

Greetings Certified and Apprentice Judges,

Our agricultural societies are well underway planning this year's fairs, and they are booking their judges. There are lots of judging schools being held across the province, and I want to thank our districts for planning these for our judges. Our online AssistExpo judging program is now fully implemented and has made it possible for judges to be credited with judging schools within a week of the school. The program has streamlined the processes to get current judges' information on the website, as well as significantly decreasing the workload related to the judging program.

We are covering several topics in this email. Please take some time to read each section.

1. **Where to find information on the OAAS website**
2. **Username and Password to access OAAS Judges' contact information, the "OAAS Judges List" on the website.**
3. **Addition of "Accepts Apprentices" and the year for the most recently attended judging school for Categories to the "OAAS Judges List" on the website**
4. **Updates/clarification to the Apprentice Judge Requirements and the process for apprenticing at fairs**
5. **Locating and registering for Judging Schools**

1. **Where to find information on the OAAS website**

Website link – <https://ontarioagsocieties.com/>

Click on the "Society Info" tab at the top of the page.



Click on "**Judging Program**" and it will bring up the "**Judging Program**" home page.

- To access the link to log in and update your Judge's Profile – click on "**Click here**"
- To access the instructions for creating and updating your AssistExpo Judge's Profile - " click on the "Judges Module Guide"

NOTE: we will be renaming the "Judges Module" and "Judges Module Guide" found on this page to "Judges Profile Module" to avoid confusion with the module that the districts use to register judging schools and modify participants information.

Judging Program

For more information on our Judging program and resources available please explore through the [Society Info](#) menu or the links found below.

[Click Here to update your AssistExpo judge's profile.](#)

[Judges Module Guide](#) - instructions for updating your profile

Helpful Links:

[Judges Lists](#)

[Judging Schools](#)

[Judging Requirements and Information](#)

To access any of the links – you can click on the links listed below **“Helpful Links”** on the **“Judging Program”** home page OR select them from the dropdown link shown below.



2. Username and Password to access OAAS Judges' contact information

Due to Privacy regulations, the general public will no longer be able to see contact information (emails, phone #s, mailing addresses) for Judges.

NOTE: If you received this username and password last year – it has not changed. This information is being provided for anyone that has not already received this usercode and password and/or has forgotten it.

A username and password will be required to access Judges' Contact information on the website.

Access is being provided to Certified and Apprentice Judges. Here is the username and password that you will need to log in.

Username:

Password:

Accessing the Login screen

There are 2 locations to access the login screen

Option 1) On the “OAAS Judges’ List” page

- Click on the ‘**Login to view Judges contact information**’ and you will be prompted to enter the username and password.

OAAS Judges Lists

You can use the boxes below to filter and search for judges based on their district (location) or their judging categories.

Filter by level:

Filter by district:

Filter by category:

386 certified judges found: [Login to view judges contact information](#)

Option 2) Login screen at the bottom of any page

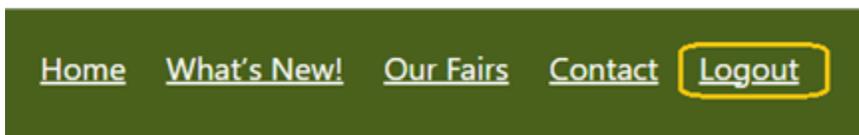
- Click on ‘**Login**’ and you will be prompted to enter the username and password

Log in process

- Input the provided Username and Password from above

Note: ignore the message re Ag Society

NOTE: If you have logged into the website, we strongly suggest that you logout at the end of your session by clicking on the **'Logout'** button at the bottom of the screen.



Accessing a list of Judges

The default is a list of all Certified Judges from the 15 Districts and all Categories. The Judges are listed in alphabetical order by last name and the list will indicate their home agricultural society, District # and all of the Categories that they are listed as a Certified Judge.

There are several options to select that will determine what information you see on the Judges' List page.

NOTE: The system filters by ***Certified Judges Only*** or ***Apprentice Judges Only***

- a) ***Filter by level*** - Access the List of Certified **OR** Apprentice Judges by selecting the option you wish from the first field.

This list is filtered by Level = Certified Judges only; District = Any and Category = Any

- b) ***Filter by district*** – The **'Any'** option will filter the list of Certified **OR** Apprentice judges from all 15 Districts

You may filter a list of Judges from a specific District by selecting that District from the dropdown menu. Since you are filtering by a specific District, the District # does not appear.

NOTE: The Judges' List automatically includes Certified and Apprentice judges in the District that is listed as their home District.

If a Judge has added additional Districts to their profile - the Judge will also be included in the lists for those additional districts. e.g. a Judge that has indicated that they will judge in District 1 & 2 will appear in both District 1 & 2 Judges' Lists on the website.

c) **Filter by category** – This category will filter the list of judges that are Certified in a specific Category.

This list is filtered by Level = Certified, District = Any, Category = maple syrup.

NOTE: it will also list any other Categories they are Certified in

d) **Filter by District AND Category**

This list is filtered by Level = Certified, District = 8 and Category = Baking

3. Addition of “Accept Apprentices” and the year for most recently attended judging school for Categories

- a) The “OAAS Judges’ List” shows “**Accept Apprentices**” beside the name of Certified Judges that will accept apprentice judges to apprentice with them at fairs.
- b) The “OAAS Judges’ List” shows the most recent year that a Certified or Apprentice judge attended a judging school for that Category

Mouse Minnie (Listowel, District 8) <input type="text"/>
5437 Line 81, RR 4, Listowel, ON, N4W 3G9, 519-251-2110
Baking: <input type="text"/> 2022, Canning: <input type="text"/> 2022, Knitting / Crochet: <input type="text"/> 2018, Needlecraft: <input type="text"/> 2018,
Quilts: <input type="text"/> 2022
White Snow (Thunder Bay, District 15) <input type="text"/> Accept Apprentices
600 Simpson St, Thunder Bay, ON, P7C 3K3, 800-621-2501, whitesnow@gmail.com
Baking: <input type="text"/> 2022, Canning: <input type="text"/> 2022, Crafts: <input type="text"/> 2022, Knitting / Crochet: <input type="text"/> 2022,
Needlecraft: <input type="text"/> 2022, Photography: <input type="text"/> 2022, Sewing: <input type="text"/> 2022

4. Updates/clarification to the Apprentice Judge Requirements and the process for apprenticing at fairs:

We have received a few questions about Apprentice Judge Requirements and the process for setting up apprenticeships at fairs. In addition, there have been a few changes/clarifications to the requirements for Apprentice Judges.

- Apprentice Judges must complete an “OAAS Apprentice Judge” form for EACH Category that they are apprenticing for, and it must list at least one judging school and at least three apprenticeships. An updated copy of the form is located on the OAAS website -

https://ontarioagsocieties.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/OAAS-Apprentice-Judge-Form_February-2025.pdf

NEW PROCESS – The completed “OAAS Apprentice Judge” form is to be submitted to the OAAS office by email to oaas@oaasfairs.com or by mail to OAAS, 1911 Foxboro-Stirling Rd, Stirling, ON K0K 3e0. The form is no longer submitted to the District.

- Apprentice Judge must have completed at least 1 (one) OAAS Judging School in EACH Category that they wish to become certified PRIOR to apprenticing for that Category.

It was the expectation that a judging school would be completed prior to apprenticing but it was not explicitly stated previously. This has been added to the “Requirements” document.

- After completing the corresponding judging school, the person must apprentice in EACH Category with at least 3 (three) different OAAS Certified Judges at no less than 3 (three) different fairs with hands-on experience, helping to make decisions on winners.

It was the expectation that an Apprentice Judge would apprentice with an OAAS Certified Judge but it was not explicitly stated previously. This has been added to the “Requirements” document.

NOTE: exceptions can be made for apprenticing prior to the judging school and apprenticing with a non OAAS Certified judge. See the “Requirements” document for details and the form that must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the fair.

IMPORTANT: For more details on the requirements and the process for apprenticing at a fair, please check pages 2 to 5 in the “**Requirements and Information for Certified and Apprentice Judges**” document on the OAAS website - https://ontarioagsocieties.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Requirements-for-OAAS-Certified-and-Apprentice-Judges_February-2025.pdf

5. Locating and registering for Judging Schools

A) Locating Judging Schools

There are two options for locating judging schools on the website.

Via the OAAS website and through the “Judges’ Profile module”

Option 1) Log into the OAAS website and go to the “Judging School” tab - <https://ontarioagsocieties.com/judging-schools/>

Judging Schools

You can use the boxes below to filter and search for judging schools based on month or district (location).

Filter by month: Any

Filter by district: Any

[View judging schools calendar](#)

22 judging schools found:

[View 22 judging schools on map](#)

[May 8, 2025 Youth Work \(Junior \) 6:30pm, District 8, 2025-05-08](#)

[May 10, 2025 - Antiques & Baking - Thunder Bay, District 15, 2025-05-10](#)

Option 2) Log into the OAAS website and go to the “**District and Provincial Events**” tab - <https://ontarioagsocieties.com/district-events/>

Filter by “**type**” and select “**Judging School**” and it will bring up a list of the upcoming judging schools in the province

You can also filter by “**month**” to bring up judging schools in a specific month and/or filter by “**district**” to bring up judging schools in a specific district.

District and Provincial Events

UPDATE: “OAAS Provincial” has been added to the bottom of the “Filter by district” dropdown list. All OAAS events (OAAS webinars, BCL workshops, OAAS Judging schools and other OAAS events e.g. convention) will be listed under the “Filter by type” dropdown and can be queried in the same manner as District Events.

You can use the boxes below to filter and search for events based on month or district (location).

Filter by month: Any

Filter by type: Any

Filter by district: Any

[View events calendar](#)

61 events found: [View all events on map](#)

B) Registering for Judging Schools

There are two options for registering for Judging School

Option 1) Registering online via the website

See the “ Judges Module Guide - https://ontarioagsocieties.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Judges-Module-Guide_-August-2024.pdf and follow the steps in the “Judges’ Profile Module” guide starting on pages 9 to 11 – Section D part “**4. Registering for Judging Schools**”.

Option 2) Contacting the District directly.

IMPORTANT: The option remains for a Judge to contact their District for assistance updating their information and registering for Judging Schools, if a Judge does not have access to the internet or would prefer not to update their information via the 'AssistExpo Judges' Profile' module.

However, we strongly encourage Judges to use the online module to update their information whenever possible, as any changes you make online are updated immediately on the website, with the added benefit that it lessens the workload for the volunteers in your district.

Wishing everyone a great season.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vince".

Vince Brennan,

Executive Director (OAAS)

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Vince@oaasfairs.com

www.ontarioagsocieties.com

CONVENTION 2025: February 20 - 22
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel

"Teamwork makes our Ag Societies Strong."