

ARBA MASTERS' PROGRAM

The ARBA Board has established the Masters' Program to recognize exhibitors and breeders who have excelled within their breed(s). Starting March 1st, exhibitors and breeders may begin applying for Master Exhibitor, Grand Master Exhibitor, Master Breeder, and Supreme Master Breeder status as part of the Masters' Program. This program was intended to launch in 2020; with the events of 2020 and forced office closure we were forced to delay launch until 2021. The necessary Grand Champions are cumulative and may have been earned prior to 3/1/21. Please email info@arba.net or kevin@arba.net with your inquiry as a current ARBA member as to your eligibility for a specific Masters' Program status. Those members earning any of these statuses will receive a certificate, recognition in Domestic Rabbits, and will be listed annually in the published ARBA Member Handbook. The implementation of this program should also prompt registrars to more completely fill out the breeder section of the Registration Applications as intended with the breeder name and location (**not rabbitry**) as this will be a critical component to owners/breeders achieving their statuses.

Master Exhibitor

When an ARBA member, over any period of years, accumulates 50 or more grand champion certificates, in any one breed, he/she becomes a Master Exhibitor. Members can become a master exhibitor for every recognized breed of rabbit and cavy.

Note:

Only the listed owner of the animals will be awarded Master Exhibitor status, unless the same co-owner is listed on all 50 registration certificates, in which case, the owner and co-owner will be awarded this distinction jointly.

You can apply for Master Exhibitor status by emailing us knowing that the 50 grand champion numbers have been accumulated. Members are responsible for keeping records and knowing their qualification for attaining Master Exhibitor. Forms are provided on arba.net for personal tracking purposes.

Each Master Exhibitor will be awarded a certificate and a unique Master Exhibitor number.

Grand Master Exhibitor

When an ARBA member, over the period of five or more years, accumulates 100 or more grand champion certificates, in any one breed, he/she becomes a Grand Master Exhibitor. Members can become a grand master exhibitor for every recognized breed of rabbit and cavy.

Note:

Only the listed owner of the animals will be awarded Grand Master Exhibitor status, unless the same co-owner is listed on all 100 registration certificates, in which case, the owner and co-owner will be awarded this distinction jointly.

You can apply for Grand Master Exhibitor status by emailing us knowing that the 100 grand champion numbers have been accumulated. Members are responsible for keeping records and knowing their

qualification for attaining Grand Master Exhibitor. Forms are provided on arba.net for personal tracking purposes.

Each Grand Master Exhibitor will be awarded a certificate and a unique Grand Master Exhibitor number.

Master Breeder

When an ARBA member, over the period of five or more years, accumulates 50 grand champion certificates in any one breed, where he/she is listed as the original breeder on registration certificates, will earn the distinction of master breeder. Members can become a Master Breeder for every recognized breed of rabbit and cavy.

Example:

John grands a Mini Rex in 2020. He then grands 49 additional Mini Rex over the next few years. He will not be eligible to apply for Master Breeder status until he grands a Mini Rex in 2025.

You can apply for Master Breeder status by emailing us to verify the 50 grand champion certificates have been accumulated. Members are responsible for keeping records and knowing their qualification for attaining Master Breeder. Forms are provided on arba.net for personal tracking purposes.

Each Master Breeder will be awarded a certificate and a unique Master Breeder number.

Supreme Master Breeder

When an ARBA member has accumulated the distinction of ARBA Master Breeder, and he/she has won no less than 5 Best of Breed or Best Opposite of Breed wins at an ARBA National Convention or their respective breed national show, he/she will be awarded the honor of Supreme Master Breeder. Members can become a supreme master breeder for every recognized breed of rabbit and cavy.

Or, an ARBA member who has accumulated the distinction of ARBA Master Breeder, and he/she has won Best in Show or a group win at an ARBA Convention with their respective breed, he/she will be awarded the honor of Supreme Master Breeder. Group wins will be validated by ARBA records as no leg is issued to the member for convention group wins.

Members can become a Supreme Master Breeder for every recognized breed of rabbit and cavy.

You can apply for Supreme Master Breeder status emailing us listing your unique Master Breeder number and the wins in which earn you the Supreme Master Breeder distinction (sanction number, date of show, show/convention info.) Members are responsible for keeping records and knowing their qualification for attaining Supreme Master Breeder. Forms are provided on arba.net for personal tracking purposes, for Supreme Master Breeder please use the Master Breeder form, and keep track of the 5 BOB/BOS legs you need in addition to the Master Breeder status.

Each Supreme Master Breeder will be awarded a certificate and a unique Supreme Master Breeder number.

Masters' Program FAQ

*Perhaps the most critical consideration is to correctly use the breeder line on the registration form with the name of the original breeder. Rabbitry names or less specific notations are insufficient to denote the original breeder. We will need as much information about their location as possible – a state alone is not recommended, try to at a minimum get the city, and better yet the original breeder's address (even if it is a former address.) As a breeder if you give the member a pedigree, make certain your information of being the breeder is on that pedigree for them to reference. If there is no way to identify the original breeder then we will not be placing their name into the original breeder field. Also, if you are the breeder yourself, you must specifically indicate that you are the original breeder on the registration application although a simple acknowledgement such as "same as above" will suffice.

*If you have registered animals without noting the original breeder, or if you have sold animals to other members who have registered them and not noted your being the original breeder, we cannot guarantee that these additions can be made. We will work with you to make every possible effort to support your getting the necessary documentation to affirm your status as the original breeder, but cannot guarantee that this will always be possible.

*Please do not inquire unless you are certain of your eligibility as it is labor intensive to review a members' status toward a Masters' program status.

*It is the member's responsibility to know what status they are qualifying for, and to contact us via email at info@arba.net or kevin@arba.net regarding which status(es) they are interested in verifying their eligibility.

*To apply for a breeder or exhibitor status, simply email one of the above with "Hello I, XXXX (ARBA number is quite helpful), am interested in my eligibility for X status, as I believe I have met the guidelines, thank you!"

*The ARBA website under the Masters' section tab has several tracking forms for your convenience to help you track your achievements. These forms do not need submitted to us, simply the aforementioned request email is all that is required to start the process.

*The original breeder field on our registration applications provides space for two breeders. If 3+ co-breeders are applying for their statuses as individuals, we may require additional documentation if we cannot determine that additional breeders are eligible for the status.

*To apply you must be a current ARBA member although a previous lapse of membership would not disqualify your status eligibility. If you are not a current member, you may purchase your membership and inquire as to your eligibility once your membership has been processed.

*Each status is breed specific, and may be earned for each breed, and the member may also earn multiple statuses.

*Newly acquired Masters' Program achievements will appear in each issue of the DR, and cumulative statuses will be published in the ARBA Member Handbook for posterity.

*Convention group wins intended to satisfy Supreme Master Breeder status are not issued legs, and therefore you will need to instruct us to verify them from convention data. Providing the sanction#,

date, and information of the win is very beneficial to us as the National BOS and Convention wins are not electronically tracked and must be searched manually through other hardcopy resources. ARBA only has record of National BIS electronically, and it is still beneficial to get us the leg info such as the sanction number.