

ZNA Judge Application Requirements   \*Updated on 29 June 2025

◆Requirements

- Must be a person of integrity, dignity, and leadership.
- Those holding key positions in chapters or districts must demonstrate leadership in organizing their chapters or districts, ensuring the payment of membership fees, and managing members.
- Must actively participate in seminars and shows, and have achieved excellent results.
- Must be able to continuously attend seminars for self-improvement, even after being approved as a ZNA Judge.
- Membership must be kept active; failure to pay fees will result in loss of membership and Judge qualifications.
- Must not use judge qualifications for commercial purposes.
- Must meet the requirements specified in Table 1.

◆Table 1: Application Requirements by Category

|   | Trainee               | LCJ  | ACJ  | CJ   |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| Membership  | 2+ years              | 5+ years   | 2+ years after LCJ   | 2+ years after ACJ   |
| Judging   | None                  | 5+ times at Chapter-level koi show or higher           | 10+ times at Chapter-level koi show or higher  | 1+ times at district koi show as ACJ   |
| Seminar   | None                  | *Up to 2 times combinable to judging record            | *Up to 5 times combinable to judging record  | 4+ times as ACJ (including examination day)  |
| Logistics Staff at the ZMA International Koi Show | None                  | *Up to 1 time combinable to judging record             | 1+ times as LCJ  | 1+ times as ACJ  |
| Judging at the overseas chapters                  | None                  | None   | None   | 1+ times as ACJ (must attend with certified judge)   |
| Application Documents                             | Application Form      | Local Certified Judge Application Form                 | Assistant Certified Judge Application Form   | 1. Certified Judge Application Form<br>2. Breeding Activity Report<br>3. Report on exhibition records and results at the ZNA International Koi Show over the past three years.<br>4. Report on exhibition records and results at Chapter Shows over the past three years |
| Recommendation                                    | Chapter Chairman      | Chapter Chairman                                       | District Chairman & Chapter Chairman   | District Chairman & Chapter Chairman   |
| Application Deadline                              | Anytime               | April 10 / December 20                                 | December 20  | April 10   |
| Review/Examination Date                           | None                  | ZNA Certified Judge Council Meeting in January and May | ZNA Certified Judge Council Meeting in January or February   | ZNA Certified Judge Council Meeting in May   |
| Exam  | None                  | None   | Written & Interview ( ¥15,000)   | None   |
| Review Criteria                                   | Eligibility           | Eligibility  | 1. Must be able to correctly rank the 5 reference fish in accordance with the model ranking and provide an accurate explanation.<br>2. Must be able to clearly explain the characteristics required for the Group 2 varieties specified by the examiner. | Eligibility  |
| Registration Fee                                  | None                  | ¥10,000 (3 years)                                      | ¥30,000 (3 years)  | ¥60,000 (3 years)  |
| Renewal Fee                                       | None                  | ¥10,000/3 years  | ¥20,000/3 years  | ¥40,000/3 years  |
| JSRM Fee  | ¥4,000/year (Jan–Dec) |  |  |  |

◆Table 2: Definitions

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Official Seminar | Held in January or February by the Appreciation & Judging Division in Tokyo  |
|                  | Held in June by the Appreciation & Judging Division in Japan   |
|                  | Entrusted by a district within Japan (Seminar report is required)  |
|                  | Entrusted by Overseas district (Seminar report is required)  |
|                  | Held under the instruction of a Chief or Deputy Chief, or a Certified Judge who has been officially appointed by the Appreciation & Judging Division.  |
| Koi Show         | Judging must be appointed by the ZNA koi show excluding shows organized by the applicant’s own chapter.<br>*A requirement of CJ application, district-level show judging refers to shows held within Japan |
| Record           | Records of judging and seminar attendance are valid only for the years when the JSRM fee has been paid.  |