

WEST PALM BEACH JUDGING CENTER - STUDENT JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

The West Palm Beach Judging Center Student Judge Program is part of the American Orchid Society National Judges' Training Program. The National Judges' Training Program sets a minimum standard program to which all student judges are exposed. The objective of the National Program is to provide uniform basic training in order that student judges completing the program successfully will have achieved the same basic level of proficiency.

The objectives of the West Palm Beach Judging Center program are to meet the National Program minimum requirements and to provide additional training to assist each individual student to achieve his/her full potential as an American Orchid Society Judge.

When considering elevation, the regional committee will evaluate the student not only on fulfillment of the expectations listed below, but also on his/her performance in training activities, general attitude, and interactions with other students and judges. Students unable to fulfill these requirements in a timely manner will not be elevated to the next level.

1. ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all training sessions and regional judgments unless excused by the Training Coordinator. Training sessions include yearly seminars and monthly sessions that begin at 12:30 pm before regularly scheduled monthly judgments. Students (and judges) who arrive more than 15 minutes late will not receive credit for that training session.

Students are required to attend at least 4 regional shows per year. Out of region shows are recommended but not required.

Students must present to the Training Coordinator a list of activities prior to the January and July business meetings. This list will serve to document the student's orchid related activities during the previous 6 months.

2. TALKS / PRESENTATIONS / HOMEWORK

Students are required to give talks as assigned by the Training Coordinator. This will include formal presentations as well as the informal award slide reviews.

Throughout the year students will be assigned homework. These homework assignments will normally be due the following month unless announced otherwise. Students are responsible for the completion and submission of these assignments. It is suggested that the student mail the assignment to the Training Coordinator in the event that they will be unable to attend the next judging session.

Additional presentations, papers, or homework may be assigned to an individual student if deemed necessary by the training coordinator.

3. REGIONAL JUDGING CLERICAL / RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Students should arrive early to judging to assist setting up lights, tables, and research material. After judging students should straighten chairs / tables and put away research material and lights.

Students should start researching plants as soon as they are nominated and placing this information with each plant on the nominating table.

Students will be assigned to teams where they will participate in judging. They will also do additional research, write descriptions, and discuss judged plants as requested by the team chairman.

4. ANNUAL TESTS

There will be one exam given yearly before the July business meeting. These tests are a diagnostic tool used to measure a student's progress.

5. EXHIBITS

Students are required to put 2 exhibits in AOS judged orchid shows each year. These may be tabletop or floor exhibits. No more than two students may get credit for one exhibit unless approved by the Training Coordinator. Students must have active participation in creation and execution of these exhibits.

6. AOS REQUIREMENTS

Students must fulfill the minimum requirements set out in the AOS HANDBOOK section 4.6