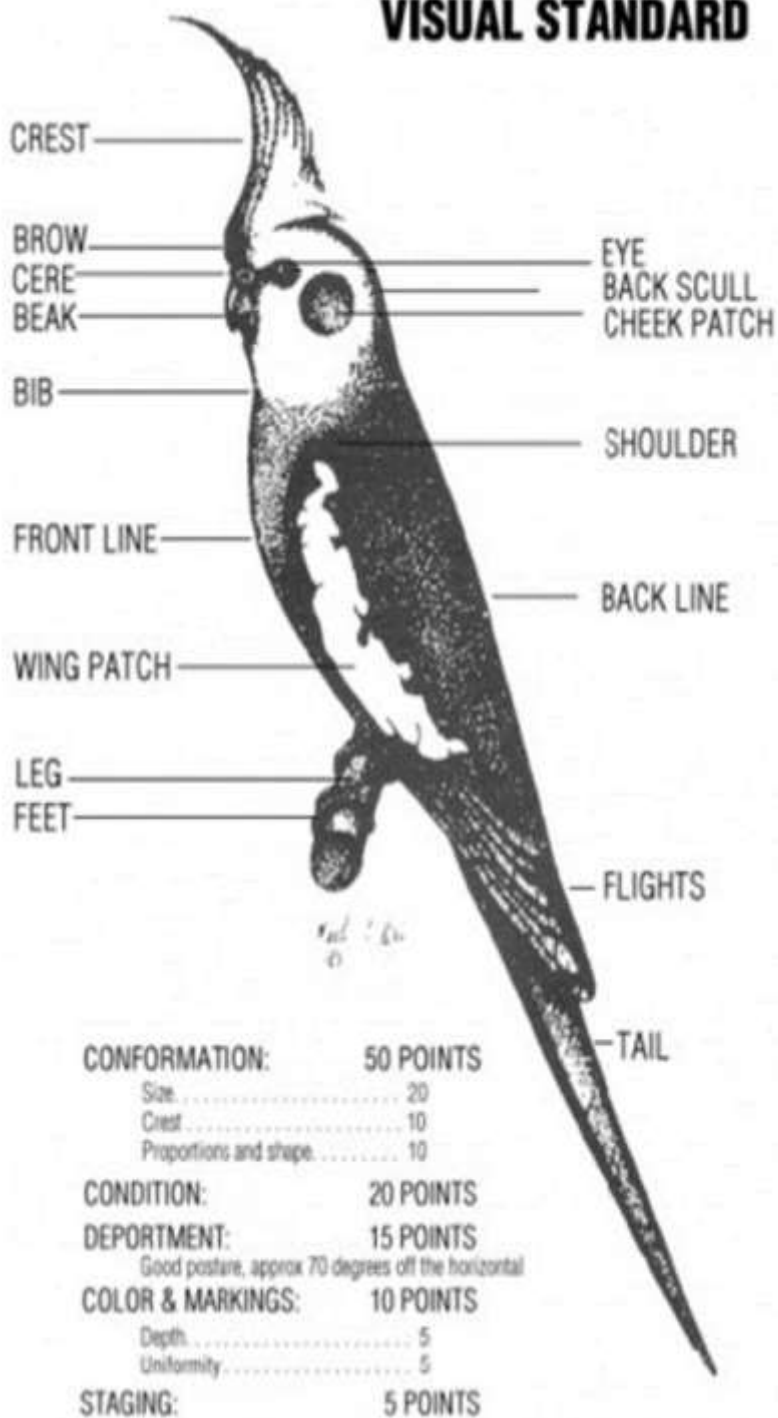


NATIONAL COCKATIEL SOCIETY

EXHIBITION GUIDE

(May 2017)

VISUAL STANDARD



The NCS Standard envisions a long, graceful bird of good body substance and equal proportions. The cockatiel should measure 14 inches in length from the top of the crown to the tip of the tail. In addition, the crest should approach 3 inches in length. Proportionally, the bird should measure equally in length from: the top of the crown to the vent, the top of the shoulder to the tip of the wing, and from the vent to the tip of the tail. The crest, as the cockatiel's chief physical trademark, should be full and showy, curving back gracefully, with the longer filaments graduating evenly down to-wards the shorter ones at the rear of the skull. The head should be large and well-rounded without evidence of a flat top either behind the crest or at the back of the skull (with good width between) and sheltered by a pronounced frontal brow line, creating a proud hawk like appearance when viewed from the front. The bright orange cheek patches should be round, well-colored, and free of bleeding extraneous orange feathers elsewhere on the face. The beak should be clean, tucked in and of normal length. The lower mandible should be only partly visible. The yellow face of adult males should be brightly colored and without extraneous grey or orange feathers (except for young males going through the molt) and clearly contrast where it meets the main body feathers. The bib should be deep. The neck, adding grace to the form, should be neither too long nor too short, and particularly evident when the bird is in an alert stance. The cockatiel is a sleek, stream-lined bird, yet full bodied, showing good substance. When viewed from the front (or back), a generous width across the chest and shoulders in adults (particularly hens) should be evident. The back should be straight, blending with the

slender, tapering abdomen. The wings should be large and wide, held tightly, hugging the body with the tips close to the tail, without crossing or drooping. All flight feathers should be present. The wing patch should approach 3/4 of an inch in width and be clear of extraneous dark feathers

NOVICE COCKATIEL SUB-DIVISION

Cocks			Hens	
Old	Young		Old	Young
<u>SECTION 1 – NORMALS</u>				
101	102	Normal (Grey)	103	104
105	106	Any Other Variety *	107	108
<u>SECTION 2 – CINNAMONS</u>				
201	202	Cinnamon	203	204
205	206	Any Other Variety*	207	208
<u>SECTION 3 - LUTINOS</u>				
301	302	Lutino	303	304
305	306	Lutino Pearl	307	308
309	310	Lutino Pied	311	312
313	314	Lutino Pearl Pied	315	316
317	318	Any Other Variety*	319	320
<u>SECTION 4 – PEARLS</u>				
401	402	Normal (Grey) Pearl	403	404
405	406	Normal Pearl Split*	407	408
409	410	Cinnamon Pearl	411	412
413	414	Cinnamon Pearl Split*	415	416
417	418	Any Other Variety*	419	420
<u>SECTION 5 – PIEDS</u>				
501	502	Pied+	503	504
505	506	Heavy Pied ++	507	508
509	510	Cinnamon Pied+	511	512
513	514	Heavy Cinnamon Pied++	515	516
517	518	Pearl Pied+	519	520
521	522	Heavy Pearl Pied++	523	524
525	526	Cinnamon Pearl Pied+	527	528
529	530	Heavy Cinnamon Pearl Pied++	531	532
533	534	Clear Pied (All) +++	535	536
537	538	Any Other Variety Pied*	539	540

SECTION 6 – WHITEFACE

601	602	Whiteface	603	604
605	606	Whiteface Split*	607	608
609	610	Whiteface Cinnamon	611	612
613	614	Whiteface Cinnamon Split*	615	616
617	618	Whiteface Lutino (Albino)	619	620
621	622	Whiteface Pearl	623	624
625	626	Whiteface Pearl Split*	627	628
629	630	Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl	631	632
633	634	Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl Split*	635	636
637	638	Whiteface Pied+	639	640
641	642	Heavy Whiteface Pied++	643	644
645	646	Whiteface Cinnamon Pied+	647	648
649	650	Heavy Whiteface Cinnamon Pied++	651	652
653	654	Whiteface Pearl Pied+	655	656
657	658	Heavy Whiteface Pearl Pied ++	659	660
661	662	Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl Pied+	663	664
665	666	Heavy Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl Pied++	667	668
669	670	Whiteface Clear Pied (All)+++	671	672
673	674	Any Other Variety Whiteface*	675	676

SECTION 7 – RARES

701	702	Dominate Silver**	703	704
705	706	Fallow**	707	708
709	710	Silver**	711	712
713	714	Yellowcheek**	715	716
717	718	Pastelface**	719	720
721	722	Dilute (aka Emerald)**	723	724
725	726	Any Other Variety Rare*	727	728
729	730	Any Other Variety Rare**	731	732

Legend:

+ Light and Medium Grey Pied only – with less than 75% (yellow and/or white) pied wash

++ Heavy Grey Pieds only – with 70% to 97% (yellow and/or white) pied wash

+++ Clear Grey Pieds only – with 98% or higher (yellow and/or white) pied wash

* Birds showing spots on the head, neck, wing, breast, tail or combination with a total of 25% or less of pied wash shall be considered “Split” or “Any Other Variety” class within that section.

****ALL COMBINATIONS-** Birds showing only **ONE** Rare Mutation are to be shown under that mutation class. For example, a Silver Pearl, a Silver Pied and Whiteface Silver are all shown under the Silver Class.

*****AOV RARE OR AOC RARE** – Birds showing multiple rare mutations, a new mutation, or a mutation not listed are to be shown under the AOV/AOC Rares. For example, a Fallow Pied is shown under Fallows, a Yellowcheek Fallow is shown under the Any Other Color Rare class.

ADVANCED COCKATIEL SUB-DIVISION

Cocks			Hens	
Old	Young		Old	Young
<u>SECTION 8 – NORMALS</u>				
801	802	Normal (Grey)	803	804
805	806	Any Other Variety Grey*	807	808
<u>SECTION 9 – CINNAMONS</u>				
901	902	Cinnamon	903	904
905	906	Any Other Variety Cinnamon*	907	908
<u>SECTION 10 – LUTINOS</u>				
1001	1002	Lutino	1003	1004
1005	1006	Lutino Pearl	1007	1008
1009	1010	Lutino Pied	1011	1012
1013	1014	Lutino Pearl Pied	1015	1016
1017	1018	Any Other Variety Lutino*	1019	1020
<u>SECTION 11 – PEARLS</u>				
1101	1102	Normal, (Grey) Pearl	1103	1104
1105	1106	Normal Pearl Split*	1107	1108
1109	1110	Cinnamon Pearl	1111	1112
1113	1114	Cinnamon Pearl Split*	1115	1116
1117	1118	Any Other Variety Pearl*	1119	1120
<u>SECTION 12 – PIED</u>				
1201	1202	Pied+	1203	1204
1205	1206	Heavy Pied++	1207	1208
1209	1210	Cinnamon Pied+	1211	1212
1213	1214	Heavy Cinnamon Pied++	1215	1216
1217	1218	Pearl Pied+	1219	1220
1221	1222	Heavy Pearl Pied++	1223	1224
1225	1226	Cinnamon Pearl Pied+	1227	1228
1229	1230	Heavy Cinnamon Pearl Pied++	1231	1232
1233	1234	Clear Pied (All) +++	1235	1236
1237	1238	Any Other Variety Pied*	1239	1240
<u>SECTION 13 – WHITEFACE</u>				
1301	1302	Whiteface	1303	1304
1305	1306	Whiteface Split*	1307	1308
1309	1310	Whiteface Cinnamon	1311	1312
1313	1314	Whiteface Cinnamon Split*	1315	1316
1317	1318	Whiteface Lutino (Albino)	1319	1320
1321	1322	Whiteface Pearl	1323	1324
1325	1326	Whiteface Pearl Split*	1327	1328

1329	1330	Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl	1331	1332
1333	1334	Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl Split*	1335	1336
1337	1338	Whiteface Pied+	1339	1340
1341	1342	Heavy Whiteface Pied++	1343	1344
1345	1346	Whiteface Cinnamon Pied+	1347	1348
1349	1350	Heavy Whiteface Cinnamon Pied ++	1351	1352
1353	1354	Whiteface Pearl Pied+	1355	1356
1357	1358	Heavy Whiteface Pearl Pied++	1359	1360
1361	1362	Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl Pied+	1363	1364
1365	1366	Heavy Whiteface Cinnamon Pearl Pied++	1367	1368
1369	1370	Whiteface Clear Pied (All) +++	1371	1372
1373	1374	Any Other Variety Whiteface*	1375	1376

SECTION 14 – RARES

1401	1402	Dominate Silver**	1403	1404
1405	1406	Fallow**	1407	1408
1409	1410	Silver**	1411	1412
1413	1414	Yellowcheek**	1415	1416
1417	1418	Pastelface**	1419	1420
1421	1422	Dilute (aka Emerald)	1423	1424
1425	1426	Any Other Variety Rare**	1427	1428
1429	1430	Any Other Variety Rare***	1431	1432

SECTION 15 – GRAND CHAMPIONS

1501	1501	All Classes	1501	1501
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Legend:

+ Light and Medium Grey Pied only – with less than 75% (yellow and/or white) pied wash

++ Heavy Grey Pieds only – with 70% to 97% (yellow and/or white) pied wash

+++ Clear Grey Pieds only – with 98% or higher (yellow and/or white) pied wash

* Birds showing spots on the head, neck, wing, breast, tail or combination with a total of 25% or less of pied wash shall be considered “Split” or “Any Other Variety” class within that section.

****ALL COMBINATIONS-** Birds showing only **ONE** Rare Mutation are to be shown under that mutation class. For example, a Silver Pearl, a Silver Pied and Whiteface Silver are all shown under the Silver Class.

*****AOV RARE OR AOC RARE** – Birds showing multiple rare mutations, a new mutation, or a mutation not listed are to be shown under the AOV/AOC Rares. For example, a Fallow Pied is shown under Fallows, a Yellowcheek Fallow is shown under the Any Other Color Rare class.

NCS Points Scale

<i>Minor</i>	<i>BIS</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>9th</i>	<i>10th</i>
16-20	4	3	2	1						
21-25	5	4	3	2	1					
26-30	6	5	4	3	2	1				
31-35	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
36-40	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
41-45	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
46-50	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<i>Major</i>	<i>BIS</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>9th</i>	<i>10th</i>
51-60	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
61-70	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
71-80	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
81-90	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
91-100	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
101-110	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7
111-120	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
Add one additional point per place for every 10 additional entries.										

Definitions

Minor Show: Consists of 16 to 50 Cockatiels entered by a minimum of 5 exhibitors

Major Show: Consists of 51 or more Cockatiels entered by a minimum of 5 exhibitors

Bonus Best In Show Rules: There must be 100 plus birds and 10 exhibitors for both the NCS Specialty show and the National Bird Show in order to be awarded the bonus Best in Shows.

Regional Show Rules: Regional shows awarded in same manner as they are today, with same criteria for getting the extra points, 51+ birds, 5+ exhibitors. Regional Shows can bump up to a Super Regional and receive up to three Best in Show placements when they have 10+ exhibitors and meet the following: 101-150 birds will be awarded BIS for the top 2 birds, 151+ birds will be awarded BIS for the top 3 birds.

Champion Cockatiel: Cockatiels banded 1996 - 2009 must accumulated a total of 35 points and birds hatched 2010 and later must accumulate a total of 50 points from 3 or more open cockatiel shows and judged by 3 or more different NCS Panel Judges. Included in this must be a Best in Show win in a Major show or 2 Best in Show wins in a Minor Show.

Grand Champion Cockatiel: Any Cockatiel banded 2009 and earlier that has accumulated a total of 75 points from 4 or more open Cockatiel shows and judged by 4 or more different NCS Panel Judges. Included in this must be a Best in Show win in a Major show or 2 Best in Show wins in Minor Shows. Cockatiels banded 2010 and later must have 2 Best in Show wins in a Major show or 4 Best in Show wins in Minor Shows.

Novice and Advanced Sections: You must qualify for Advanced exhibitor status. You can no longer take yourself out of Novice. An exhibitor moves up to advanced once he or she has won a Best Novice Award and placed four or more different birds under four different judges, Bred and Banded by the Exhibitor, on the Top Bench. The qualifying show needs to have at least 15 advanced birds. An exhibitor's status decides whether they are to count towards the Advanced exhibitor minimum. A Novice exhibitor only showing an Advanced exhibitor's birds would count as a Novice exhibitor, not Advanced.

Although exhibitors are encouraged to move up to Advanced as soon as they qualify, they are permitted to finish the year (they qualify) in Novice. If an exhibitor has exhibited as advanced in another society (providing a novice section was available to them) they must exhibit as advanced in this society. All cockatiels Bred and Banded by Advanced Exhibitors must be entered in the Advanced Sections even if owned and exhibited by a Novice (this does not affect the status of the Novice exhibitor). All cockatiels entered in the Advanced Sections must have a closed, traceable band. Cockatiels without closed traceable bands may be entered in the Novice Sections by a Novice Exhibitor and receive novice awards it earns. No unbanded birds shall be allowed on the Top Bench. At the judges discretion, an unbanded bird may be worked into the Top Ten to show the owner where the bird would have placed if banded.

Partners or Spouses (or anyone else who cohabitates) with an Advanced Exhibitor must now show in the Advanced Division. This rule does not include dependent children.

Young and Old Classes: For a cockatiel to be exhibited as a young bird it must have a closed traceable band stamped with the current year. Birds not meeting this requirement are classified as old since there is no way of proving the age of the bird.

AOV: Any Other Variety (AOV) is a class which includes birds split to Pied that have visual spots (ticking) on the back of the head or neck or wing, breast, tail feathers or combination with a total of 25% or less pied wash shall be considered "Split" or "Any Other Variety" within that section. It is also a "catch-all" class for cockatiels not covered in the other classes (for color, etc.)

Closed Bands: If you have a closed banded bird that is not from any of the recognized societies, NCS, ACS, NAPS, SPBE, AFA, it is suggested contacting the Points Registrar and registering the birds' band number previous to the show to qualify the bird for show points should the bird be placed on the Top Bench. The one time registry fee for a bird is \$5.00.

GRANDCHAMPION SECTION (SECTION 15)

The National Cockatiel Society has added a fifteenth section to its show classifications, Section 15 – Grand Champions under the Advanced Division. This will renew the eligibility of any cockatiel, which has been shown to its NCS Grand Champion title. The NCS Board of Directors felt it necessary to instate this section to allow for the renewal of the NCS Hall of Fame, and to give exhibitors a living standard by which to measure their own stock.

Section 15 has but one class which is a "catch-all" for all mutations and sexes. It was constructed in this way to alleviate the process and to save time, rather than have classes of single entries, which would ultimately be judged against one another.

It is important to note that the Grand Champions cannot disqualify the placing, points or awards of an entry on the Top Bench, be it Novice or Advanced. They are, in effect, co-sharing placings on the Top Bench and earning the equivalent amount of points for the position as its 'co-share'. This will allow the Grand Champions to compete, but not inhibit others from reaching their Champion or Grand Champion title. Top Novice entries

will also have the ability to advance to the Top Bench without the concern of being displaced by a Grand Champion.

At this time there are no plaques or rosettes given for Section 15 winners or Grand Champions that share placings on the Top Bench. The Grand Champions are only vying for points towards their qualifying for the NCS Hall of Fame.

The only exception where they would be no Grand Champion Section would be at The National Cage Bird Show, or at any Specialty Show designated by the NCS Board of Directors as a National Show. In those instances the Grand Champions would be shown in the standard mutation classes according to mutation, sex, and age, as they have been previously.

Hall of Fame: Effective January 1, 2005, a Grand Champion cockatiel must have accumulated at least 150 exhibition points to qualify for the Hall of Fame. Of those points, seventy five have to be earned in Section 15 (The Grand Champion Class). All birds banded 2017 and later must also have 1 CO-1st BIS also from Section 15.

Supreme Hall of Fame: A Grand Champion cockatiel must have accumulated a total of 200 exhibition points. 125 of those points must be earned from Section 15 (Grand Champion Class). All birds banded 2017 and later must also have 2 CO-1st place BIS also from Section 15.

Once a bird achieves Grand Champion, a certificate will be presented to the owner. These certificates will be printed once a year at the end of the show year and sent to the Owner of Record. Supreme Hall of Fame Qualifiers will receive a Certificate of Achievement. These certificates will be printed once a year at the end of the show year and sent to the Owner of Record. For each Supreme Hall of Fame bird, the Owner of Record shall have the opportunity to purchase a plaque signifying their birds accomplishment.

PAINT FORMULA FOR SHOW CAGES

This is the updated color formula for the NCS standard blue inside cockatiel show boxes.

LOWES:

Signature Semi Gloss Ultra White Base – GALLON

Product: UWt-221395

FORMULA

Color Amount

101 8.5

102 6

203 1.5

Open Show Rules:

1. NCS Shows are OPEN shows to NCS Members and Non-Members. Exhibition should be encouraged and shows should not exclude any person from exhibiting, with the exception of individuals who have been resigned from the Society as a member in bad standing.
2. NCS Affiliated Club possession rules shall not prohibit the exhibition of birds by any particular exhibitor. NCS Shows are open to any person who would like to exhibit a bird, with the exception of individuals who have been resigned from the Society as a member in bad standing. Open banded birds are only permitted in the Pet Division.
3. NCS Affiliated Clubs shall make no rules that are in conflict with NCS rules.
4. Possession rules, except those that are made for the health of all birds, should not be used by NCS Affiliated clubs. Ownership rules should be used instead of possession rules to enforce quarantine procedures. Excessive rules (those with over 45 day quarantine periods) are not recommended as they discourage exhibition.

5. The officiating NCS judge should be aware of any circumstances that have arisen (without mentioning the names of the birds involved). The judge shall be the only person able to disqualify any bird from an NCS Show other than the owner/exhibitor of the bird.

6. Any incident at any NCS Show shall be reported to the NCS Judges Panel Chair and the NCS President.

7. Similar to the list of Advanced Band Codes, a list of individuals deemed resigned as a member in bad standing will be published once a year and updated as needed. In addition, this list will be provided to each NCS Club's Show Delegate and the NCS Judges Panel. Details of each individual's specific situation leading to them being on this list are private.

8. The affiliated club and/or show manager of the affiliated club may deny entry to the NCS affiliated show to any individual who has been resigned as a member in bad standing and is on the published list. This affiliated club decision does not constitute a closed show.

Special Genre shows:

NCS Affiliated shows are allowed and encourage to hold special shows involving only certain genre of cockatiels. —Baby Shows and —Champion shows are good examples of a Genre Show. Genre shows should also be —open shows and shall not limit as to whom is able to show birds. It can only limit as to what genre of cockatiel can be shown. Genre shows should allow plenty of time for advanced notice as to what birds are allowed at the show. This should be PROMINENT in the advertising of the show so that no misinterpretation is made as to what type of show is being held.

Exhibiting Birds for Another Exhibitor (in the absence thereof)

NCS Shows are OPEN shows. This means that no exhibitor can be denied the ability to show whether they are present or not, with the exception of individuals deemed resigned as a member in bad standing. Thus, exhibition of birds owned by another exhibitor is allowed and encouraged. The birds should be entered into the name of the exhibitor who owns the bird unless both exhibitors agree to another arrangement. Prior written authorization (via regular letter or electronically) should be given to the handler who is entering the birds into the show. The handler should have this authorization with them but is not required to turn in this authorization to the show secretary. The secretary should verify documentation with the exhibitor and the exhibitor should be prepared to show the authorization to the National Cockatiel Society for a period of 1 (ONE) year after the show.

Panel Judge Decisions: Disqualifications

Decisions as to placement of birds and points earned shall be the decision of the NCS Judge who officiated the show. All shows shall be open to the general public. Reasons for disqualification or reduction of points after a show has been completed shall come from the NCS Points Registrar. Requests from the Points Registrar shall be brought forth to the NCS Judges Panel Chair through the NCS Judges Panel Secretary. Valid requests shall be forwarded to the NCS Judge who officiated the show. Rulings by the NCS Judges Panel shall be final.

Year End Awards

Breeder of the Year: Only NCS bands count toward Breeder of the Year

Exhibitor of the Year: NCS, ACS, AFA, NAPS, NCS & SPBE Bands will all be considered towards the Exhibitor of the Year Program. All other closed traceable bands must be registered with NCS with a fee of \$5.00 per bird.

Code of Ethics for Cockatiel Exhibition:

Here are some guidelines to promote good sportsmanship-like behavior.

1. Be a good sport. Sportsmanship as defined in the dictionary.

Main Entry: sports-man-ship Pronunciation: \-,ship\ Function: noun Date: 1745 : conduct (as fairness, respect for one's opponent, and graciousness in winning or losing) becoming to one participating in a sport.

Congratulate the winners, even as a winner, congratulate the other winners both Novice and Advanced. This

promotes a healthy competitive environment and opens the door to ask and learn how others have been successful and encourages others to continue to improve their birds and promotes camaraderie and new friendships.

2. It is recommended to put your cell phones on vibrate or mute while judging is in progress.
3. Prior to and during a show in progress, do not identify your bird or speak about the birds you have entered in the show in the presence of the show's hired judge.
4. It is recommended to not speak loudly or make jarring motions while judging is in session. You don't want to distract the judge or startle the birds with loud conversations or movements, and again be mindful not to talk about or point at entries on the bench that could identify you or anyone else as the owner. The judge could disqualify your entry for this behavior.
5. It is recommended that you eliminate any possibilities of portraying a "marked cage." The word "marked" as defined in the dictionary is:
1 : having an identifying mark
a : enjoying fame or notoriety b : being an object of attack, suspicion, or vengeance These are suggestions that an exhibitor can follow for an unbiased exhibiting experience. Conformity promotes anonymity.

To avoid a marked cage, it is suggested:

- a) use a regulation show cage;
 - b) use the suggested colors for painting your show cages;
 - c) use blue or black ink pens when filling out your show tags. Avoid using any other colors or markers that would make your tags look different from other exhibitors' tags;
 - d) If you use stickers for your name and address or bird identification for inside the cage tag, make sure that none of the edges of your sticker are exposed when the show tag is closed;
 - e) use and place recommended waterers as suggested by NCS standards;
 - f) use a basic seed mixture on the cage floor, avoid seeds that are dyed or other materials like wood shavings or paper products;
 - g) remove any other objects from the cage that do not belong in it for judging. For example, seed cups, millet sprays, other food items like bread, fruits or vegetables, paper on the bottom of the cage, toys.
6. It is recommended that exhibitors stay in front of the show bench when entering birds and until all judging is complete. It is the stewards' job to handle the birds behind the bench from the time of entry to the close of judging. Once your bird has been placed in the back for preparation of the show it should remain there until the judging of the show is finished. However, if there is a reason you need to tend to one of your birds, it is recommended that you request help from the available steward or your local show's chairperson. Avoid going into the staging area yourself. Having only the authorized individuals behind the bench avoids confusion, crowding, misplaced entries and potential accidents.
 7. Ask questions. Judges welcome participation from the gallery. If you don't understand something, ask. All judges welcome educating the exhibitor and ensuring you have a pleasant showing experience. Please refrain from asking any questions that would identify your bird or that of a fellow exhibitor, as this behavior could get your bird disqualified. If there are time restraints with the show, please try to be mindful of asking too many questions during the show that could be answered by the judge after the show.
 8. If you have a question concerning the judging procedure, it is OK to ask questions. Judges generally do not mind explaining judging procedure. If you have a question about an entry and feel certain an entry has been overlooked and not judged, it is important that you let someone know about your concern immediately. Although this scenario is unlikely, remember judges and stewards are human too and can sometimes, yet rarely, get sidetracked and miss an entry or bring up the wrong bird in the judging procedure order. Also keep in mind, that a judge may choose, for a legitimate reason, to not have the bird presented. Some of these reasons could be concerns for the well being of the bird itself (in which case, usually the exhibitor is privately informed by the secretary, steward, show vet or, show chairperson.) But here are some suggestions on what to do when you think an entry has not been presented for judging, you as an exhibitor can immediately:

a. Go to the secretary to inform them of your concern and verify that the entry was not overlooked or maybe reclassified. Make sure to have your paperwork with you. The secretary will need to know the entry's section and class numbers, the mutation, if it is a young or old entry along with the show tag's cage number. Occasionally, judges will reclassify birds before a show and your paper work could have your bird in one class but the judge may have reclassified it and put it in another class thus explaining your concern of the missing entry.

b. Go to the secretary to have them signal to the steward to speak to you away from the judge to quietly ask about the entry. Many stewards are very versed in judging procedure and are usually one step ahead of the judge trying to have the next possible entry ready for presentation. Many times they will have an answer to your concern or be able to tell if a mistake has occurred. Be ready to give the steward the cage number to the bird in question.

c. Occasionally, the steward may be a new steward and not know if the bird was not presented when it should have been. Remember ultimately it is the judge's responsibility to make sure that the stewards are presenting the proper entry. At that time, you can ask the steward to ask the judge. It is always best to approach the steward or secretary first as there is more than likely a reason for the situation, however, in the event that an entry was overlooked it is usually not too late for that entry to be judged for the show. The only time it is too late is when the judge has started to mark the tags of the division's top bench. It is not recommended for an exhibitor to wait with such a concern. It is better to ask questions than sit in silence and be upset. With all this said, be mindful that judges many times have to speak to their stewards and secretary to ensure that they are judging the right birds as dictated by proper judging procedure. Many times judges will converse with stewards privately or quietly to ensure the flow of the show and that the proper birds are being held aside for future judging or special awards. There is no need for concern when this occurs as it is quite customary.

9. Educate yourself. This goes along with asking questions. Ask the winners what they do. After the show is over, ask the judge what they saw in the birds. Go look at the winning birds and take note of the qualities these birds have so that you can know and understand what qualities it takes to win. Compare your birds to the winners so that you can learn how to improve your show line. In order to know, you have to bring your birds to the show.

10. Remember if you have purchased a bird from a judge's aviary, you cannot show this bird under the same judge within one year of the date you took possession of it.

11. Get to the show hall early enough to get your birds entered in time. Many shows offer exhibitors the opportunity to purchase their show tags ahead of time. This allows you to get your paper work filled out prior to the show and makes the early morning rush to enter birds easier on you and the show's workers. Some shows will deny your entry if you are late. So be courteous and be on time.

12. Be aware of your local show's rules and follow them. Many shows have a catalogue printed. Before a show, request a copy so that you can be aware of these rules.

13. Get involved. Be a team player. All shows welcome volunteers whether you are local or a visitor from out of state. You will be amazed at how much you will learn by offering to help and how much you are appreciated for helping. There is ALWAYS someone willing to help teach you the ropes. You can start by hanging ribbons or helping the secretary or ask the head steward if they need help arranging the entries prior to the show. There are before and after show duties too like setting up the show benches and taking them down. Cleaning up after the show. You name it, if you ask, I am sure someone will find a task for you to do.

Great friendships are started by volunteering.