

SVFF 2018 Why the Jury Points Matter

- 1. Cleanliness:** Lack of proper skirting, presence of dung tags, britch wool, second cuts, excessive VM and other contamination requires additional cleaning and labor on the part of the purchaser, resulting in a lower clean wool yield, and less value for purchase price.
- 2. Soundness:** Lack of soundness (also known as 'tenderness') results in a lower wool yield, and if not properly processed, will cause neps and noils in the finished product.
- 3. Staple Length:** Consistency of fiber length impacts spinning performance, and can result in a poorer quality end product.
- 4. Quality (Fineness):** Fineness is used as a determination of end use, and can be a determination in weight of finished yarn product. Lack of uniformity can directly impact spinning performance.
- 5. Character (Crimp/ Handle):** 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. Whites should be clear and bright without yellow tint to allow for optimal dyeing, while natural colored fibers are appreciated for the variations in coloring and for blending. Natural colors are often over-dyed to create new variations. Except in variegated fleeces, consistency throughout the fleece is desirable.
- 7. Luster:** Luster in Mohair and Suri Alpacas is a key quality of the fleece, and is highly desirable.
- 8. Lack of Medullated Fibers (Guard Hairs):** Guard hairs cause an unwanted 'prickle factor', coarsening the fleece overall and decreasing value.