

American Cavy Breeders Association

Promote the breeding and improvement of the cavy, and secure publicity for and interest in the cavy as an exhibition and pet animal.

ACBA 2025 YOUTH ROYALTY CONTEST

PURPOSE

To acknowledge excellence among ACBA Youth Members in attendance at the ACBA Specialty Show.

To allow these members to demonstrate a working knowledge of the cavy fancy; To explore critical thinking skills, demonstrate personal initiative, and provide problem-solving, decision-making, and goal-setting activities for these youth members. The ACBA considers the entrants and participants in this Royalty Contest to be our "Best & Brightest" for the continued strength and growth of our organization.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be current members of the ACBA at the time of entry and participation. Membership status will be confirmed by the ACBA Youth Chair with the ACBA Secretary.

The age requirements and divisions are as follows:

(age is determined as the youth's age on the closing day of the ACBA Specialty Show)

Years of age:	15-18	12-14	9-11	Under 9
Boys:	King	Prince	Duke	Count
Girls:	Queen	Princess	Duchess	Countess

Applicants must attend the ACBA Specialty, April 11th to April 13th, 2025 in Ridgefield, Washington to compete in the Royalty contests.

RULES

1. Applicants agree to be available and complete all events scheduled. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
2. Applicants **MUST** participate in the Youth Management and Youth Achievement Contests.
3. The ACBA Youth Royalty Application forms must be used and provided by the ACBA Youth Committee. **If another form is used instead of the current form (labeled ACBA 2025 YOUTH ROYALTY CONTEST), the contestant is automatically disqualified and will be informed by email.** The current forms are available from the ACBA Youth Chairperson, and the ACBA Website.
4. Applications are to be completed by the contestant and in their own words. Youth in the Count/Countess category may choose to have some help in filling out the application.
5. **Maximum number of pages is five (5) pages, printed on one side only**, information may be submitted by the applicant. This should include the information needed to complete the answers. **Visual aids may be included but do not count toward the maximum number of pages.** The Bio Question should be on a separate page and does not count toward the maximum number of pages. A photo of the participant must also be included.
6. While at the ACBA Specialty, contestants are the responsibility of their parents or chaperone. The chaperone must be of legal age.
7. Winners will be announced at the ACBA Banquet at the ACBA Specialty.
8. Applications must be submitted **by email and must be in a Word document.** Please email your application (filled out completely), and your answers to youthroyalty@acbaonline.com. A current photograph of yourself is optional unless you are one of the ACBA Youth Royalty Winners, then this will be mandatory. When you are submitting a photograph electronically, please be sure it is of high resolution and clarity for a print publication (these items will need to be scanned and attached to the email). Incomplete applications or failure to follow these instructions will incur a 10-point deduction per infraction.

Application Scoring Rubric:

Plans and Goals	30 points
Management	40 points
Achievement	40 points
Involvement & Leadership	40 points
Introduction & Background	30 points
Clarity and thoroughness or answers, able to follow directions	20 points
Total Possible Score	200 points

APPLICATION

- Send only the Word document of the Royalty application and a copy of your Bio. *Failure in any portion of this direction will result in a 10-point deduction per infraction!*
- Your submitted photo will be posted in the JACBA along with your Bio if you are the Royalty winner. This photo is part of your application.
- **Make sure that both the applicant and their parent/guardian sign the ACBA 2025 Specialty Entry Form.** *Failure to have both the applicant's signature and that of their parent/guardian will result in the disqualification of the applicant.*
- **Make sure you include the Youth Achievement, Management, and Royalty applications, your Bio, and ONE photo of yourself, as well as the completed ACBA 2025 Specialty Contest Entry Form.** Do not put your name anywhere on your answers other than on your Questions page! *Placing your name on any of your answer pages will result in a 10-point deduction per infraction!!*

Emailed applications must be received by Midnight (MST) on March 1st, 2025, and sent to:

youthroyalty@acbaonline.com

PROCEDURES

- 1) All contestants must check in to receive their packets and name tags. All contestants will be expected to stay at the check-in location to receive specific instructions for Friday and Saturday's events. The contest is *tentatively* to begin at 4:00 pm on Friday, April 11th, 2025. An email will be sent about a month prior to the ACBA specialty with information regarding the Youth Royalty contests.
- 2) All contestants will take a written test on Saturday, April 12th, 2025 @8:30am. The questions for this test will be taken from the ARBA Standard of Perfection, Raising Better Rabbits, and Cavies, and the ARBA Registrars Study Guide.
- 3) Count and Countess Contestants will be provided with help in reading their test. **Please email the Youth Royalty Chair prior to April 5th, 2025.** Reading help will be available for all other youth upon request. At no time, may a contestant be helped by their own parent/guardian/sibling. All answers must be clearly marked for accurate scoring. In the event of a tie, spelling will count toward the contestant's score. *If any youth ACBA member needs special accommodations to take the written test, assistance with the judging/showmanship or the breed ID contests, the child's parent or guardian must send a written notification of the type of special accommodation the child will need to compete in the Royalty contests no later than April 5th, 2025, by emailing the Youth Royalty Chair.*

- 4) Each youth contestant in the King/Queen and Prince/Princess divisions will judge four (4) classes of four (4) animals per class. This is a timed event of seven (7) minutes per class. Placements will be made on special forms provided. Instructions on how to fill out the forms will be given directly following sign-in. All forms must be filled out correctly! The use of the ARBA Standard of Perfection at the judging table will be provided by the Youth Royalty Chair. The use of placement markers is allowed, but they must be of minimal size. At no time, may a contestant be helped by their own parent/guardian/sibling.
- 5) Contestants in the Duke/Duchess and Count/Countess divisions will compete in an individual showmanship contest. Contestants will examine and evaluate their animal explaining what and why as they go along. **The contestant will use their own animal for this contest.** To help the contestant be familiar with this contest please see Cavy Showmanship Score Sheet. This is available from the ACBA Youth Royalty Chair Or at: <https://arba.net/showmanship/>
- 6) Each youth contestant will compete in a breed identification contest. Contestants will be required to identify up to 20 animals, listing the complete breed names as printed in the ARBA Standard of Perfection. They will also identify the showroom variety, and the registration variety of each of the animals, according to which age group the contestants are competing in. Abbreviations are not accepted. At no time, may a contestant be helped by their own parent/guardian/sibling. In the event of a tie, spelling will count toward the contestant's score.
- 7) All contestants will be interviewed at the ACBA Specialty Show. Contestants for interviews should be in proper showing attire with a clean show coat or at minimum, a long sleeve, collared, shirt (4-H or FFA dress). The National contests require a white shirt to be worn if the contestant does not wear a show coat. The sum of the scores from all 3 applications, written test, interview, breed identification, and judging contest/showmanship will determine the winners. The combined total number of points from all areas is 1000.

ACBA 2025 Royalty Written Questions

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age on April 13th, 2025: _____
 District: _____

1. When did you join the ACBA and how many consecutive years have you belonged? Explain any lapses in membership.
2. List your memberships in Cavy &/or rabbit-related organizations. Include the name of each club (no abbreviations) and the number of years you have been a member, and any offices or committees that you hold within those organizations.
3. Explain how and why you got started on your project. Include the year, breed(s), and who helped you get started.
4. List the breed(s) you currently raise and how many animals you have in each breed. Why did you choose this (these) breed(s)? Tell us what other breed(s) you have raised in the past and give a brief explanation of why you are no longer raising them.
5. How have you been a leader in your project?
6. What have you done to promote your breed(s) and make others aware of your project?
7. Give 2-3 examples where you've personally helped another exhibitor at a show or Cavy/Rabbit event. Describe the circumstance and what you learned in the process.
8. Describe the housing & equipment for your animals, be very specific.
9. What specifically do you do to help with the care and upkeep of your project?

10. Describe the records you keep and how you keep them.
11. Do you register your animals? Why or why not?
12. Make a table or a list of outstanding awards and achievements your animals have earned since January 1st, 2023. Pick two from your list and explain why they are important to you.
13. Make a table or a list of outstanding awards and achievements you have earned in this project since January 1st, 2023. Pick two from your list and explain why they are important to you.
14. What are your goals for your project and what are your personal goals? What goals have you achieved to this point?
15. What are some setbacks or struggles that you have faced within your project(s) or goals? What have you done to overcome those setbacks? Do you plan to make any changes in your project to achieve your goals?
16. How do you feel your project will help you in your future endeavors?

***BIO:** If you win this award, a short description of your achievements will be posted on the ACBA Website. Write what you would like to be posted in **300-600 words**. **Please note:** *Print on separate paper, it does not count towards your 5-page maximum. Include your name at the top of this page. This will be printed in the JACBA. **

Failure to include a Bio with your Royalty answers will result in disqualification from the Youth Royalty Competition.

**If this is your last year in 4-H/Graduating Senior, please enclose your senior picture for the JACBA as well as what you would like to be posted in the JACBA. We would like to honor all Graduating Seniors!*