Judging Seminar

By Francis Kiddle RDP HonFRPSL



Judge's Responsibility

- To know and understand the rules
- To apply the rules correctly and fairly
- To know the limits of their competence
- To consult as necessary if specific information is lacking
- To explain clearly and sensitively the basis of the award made



What the Judges looks for depends on:

- The type of competition
- The type of assessment required by the rules
- The type or class of exhibit
- The Judges themselves



Type of Assessment

- No defined criteria
- Defined criteria
- Qualitative only ie select best exhibit in group/class/exhibition
- Quantitative marking scheme Grade exhibits by medal level, or Grade exhibits and publish marks



Types or Classes of Exhibits

Traditional
 Postal History

Aerophilately Thematic

Revenue Open

Postal Stationery Youth

Special Studies Postcard

Cinderella Literature

FIP but non-UK – Maximaphily, Astrophilately

Judge's Assessment

- Relate to Type of competition
- Must depend on defined Criteria
- Are personal interpretations of Criteria
- Will not please everyone



FIP Regulations re Exhibits

- GREX: General Regulations of FIP for Exhibitions
- GREV: General Regulations of FIP for the Evaluation of Competitive Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions
- SREV: Special Regulations for the Evaluation of Individual Class Exhibits
- Guidelines: Recommended suggestions by Class Commission



Judging of all Non-thematic Exhibits

- Treatment (20) and Philatelic Importance (10)
- Philatelic and Related Knowledge, Personal Study and Research (35)
- Condition (10) and Rarity (20)
- Presentation (5)

• Total: 100



Judging of Thematic Class Exhibits

- Plan of Exhibit and its Implementation (15)
- Development of Theme (15)
- Originality of Theme (5)
- Knowledge Thematic (15), Philatelic (15)
- Condition (10) and Rarity (20)
- Presentation (5)

• Total: 100



Philatelic Importance (10 marks)

The "Philatelic Importance" of an exhibit is determined by both the significance of the actual exhibit in relation to the subject chosen, and the overall significance of that subject in the field of philately in general



Treatment of the Subject (20 marks)

- Degree of advancement, originality, completeness of exhibit: Does the exhibit show the greatest degree of advancement in terms of the material exhibited?
- Is the approach orthodox, or has an unusual or original interpretation been used?
- How complete is the treatment of the subject chosen?
 Has the subject been chosen to enable a properly balanced exhibit to be shown in the space available?
- Does the material exhibited properly correspond with the title and description of the exhibit?



Philatelic and Related Knowledge, Personal Study and Research

- Knowledge is the degree of knowledge of the exhibitor as expressed by the items chosen for display and their related description
- Personal Study is the proper analysis of the items chosen for display
- Research is the presentation of new facts related to the chosen subject



Philatelic Knowledge (35 marks)

- The exhibit should demonstrate a full and accurate appreciation of the subject chosen, and a detailed study of existing information
- The judge should take due account of the personal study and any research carried out by the exhibitor, as demonstrated within the exhibit



Condition (10 marks)

- Whilst items should be in the best possible condition it is important to remember the actual condition obtainable will vary according to the country and usage
- The judge should note the presence of exceptionally fine material in relation to that normally available, especially in the case of the scarcer items



Rarity (20 marks)

- Rarity is difficult to define in absolute terms and has to be assessed relative to the class of material. Thus in terms of numbers available, many postal stationery items would be considered rare to extremely rare when compared to adhesive stamps. Value is not rarity. The Judge should take account of:
- Does the subject area include very rare material?
- Are all the accepted rarities in the subject area present?



Presentation (5 marks, going on 50)

- The write up must be clear, concise and relevant to the material shown and to the subject chosen for the exhibit
- The method of presentation should show the material to best effect and in a balanced way
- With entries it is important to avoid unduly uniform arrangements
- No advantage or disadvantage shall apply as to whether the text is handwritten, typed or printed. Brightly coloured inks and coloured album pages should be avoided



ABPS Exhibitions Committee

Chairman Chris King
c/o British Philatelic Trust
Suite 101B, Business Design Centre
52 Upper Street
London N1 0QH
Telephone 0207 688 8423

© ABPS 2011