

BCSA Bird Carer

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Liaise with the BCSA Show Manager
- Collect the ring numbers of the first FIVE birds in each class from the State Selection Show, the fourth or fifth bird may be required as an emergency in case of a mishap with any of the first THREE birds
- Arrange the holding area, the collection, boxing, transportation and then presentation of the selected BCSA Team at the ANBC National Show held on the fourth full weekend in May of each year.
- Communicate show results at the end of each day back to a representative of each club with birds selected in the State Team.
- Participate in the boxing and return of the BCSA team to the Adelaide airport on the Monday immediately following the ANBC National Show.
- Arrange the pickup of the team from the airport and return to the holding area and then coordinate the distribution of the returned birds to their owner or their authorised representative.

ESSENTIAL MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Financial member of the BCSA.
- Considerable experience breeding and exhibiting budgerigars.
- Track record in having birds selected in the State Team.
- Skills in show preparation.
- Organisational skills to enable effective management of the Team and its presentation within deadlines set by the host State / Zone Show Manager.
- Ability to work as a member of a team.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Previous experience as a BCSA Bird Carer .

APPOINTMENT PROCESS

- **November:** BCSA calls for nominations from affiliated / associated clubs.
- **February:** BCSA selects three to four bird carers, two of whom shall (where possible) have had previous experience, one of whom shall be selected as the coordinator to ensure all ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES are carried out.
- BCSA Secretary dispatches this document to the successful applicants, who must provide within 28 days, written confirmation of their willingness to carry out the ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES to the BCSA Secretary along with electronic photograph for dispatch to the host State / Zone, for security purposes.

STATEMENT OF ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES:

- **March:** Bird Carers to register for the ANBC National Show, book accommodation within easy reach of the show venue, book flights (all three or four as best as is possible on the same flight), being mindful of the need for birds to arrive in time to feed and settle prior to lights out. Make the appropriate inquiries with the airline regarding transport of birds as accompanied baggage and establish return flights and times for the birds, either as freight, or as accompanied baggage of any member of the BCSA who is willing to undertake the task.
- **May:** Attend the state selection show and assist the Show Manager by recording the ring numbers of the first FIVE placed birds per class. Assist in relocating the selected team to the 'local' holding area, noting that not all birds will be held in this location.
- Ensure that all selected birds, not held at the 'local' holding area, are organised to and do arrive at a predetermined time prior to departure of the team.
- Ensure that travel boxes are cleaned and prepared for travel.
- Early on the morning of departure to the Host City, box the birds, checking off the ring numbers. Bird Carers from outside the metropolitan area to arrange a proxy where necessary, to ensure that at least two fanciers are present to box the birds.
- **Transport the team to the airport.** Airport arrival at least 90 minutes prior to departure or earlier if so deemed by the carrying airline company. Paperwork and a set of keys to be taken by one of the bird carers. One set of keys to remain with the nominated recipient of birds returning from the ANBC Show.
- **When the show is held in South Australia.** Breeders are to deliver their birds directly to the Bird Carers at the venue and collect them from the venue at predetermined times.
- **Upon arrival in the Host City,** stay with the birds during transport to the show and check off ring numbers as they are transferred from the carry cages to the holding cages.
- For a two day show, put birds applicable to day one in top compartment, and birds applicable to day two in the lower compartment.
- Provide ASAP water and seed, the latter in containers as well as sprinkled on the floor of the holding cage to facilitate feeding and restoration of body weight after the flight. This to include high energy food such as oats if supplied, and spark as specified and only if instructed by the breeder (only until the following morning, then again on the night after the show, preceding transport back home). Otherwise, all feeding and watering protocols to be standard, as if the birds were in their home holding cages.
- Check birds regularly for signs of stress or incompatibility and react when the need arises to minimise all risks to the birds noting that veterinary assistance should be available at the venue.
- Bird Carers must be prepared to be with the birds from about 6.30a.m. each day of the show, in order to prepare birds and cages in time for benching.

- Bird Carers to pass on to spectators from SA details of bird ownership and associated cage codes, prior to judging.
- Communicate results back to Adelaide at the end of judging each day.
- Bird Carers to be available at the end of the show each day to receive the birds back into the bird-room and clean the show cages in readiness for the following day.
- **Early Monday morning** after completion of the ANBC Show, box the birds, checking off ring numbers, ensuring paperwork goes with the birds to facilitate checking off and distribution of birds back to owners.
- Arrange to or pickup the team from the airport and return to the 'local' holding area.
- Coordinate the distribution of the returned birds to their owner or their authorised representative.
- Ensure carry cages have been cleaned for storage, and all sets of keys have been returned to those carry cages.