

# **Proposed APA Egg Competition**

Adopted from The British Poultry Standard  
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## **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

The American Poultry Association is considering having Egg Competitions as part of the Association's sanctioned shows. Below you will find the mission statement and proposed rules for these events. The plan is to have several competitions at West Coast shows this next show season. The events coordinators, Susan Chung and Kathy Lewis, will then report back to the board at the Semi Annual in the spring of 2018. At this meeting, the proposal will be discussed after looking at the information that will be presented and a decision will be made.

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

APA National Egg Competition: Celebrating nature's miracle – the egg through competition.

## **GOALS:**

To develop standards and judging methodology for the exhibition of eggs in quality and creative classifications.

To improve the quality and consistency of the eggs exhibited.

To encourage participation in the exhibition of eggs by individuals through quality and creative, artistic expression.

To bring attention to standard bred poultry by exhibition of the eggs produced.

**To increase interest and participation in exhibition poultry by attracting the public to Egg Shows held at American Poultry Association sanctioned poultry shows.**

The poultry shows in the UK have experienced a phenomenal increase over the past few years in the number of exhibitors competing in the egg competition. Some of their large shows have as many as 800 EXHIBITORS! In 2008, the Poultry Club of Great Britain decided to include a standard for egg competition in their British Poultry Standards. This standard is divided into 4 sections: main egg competition, painted eggs, decorated eggs, and egg display. Only an exhibit from the main egg section can be awarded egg show champion. Decorated, painted or display exhibits are excluded from this award. A main egg entry is comprised of a group of eggs; painted or decorated egg exhibits are a single egg.

# The Egg Competitions

Egg Show Exhibitors may consist of anyone wishing to enter the competition. An egg show exhibitor does not have to show in the actual *in cage* show. All three Egg Competition Classes are offered to both Open and Junior Exhibitors. (ages 5-7), (8-11), (12-18)

## MAIN EGG COMPETITION STANDARD:

- **Please note:** In this division, eggs will not be judged the same as commercial eggs. Per the APA Board - The APA does not judge chickens, waterfowl, etc. according to commercial specifications and will not do so for the egg entries.

Entry to consist of a group of 3 eggs displayed on plates provided.

## EXTERNAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Proposed Classes for Main Egg Section – Open and Junior
- Large Eggs: Breed or Non-Standard & Color noted on entry card.
- Bantam Eggs: Breed or Non-Standard & Color noted on entry card.
- Waterfowl Eggs: Breed or Non-Standard & Color noted on entry card.
- Non-Standard Eggs: If breed is known, can be noted on entry card & color.
  - NOTE: Non-Standard Eggs includes birds not accepted in the APA *Standard of Perfection*, Mixed breeds and those of unknown ancestry.
- **Color** – White, cream, light brown (tinted), brown, mottled or speckled, blue, green, olive and plum. The color should be even. In the case of mottled or speckled eggs, regular mottles or speckles are preferred. **Mottled or speckled are shown according to their background color.** When a breed standard has stated a particular color, any variation from this should be penalized.
- **Shape** – Ample breadth, with greater length than width. Bottom should not be too pointed and a circular or narrow shape is undesirable. The ideal shape is described as an elliptical cone. A cross-section at any point across the egg's girth should be a perfect circle.
- **Shell Texture** – Smooth, free from lines or bulges, evenly limed, smooth at each end without roughness, porous parts or lime pimples.
- **Freshness, Bloom, and Appearance** – Shells to be clean, without dull or stale appearance as appropriate for a new-laid egg. Shell surfaces may be shiny or matte, but free from blemishes such as stains or nest marks. Eggs may be washed in preparation, but not polished. Muscovy duck eggs often have a wax cuticle, which may be removed
- **Matching and uniformity** – Eggs exhibited as a group of 3, to be uniform in shape, shell texture, size, color and appearance.

## INTERNAL CHARACTERISTICS – One egg is broken

- **Yolk** –Rich, bright golden yellow, free from blood streaks or meat spots. Well-rounded and well raised from center of albumen. One uniform shade. Blastoderm or germ spot not discolored. There should be no sign of embryo development.
- **Albumen** – This is clear with no sign of blood spots or cloudiness and preferably with no hint of color. Waterfowl albumen must be clear.
- **Chalazae** – Each chalazae to resemble a thick cord of white albumen opposite each other and attached to the yolk, keep it to the center of the inner albumen.
- **Airspace** – Small in size, about ½” (1.5cm) diameter, bantam egg about 1 ¾” (1cm), adhering to the shell.

**JUDGING CRITERIA:** Eggs to be uniform in shape, shell texture, size, color and appearance. When a breed standard states a color, variation from this is penalized. Only an entry in this division can qualify for Egg Show champion (decorated eggs, painted eggs are not eligible for champion status)

## JUDGING GUIDELINES - No scoring on entry card

<b>Internal</b>		<b>External</b>	
Yolk	30	Shape	25
Albumen	30	Size	15
Chalazae	10	Shell Texture	20
Airspace	10	Freshness, Bloom, Appearance	20
Freshness	20	Total	100
Total	100		

- Serious Defects

More than 1 yolk, staleness, polished or over-prepared shells, a developing embryo, excessive blood streaks and meat spots.

- Disqualification

Addition of coloring to shells. Artificial polish or coloring would be cause to disqualify.

## Painted Egg Standard

- One egg per entry. (Egg size may be chicken, goose, duck, guinea, turkey)
  1. Entry to be hard-boiled or blown.
  2. Egg to be painted or inked.
  3. No decoration may be applied.
  4. Some type of upright support is recommended for display.
  5. Egg MUST be painted or inked by the exhibitor.

### Judging Guidelines

Impression/Artistic Effect	25
Originality/Concept/ Subject Matter	25
Quality of Painting	25
Use of Color	25
Total	100pts

## Decorated Egg Standard

- One egg per entry. (Egg size may be chicken, goose, duck, guinea, turkey)
  1. Entry must be blown or hard-boiled.
  2. Decorated egg may also be painted. Examples of adornment are beads, colored paper, shells, plant materials, etc.
  3. Whatever the design chosen, the outline of the egg must be maintained, it's shape always being recognizable.
  4. Egg decoration MUST have been created by the exhibitor

### Judging Guidelines

Impression/Artistic Effect	20
Originality/Concept/Subject Matter	20
Quality of Construction	20
Use of Color	20
Use of Material	20
	Total 100pts

### **Note:**

The British Standard also includes a section for Displayed Eggs. In this section, displayed eggs are in groups of 6. The shape and matching qualities of the eggs are taken in consideration by the judge. The eggs themselves are not painted or adorned. A *display is created around the eggs*. An example is a creative bird's nest containing the eggs. We are not planning to offer the displayed eggs section for competitions at this time.

