Congratulations! You have been approved to judge either the ARC National or Regional Sieger Show.

The first thing you should do is obtain a copy of "Rules Applying to Dog Shows". They should be read carefully. Even though this is not an AKC licensed show, it has received AKC approval as a “Specialty Attraction” and as such we are governed by AKC Rules. If needed, they are available online at the AKC’s web site: www.akc.org.

As a Sieger Show judge you need to project strong ethical behavior. It is all too easy to find yourself in situations that may question your integrity or give the impression of impropriety. Your actions will probably be singled out for critical observation by the spectators and/or exhibitors. So you need to keep in mind that a perfectly innocent action can be misconstrued.

Below are some of the AKC and ARC rules that you should be aware of:

- A Sieger Show judge may not exhibit his/her dogs (includes dogs co-owned) or take any dog belonging to another person into the ring during the regular/non-regular classes of either a National or Regional Sieger Show.
- A Sieger Show judge may not judge any dog which he/she or any member of his immediate household or immediate family* has handled in the ring more than twice during the preceding twelve months.
- A Sieger Show judge may not judge a dog that you or a member of your immediate household or immediate family* has owned, co-owned, sold, boarded, etc., within one year prior to the show date.
- If you use a handler (professional or otherwise), the handler, any member of the handler's household, or any handling associate of the agent, are not allowed to exhibit dogs under you if you have used his/her services within four months prior to the show date. In addition, you or a member of your household must not knowingly use the services of an agent, any member of the agent’s household, or any handling associate of the agent to handle your dog(s) for at least four months after the agent has exhibited under you.
- No Judge may accept an assignment nor officiate at any event where a member of his or her household is involved to the extent that there might exist an actual conflict of interest or the reasonable appearance of a conflict of interest.
- You should never transfer or lease a dog to someone for the sole purpose of permitting the dog to be exhibited at shows or companion shows where you are officiating.

As a Sieger Show judge it is important to avoid situations that are likely to give the impression of impropriety. You must do everything possible to keep your reputation above reproach.

Below are some guidelines from AKC and from ARC:

- A Sieger Show judge should not judge any dog which he/she or any member of his immediate household or immediate family* has bred.
- A Sieger Show judge should not judge any dog which was sired by a stud dog which is owned by the Sieger Show judge or any member of his immediate household or immediate family*.
- The following should not exhibit under you:
  - a person with whom you have a business relationship
  - your employer or an employee
  - a relative
  - a person with whom you co-own dogs, Rottweilers or otherwise
  - a person with whom you travel to dog shows

These guidelines are only examples. It is up to you to notify any potential exhibitors not to enter under you if you think it is against AKC Rules or when you feel that their or the presence of their dog(s) might give the impression of unfair advantage. However, both AKC and ARC recognize that you cannot control who enters under you. Therefore, situations may arise in which you may have to excuse an exhibitor due to a conflict of interest known to you.

When faced with a dilemma, ask yourself whether the situation, however innocent, maintains an outward appearance of propriety. A good rule of thumb is: If you have any doubts, you probably should avoid the situation.

Please note: Any of the above who are prohibited from handling a dog, applies to handling outside the ring as well.

*As defined in Chapter 11, Section 13 - AKC Rules Applying to Dog Shows: husband; wife; father; mother; son; daughter; brother; sister; father-in-law; mother-in-law; son-in-law; daughter-in-law; brother-in-law; sister-in-law.