

American Cavy Breeders Association

Promote the breeding and improvement of the cavy, and secure publicity for and interest in the cavy as an exhibition and pet animal.

ACBA 2026 YOUTH MANAGEMENT CONTEST

PURPOSE

To acknowledge the excellence of management style by ACBA Youth Members in the areas of housing and equipment, feeding and animal care, disease control, record keeping, breeding, and genetics for the care and production of cavies.

RULES

1. Any ACBA Youth Member is eligible to compete. Membership must be valid by March 1st, 2026. Attendance at the ACBA Specialty Show is **NOT** necessary.
2. Application must be made on the form provided by the ACBA Youth Committee. These forms are available from the ACBA website, or the ACBA Youth Chair.
3. Applications are to be completed by the contestant and in their own words. Youth under the age of nine may choose to have some help in filling out the application.
4. **The applicant may submit a Maximum of seven (7) pages, printed on one side only.** This should include the information needed to complete the answers. **Visual aids or adding an example of your records will not count toward the maximum number of pages.**
5. Applications will be judged by district, and age within the district; up to 9 yrs., 9-11 yrs., 12-14 yrs., and 15-18 yrs. Age is determined by age on the last day of 2026 ACBA Specialty (April 12th, 2026)
6. Winners will be announced at the ACBA Banquet at the ACBA Specialty Show. Contestants need not be present to win.
7. **Applications must be submitted by email and must be in a Word document, Entry Form excepted.** Please email your application (filled out completely), and a copy of your answers as well as the filled-out copy of the youth royalty entry form. A current photograph of yourself is optional. When you are submitting a photograph electronically, please be sure it is of high resolution and clarity for a print publication (these items will need to be scanned and attached to the email). Incomplete applications or failure to follow these instructions will incur a 10 point deduction per infraction.
8. Do not place your name on **ANY** of your pages other than the page with the questions! Placing your name on any of the Contest Answer pages will result in a 10 point deduction.

Emailed applications must be received by midnight (MST) by March 1st, 2025.

Scoring Rubric:

Cages, Housing & Equipment	50 points
Breeding & Production	50 points
Care, Health & Herd Management	50 points
Record Keeping	25 points.
Membership & Breeds of Cavies	15 points
Thoroughness of answers and ability to follow directions	10 points
Total possible score	200 points

Email applications must be received by Midnight (MPT) on March 1st, 2026, and sent to:

youthroyalty@acbaonline.com

ACBA 2026 Management Contest Questions

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age on April 12th, 2026 _____

District: _____

1. When did you join the ACBA and how many consecutive years have you belonged? Explain any lapses in membership.
2. Name the breed(s) you raise, how many animals you have in each breed, and why you raise these breed(s). Tell us what other breed(s) you have raised in the past and why you no longer raise them.
3. Describe where your animals are located: barn, outbuilding, yard, garage, basement, house, etc. How does this location protect your animals from heat, cold, drafts, or pests?
4. List or make a table describing the cages/coops you have and their sizes. Describe what materials they are made of and how they are constructed including pans/trays/tubs. Describe how your caviae are housed: community or single
5. Other than feed and water equipment, describe or list ALL other equipment you use in the care/management of your caviae.
6. Describe the equipment you use to feed and water your animals and how your feed is stored.
7. What type(s) of feed do you give your caviae? Do you give other supplements or anything in addition to their daily feed? If so, why?
8. How do you dispose of the manure and waste your caviae generate?
9. What do you do daily, weekly, and monthly in the care of your animals? Be Specific.
10. What measures do you take to prevent parasites or fungus?
11. Describe any diseases that have affected your herd and explain in detail what you did to control that disease(s). If you have not experienced any diseases affecting your herd, then list one disease/illness and explain what you would do to get it under control.
12. Describe everything you consider and do when breeding your animals; include ages, time of year, breeding pair choices, etc.
13. Describe everything you do to care for the mother and young from birth until weaning. Include your weaning process, age, and any other considerations.
14. List or make a table of how many total litters were born, the total young born, and the number of young weaned between January 1st, 2025 to December 31, 2025. If you had a difference between total young born and total weaned, can you explain why?
15. Explain what you consider when bringing in new stock or bloodlines into your breeding program. What specific characteristics are you looking for?
16. What do you do with your surplus animals?
17. What types of records do you keep for your breeding program? Why are these particular records important for the success of your breeding program and for achieving the goals that you have set?
18. Make a table or list of your expenses and income between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025. Explain any big expenditure or profits.