



## YOUTH EXHIBITION POULTRY ASSOCIATION

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### Club Partnership 2015

#### **Working together through education:**

It is the objective of Y.E.P.A. to help foster relationships between youth members and the clubs that represent the breed of bird they are most interested in. We believe this relationship is important for the student to insure success in raising a healthy, productive flock as well as participate wholly in the poultry hobby.

By joining forces we can work together in unison to educate our junior members to raise a healthy flock of their favorite breed of bird. This will give them advantages of participating wholly in the poultry hobby

#### **Eligibility:**

Any youth from the ages of 5 years to 18 years of age are eligible to be a member of our association.

#### **The A.C.E. Program:**

The A.C.E Program is a specific program designed to educate our joint members in raising a healthy poultry flock, according to the APA and the ABA "standards" and according to the standards of the USDA and the NPIP. There are record books for each step of the ACE Program that a youth member will be required to fill out, submit for grading and then testing to advance to the next level. Rules and guidelines of the A.C.E. Program are attached on the last page of this document.

#### **The benefits for Breed Poultry Clubs:**

Participating with Y.E.P.A gives you the opportunity to incorporate the club's A.C.E. Program directly into your own junior program. Our record books are age appropriate and can be customized to fit any poultry project. We would require junior club members also be in good standing with Y.E.P.A. to utilize the A.C.E. Program record books.

#### **The benefits for General Poultry Clubs:**

As a general club partner your show club will have all shows advertised in our monthly newsletter. Any articles or special events you host at your shows and you supply to us will be published in our monthly newsletter and sent individually to YEPA club members in your state and surrounding states. Your logo will be placed on the homepage of the YEPA website with direct links to your website and email.

#### **The ACE Program Record Book:**

1. **ACTIVITIES:** All activities that members have participated in such as clinics, seminars, educational contests and activities they have done. Other activities might include taking their bird or chicks to school to introduce students to the poultry hobby, promoting the clubs they are involved in at local swap meets or interviewing a judge or breeder obtaining as much information as they can about their favorite breed.

2. **COMPETITIONS:** Members record their competition results from all shows and entered birds. Coop tags and showmanship sheets should be organized in their notebooks for verification of results.

3. **EDUCATION:** The member records all that they have learned about raising their favorite breed in the educational section of the record book. This includes a profit and loss financial statement, the study of poultry diseases and parasites, good bio-security at home and in the showroom, proper poultry terminology, specific breed history, the problems and solutions of breeding techniques, keeping an incubation and hatch rate record and what they learned when they attended a clinic, seminar or a meeting of your poultry club. These notebooks are thorough in educating our youngsters in the poultry hobby meeting all standards as mentioned above in the A.C.E. Program section.

### **Completed Record Books:**

1. The completed record book is turned in to one of our youth leaders or sent to the Y.E.P.A. national office for grading and review. You may also request the student submit a copy to your club for review.
2. Once the book is graded the youth member will be tested on his/her knowledge of the information related to their particular level and chosen breed of bird. This takes place at a poultry show where the showroom floor is utilized to discuss their knowledge of the materials they have provided in their book.
3. A knowledgeable breeder, a licensed poultry judge, a Y.E.P.A. Leader or a representative of your breed club are eligible to administer testing. Y.E.P.A. has standardized tests available for this purpose.

### **Our Relationship:**

1. A club partner membership fee of \$25.00 annually will give your *breed club* access to all phases of our educational program. This membership fee will allow you to submit articles relating to your specific breed that will be published in our monthly newsletter and we encourage you to do so. Your club logo and website link will be placed on our website and will be published in our monthly newsletter.
2. Membership for Y.E.P. A., at this writing, is \$8.00 per year per individual members- (A file is kept for each individual member to record their achievements when they are active in our program.)
3. Our copyrighted record books for your breed club educational program can be purchased by our joint members.

\*\*\*\*\*Members of our joint program will be eligible to enter all contests we run through the Youth Exhibition Poultry Association and will be eligible to earn points in our "Showmanship Points Program" for our youth members at sanctioned showmanship meets.

### **Breed Club Youth Membership:**

It will be responsibility of your breed club secretary or youth coordinator to keep us informed of your youth members so we can coordinate our joint junior members. This way we can flag their records -to better communicate with you about their achievements and possible testing to while moving up the A.C.E. Program ladder of success.

### **Joining the Youth Exhibition Poultry Association as Youth Members:**

Potential members may join Y.E.P.A. and purchase A.C.E. Program record books online from our website or by printing out an application and mailing it with their check or money order to the address above.

# THE A.C.E.PROGRAM

## WHAT IS IT? HOW DOES IT WORK?

Our club is an educational poultry club. *The ACE program is our educational program for youth with a serious interest in “exhibition poultry”.* There are three types of poultry; egg layers and broilers associated only with the commercial industry and “exhibition” poultry. *Our focus is only about the exhibition poultry hobby.* We are sponsored by the American Poultry Association and the American Bantam Association and our guidelines follow their “standards” in raising and showing exhibition birds.

The A.C.E. Program stands for: Activities.....Competition.....Education, hence A.C.E.

To begin this journey a member must be 8 years old. Each member must keep a record book of their journey beginning with the first record book and working their way up through each level of this program.

First Book: Coop Tender

Second Book: Flock Tender

Third Book: Flock Master

Final Step: Poultry Master

The first three books must be completed by the members 18th birthday. The final step, Poultry Master, must be completed by the members 21st birthday.

ALSO available is the educational Pee Wee level of our program which is an introduction to record keeping. A member, with the help of their parents may begin the level at the age of 5 and must be completed by the age of 8 when they move into the Coop Tender level record book.

*Being an active member of the ACE Program offers several opportunities. The first opportunity is to be active in our Showmanship Program and at the third book level may take a test to become a “certified showmanship judge at the age of 16”. The second opportunity is the student has the option to enter the “Pre-Apprentice Judges Program” for those interested in becoming a licensed APA or ABA poultry judge. This program is available when the final level of Poultry Master is completed. This must be completed by your 25th birthday. ONLY MEMBERS WORKING IN THE ACE PROGRAM CAN RECEIVE THESE OPPORTUNITIES.*

Information about both of the above programs are available to all interested parties and the guidelines can be ordered from the national office or found on our website.

When you have completed your record book for each level, you must contact the national office or a youth leader in your district of the country. A time will be scheduled to check your notebook for accuracy and go over your achievements, education and competition records. You will be tested verbally about the contents of your record book, usually done during a show and on the showroom floor using your bird entry as focal points.

Beginning with the Coop Tender level, you will receive a certificate of achievement and a patch showing you have reached this goal. These may be sewn on your show coat or hat.

This program is a very good reference for students that plan to attend college or to enter the workplace.

Record books may be ordered at the time you join the youth club or may be ordered online from our website store. These books are available for our members only!

