

# **National Cockatiel Society**



**The Novice Exhibitors Guide**

**May 2017**

## **THE GOAL**

Our goal is to create a guide for Novice Exhibitors, and to provide them information about handling, breeding and exhibiting their birds. Exhibiting Cockatiels can be fun, challenging, and rewarding. New exhibitors always have many questions. This guide covers many of the questions and answers that a future exhibitor would ask.

Since we are providing answers to questions this guide is setup in a Questions and Answers format. If you don't find the answer to your questions, visit the NCS website, [www.ncscockatiels.org](http://www.ncscockatiels.org), for many informative articles.

## **NOVICE OF THE YEAR AWARDS PROGRAM**

Any novice exhibitor may qualify for the Novice Exhibitor of the Year Award in each year they exhibit in any NCS affiliated shows. Each bird placed on the Top Novice Bench will earn the EXHIBITOR (not the bird) points according to the placing of the bird(s). The First Best in Novice winner will earn its owner 10 points. Second placement earns the exhibitor 9 points, Third placement is 8 points, with the rest of the placements declining 1 point each down to Tenth placement earning 1 point.

Any bird banded by advanced exhibitors and shown by a novice exhibitor will be disqualified to participate in the Novice Exhibitor of the Year Award. Advance breeder birds must always be shown in the advanced class.

At the end of the calendar year, the Points Registrar will compile the listing of birds winning points on the Novice Bench. The names will be announced at the NCS yearly business meeting held in conjunction with either the NCS Specialty Show or the National Cage Bird Show. The names will also be listed in the NCS Journal and the online NCS website.

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **WHAT IS A NOVICE EXHIBITOR?**

A Novice is anyone new to showing. This could be a child a parent or a grandparent. It is not your age, but how experienced you are in showing that makes you a novice. A Novice is a student. It is your chance to learn all you can about exhibiting handling, and methods to acquiring better show birds.

### **WHY SHOW NOVICE?**

That's a good question. The answer could be different for each exhibitor. Some people just like to show, some like the competition, and for others it is an opportunity to learn what quality and show standards are all about.

### **WHAT ARE THE RULES FOR A NOVICE?**

A Novice Exhibitor is a person that has not previously exhibited cockatiels in the Advanced Division. .

A banded bird is defined as having a closed traceable leg band. Traceable means the leg band is issued by a recognize society and can be traced to the breeder. These societies include NCS, ACS, SPBE, NAPS, and AFA. If you have a closed banded bird that is not from any of the recognized societies, 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. No unbanded birds shall be allowed on the Top Bench. However at the judge's discretion, an unbanded bird may be worked into the Top Ten to show the owner where the bird would have placed if banded.

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.

Upon purchasing birds, if you do not know the band code, you should find out if the bad comes from an Advanced Exhibitor. Both NCS and ACS Advanced Exhibitor band codes are published once per year in the NCS Journal and are also sent to each clubs show delegate. You may also contact the NCS Points

Registrar to find out the exhibitors status for that band code. If an advanced bird is accidentally shown as a novice, the bird will be disqualified. It is important to know the exhibitor status of birds you exhibit.

**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.

### **WHO CAN I TALK TO?**

Talk to any exhibitor or judge. The people who show and judge cockatiels are open to helping out novices and each other. As you learn more and start exhibiting it is always a great time to talk to other exhibitors. Everyone has something that works for him or her. There are many of these tips and tricks that you can learn from other exhibitors. As your experience and confidence grows, you will decide what works best for you and your birds. The more people you talk to, the more ideas and opinions you will get.

### **WHY DON'T I JUST SHOW ADVANCED?**

Novice is the time to learn and compete against your peers, have fun and make new friends along the way. You must qualify to move up to Advanced exhibitor status.

### **HOW DO I FIND SHOW?**

Each NCS Journal publishes show listings for the current year. Show listings can also be found on the NCS website.

### **HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT IS NICE AND WHAT ISN'T?**

We all ask that question of our birds. Showing your birds is a great way to find out. The opinion of the judge, comparing your birds against your peers, is the best barometer for discovering your bird's potential. Judges will often make notations on the back of the show tag during a show. Pay close attention to these notes.

As a novice exhibitor you need to acquaint yourself with the NCS Show Standard. The judge will always have one available at the show and you can also find it in past issues of the NCS Journal and on the website. This will help you to look at a cockatiel in black and white, separating how colorful and pretty it is with how the various features match up against the Show Standard. Do the wings tips cross, are the crest feathers full and erect, is the neck thin or wide and proportional to the head? Are the eyes big or small? Does the cockatiel have a hawk like appearance when viewed directly from the front? What is a hawk like appearance? Does it have a long graceful tail? Does it have a wide or narrow chest? There is more to exhibition than just color. Color and uniformity is important also but is only worth 10 points out of 100.

By showing Novice it give you a chance to sit and learn by watching how a judge determines the Best Novice. The judge takes the time to explain his or her decisions so the exhibitor can learn what is best.

After the show is complete you can usually ask the judge to clarify for you why he selected one bird over another.

### **WHAT ABOUT COLOR?**

Color is usually what we see first. With the many mutations everyone has a favorite they think is prettier than the rest. A judge will always look first at the overall cockatiel and the condition of the bird. Why you ask? Conformation is worth 50 points. That means above anything else, the cockatiel must conform to the standard. The judge will compare two birds and the one that is closer to the standard moves up with all the other factors being equal. Condition is worth 20 points. Add those together and that is 70 out of a possible 100 points and color has not even been considered yet. Ok, so again what about color? Color is more important in some mutations over others. For example a heavy pied with even markings is preferred. For many of the mutations, the depth and consistency of color is more important than just the right shade. Judges want to see nice clean lines between the face mask and the body with a nice solid and bright cheek patch. We all naturally look at color first but as you learn, that is less important than you think.

### **HOW DO I CHOOSE A COCKATIEL TO SHOW?**

Start by understanding the NCS Show Standard and what a judge looks for in conformance to the Standard. Start studying your cockatiels with the standard in mind. You will find that you are looking at your birds in a whole new way as times goes by. Start to look at your birds in Black & White versus what color and how pretty it is. This process should start as early as 3 months before a show since you need time to choose your show string and be able to pull tail feathers 9 – 10 weeks before the first show. It helps to have at least 2 show cages available during selection. You can out on your own mini-show and start to judge your own birds. By the time you're ready to show, you have a good sense of which birds are your best. If you know other exhibitors, have the stop by and give their opinions. You can also do the same for them. It takes time to get a good eye for the best birds. What you think is nice today will change as you learn. A bird that looks great in the flight may not look the same in a show cage and vice versa. It is always a good idea to evaluate your potential show birds in a show cage.

### **HOW DO I IMPROVE THE COCKATIELS I BREED?**

How do I obtain really great birds? One think is for sure you can feed your birds all you want it won't produce a bigger cockatiel, just an overweight one. Some people think, as time rolls along they will just get bigger. Maybe so, but that could be a lifetime. So how do you improve the cockatiels you breed? Just about every exhibitor is a breeder. People who breed for show are always trying to improve their cockatiels. There is nothing like the accomplishment of breeding a winner! It is never ending. When showing, you get to meet advanced and novice exhibitors. The advanced exhibitor has already put years of work to get to where they are today. Learn from them. Advanced and Novice exhibitors are a great source for the birds you have always wanted.

### **HOW DO I BREED A QUALITY COCKATIEL?**

1. Buy the very best breeding stock you can afford.
2. Start simple by developing lines of normals, cinnamons, and pearls first. Leave the more complex colors for later.
3. Once you have several nice birds, choose your BEST pairing using the following criteria:
  - size and conformation
  - color depth, pattern (if the bird is a pearl), and evenness of tone
  - overall length with special emphasis on body length
  - top line
  - large head with big round eyes
  - large, uniform cheek patch
  - long, full crest
  - complimentary faults (not the same fault in both birds)
4. Breed these pairs and keep back "all" the babies.
5. When the babies are 12-18 months old, decide which ones should be bred for second generation and pair up unrelated males and females. It can take up to 2 years for a young bird to reach its full

potential. 6. Repeat this process for future generations bringing in more quality unrelated stock as needed. As stated before, buy ONLY the BEST breeding stock you can afford.

### **HOW DO I SHOW CAGE TRAIN?**

If you can start a cockatiel that is young it will generally adjust quickly and just think this is part of its life. Like they say "It's hard to teach an old bird new tricks". Well you can but they are more set in their ways. Each bird is different with its own personality. Place the bird in a cage and see if it is a natural and just sits pretty from the start. This is great when it happens. Many will go to the bottom of the cage and stay there.

Judges use many tricks to move birds to where they want them. The most common that you can try are:

- a. Use a narrow stick like a drumstick or chopstick. This is used to reach into the cage to help the bird step up or coax them onto the perch.
- b. Judges will wave their hands slowly in front of the cage to make sure the bird is calm or to turn it around.
- c. If a bird won't come up off the bottom they will even cover the bottom with something so if the bird wants to see what is going on it will just have to perch.

More to practice:

- a. During the show the stewards are constantly moving cages. Practice moving the show cages around.
- b. Most exhibitors have covers for the cages. Cover and uncover the bird so it is used to this and does not get scared.
- c. Some judges tap on the top of the cage to alert the stewards on how to move the cages.

The more practice the better. The more you can simulate the show conditions the better trained and prepared your cockatiel will be.

### **HOW MUCH DOES THIS COST?**

The typical cost to enter a bird is \$3.00 per bird but varies from show to show. Some shows are higher and it is always a good idea to find out ahead of the show. There are clubs that exist for the purpose of putting on shows. They can charge a membership fee that can include unlimited entries. The NCS Journal and website list the show contacts for every show. They are your best source for information about an upcoming show in your area. Show cages are around \$60.00 - \$75.00 new but you can sometimes find used ones if you ask around.

Additional cost may be accommodations if you are traveling a distance to a show. Most hotels that are used as host locations allow birds to be kept in rooms, however, if you must seek accommodations in another hotel check to be sure your birds will be welcome.

### **WHAT EQUIPMENT DO I NEED?**

The first item you need to obtain is a show cage. Even though it is not required for novice, it is the preferred way to exhibit. Along with the show cage you should have a clear water dish which fits between the bars of the show cage. Some exhibitors also use seed dishes before and after judging. Seed dishes are removed during the judging. Some exhibitors remove the water dishes because birds can perch on the water dish and get their tails wet. It is up to each exhibitor to decide what works best for them. Some states require water so be sure to know the regulations for the show.

The National Cage Bird Show requires that all exhibitors supply water because the birds spend over 2 days straight in the show hall. It is also a good idea to have a show cage cover. This helps during transportation of your birds to and from the show hall. It keeps them quieter and there is less chance of something scaring them, which could cause injury or feather loss.

### **WHERE DO I FIND SHOW CAGES?**

If you are looking to obtain your own show boxes or to borrow some at a show, the following information should be helpful.

Rent or Borrow Show Cages: Contact the representative of the show that is listed in the show announcements to see if their club is one that rents out show cages for exhibitors. Several clubs do rent cages for a nominal fee per cage.

Purchasing Cages: Whether new or used, to find cages to purchase requires some detective work. There is always someone selling new or used cages. To find out who and where requires asking around the shows to see who has a lead. You could also place an ad in the NCS Journal asking for Used Cages to purchase. This should bring some responses that way. Listing of show cage manufactures can be found in articles on the NCS website. Other exhibitors can also refer you to their suppliers.

Many exhibitors are limited in the number of cages they own and seldom have spares to lend to others. It does not hurt to inquire, however.

### **WHAT ARE THE COLORS OF A SHOW CAGE?**

Show cages should be painted in the colors specified by NCS. The exterior is glossy black.

The blue interior is:

LOWES: Signature Semi Gloss Ultra White Base – GALLON

Product: UWt-221395

Formula:

Color	Amount
101	8.5
102	6
203	1.5

Remember to wait a week for the paint to dry and outgas any potential fumes before placing your bird inside.

### **HOW DO I CONDITION MY COCKATIELS?**

Conditioning is the prep you give your bird prior to the show. Often times conditioning will be the only thing advancing one bird over another. There are a number of things you can do to give yourself an edge. Here is a time table of things to do with your bird to get it ready for show.

10 weeks prior to the first show:

Pull any damaged tail feathers. Ten weeks will give the new tail feathers time to grow in. Flight and crest feathers are not normally pulled, as they can take longer than 10 weeks to grow in. Ideally your bird will have recently gone through a molt so you will only have to pull old left over broken feathers. This sounds mean but the birds don't seem to mind. Be careful though. If the bird is molting and has new feathers, known as blood feathers you can't pull those. You can tell a blood feather by looking at the shaft. You will see it is wider and darker than mature feathers. If you are uncertain then don't pull it. The reason for pulling tail feathers is to get your best shot at perfect rail feather condition for the show, otherwise just before you are ready to show that center tail feather may just happen to drop out. New feathers will hold up longer during the show season.

This is a good time to make sure your bird is on the best possible diet. Make sure he or she is getting a lot of protein in his diet to shine up his feathers. (Stop feeding greens 7 to 10 days prior to show).

6 weeks before the first show:

You will want to start cage training your bird. This is a matter of putting the bird in a show cage and then lifting it and carrying it around. Go so far as to even put in your car and drive around so it will get use to this and not thrash around and break feathers when you go to your first show. Many birds are frightened at first because the cage is all wood except the front and they can't see all around. You will also want to get up close to the bird and examine it, as you would imagine a judge doing. You will want to take a dowel and gently tap on the end of the perches and lift the bird's tail to get it to turn around. For more training tips see: How do I Show Cage Train.

Around the same time as you begin cage training, you will also want to start spraying your bird once or twice a day with water. It is recommended that you use cold water because it causes the bird to think a change of season is coming and their feathers will get tighter and glossier in preparation for cold weather. The cold water will not give your bird a cold, and after a few times of spraying they actually look forward to

it and will hang upside down and spread their wings and turn in all directions to get wet. You will know your bird is in good condition when the water beads up and runs off without making the bird look like a drowned rat.

1 week before the show:

You will want to look at the birds' toenails and beak and make sure they aren't overgrown. Long toenails will prevent the bird from perching properly. If you clip them a week before it give them a chance to heal should you nick the quick. Some exhibitors will clip nails up to two weeks before the show. They feel some hens will squirm when having their nails trimmed and it takes time for their feathers to be realigned into place.

There is nothing worse than blood on a bird in a show cage. This is a good time as well to wash any poop or other dirt off the bird. Doing it this far in advance will give them time to get their feathers back into place before the show. If your bird is caged with other birds you may want to cage it by itself after this cleaning so you don't have to mess it up again with another washing. If your bird has frayed tail feathers from sliding around in his cage use a little warm water and your fingers to smooth them back into place. Once the feathers are in place use some cold water to set the realigned feathers.

### **THE SHOW CAGE**

Make sure it is clean. If the cage has been previously used be sure to wash it. Do not over wet the box as it is wood and could warp and it should not be damp when used. Wash off any old blood or poop. Put a layer of seed on the bottom. Be sure to use clean, plain (not colored) seed so your bird doesn't get dirty again. Don't use pellets! The bird will get wet and then get into the pellets and end up with green, red, orange and blue feathers.

Don't wait until the last minute to find a show cage. Start looking well in advance of the show if you are planning to have your own show cage to use. Often times advanced exhibitors will loan or rent show cages to novice exhibitors and frequently the hosting club will have some available. You need to check with them in advance because they are usually spoken for early. It isn't required to show a novice bird in a show cage. You can use a regular cage minus toys. The judge needs to be able to view the bird with the least amount of distractions possible. Keep in mind that birds do seem to display better in show boxes, but as a novice lack of a show cage is not held against you.

Some exhibitors suggest caging you bird the night before the show – it gives it a chance to settle down in the cage. Some place them in cages facing each other and put a night light on. Others just put on the show cage covers during the night and some do both. If however, you know that your bird is prone to night frights you may want to wait till morning of the show to cage your birds. This will depend on you and your bird.

It doesn't require a lot of time – just a little each day and you can have your bird in great condition and ready for the BEST NOVICE AWARD. Good Luck.

### **WHAT IS THE DAY OF SHOWING LIKE?**

Showing your first bird can be a very exciting and very confusing time. You will hear the judge talk about a lot of different things. Watch the judges and listen to what they have to say. Most judges will explain (especially during novice judging) why they place one bird over another. Speaking with other exhibitors during the show helps you understand what the judge says and why.

The judge is not allowed to know the owner of any bird prior to the judging. After the show is completed you can talk to the judge to understand how they came to their decisions. They can also provide you with ideas on how to improve your breeding program to develop the best possible bird.

When you first enter the show hall you will have to fill out a form. This form will ask for the bird's band number and color mutation, and then you will have to fill out the class and section for your bird. An advanced exhibitor will be more than happy to assist you once they've gotten their birds entered. Be sure to check that your bird is not an Advanced Bird by checking with the show secretary. There will be people (stewards) who take your birds and place them on benches behind the judging stand. You may also request assistance from stewards or secretary as to how to complete your entry form. The birds are then sorted according to class and section, which is based on their color mutation, sex and age. Once the

birds have been taken from you and entered you cannot handle them or their cages until after the show is completed.

The birds will then be brought before the judge according to their classes. For instance, first all normal gray old cocks will be judged together, then all normal young cocks, then all normal gray old hens, and then all normal gray young hens. This is so each bird is judged against a bird that is equivalent to it. A young bird is a bird banded with the current year's band. An old bird is a bird banded in previous years. You can't judge a 6 month old bird against a 2 year old bird within one class. Once the best of each class is found, all the 1<sup>st</sup> place birds of each class are judged against each other for the best of that group, called Section. This process is often the most confusing for a new person and once again an advanced exhibitor will be more than happy to explain to you what is taking place.

As the judge is viewing the birds, comparing one against the other to determine the best bird, he will use a wooden dowel to get the bird's attention, to move the bird around from side to side so he can see each side of the bird, and he may use it to lift the bird to the perch. He may move the cage around to see the top of the head. The judge will talk about conformation, which includes size of bird, crest quality, the proportions and shape of each bird. Conditioning is the second most important factor in determining which bird to place over another.

### **WHAT DOES A JUDGE LOOK FOR WHEN JUDGING?**

There are five (5) things a judge looks for: conformation, condition, deportment, coloring and staging. Read the NCS Visual Standard for all the details.

### **WHAT IS CONFORMATION?**

#### Size of the Bird

According to the NCS Standard the "ideal" cockatiel is a 14 inch bird from the top of its' head to the tip of the tail. In addition a 3 inch crest is desired.

#### Crest Quality

The crest is the cockatiel's chief physical trademark. As such, it should be full and showy, curving back gracefully, with the longer filaments graduating evenly down towards the shorter ones at the rear of the skull.

#### Proportions

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.

#### Other Conformation Points

The cockatiel is a sleek, streamlined bird, yet full bodied, showing good substance. 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.

### **WHAT METHOD IS USED IN PLACING THE TOP BENCH?**

The method used is called the 1, 2, 3 method. When placing the top bench the judge will start with the birds placing first in all the Sections and put them in order of placement. The second place bird in each Section is brought up and worked into the birds placing first. Keep in mind a second place bird cannot place over the bird that placed first in the same Section. All second place birds are worked into the top bench before the third place birds are brought up. All third place birds in the Section are then brought up and worked in if possible. A third place bird in Section cannot place over the bird placing second in the same Section.

### **SHOWING TIPS FROM OUR NCS PANEL JUDGES**

- \* Most shows are in the fall. Start in late spring to place your show bird in the show cage to become very familiar with it. A judge can tell if a bird was placed in the cage that morning.
- \* If your bird repeatedly goes down to the floor, one can fill the bottom of the cage with so much seed, the bird will want to perch. Try that for a while and by show time the condition will be corrected.



- \* At times, certain very tame and handfed birds will want to spend time hanging on the cage front. Use a little Vaseline on the cage front so the bird will fall off. Soon the bird will not spend time on the cage front. Make sure you clean the cage up well before a show.
  - \* One exhibitor puts on disguises and approaches the show cage, as every judge looks different. Soon her birds never flinched on the approach of the judge.
  - \* Pull tail feathers at least 6-8 weeks before the show date in order for the feathers to come in completely.
  - \* Stop feeding greens to your show birds at least one week before the show date. This will eliminate any stains that might occur around the mouth or beak on your bird.
  - \* Use baby shampoo to clean the stains from tail feathers. Wipe tail with shampoo and then rinse with warm water.
  - \* Don't forget to clip toe nails. This is a part of conditioning your bird. Be careful not to clip too close to the vein in the nail.
  - \* Spray, Spray, Spray! Begin wetting birds about a month before the show. Do take special attention with the cinnamons as they tend to be much more difficult to "tighten" up.
  - \* Two weeks before the show, I lighten up and lightly mist them each day just to encourage preening. Too much water too near to the show will cause the feathers to be rough looking.
  - \* Preparing a cockatiel for show starts when they are babies. I believe in handling and playing with them so that they obtain a deal of confidence in your presence. Combine that with a practice time, after play, in a show box and that combination will give them the air of "the best" for showing that you can offer them.
  - \* Diet plays a most important role in order to produce healthy, shiny plumage. Offering them a large variety of seeds, pellets, fresh veggies and a rice and bean mix such as "Crazy Corn" allows them to adjust to foods no matter where they spend their lives.
  - \* I spray my birds as soon as they are fully feathered youngsters. I want them to enjoy water on their bodies and not be afraid of it. As I do this year round, the water always seems to roll off of their backs.
  - \* **CONDITION, CONDITION, CONDITION!** One judge uses a commercial birdbath solution to spray his birds with, call 'Natra Pet'. He also suggested that glycerin added to the spray water does a good job. \* He suggest, begin to spray your birds at least two months before a show, every day. A good bath once a week encourages the feathers to tighten up.
  - \* When molting, feed good quality high protein foods to produce strong healthy new feathers. Pull tail feathers at least 9 weeks but not more than 10 weeks before the show on the birds to be shown.
- Exercise, spraying, good foods, cage training all begin soon after weaning for best results.
- \* **CONDITION, CONDITION, CONDITION!** Advanced Exhibitors are often lax in this major item. Conditioning is often the determining factor moving one bird over another. While your bird ay not be the biggest, if it is in the best condition it can often pull ahead of a bigger bird.

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Thanks to all the NCS members who contributed to this guide.

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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.

