

Student Judge Homework August, 2019

Judging Handbook questions

- ❖ Organizational Chart (See attached)

- ❖ Minimum training period for a student judge?
A minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 5 years

- ❖ Who or what makes the final decision with respect to the appointment and termination of services of student judges?
The Judging Committee of the DJC with the approval of the Board of Trustees

- ❖ Is knowledge of orchids and competence in evaluating them alone the most important aspect of being a judge? IF no, why not
There are numerous other qualities and aspects such as:
Showing a significant interest and commitment to orchids and orchidology
Having a varied interest in orchids beyond judging: conservation, research, public education on orchids, concentrated experience in areas such as hybridization or photography. Comfortable with independent judgments and strong ability to maintain one's point of view. Always have a high standard of personal integrity and ethics. And, maintain a commitment to the judging system in support of improving the equity and uniformity of the judging process. Continuous membership of the AOS and have a subscription to Orchids Plus. Consistently meet the expectations of the judging system in regards to available time, language skills, ability to travel, physical and mental fitness, and participation in judging activities.

- ❖ The Recognized Classes of Judges
 1. Student
 2. Associate

3. Accredited
4. Senior
5. Emeritus
6. Retired
7. Retired Emeritus

❖ To retain status of a judge one MUST:

Participate in 8 judging in one's assigned region yearly

At least 4 of the 8 must be at the monthly judging sessions at one's regional center.

Judge annually at one or more AOS sanctioned judging activities outside on one's region.

❖ There are 12 hours of judges' training annually.

❖ A summary of the judging process (sections V, VI of the judging handbook)

Summary of Section V:

This section begins by describing the purpose of AOS judging; to provide a service it's members and affiliated societies with the satisfaction of their plants being judged and perhaps receiving awards. The dates and locations of judging opportunities are kept up to date on the AOS website.

There are numerous materials which are provided the judges by the judging center committee—items such as reference texts, current versions of Orchid Plus software, loop for flower examination, judging handbooks, and necessary forms.

To submit plants for judging, unless otherwise stated by the exhibitor that the plant or flower is not for judging consideration, the plants/flowers will be considered for an award. Plants may be entered by the owner, by someone else on their behalf, or by mail.

And, all information of the plant must be complete and correct. (complete name, cross, cultivar, variety, etc. Anonymity of the owner/grower of the plant is imperative for objective of the judge. Plants must be in their prime condition; if evidence of the owner manipulating the inflorescence for better showing, the plant may be eliminated. And, the chair of judging may at any time prior to the judging explain to an exhibitor that they are "not ready" and should not participate for an award at this time.

Should damage to the plant/flower while being considered for award does not present liability to the AOS.

In the practice of judging, the AOS subscribes to several definitions :

Entry: The means by which a plant/flower is correctly entered for judging

Nomination: The initial phase where one or more judges requests that a plant be set aside for judging by a judging team.

Screening: The phase where by verbal discussion or written ballot, the recommendation for scoring is made.

Scoring: The final phase in which a plant is considered for a specific type of award.

The following are examples of the general rules by which judges must abide:

AOS awards are only granted if they are in accordance with the AOS rules

Participating judges must be certified and in good standing

No smoking

No sales

No judge shall judge "his own"

A misrepresented entry will be disqualified by the judges

All plants that receive awards shall have a cultivar name to identify the specific clone.

Plant must be immediately made available for photographing following the show.

The key points of the judging procedure are:

1. A team of a minimum of three certified judges (no more than 1/3 associate judges) is required to judge a plant nominated for further evaluation
2. A score will be made by each judge
3. The captain of the team will calculate the average scores submitted
4. If the difference between scores exceeds 6 points, each judge will rescore
5. A new team will be assigned if the 6 point difference remains
6. Taxonomic verification is required for all previously unawarded species and natural hybrids
7. A novelty plant will be judged by its merits.
8. No award for which scoring is required will be less than 75 points.
9. Fractions will be rounded up to the next highest number
10. A quality award may not be given to a previously awarded cultivar unless there is notable superiority of this plant.
11. More than one award may be given to a plant /flower by the same judging team
12. It is not the responsibility of the AOS to enforce USFWS regulations.

13. Taxonomic Verification/Species Identification Task Force (SITF) -A team of volunteers interested in the species and correctly identifying species awarded in a timely manner.
14. For each award:
 - an entry form in triplicate
 - the original entry with sticker showing the nature of award to exhibitor
 - all score sheets signed by judges
 - awards processed only after both award's data and photos are received by AOS
 - a provisional award may be assigned pending the satisfactory completion of all required info is provided by the exhibitor. Held for only one year.
 - a fee is charged by AOS for each award granted to be paid by exhibitor
 - delinquent exhibitors are notified and posted on a consistent basis
15. Contested identification of awarded hybrids and cultivars
 - may be contested by an accredited judge in writing to the AOS
 - may be challenged for up to 5 years
16. Orchid Show judging
 - AOS award judging is different from general judging
 - They must be certified, senior, and emeritus judges for AOS awards
17. AOS sanctioned show or Event
 - appointment of accredited judge to be the chair of the event
 - gain commitment from at least 4 other judges to participate
 - submit proposed date/if approved will be provided with verification
 - complete application/approval grant/signed by JC chair
 - Show must be open to public (may require admission fee) and all exhibitors
 - Host must supply at least one computer with latest Orchid Plus software
 - Secure a photographer of quality
 - Provide entry forms, ballots, score sheets, award seals, SITF measurement forms; other materials as needed
18. Must have a chair of the judging committee to:
 - assign teams of judges with a captain
 - attendance sheet
 - assurance that all awarded plants/flowers are researched, photographed, measured and described
19. Information on outreach judging

Section VI. AOS Awards

This section discusses the purposes of award granting and who is responsible for doing so. i.e. Board of Trustees for Special Annual Awards. It outlines the places and situations where awarding is accomplished. The following are the awards for individual plants and special plant groupings:

- FCC First Class Certification 90 points or >
- AM Award of Merit 80 to 89 points
- HCC Highly Commended Certificate 75 to 79 points
- JC Judges Commendation

Further award types can be noted in sections 6.2.5 through 6.3.7

Adjacent Judging Centers and normal dates of their judging:

- Houston Orchid Society 3rd Saturday
- AJC Alamo Orchid Soc. 1st Sunday
- DJC 2nd Saturday
- SJC Shreveport 4th Saturday

Societies that participate in our Tri-Center Seminar:

- DJC
- HOS
- SJC