



Requirements for OAAS Certified and Apprentice Judges

A) Certified Judge

NOTE: notes in red are copied from the “**A Guide to Organizing an OAAS Homecraft Judging School**” October 2014 as a comparison to the information in this document. The page # is noted at end of the line.

1) Qualifications

Certified Judges are persons who are appointed to make decisions at a competition. One who has the knowledge and training to make decisions according to the OAAS Judging Standards Handbooks. (Experience as an exhibitor is encouraged but not necessary.)

- Must support, endorse and follow the “**OAAS Judging Standards Handbook**”.
 - ❖ Follow the rules outlined in the Ontario Agricultural Societies Judging Standard booklet – page 8
- Must sign and abide by the “**OAAS Judges and Instructors Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics**”
- Need desire, interest, good common sense, be fair but flexible and maintain a high standard of workmanship.
 - ❖ You need desire, interest, knowledge, good common sense, be fair but flexible and maintain a high standard of workmanship. - page 8

2) Requirements:

- a) Must have successfully completed at least 1 (one) OAAS Judging School **in EACH Category** that they wish to judge in i.e. Quilts, Culinary Arts, Produce, etc.
AND
 - ❖ Attend two different Judging Schools on the subject of choice, ie. crafts, baking, quilts etc. – page 8
- b) Must have apprenticed **in EACH Category** they are seeking to be certified with at least 3 (three) different certified Judges at no less than 3 (three) different OAAS-member fairs with hands on experience, helping to make decisions on winners. Never apprentice at your home fair.
 - ❖ Apprentice with three (3) different qualified Judges at no less than three (3) different fairs with hands on experience, helping to make decisions on winners. Never apprentice at your home fair. – Page 8

NOTE: District 15 - due to distance between Fairs and a Judges’ home, a Judge may have apprenticed at the same fair twice with 2 (two) different Judges.

NOTE: For list of Categories - see “**Appendix G - Judging Program Competition Categories**” on the website

Two possible formats could be:

- a) One day format focusing on Culinary Arts or Needlework

b) Two day format (Baking and Canning the first day, Needlework the second day) –
Page 4

- c) Must know the techniques used to produce the articles to be judged .
❖ Know the techniques used to produce the articles to be judges. - Page 8
- d) **Must attend an OAAS Judging School at least once every 3 (three) years in EACH Category they are certified** to maintain their expertise, keep in touch and be familiar with changes in the judging process and learn about new techniques and classes.
❖ To maintain expertise, current Judges must attend a refresher course every two or three years. - Page 8

NOTE: Judges listed on the current “**OAAS Certified and Apprentice Judges Lists**”, who have not attended an OAAS Judging School in the last 3 (three) years **will have until July 2020 to participate in a Judging School to maintain their certification.**

- e) **NEW - Must judge at least once every 3 (three) years in EACH category** they are certified to maintain their expertise, keep in touch and be familiar with changes in the judging process and techniques to be considered as an “**Active Judge**” to maintain their Certification.
- f) **NEW** - Judges will be required to submit a form to the OAAS Office Manager with a list of their Judging Assignments for the year.
- g) The OAAS Judging Program Panel in consultation with the Judges the applicant has apprenticed with and the District Director, reserves the right to accept or refuse any applications based on the applicant’s Judging ability and knowledge of the Categories and the OAAS Judging Program.

3) Process for removal or reinstatement of Certified Judges on OAAS Judges list:

i) Removal:

- a) **If a Judge has not attended an OAAS Judging School on a specific Category at least once every 3 (three) years,** it is the responsibility of the OAAS Judging Program Panel, in consultation with the District Director, to move Judges from “**Certified**” to “**Uncertified**” status for that specific Category. The OAAS Judging Program Panel will submit these names to the OAAS Office Manager who will notify the Judge of this change and remove them from the OAAS Judges’ List for that specific Category.
❖ To maintain expertise, current Judges must attend a refresher course every two or three years. - Page 8
❖ It is the responsibility of the Homecraft Director to remove names of Judges who fail to take refresher courses. District Director should notify the judge of this change. Update judges list and submit to the OAAS office. – Page 8

- b) **If a Judge has not judged at least once every 3 (three) years on a specific Category**, it is the responsibility of the OAAS Judging Program Panel, in consultation with the District Director, to move Judges from “**Certified**” to “**Uncertified**” status for that specific Category. The OAAS Judging Program Panel will submit these names to the OAAS Office Manager who will notify the Judge of this change and remove them from the OAAS Judges’ List for that specific Category

It is strongly recommended that Fairs rotate their Judges every 2 or 3 years to encourage more judges.

NOTE: Judges may be “**Certified**” in some categories and “**Uncertified**” in others depending upon when they last attended an OAAS Judging School or judged.

ii) Reinstatement

- c) **NEW** – Judges moved to “**Uncertified**” status may recertify by successfully completing 1 (one) OAAS Judging School **for those specific categories** if they have attended an OAAS Judging School for that Category **in the past 4 years**. If it has been **over 4 years**, they must redo the entire Certification Process of attending an OAAS Judging School and Apprenticing.

Removal for Code of Conduct/Ethics Violation

- d) **NEW** – If it has been reported that a **Judge has not abided by or has violated the “OAAS Judges and Instructors Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics”**, the Judge will be contacted to present their explanation of the events. The OAAS Judging Program Panel will review each case, in consultation with the District Director, and the OAAS Executive and will submit names to the OAAS Office Manager who will notify the judge of their removal by registered letter.

Appeal Process

- e) **NEW** - Judges that have been removed from the OAAS Judges lists for any reason may appeal their removal by submitting a letter appealing the decision to the OAAS Office Manager within 30 (thirty) days of receiving notification of their removal from the “**OAAS Certified and Apprentice Homecraft Judges List**” and/or the “**OAAS Certified and Apprentice Agriculture and Horticulture Judges List**” and/or “**OAAS Certified and Apprentice Judges List**”.

B) Qualifications for Apprentice Judge

1) Qualifications:

Apprentice Judges are persons who are interested in becoming Certified Judges.

They must complete the following steps and forward completed form

https://www.ontarioagsocieties.com/images/2017/Apprentice_Judge_Form_April_2017_DRAFT.pdf to the District Director in order to be considered to be transferred to Certified Judges list.

- Must support, endorse and follow the OAAS Judging Standards Handbooks.
 - ❖ Follow the rules outlined in the Ontario Agricultural Societies Judging Standard booklet – page 8
- Must sign and abide by the “**OAAS Judges and Instructors Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics**”
- Need desire, interest, good common sense, be fair but flexible and maintain a high standard of workmanship.
 - ❖ You need desire, interest, knowledge, good common sense, be fair but flexible and maintain a high standard of workmanship. - page 8
- Prepared to submit all required paperwork/documentation to the District Director in a timely manner. District Director will submit a copy to the OAAS Office Manager. (2 weeks)

2) Requirements:

a) Must successfully complete at least 1 (one) OAAS Judging School **in EACH category** that they wish to judge in, i.e. Quilts, Culinary Arts, Produce, flowers, etc.

AND

❖ Must attend a minimum of at least two different Judging Schools in a specific area of their choice – Page 15.

b) Must apprentice **in EACH category they wish to become certified** with at least 3 (three) different qualified Judges at no less than 3 (three) different OAAS-member fairs with hands on experience, helping to make decisions on winners. Must not apprentice at your home fair.

Apprentice Judge: A person who has attended two(2) different Judging Schools in a specific area of their choice (needlework, culinary arts, photography etc.) and is willing to serve an apprenticeship by attending at least three (3) different Fairs, excluding their Home Fair, with three (3) different Judges at their own expense. An Apprentice Judge should apprentice with a Judge that has had an update themselves within two or three years – page 15

NOTE: District 15 – due to distance between Fairs and Apprentice Judges' home, an Apprentice Judge may apprentice at the same fair twice – must be with 2 different Judges.

NOTE: For list of Categories - see “**Appendix G - Judging Program Competition Categories**”

c) Know or learn the techniques used to produce the articles to be judged.

❖ Know the techniques used to produce the articles to be judges. - Page 8

- d) **NEW** - Apprentice Judges must attend an OAAS Judging School at least once every 3 (three) years in each category they are apprenticing to maintain their expertise, keep in touch and be familiar with changes in the judging process and learn about new techniques and classes.

NOTE: NEW - Apprentice Judges currently listed on the current “***Certified and Apprentice Judges Lists***”, who have not attended an OAAS Judging School in the last 3 (three) years **will have until July 2020 to participate in an OAAS Judging School to maintain their name on the OAAS Apprentice Judges’ listing.**

- e) **NEW** - Apprentice Judges should endeavour to complete their apprenticeship within 2 (two) years of applying to become an Apprentice Judge ***for a specific Category.***
- f) The OAAS Judging Program Panel in consultation with the Judges the applicant has apprenticed with and the District Director, reserves the right to accept or refuse any applications based on the applicant’s Judging ability and knowledge of the Categories and the OAAS Judging Program.

IMPORTANT: It is expected that Fairs and Certified Judges will allow Apprentice Judges to apprentice at different fairs and under different categories.

3) Process for removal or reinstatement of Apprentice Judges on OAAS Apprentice Judges list:

i) Removal:

- a) **If an Apprentice Judge has not attended an OAAS Judging School on a specific Category at least once every 3 (three) years,** it is the responsibility of the OAAS Judging Program Panel, in consultation with the District Director, to remove that Apprentice Judge from that specific Category. The OAAS Judging Program Panel will submit these names to the OAAS Office Manager who will notify the Apprentice Judge of this change and remove them from the Apprentice Judges’ List for that specific Category.
- b) **If an Apprentice judge does not complete their apprenticeship within 2 (two) years for a specific Category,** it is the responsibility of the District Director, in consultation with the OAAS Judging Program Panel, to discuss with the Apprentice Judge how the OAAS can work with the Apprentice to ensure that their apprenticeship is completed in the next 1 (one) year.
If this is not possible, the OAAS Judging Program Panel in consultation with the District Director will decide to remove Apprentice Judges from the Apprentice Judges list for that specific Category. The OAAS Judging Program Panel will submit these names to the Office Manager who will notify the Apprentice Judge of this change and remove them from the Apprentice Judges’ List for that specific Category

NOTE: Apprentice Judges may be removed from some categories and remain in others depending upon when they last attended an OAAS Judging School for those Categories

ii) Reinstatement

- c) **NEW** – Apprentice Judges removed from the Apprentice Judges list may requalify by successfully completing 1 (one) additional OAAS Judging School for those specific categories and completing their apprenticeship.

Removal for Code of Conduct/Ethics Violation

- d) **NEW** – If it has been reported that an Apprentice Judge **has not abided by or has violated the “OAAS Judges’ and Instructors’ Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics”**, the Apprentice Judge will be contacted to present their explanation of the events. The OAAS Judging Program Panel will review each case, in consultation with the District Director, and OAAS Executive and will submit names to the OAAS Office Manager who will notify the Apprentice Judge of their removal by registered letter.

Appeal Process

- e) **NEW** – Apprentice Judges that have been removed from the Apprentice Judges’ lists for any reason may appeal their removal by submitting a letter appealing the decision to the OAAS Office Manager within 30 (thirty) days of receiving notification of their removal from the **“OAAS Certified and Apprentice Homecraft Judges’ List”** and/or the **“OAAS Certified and Apprentice Agriculture and Horticulture Judge’s List”** and/or **“OAAS Certified and Apprentice Judges List”**.