



Rules for AAPE Youth Program Effective 2/2015



The name of the award given to the best youth exhibit at nationally-accredited shows in the USA and Canada, subject to the following rules, will be called the “AAPE Youth Grand Award.” All winners of this award in the current show season will be invited to compete against each other for the designation “AAPE Champion of Champions.” The following rules apply until changed by a vote of the AAPE Board of Directors.

1. The award may only be given by the jury. The panel of judges have the complete and sole authority to award the AAPE Youth Grand Award. If any question arises as to whether the award was given or to whom, the chairman of the jury will render a judgement as to the intent of the jury. The decision of the judges is final and not subject to review or appeal.
2. The exhibit must be the best youth exhibit **which qualifies** for the invitation to compete in the Youth Champion of Champions. It need not win the show’s “Youth Grand Award” when that award is given to another exhibit which does not qualify for the AAPE Youth Grand Award, for example because it has already won an AAPE Youth Grand Award during the current show season, is the current holder of the AAPE Youth Champion of Champions title, or the exhibitor is over age 18.
3. Youth exhibitors must be younger than age 19 on January 1 of the calendar year in which the exhibit is shown to comply with the APS Manual of Judging Youth exhibits. If an exhibitor's age is 19 on January 1st in the year of the annual championship, they compete for the annual championship as if he/she were 18 years old.
4. The award may only be made at national shows, i.e., those nationally accredited by either APS or RPSC.
5. Judging must be by an accredited APS or RPSC panel and conducted by normal national standards and under the rules established by APS or RPSC. The exhibit must receive **at least a national Silver Medal** in the show where the AAPE Youth Grand Award is given. A local, show, or society award which is not based on national standards cannot be used to qualify an exhibit for the Youth Champion of Champions.
6. An exhibit may receive only one AAPE Youth Grand Award in any exhibiting season.. The exhibit may qualify for any other show or society awards for which it is eligible.
7. When not otherwise stated in these regulations and criteria, all APS regulations and practices will apply for youth exhibitors. Furthermore, as the AAPE Youth Champion of Champions program is based on APS standards of age, show jury, etc., any change made by APS in these areas will be accepted immediately for qualification for the AAPE Youth Grand Award.
8. An exhibit which has won the annual Youth Champion of Champions shall not be eligible for an invitation in the following show season, although the eligibility of other exhibits by the same exhibitor are unaffected. After one year the exhibit may once again qualify if the exhibitor certifies in writing to the Director of the AAPE Champion of Champions program that the exhibit has changed substantially - at least 25% new material and major changes in plan or write up. (The winner will receive information about renewing eligibility during the year in which the exhibit holds the AAPE Youth Champion of Champions title.) All non-winning entries regain their qualified status at the start of a new season.
9. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded based on medal level and points at the discretion of the Jury.
10. The season for an exhibit to qualify for the AAPE Youth C of C shall concur with the APS Multi-Frame C of C (July 1 – June 30).