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**NACQJ Certified Judge Code of Conduct**

**AN NACQJ JUDGE:**

* Supports NACQJ by attending Partner Shows, CJ conferences, reading paperwork, sitting panels, working on a committee and/or Board of Directors.
* Does not infringe or trespass on the boundaries of NACQJ Board or committee members' responsibilities, duties, and actions.
* Acts professionally and respectfully in all circumstances while representing NACQJ or using one’s NACQJ designation, including but not limited to the judging room; communicating with other judges, guilds, sponsors, and candidates; and while giving lectures and teaching classes.
* Is willing and prepared to mentor candidates while recognizing that candidates have their own journey of discovery, maintaining clear boundaries between mentoring and advocacy.
* Chooses professional attire when judging, attending Partner Shows, and representing NACQJ.
* Honors commitments with an organization/sponsor when a signed contract is in place.
* Maintains professionalism in competitive practices, including but not limited to, non-participation in predatory pricing and denigration of another judge in order to get a job.
* Always treats the exhibitor, exhibitor’s work, aides, show sponsors, and any other judge(s) working the show with respect.
* Treats other judges, whether certified or non-certified, amicably, values their decisions, and works to come to a mutual decision when assigning awards.
* Paces himself/herself in order to finish judging duties in a timely manner.
* Maintains confidentiality regarding a quilt, its maker, and the show’s proprietary information.
* Is willing to disqualify himself/herself if failure to do so may create any questions of impropriety about the objectivity of the judge’s evaluation. If judging alone, exceptions may be required.
* Refrains from publicly criticizing another judge or judge’s decision or opinion, in person, in writing, or on social media.
* Maintains professionalism when posting on social media.
* Is not authorized to use his/her personal NQA/NACQJ credentials to bestow any form of certification upon participants in his/her judging seminars, workshops, or lectures.

**Consequences**

Violations of the Code of Conduct should be immediately reported to the Certified Judge Coordinator. All reports will be investigated, said violations will be noted in the Certified Judge’s file, and appropriate action will be determined by the Certified Judge Coordinator. Egregious violations will be grounds for immediate termination from the organization.

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*Certified Judge’s Signature Date*

ACR & KSE 9/21/2023