

**ILR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**  
Tuesday, October 22, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER – 5:05 Pacific**

**Attendees**

ILR Governing Board	
Debbie Arendas - GB Chair	Madeline Krawciw - Performance
Stephen Fritz	Kelsi Matthew - Youth
Kyle Mumford	Fran Soukup - Judges
Tor Sorenson	Sean Hart - Halter- Absent
Benjamin Carothers	Cindy Ruckman - Fleece
	Lisa Paquet - Show Superintendents- Absent
	Denise Fehrenbach - Futurity

Next ILR Governing Board Meeting will be held in early 2025. Deb reminded committee chairs to call a meeting in the new year after elections are held to elect chairs and secretaries.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS -**

**Judges Committee: Fran Soukup**

A dual sanctioned judges clinic was requested May 9 - 11, 2025 in Jefferson, GA. Fran talked the Governing Board through the clinic proposal. Kyle made a motion to approve the clinic. Steve seconded. Unanimous approval.

Approve Benjamin Carothers & Stephen Fritz as HPY judges.  
Deb made the motion. Tor seconded. Stephen and Benjamin abstained.

Approve Aspen Kelchen as Permanently Certified HPY judge  
Steve made the motion, Fran seconded. Unanimous approval.

Approve Jerrika Mumford as Fleece judge  
Steve made the motion. Benjamin seconded. Kyle abstained. Unanimous approval.

Approve Cassandra William as an HPY Apprentice.  
Tor made the motion. Steve seconded. Unanimous approval.

Approve Alexis Irwin as HPY apprentice.  
Steve made the motion. Tor seconded. Denise abstained. Unanimous approval.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Tor made a motion to approve the drafted letter regarding recent conduct of a judge. Fran seconded. Unanimous approval.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Kyle proposed adjustments to the Grievance procedures, based on the Governing Board's recent experiences with the process, and member feedback that has been received.

## **VI Protest and Grievance - Page 16-18**

**New item VI A.** New letters for the proceeding items will be necessary. Currently Protest and Grievance are not differentiated. Differentiating them would allow for a different timeline for protests (15 days for problems which would adjust the results of a show) and Grievances (45 days for ethics violations etc).

"Definitions

1. A protest is defined as wishing to adjust the placements of a show due to a perceived ILR-SD Guidelines violation.
2. A grievance is defined as a formal complaint against a judge, show management, or an exhibitor, due to a perceived ILR-SD Guidelines violation."

B. Procedure for filing a protest/grievance

### **VI B 1**

Add new lines to end: "Grievances must be filed within 45 days of the event."

### **VI B 3**

**Current Wording** "This procedure also applies to claims of violations by judges of the Judges Ethics (Section III.H) or Judges/Apprentice Code of Conduct Section III.I)

**Proposed wording:** "The ILR-SD Judges committee may submit Grievances related to violations of Judges Ethics (Section III.H) or Judge/Apprentice Code of Conduct (Section II.I). The Grievance for violation of the Code of Conduct may be submitted to the Governing Board upon a majority vote of the Judges Committee. Grievances initiated by the judges committee should include at least one first-hand account of an incident (if applicable), and/or a letter of warning to the judge in question with repeat offense/lack of correction on the part of the judge. The Judge's committee is exempt from time restrictions and fees associated with the grievance process.

### **VI B 5A**

**Current:** "If they are deemed to be valid, then a panel of 5 people will be chosen from the current ILR show division members."

**Proposed:** "If they are deemed to be valid, then a panel of 5 people will be chosen from the current ILR show division members. The panel members will be chosen at random by ILR office staff, using a selection method chosen by the ILR-SD Governing Board. The panel members may choose to remain anonymous to the

accused and grieved parties."

#### **VI B 5d**

**Current:** "They, as an entire grievance panel, will review the same. In the course of their review, they will contact both the complainant and the accused and any other involved persons. So all members receive the same information and to avoid multiple calls to the same individuals it is encouraged that interviews with complainants and other parties be conducted by individual interviews with the summary shared with all panel members or on a conference call with the panel."

**Proposed:** "The grievance panel will review provided documentation. The complainant and the accused will be given the opportunity to provide additional context and answer any questions the panel may have. Other individuals with knowledge of the situation may be contacted if necessary. If phone interviews are required the committee should work together to avoid multiple calls to the same individuals."

#### **VI B 5e**

**Current:** "The grievance panel has 15 days to complete their investigation."

**Proposed:** "The grievance panel has 15 days to complete their investigation, from the date the committee is fully seated and receives related documentation."

#### **VI C**

Change title to "PROCEDURE FOR APPEALING A PROTEST/GRIEVANCE DECISION"

##### **Current wording:**

1. If the accused wishes to appeal this decision, the process of the protest would be followed again.
2. This time the accused would submit in writing to the Governing Board the wish for an appeal accompanied by a fee of \$200.00 made payable to ILR-SD (refundable if the appeal is successful).
3. The process would go forth by the selection of five different show division members who would review the original complaint/protest and submit their ruling (individually) to ILR Operations Manager at the ILR office.
4. This appeal decision will be brought back to the Governing Board and will stand as the final decision.

##### **Proposed new wording:**

1. The accused or complainant may appeal the decision, if they feel the ILR-SD Guidelines were not followed during the grievance process.
2. The appeal must be filed within 30 days of receiving the Governing Board's ruling. The appeal must be submitted to the Governing Board in writing, accompanied by a fee of \$200.00 made payable to ILR-SD (refundable if the appeal is successful).
3. At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Governing Board, they will determine if the appeal is valid. If they determine that the Guidelines were not followed during the Protest/Grievance process, the appeal is valid.
4. If the appeal is deemed to be valid, the protest/grievance process will be repeated with a new panel.
5. At the conclusion of the first appeal, if an additional appeal is requested and deemed valid by the Governing Board, it will be adjudicated by the ILR Board of

Directors. If a conflict of interest exists on the Board of Directors, the Governing Board will appoint a replacement to the panel.

Steve made a motion to approve the Protest and Grievance changes. Tor seconded. Unanimous approval.

**Open Book Judges Test:** Fran asked committee chairs to assist in developing questions for the 2025 open book judges test.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: Tor made a motion to adjourn at 5:31 Pacific. Steve Seconded. Unanimous approval.**

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## **ILR BOD MEETING**

Steve called to order 5:32 Pacific.

Deb made a motion to approve Aspen as permanently certified, Alexis, Cassandra as HPY apprentices. Tor seconded. Unanimous approval.

Tor made a motion to approve Benjamin as an HPY judge. Deb seconded. Benjamin abstained. Unanimous approval.

Tor made a motion to approve Steve as an HPY judge. Deb seconded. Steve abstained. Unanimous approval.

Benjamin made a motion to approve Jerrika as a Fleece judge. Deb seconded. Kyle abstained. Unanimous approval.

Tor made a motion to approve the Georgia clinic. Deb seconded. Unanimous approval.

Tor made a motion to approve the Protest and Grievance changes. Benjamin seconded. Unanimous approval.

Tor made a motion to adjourn at 5:53 Pacific. Deb seconded. Unanimous approval.