

Alberta Poultry Breeders Association

Tips for new Exhibitors

Topic 2: Getting Your Birds Entered

Anyone with an interest in chickens will eventually want to attend a poultry show, either as an exhibitor or a spectator. It is a wonderful opportunity to view and compare many examples of different breeds and varieties, all in one place. The show can also be a great way to connect with breeders, learn more about breeding and maybe even make a purchase. After enjoying the experience as a spectator, we hope you will feel inspired to take the next step and show some of your own birds!

The first thing you'll need to do is read the Show Book. It will be posted on the APBA website a few weeks prior to the date of the show. The Show Book has important information you'll need to know such as show rules, entry deadline and the schedule of when the building will be open to exhibitors.

HOW TO ENTER YOUR BIRDS

Entry forms may be filled out electronically using the online form on the website, or by printing a paper version and sending it to the person indicated on the form. This can usually be done via email or postal mail, according to the instructions for that particular show. It is very important that the form and entry fees arrive before the entry deadline. Entry fees can be paid via e-transfer or Paypal (refer to the APBA website for instructions).

You'll want to keep a copy of your entries so you remember which birds to take to the show. The information you provide on the entry form will be used to create a coop card for each of your entries. This information needs to be accurate for show set up and judging purposes.

The coop card will include your bird's class, breed, variety, sex and age. It will also include an Exhibitor Number that has been assigned to you specifically. The coop cards are usually printed well ahead of the show date. Last minute substitutions within the same breed are allowed, but you won't be able to swap a bird of another breed.

Congratulations! You've successfully entered your first poultry show! Now it's time to make sure your birds are looking their best and ready to compete. The next "APBA Tip Sheet for New Exhibitors" is all about show prep!

