are prepared in the same manner (i.e. hand or drum carded) and that prepared portions are relatively equal portions of one fleece sample to another.
    - a. No washing or scouring of the raw fiber prior to spinning is allowed.
  2. Wash the spun skein to properly evaluate hand feel and softness of the resulting yarn.
    - a. Washing or scouring of the sample after spinning is allowed, and the spun skein sample shall be washed as part of the evaluation process.
    - b. The skein shall be washed by the Judge using only soap or a scouring product and rinsed in clear water with no other enhancing products added (i.e. fabric softener, conditioner and other enhancing products) using the same method and procedure for each skein.
  3. Return the spun and washed skein to the zipper type plastic bag containing the unspun fleece, or place the skein into a smaller size clear bag which then is returned to the zipper type bag containing the unspun fleece.
  4. Complete a Scorecard (in ink) containing scores and comments or feedback for the exhibitor for each sample and include it in the zipper type bag. This Scorecard is to be returned to exhibitor, after display of results and at conclusion of show. If disqualified, the reason for disqualification shall be noted on the Scorecard.
  5. Complete and sign a Judge's Worksheet recording scores and placings for each entry in each class. Note: All disqualifications and reason for disqualification shall be noted on the Judge's Worksheet.
  6. Return judged entries to Spin-Off Show Superintendent at least one week prior to the event where the competition is to be displayed.
- U. The Spin-Off Show Superintendent shall supply End of Show Requirements including the original signed Judge's Worksheet and Spin-Off results to the AOBA Show System Office within 30 days of the conclusion of the show as the official records of the AOBA Show System.

### **Section 3. Cottage Fleece Competition**

The Cottage Fleece Competition is an opportunity for the exhibitor to enter fleeces that are evaluated on criteria that are relevant to the cottage/craft market. Fleeces in this competition are judged on characteristics that are valued by hand spinners, hand processors and small scale mill operators. Emphasis is placed on fine fleeces with excellent handle, absence of guard hair, and uniformity of micron, length and style. The Cottage Fleece Competition may be offered at any AOBA Certified Show that also holds the Handcrafter's Spin-Off competition. It may be offered as a stand-alone Cottage Fleece Competition or in addition to a Fleece Show. A fleece is scored using a combination of its result from the Spin-Off competition and the result of being judged individually against the AOBA Suri or Huacaya Cottage Fleece Scorecard. The "AOBA – Certified Event" logo may be imprinted on ribbons awarded in the Cottage Fleece Competition. An AOBA Certified Fleece Judge is required to judge the fleece in the Cottage Fleece portion of the competition.

- A. Any entry entered in the Handcrafter's Spin-Off competition is eligible for entry in the Cottage Fleece Competition, providing that these competitions are held at the same show. After entering the two ounce sample of fleece in the Spin-Off competition, the remainder of that fleece can be entered in the Cottage Fleece Competition at the same show. Judging and placement of any entry in Spin-Off is independent of the entry in the Cottage Fleece Competition.
- B. The same fleece shall be used for entry into Spin-Off and Cottage Fleece competitions. Deadline for Spin-Off is in accordance with the date determined by the Spin-Off deadline of the show. Deadline for Cottage Fleece is in accordance with the date determined by the Fleece Show deadline of the show.

- C. Rules for Cottage Fleece Competition shall follow the rules for Fleece Shows according to breed, age divisions, Color Groups and class size. Rules described in Part 9, Section 1. B. Fleece Show rules shall apply.
- D. Cottage Fleece judging criteria: The following are judging criteria used and maximum points that may be awarded. The points are recorded in ink on a Cottage Fleece Scorecard and in pencil on the Judge's Worksheet for both Huacaya and Suri fleeces.
1. Huacaya points
    - a. Spinning score (25)
    - b. Fineness and Handle (20)
    - c. Absence of guard hair (10)
    - d. Brightness (10)
    - e. Uniformity of micron (8), uniformity of length (7)
    - f. Secondary/Primary (S/P) micron range (5)
    - g. Absence of impurities/stains/fleece damage (5)
    - h. Uniformity of crimp expression within its style (5)
    - i. Annualized fleece weight (5)
  2. Suri points
    - a. Spinning score (25)
    - b. Fineness and Handle (20)
    - c. Absence of guard hair (5)
    - d. Luster (20)
    - e. Uniformity of micron (8), uniformity of length (7)
    - f. Absence of impurities/stains/fleece damage (5)
    - g. Uniformity of lock expression within its style (5)
    - h. Annualized fleece weight (5)
- E. Tender fleece, matted fleece and fleece with excess debris will be marked down accordingly but will not be disqualified in a show.
- F. The minimum fleece score to award a blue ribbon is 60. If none of the fleeces in a class achieve 60 points or above then the Judge shall start placements with a red ribbon in that class, in which case the second place winner will be ineligible to compete in a Championship class.
- G. Fleeces shall be disqualified that:
  1. Are showing parasitic infestation.
  2. Do not meet the three inches minimum or that exceed maximum length.
 The reason for disqualification shall be recorded on the Scorecard and the Judge's Worksheet.
- H. Optional fleece classes as described in Part 9, Section 1, D.1 - D.3 may be offered. Championship classes must meet the minimum number of entries and shall follow procedures as described in Section 1, D. A minimum of 60 points is required for a Championship or Reserve Championship award.

- I. Special awards as described in Part 9, Section 1, D.4 may be offered and must be indicated when show certification is requested and is subject to approval by the AOBA Show Rules Committee. All rules regarding Special awards as described in Section 1, D shall apply.
- J. Cottage Fleece Competition procedures
  - 1. Procedures as described in Part 14, Section 1. Fleece Show Stations and Setup, are used for the Cottage Fleece Competition.
  - 2. The Spin-Off coordinator must provide to the Fleece Show Superintendent a copy of the master list which includes all entry identification and corresponding Total Points scores from the Handcrafter's Spin-Off competition prior to the beginning of Cottage Fleece judging. It is highly recommended that results be given to the Fleece Show Superintendent as soon as the final scores are available from the Spin-Off judging. The Spin-Off coordinator shall retain the master list of all results.
  - 3. The Fleece Show Superintendent shall ensure and cross match the identification of each entry and its Total Points scores from Spin-Off to the information for each Cottage Fleece entry.
  - 4. Using the Total Points scores from each Spin-Off entry that is also entered in the Cottage Fleece Competition, the Fleece Show Superintendent shall calculate the points allocated to "Spinning Score" on the Cottage Fleece Entry Tag. A maximum of 25 points is allocated to "Spinning Score" on the Cottage Fleece Scorecard. Spinning Score points are calculated using the following formula:

Multiply the Spin-Off Total Points score for each entry by 0.25. The result equals the "Spinning Score". This number is transferred to the Cottage Fleece Entry Tag on the line for "Spinning Score".

Example: The Spin-Off Total Points score for an entry is 90. Multiply 90 by 0.25. This equals 22.5. So, 22.5 points is put on the space on the Cottage Fleece Entry Tag for "Spinning Score".

Example: The Spin-Off Total Point score for an entry is 87. Multiply 87 by 0.25. This equals 21.75. So, 21.75 points is put on the space of the Cottage Fleece Entry Tag for "Spinning Score".
  - 5. It is highly recommended that the Cottage Fleece and Spin-Off entries be located in close proximity to each other so that the Spin-Off skeins and the Cottage fleeces can be viewed together at the conclusion of judging.