

YOUTH CONTESTS AT THE ARBA CONVENTION

The ARBA convention will be held in Louisville KY at the Exposition Center from Oct 25- Oct 30, 2024.

Link to all the contests <https://arba.net/youth-contests/>

There are two types of contests – Those requiring you to be in attendance at the Convention and those that do not. Regardless of the contest, you must be a member of the ARBA and the Mo State Rabbit Producers Association. You should be practicing and participating in any local and state workshops for eligibility. First I will list the contests you can enter that do not require your attendance.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO ENTER THESE CONTESTS:

These 2 are written contests where you fill out an application describing your rabbit management and or achievements. I know that there are several members who can compete in this if you will only apply. If you fill out an FFA or 4-H record book then you should already have most of this information. Watch the Mo State Facebook page and the questions from last year will be posted. Typically entry deadlines are around the 1-2nd week of September, but NOW is a good time to start.

** NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT CONTEST**

If you fill out a 4-H or FFA record book you already have most of this information.

Applications will be judged by ARBA District and contestant age (division). Divisions are Junior (Ages 5 to 11 years), Intermediate (Ages 12 to 14 years), and Senior (Ages 15-18 years). Up to seven pages and less than 4500 words, printed on one side only, may be submitted by the applicant. There are 13 questions to answer. Applications will be judged on the following criteria: Achievement (60 points); Leadership (50 points); Goals & Plans for the Future (40 points); Clarity & Thoroughness of Answers (30 points); Neatness & Appearance of Application (20 points). Applications that do not follow the rules listed above will be assessed a penalty of 10 points per infraction, with the exception of late applications which will be assessed a penalty of 20 points for up to one week late and disqualification for later than one week.

NATIONAL MANAGEMENT CONTEST

If you fill out a 4-H or FFA record book you already have most of this information.

Applications will be judged by ARBA District and on the number of cages/adult animals (division) that a youth member has for housing their animals. Divisions are: Limited Rabbitry (1-20 Holes), Average Rabbitry (21-50 Holes), Unlimited Rabbitry (51+ Holes), and Cavity (all sizes). Members can enter only ONE division. There are 18 questions to answer. Applications will be judged on the following criteria: Cages, Housing & Equipment (50 points); Breeding & Production (50 points); Care, Health & Herd Management (30 points); Record Keeping (20 points); Clarity & Thoroughness of Answers (30 points); Neatness & Appearance of Application (20 points). Applications that do not follow the rules listed above will be assessed a penalty of 10 points per infraction, with the exception of late applications which will be assessed a penalty of 20 points for up to one week late and disqualification for later than one week. Your Youth Committee will be happy to advise and or look over your application before you submit it, if you would like help.

EDUCATIONAL CONTESTS

If you are in 4-H and complete and indoor project, then this category is for you 😊

Exhibits must be informational or promotional of either rabbits or cavies or include a rabbit or cavy as part of their design. A contestant may enter as many classes as they choose but may submit only one entry per class. Based upon age, exhibits will be in one of three age divisions in these classes: Art – Drawing; Art – Painting; Art - Sculpture or Carving; Crafts - Ceramics or Pottery; Crafts - Handmade Jewelry; Crafts - Clothing (made by the exhibitor); Crafts - Latch Hook; Crafts – Needlework; Crafts - Puppet or Stuffed Animal; Crafts - Stenciled Item; Crafts - Wearable Art; Crafts - Any Other Craft; Creative Writing – Poem; Creative Writing - Short Story; Educational Poster; Educational Display; Educational Game; Photography - Single Photo – Black & White; Photography - Single Photo

– Color; Photography - Photo Series; Woodworking and Metalworking – Decorative; Woodworking and Metalworking - Rabbit or Cavy Equipment. Each entry must be the work of the contestant and must have been completed in the 12 months prior to the ARBA National Convention. If an exhibitor is unable to attend the National Convention, transportation of their entry to the convention site will be their responsibility. If necessary, exhibits may be shipped directly to the ARBA Convention site but only after contact with the ARBA Youth Department chairperson. There are rabbit breeders from Missouri traveling to the Show and as long as the items are not too large, I think they would assist you in getting the projects to the Convention and back.

THE CONTESTS THAT REQUIRE YOU TO ATTEND CONVENTION ARE:

TEAM CONTESTS

Breed Identification Contest (Junior (Ages 5 to 11 years), Intermediate (Ages 12 to 14 years), and Senior (Ages 15 -18 years)) and **Judging Contest** (Intermediate (Ages 12 to 14 years), and Senior (Ages 15 -18 years)) are also being held on Saturday October 26th, 2024. You will need to check in on Friday evening the 25th. If you are interested in a team contest please let us know so we can help you to prepare for the contest. Participants in these contests can travel to Louisville on Friday, compete on Saturday, and return home on Sunday if they would like.

INDIVIDUAL CONTESTS

Breed Identification Contest (Junior (Ages 5 to 11 years), Intermediate (Ages 12 to 14 years), and Senior (Ages 15 -18 years)) Contestants will identify 25 animals, both rabbits and cavies, listing the complete breed name as printed in the ARBA Standard of Perfection, the showroom variety, whether a 4 class or 6 class breed and the registration variety of each of the 25 animals. No abbreviations are accepted. This contest will be on Saturday, October 26, 2024

Skill-a-Thon Contest: (Pre-Junior (Ages 5 to 8 years)). Pre Registration is encouraged, but not required for this contest. Contestants will participate in various knowledge and skills stations.

Showmanship Contest Division: (Junior (Ages 9 to 11 years)). Contestants will examine and evaluate an animal telling what and why as they go along. A contestant may use their own animal or the committee will have some available in the first round. Callbacks will be made for at least the top five at each table. Callbacks will be posted by noon Sunday.

Judging Contest Divisions: Intermediate (Ages 12 to 14 years), and Senior (Ages 15 -18 years). Each participant will be required to place four classes of four animals per class. This is a timed event of 7 minutes per class. The use of the ARBA Standard of Perfection at the judging table is encouraged. Judging classes may involve rabbits (including meat classes), cavies, fur, and wool. Callbacks will be made for at least the top five at each table. Callbacks will be posted by noon Sunday.

ROYALTY CONTEST Divisions are King (Boys, Ages 15-18 years), Queen (Girls, Ages 15-18 years), Duke (Boys, Ages 12-14 years), Duchess (Girls, Ages 12-14 years), Prince (Boys, Ages 9-11 years), Princess (Girls, Ages 9-11 years), Lord (Boys, Ages 5-8 years), Lady (Girls, Ages 5-8 years). Up to five pages and less than 4500 words, printed on one side only, may be submitted by the applicant. The final Scores for the Royalty Contests will be the sum of the scores for each of the five components of the contest. The components are Application (200 points), Written Examination (200 points), Oral Interview (200 points), Breed Identification (200 points), and the age-appropriate Individual Contest (200 points). Each Royalty contestant will compete in the Individual Contest that is age-appropriate, with the exception of Lord and Lady Contestants.

If you need more information, please contact a youth committee member.

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