



Procedure to Become a NARA Judge

Step 1 – Administration	Anyone wishing to become a NARA judge must submit a completed application form to the NARA President.
Step 2 – Verification	The NARA BOD will review the application, verify its accuracy, check the references, and vote to approve the candidate's entry into the NARA Judges' Program. The candidate will be notified of the BOD's decision.
Step 3 – Apprenticeship	<p>Once the candidate is notified of the BOD's approval, he or she is immediately considered to be a Student Judge and may commence with learning to judge from NARA-recognized judges or NARA judges of Level 2 or higher.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Student Judge is required to complete a minimum of six trials with at least four different judges. There is no maximum number of times a Student Judge may apprentice judge. It is the responsibility of the Student Judge to determine when he or she is ready to move on to the next step in the program. It is expected that the Student Judge will be attentive, professional and respectful of the Trial Judge, competitors, hosting club, trial personnel and spectators. ▪ Student Judges may not judge any trials independently nor sign any scoresheets. ▪ After each trial, the Student Judge should request from the Trial Judge that an evaluation be sent to the NARA Board of Directors with comments on the student's performance, aptitude and attitude. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure the BOD receives the required evaluations. If a student receives an unfavorable evaluation, he or she is required to apprentice judge again to receive a favorable evaluation. ▪ Upon completion of the minimum of two required trials with favorable evaluations provided to the BOD, the Student Judge must inform the NARA President that he or she wishes to continue with the program by taking the written test.
Step 4 – Written Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Student Judge will take a written test administered by a NARA BOD member, a NARA judge, or an appropriate party designated by the BOD. ▪ If the student does not pass the written exam, he or she will remain a Student Judge and must return to apprentice judging at least three more trials with favorable evaluations provided to the BOD before requesting again to take the written exam. ▪ If the Student Judge fails to pass the written exam a second time, his or her candidacy is terminated, and he or she may not re-apply to the program for a period of at least two years. ▪ If the Student Judge passes the written exam, he or she is recognized as a Novice Judge, and moves on to the next step in the program.

<p>Step 5 – Novice Judge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As a Novice Judge, the individual will score a minimum of two trials in parallel with a NARA-recognized Judge or a NARA Judge of Level 1 or higher. ▪ Each of these judges must be pre-approved by the NARA BOD. ▪ The Novice Judge will score the trial independently, and his or her results will be compared against the results of the Trial Judge. If the outcome of this segment is favorable, as determined by the BOD, the Novice Judge will be recognized as a NARA Level 1 Judge.
<p>Step 6 – Level 1 Judge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As a NARA Level 1 Judge, the Judge is authorized to officiate at all NARA temperament tests and trials (Regional Championships and Championships only with BOD authorization). ▪ After a minimum of one year judging independently, and having completed a minimum of six trials, the Level 1 Judge may request to be promoted to a Level 2 Judge. The NARA BOD will review and vote on the request, and notify the individual of their decision. If approved, the individual will be recognized as a Level 2 Judge. If the request is denied, the BOD will provide the rationale to the individual, and he or she will remain a Level 1 judge for a minimum of two more trials before he or she is eligible to make another request for promotion.
<p>Step 7 – Level 2 Judge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As a NARA Level 2 Judge, the judge is authorized to officiate at all NARA temperament tests and trials, and is authorized to serve as a tutor to NARA Student and Novice Judges. ▪ After a minimum of one year as a Level 2 judge, having completed a minimum of nine trials as a Level 2 judge, the Level 2 Judge may request to be promoted to a Level 3 Judge. The NARA BOD will review and vote on the request, and notify the individual of their decision. If approved, the individual will be recognized as a Level 3 Judge. If the request is denied, the BOD will provide the rationale to the individual, and he or she will remain a Level 2 judge for a minimum of two more trials before he or she is eligible to make another request for promotion.
<p>Step 8 – Level 3 Judge</p>	<p>The NARA Level 3 Judge is authorized to officiate at all NARA temperament tests, trials and decoy selections, is authorized to serve as a tutor to NARA Student and Novice Judges and is authorized to judge internationally.</p>