



Shannon Armstrong

- Licensed Arabian Judge 1988 – 2021
- Judged numerous US Nationals, Youth Nationals, Canadian Nationals
- Judged regional championships in 14 different regions



Shannon credits her parents with her love for Arabian horses that led to her successful training and judging career. Her father, Bob Armstrong was also named to the Arabian Judges Hall of Fame after his long stint in judging from the late fifties through the mid-seventies at the beginning of the formal Arabian horse shows in the US. He judged some of the first Scottsdale and National Championship shows. Her mother, Pat Armstrong, was a respected small breeder who was a friend and advisor to many of the foundation breeding farms across the country.

Shannon's judging career started at the end of the eighties when her friend, Joey Canda and she decided to study together and try to get their cards at a time when roughly only 10% of new applicants were awarded their small "r" status. They would get together daily after spending long hours in their training barns to study for their tests and interviews. When they arrived for the written test, they were told that they weren't allowed to sit together and placed at tables across the room from each other. Luckily, Shannon and Joey both passed the first time through and attended their judging seminars together for the thirty years of judging. Joey has remained a close confidant and fashion advisor throughout their long friendship and careers with Arabian horses.

Her judging career started in the nineties, and she was quickly invited to adjudicate at Class A shows and Regional competitions across the country for the next thirty years. Once her systems were in place, it became apparent that she thrived on both the travel and the opportunity to see the best horses of the time. Center ring became a comfort


zone. She cherishes so many great memories and stories brought about by the beautiful horses and the quality people that she worked with during her judging career.

Among her judging assignments were US National Championships, Buckeye and the prestigious Scottsdale show numerous times each. In addition, she has judged the Arabian World Championships in Vegas, the Arabian Breeders Show in Scottsdale and the Snaffle Bit Futurities of yesteryear. She has judged fourteen out of the eighteen Regional Championship shows across the US and Canada. Additionally, she has had the privilege of judging National Championship shows in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Uruguay and South Africa.

In the course of her judging career, she has logged thousands of airline miles, worn out hundreds of pairs of shoes and written down about a million “three-digit numerals” on her judging pad. She was most often fueled by coffee, dark chocolate expresso beans and the encouragement and humor of her family and friends. Shannon would like to thank Jane, Manny and Alex and all of her Armstrong family all for their help and support along the way.





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