



October 31, 2023

Dear AJSA Member,

Congratulations on your interest in running for the American Junior Shorthorn Association Board of Directors! If elected, you will be joining an amazing group of Shorthorn juniors who have served as leaders and role models to the youth of our association. Being elected by your peers and delegates from the AJSA is indeed more than an honor; it is a privilege and one that comes with a high level of responsibility.

Our organization is progressive and ambitious, requiring its Board of Directors to treat their roles with a high level of commitment. The board works closely with the ASA staff in carrying out the work of the AJSA and representing its members. AJSA members, parents, and I have high expectations for board members. Thus, for your awareness, I have outlined a few of these expectations.

- You must be at least 17 years of age by January 1, 2024, and no older than 20 years of age by January 1, 2024. Junior Board members will be allowed to finish out the term even if they age out of showing.
- Have attended at least 1 Junior Nationals before candidacy.
- Be willing and able to travel independently as required in service to the AJSA and ASA
- Attend and help carry out the ASA and AJSA activities (check-in, make-up ring line-up, ring man duties, etc.) at Jr. Nationals, Louisville, and Denver/Cattlemen's Congress
- Be willing to help with all functions of AJSA fundraisers, including calling breeders and other individuals for donations.
- Attend the Summit Conference tentatively scheduled for the last week of July every other year at various locations around the country (2023, 2025)
- Attend Junior Board meetings throughout each year and the Youth Beef Industry Conference in the years ending in an even number (ie. 2022, 2024, etc.)
- Write all articles, letters, thank you notes, emails and other correspondence regularly and on time
- Be willing and able to check email/texts as needed, and respond in a timely fashion
- Seek out and accept the constructive criticism and evaluation of your total performance
- Strive to get AJSA members involved and enthused about AJSA activities and make personal connections with the AJSA members from diverse regions and walks of life
- Maintain and protect your personal health so that you may be of the utmost service to the AJSA and your fellow board members
- Forego public uses of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances at all times during any AJSA or ASA related event during your term of service, regardless of your age
- Avoid places or activities that in any way could raise questions as to one's moral character or conduct
- Serve as a member of a team, always maintaining a cooperative attitude
- Represent the AJSA, your fellow Board of Directors, and the ASA with the greatest level of excellence, professionalism, and enthusiasm

Please sign and date the enclosed copy of this letter, signifying that you will have no problem meeting these expectations plus all others required should you be elected to the AJSA Board of Directors, and return it to me along with your Junior Board application. This document must be received by the application deadline for your candidacy to be official. I wish you the very best in your pursuit of a position on the AJSA Board of Directors. Please don't hesitate to call or email if you have any questions.

Thank You!
Shelby Diehm
American Shorthorn Association

Your Name (printed): _____
Your Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____



Name: _____ State Representing: _____
Age*: _____ Birthdate: _____ E-mail Address: _____
Parents/Guardians Name: _____
Home Address: _____
AJSA Candidate Cell Phone: _____
College Address: _____

Please include the following:

- 1) Cover letter stating your intent to run for the American Junior Shorthorn Association (AJSA) Board of Directors.
- 2) Educational information – school, location, years attended, degrees completed (high school and/or college). Please include what you intend to study in college/advanced degree.
- 3) Describe your achievements in Shorthorn production and your personal future goals within or outside of the livestock industry.
- 4) List up to 10 activities, achievements, or honors that you consider most relevant to your candidacy for the AJSA Board of Directors.
- 5) Explain why you would like to be an AJSA Director and how your past experiences will contribute to your serving in this leadership role within the junior organization.
- 6) Share some ideas you have for the AJSA board to consider that you feel will help the junior organization.
- 7) Three letters of recommendation – high school/college advisor or professor, industry professional and another letter from someone who knows you.
- 8) Letter of support from your state advisor (if your state doesn't have a state advisor, contact Shelby for alternative options).

*age as of Jan. 1, 2024

Return the completed application and a recent high-resolution photo by April 10th, 2024 via EMAIL to:
shelby@shorthorn.org

Candidates and summaries of biographical information will be included in the Junior National Exhibitor Folder, as well as the Shorthorn Country magazine. Nominations will be given during Youth Conference Session I, open interviews with the delegates will be conducted at Youth Conference Session II, and voting will take place after round table interviews during Youth Conference Session III. See the schedule of events for individual interviews.

Please direct questions about this application or election rules to Shelby Diehm, shelby@shorthorn.org or 816.599.7777. If a state has more than two candidates, I will contact the candidates and the state advisor. States are only allowed to have two candidates run each year according to the by-laws.