

AGM 2026

A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR GLOSTER JUDGES

GFCCI Announces the Approval of Its New International Judges Framework

**“Setting New Standards for excellence,
Experience and Professionalism in the Gloster Fancy”**

The Gloster Fancy Canary Council International (GFCCI) is pleased to announce that its new “Three-Tier Judges Framework” was officially approved at the Annual General Meeting held in Peterborough, England, on 13 September 2026.

This important development represents another milestone in the Council's commitment to protecting and promoting the Gloster Fancy while establishing a recognised international standard for judges.

For many years, judging qualifications have been closely associated with an exhibitor's Champion status and the number of years spent competing. While experience remains important, the GFCCI believes that a judging qualification should also reflect demonstrated knowledge, competitive achievement, practical judging ability and professionalism.

The new framework introduces a structured pathway that recognises experienced judges while creating opportunities for the next generation to develop their skills under the guidance of established international judges.

Three Levels of Recognition

The framework establishes three progressive classifications within the GFCCI Judges Panel.

“GFCCI (C) — Candidate Judge”

Class C provides an entry point for experienced exhibitors wishing to develop their judging knowledge.

Applicants must have completed at least five years as Champion exhibitors, be actively breeding and exhibiting Glosters, have achieved a minimum of 15 class wins, and have served as stewards on at least five occasions at All Gloster Specialist Shows.

Candidates must also demonstrate sound knowledge of the GFCCI Standard of Excellence and successfully complete a theoretical examination and judges' seminar.

Class C candidates may gain further experience through stewarding alongside Class A judges but are not authorised to undertake independent judging appointments.

“GFCCI (B) — Approved Judge”

Class B represents a fully approved GFCCI Judge who may accept independent judging appointments.

Applicants must demonstrate competitive success, practical knowledge, professionalism and the necessary judging ability. They must have completed the Class C requirements or have equivalent experience formally assessed and documented by the GFCCI.

Class B judges who wish to progress further may apply to enter

the Class A assessment programme.

This requires a minimum of five assessed sessions at All Gloster Specialist Shows, working alongside an authorised Class A Judge/Mentor. At least two classes must be judged and assessed during each session, with an official report submitted to the Council.

Five satisfactory assessment reports are required before an applicant becomes eligible for consideration for promotion to Class A, subject to meeting the remaining Class A criteria.

“GFCCI (A) — Senior International Judge”

Class A represents the highest level of recognition within the GFCCI Judges Panel.

It is reserved for judges with exceptional experience, an established international judging record and proven competitive achievement.

Applicants must have judged at least ten international All Gloster Specialist Shows and won Best Gloster in Show at a minimum of three specialist shows, each featuring more than 300 exhibits.

They must also demonstrate an excellent understanding of the

GFCCI Standard of Excellence, together with consistency, integrity and professionalism throughout their judging careers.

Approved Class A judges may voluntarily undertake the additional role of “GFCCI Mentor”, helping to educate, guide and assess developing judges.

Mentoring will be an important part of the new framework, encouraging the transfer of knowledge and experience between generations of Gloster enthusiasts.

An International Panel Built on Merit

One of the most significant principles of the new framework is that existing judging titles will not automatically determine an individual's GFCCI classification.

Experienced judges wishing to join the new panel will be invited to submit their judging and exhibiting records for consideration.

This approach enables the Council to recognise established achievements while ensuring that all applicants are assessed against the same international standards.

The intention is not to disregard the experience of existing judges, but to establish a transparent



The three-tier pathway to becoming a Judge

Progression is earned through defined standards, assessment and experience



CANDIDATE JUDGE

Entry level

- 5 years as Champion exhibitor
- Active breeder & exhibitor
- 15 class winnings minimum
- 5 stewarding appointments
- Theory exam + seminar



APPROVED JUDGE

Fully approved

- Independent judging status
- Proven competitive record
- Professional conduct
- May enter Class A assessment
- 5 assessed progression sessions



SENIOR INTERNATIONAL

Highest level

- 10 international specialist shows
- 3 Best in Show wins (>300)
- Established judging record
- Highest standard of competence
- May choose Mentor status

system in which the GFCCI judging designation reflects verified qualifications and demonstrated ability.

The Council Will Decide

In accordance with the decision taken at the AGM, applications and proposed classifications will be presented to the GFCCI Council for approval through an online voting process.

Country Councillors will play an important role in identifying prospective applicants, supporting nominations and coordinating applications from their respective countries.

The Council will retain responsibility for approving each judge and their classification,

ensuring that decisions are made collectively at international level.

Approved judges will be included in the official GFCCI Judges Register, which will provide clubs and show organisers with a reference for identifying recognised GFCCI judges and authorised mentors.

The Next Steps

The Council will now begin preparing the application procedures, assessment documentation and arrangements for establishing the first GFCCI Judges Panel.

The initial priority will be to identify and consider applications from experienced international judges who may qualify for Class

A. Following their approval, suitable judges will be invited to volunteer as mentors.

Applications for the remaining classifications will follow, together with the development of the practical assessment and educational programmes.

Further information regarding applications and the implementation timetable will be communicated through the GFCCI website, newsletters and Country Councillors.

Looking Towards the Future

The approval of this framework is not simply about introducing three new judging classifications.

It is about creating a system

that encourages excellence, recognises genuine achievement and provides a clear pathway for dedicated breeders and exhibitors who aspire to become judges.

Above all, it is about ensuring that the knowledge, traditions and characteristics that define the Gloster Fancy are understood, respected and passed on to future generations.

The GFCCI looks forward to working with judges, breeders, exhibitors and specialist clubs throughout the world as we take this important step together.

**“A recognised standard.
A pathway for future
judges. One international
Gloster Fancy.”**

!! ATTENTION ALL COUNCILLORS!!

The Class “A” Judges nominations process starts NOW...

NB: The GFCCI acknowledges that certain highly esteemed judges have established reputations and achievements that are already well known and widely recognised within the international Gloster Fancy.

In such cases, the Council may consider a nomination without requiring extensive supporting documentation at the outset. Each nomination will be considered on its individual merits, and the Council will determine through online voting whether the information available is sufficient for approval or whether further evidence is required.

This approach allows the GFCCI to recognise distinguished judges with the respect they deserve, while maintaining the integrity and standards of the new Judges Framework.