

## 2009 TRBA Youth Contest information

The TRBA State Show is just around the corner! It is time to start thinking about entering the Royalty Contest that is held every year at the show. This is a great way to improve your rabbit and cavy knowledge, judging and Breed ID skills. Participants enter the contest based on their age on the closing day of the annual State Show. The age categories are:

15 through 18 years of age: King / Queen Division

12 through 14 years of age: Duke / Duchess Division

9 through 11 years of age: Prince / Princess Division

8 years and under: Lord / Lady Division

You must be a current TRBA member to enter, and live in the State of Texas. The first step is to fill out a Royalty application. You can find this in the newsletter, on the Website at [texasrba.com](http://texasrba.com), or request one from me. The instructions for entering are listed on the application. If you have any questions about the contest, please feel free to call me and I will be happy to talk with you about the contests. The deadline for entering is a postmark date of March 1, 2009. Any entries postmarked after this date will be returned.

The scores from the application, Hands on Judging, (showmanship for Lord & Lady) Breed ID, and written test will be combined to determine the Royalty winners, and they will be announced at the Banquet on Saturday evening.

Not quite ready to enter Royalty? Then I encourage you to enter the Judging contest, Breed ID contest or take the written test on an individual basis. We have great prizes and ribbons for the winners! You may enter one, two or all three of the contests. Look for the sign up sheets in the Youth area. You will have until 8:00 am Saturday morning to sign up.

Judging will consist of placing 2 classes of 4 animals each, in 7 minutes per class. You will be allowed to bring your Standard of Perfection with you as you judge. Breed ID will consist of approximately 20-25 animals, (rabbits and cavies) and you will be asked to identify the Breed, Showroom Classification, if they are a 4 or 6 class, and registration variety. The written tests are always challenging!! Information on the tests will be drawn from the ARBA Official Guidebook to Raising Better Rabbits and Cavies, the ARBA Yearbook, the ARBA Standard of Perfection, the ARBA Domestic Rabbit Guide, current issues of the Domestic Rabbit magazine, the TRBA Yearbook and current issues of the "TRBA News."

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Youth that would like to compete on the Texas Judging and/or Breed ID teams for the ARBA Convention to be held in **San Diego, California (Nov. 1-5, 2009)**, must compete in the Judging and/or Breed ID contest at the State show to qualify as a team member. The top 4 highest scores in each age division will be named to the team. There will also be 2 alternates for each team. Anyone changing age divisions before the ARBA Convention will need to also judge in the next higher age category.

Contests will begin Saturday morning at 8:00 AM, please remain available until 3:00 PM so we can resolve any ties. As always, many volunteers will be needed, and I would appreciate any help offered! From reading to the younger entrants, timing judging and helping grade tests, there is a job for everyone.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions,

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