Why the Jury Points and Guidelines Matter

1. **Cleanliness:** Lack of proper skirting, dungs tags, britch wool, excessive VM and other contamination requires additional cleaning and labor on the part of the purchaser, and results in a lower clean wool yield, and therefore, less value for purchase price.

2. **Soundness:** Lack of soundness (also know as ‘tenderness’) results in a lower wool yield, and if not properly processed out, will cause nepes and noils in the finished product.

3. **Staple Length:** Consistency of fiber length directly impacts spinning performance, and can result in a poorer quality end product.

4. **Quality (Fineness):** Fineness is used as a determination of end use, can be a determination in weight of finished yarn product, and lack of uniformity can directly impact spinning performance.

5. **Character:** Can be a determining factor in preparation of fiber (crimp) and end use (handle), as well as the ease of use for new or beginning spinners.

6. **Color:** Highly subjective. White is desired by hand dyers, while natural colored fibers are appreciated for the variation in coloring and for blending. Natural colors are often over dyed to create new variations.

7. **Luster:** Luster in Mohair and Suri Alpacas is one of the key qualities of the fleece, and is highly desirable.

8. **Lack of Medullated Fibers (Guard Hairs):** Cause an unwanted ‘prickle factor’, coarsening the fleece overall and decreasing value.