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*American Federation  
of  
Mineralogical Societies*



**AFMS Uniform Rules**  
8th Edition

**2009 Updates**

AFMS Publications Committee  
B. Jay Bowman, Chair

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## **Registration and Certification of Exhibitor and Exhibit**

**1.0 Application for exhibit space** and registration form of the exhibit shall be made to the Host Society or Regional Federation on an Exhibit Registration Form approved by the Regional Federation. The exhibitor **MUST** furnish all the information requested on the registration form. Once this registration is accepted the Exhibitor Group cannot be changed. The Host Society or Regional Federation will confirm registration of the exhibit.

**2.1 The Exhibit Registration Form** will contain a certification by the Exhibitor of, as may be applicable:

- (a) ownership of the materials exhibited, except that an exhibitor who no longer owns the materials may exhibit lapidary, jewelry and art metalcraft, where the work was done by the exhibitor;
- (b) personal workmanship of the materials being exhibited (subject to the exemptions in Part I, Rule 1.0, and Section II, Rule 17.9(a));
- (c) personal collection in the field of the materials exhibited. The Exhibit Registration Form will also contain a certification signed by an Officer of the Exhibitor's Society (or the Federation Secretary if the Exhibitor does not belong to a club but is an Individual member of a Federation) that the Exhibitor is a member in good standing of such Society or Federation. The exhibitor shall mail the Exhibit Registration Form to the Exhibit Registration Chairman designated by the Regional Federation Rules Committee.

**2.2 Acceptance of These Rules.** The registration of an exhibit shall constitute acceptance of the rules and agreement to comply with them. Refusal to comply with the rules or any unsportsmanlike conduct displayed before, during, or after the show will constitute grounds for disqualification. Said grounds for disqualification shall be presented to the Uniform Rules Chairperson whose decision shall be final and can result in disqualification of the exhibit and revocation of any award given.

**2.3 Rule changes** cannot be made at the time of the show. Objections to the rules are not to be considered justification for complaint. Where an apparent error in evaluation or interpretation has been made, appeal may be made to the Chairperson of the Rules Committee whose decision shall be final. See Arbitration Committee, S-I-P-V-2(2009)

**2.4 A time and place** must be scheduled and announced for exhibitor and judge consultations and/or appeals after the scores have been posted and prior to the awards.

S-I-P-I-2-2009

- (b) A member of the Regional Federation Rules Committee shall be designated as **JUDGING DIRECTOR** and shall appoint all Judges, shall instruct Judges and Clerks; and shall administer judging procedures in accordance with the Uniform Rules. It is mandatory that a Regional Rules Committee Member perform these tasks.
- (c) The Chairperson of the Regional Rules Committee shall be the authority on interpretation and application of the Uniform Rules and AFMS certification, and **MUST** adhere to the AFMS Uniform Rules.

Only the **Regional Rules Chairperson** is empowered to disqualify a competitive exhibit in Regional competition.

- (1) The Regional Rules Chairperson (or alternate) shall maintain adequate records of regional exhibitors (including masters scoring 90 or above, and Juniors scoring 70 or above) for use in determining regional exhibitor eligibilities for AFMS competition.
- (2) Not more than thirty (30) days following each Regional Show, but prior to the next AFMS show, the Regional Rules Chairperson shall send to the person designated by the AFMS Rules Committee the competitive results for **ALL EXHIBITORS**. This record to include name, address, Society affiliation, home Federation, the year of Show, designation whether Regional or AFMS Show, Show location (city & state), Exhibitor Group, score, Class, Regional awards (if any), and Eligibility, if earned, and for which AFMS Trophy by number. This information is necessary in the determination of eligibility for direct AFMS national award competition.
- (3) Each Regional Rules Chairperson is responsible for preparation and submission **in writing** of proposed changes in these Uniform Rules to be sent to the AFMS Uniform Rules Committee (URC) Chairperson at least **thirty days** prior to the AFMS URC meeting. Copies of proposed changes shall also be furnished to all other Regional Chairpersons at least three (3) months prior to the AFMS URC meeting.
- (4) Each Regional Rules Chairperson is responsible for immediately notifying the AFMS Uniform Rules Chairperson **in writing** of name changes and addresses for the Regional Rules Committee members.
- (5) The Regional Rules Chairperson (or alternate) shall furnish the up-to-date Regional Federation Eligibility Records to the person designated Exhibit Registration Chairperson, for use in accepting exhibit registrations and certifying eligibilities.

S-I-P-II-2-2009

- (f) A direct entry in AFMS Trophy competition which earns a score of 90 points or above will constitute requalification in such class and extend AFMS Trophy eligibility through the 12th annual AFMS competition thereafter.
- (g) Eligibility earned on the basis of a collective family exhibit applies separately to each individual contributing to such family exhibit.
- (h) A collective family exhibit must be entered in AFMS Trophy competition as long as at least one individual contributing to such exhibit has earned eligibility in the same class.
- (i) Juniors are eligible to compete for any AFMS Trophy, and Junior Societies for any AFMS Society Trophies.

**6.4** An exhibitor who has earned eligibility for AFMS Trophy competition in one or more classes may enter an exhibit in Regional Federation competition at any AFMS Show provided it is entered in a class in which the exhibitor has not earned AFMS eligibility.

**6.5** All materials and/or workmanship exhibited must be that of the exhibitor. For **EXCEPTIONS:** See Section I: Part I, Rule 1.0; Section II, Div. C, Rule 9.4; Div. D, Rules 15.10 and 15.11; and Div. E, Rule 17.9.

**6.6** Each trophy shall be awarded to the highest scoring exhibit. A minimum point score of 90 shall be required for the award of a trophy except that in the Junior or Junior Society competition the minimum point score shall be 70.

**6.7** The winner of an AFMS Trophy may not compete for the in the same class until the 3rd annual AFMS competition thereafter.

**6.8** Every Regional or National Show Competition is governed by the latest edition of the AFMS Uniform Rules.

S-I-P-III-2-2009



## PART IV

### APPLICATION AND EXHIBIT AREA REQUIREMENTS

**7.0 Application** for exhibit space and registration of the exhibit for **DIRECT ENTRY** into **AFMS Competition** shall be made to the Host Society or Regional Federation hosting the AFMS Competition on a form approved by such Regional Federation. The Exhibitor **MUST** furnish all the information requested on the registration form. E-mail may be accepted, but must have all information as listed on the registration form. Such Exhibit Registration Form must contain:

- (1) a certification by the Exhibitor as to personal ownership, workmanship or collecting as stated in Section I, Part I, Rule 2.1;
- (2) a certification as to membership in good standing signed by an officer of the Exhibitor's society or Federation Secretary, as may be applicable, as also stated in Section I, Part I, Rule 2.1;
- (3) the date and location of the Regional Show at which eligibility was obtained;
- (4) birth date of Junior exhibitors.

The Exhibitor's eligibility for Direct Entry in AFMS competition shall be certified by reference to the AFMS Eligibility Files.

The Host Society or Regional Federation will confirm registration of the exhibit.

**7.1** No Name identifying the exhibitor or exhibitor group shall be visible on or in a competitive exhibit before all judging has been completed. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in disqualification.

**7.2** The exhibitor's copy of the score card along with the judges' comments must be completed and placed with the exhibit by the Judging Committee immediately after judging is completed and results tabulated. At the exhibitor's request the exhibitor's name will be omitted. These cards and/or comment sheets **MUST** remain with the exhibit for the duration of the show.

**EXCEPTION:** Exhibitors may remove comment sheets during consultation with judges.

S-I-P-IV-1-2009

**8.5 Judges shall** be furnished with score cards and/or comment sheets upon which must be entered correctly the score points awarded and comments for each exhibit. The score cards and/or comment sheets must be signed by the Judges for each exhibit.

**8.6 Score points** from the score cards and/or comment sheets used by the Judges shall be entered on the Exhibitor's identification/score card by persons appointed by the Rules Chairperson.

**8.7 The exhibitor's** copy of the score card along with the judges' comments must be completed and placed with the exhibit by the Judging Committee immediately after judging is completed and results tabulated. At the exhibitor's request, the exhibitor's name will be omitted. These cards and/or comment sheets **MUST** remain in place for the duration of the show. **EXCEPTION:** Exhibitors may remove comment sheets during consultation with judges.

**8.8 Arbitration Committee,** The second member, or the acting alternate, of the AFMS URC committee shall select five judges from those present, or who will be present, at the AFMS convention. These names will be given to the AFMS president, or acting alternate, who will then pick three of these judges to comprise a team of supervising judges. The duty of these judges is to be the final arbiter of any disagreement between the judges and exhibitors that the URC chair could not resolve to the satisfaction of all parties. They will also resolve disagreements about the interpretation of the rules between the URC chair and the judges. Their ruling is Final

**8.9 Registration of an exhibit** in AFMS Trophy competition shall constitute acceptance of all parts of these Rules the provisions of which are not subject to change at the time of the Show. Any attempt to influence the decisions of the Judges or any unsportsmanlike conduct, before, during, or after the Show may, upon recommendation by the AFMS Rules Committee, result in the cancellation of any Trophy awarded, the suspension of the eligibility of the offending person for a specified period, and/or other penalty decided by the AFMS Board and as directed by the AFMS President.

S-I-P-V-2-2009

**PART VI**

**RULES GOVERNING THE AWARDS OF  
AMERICAN FEDERATION NATIONAL  
TROPHIES**

These Rules are subject to revision and/or adjustment by a two-thirds majority vote of the Regional Rules Committees and the AFMS Uniform Rules Committee. All changes submitted to the AFMS Uniform Rules Committee shall be voted on at the annual meeting of the Regional Federation Rules representatives and the AFMS URC. Comments and suggestions from all Federation Rules Committees are always welcomed.

**AMERICAN FEDERATION RULES COMMITTEE**

**NFMS**

Barbara Jacobsen, NFMS  
P.O. Box 1579  
Shady Cove, OR 97539-1579  
Phone: 514-878-1445  
<bobjake@connpoint.net>

**CFMS**

Dee Holland  
PO Box 23  
Tendoy, ID 83468  
<beauholland@salmoninternet.com>  
<shirleyleeson@cox.net>

**EFMLS**

B. Jay Bowman  
191 Bowman Road  
Ponca City, OK 74604  
<bjb@wildblue.net>

S-I-P-VI-1-2009

## 2.0 DIVISION B MINERALS

Please read all of Section I.

### RULES FOR DIVISION B

#### Rule 2.1 Labeling

(a) Each mineral specimen shall have a label showing the following information:

(1) The name of the mineral species; and the name of the variety of the species, if the specimen is a variety; as found in the current **AFMS Mineral Classification List**. See Rule 2.10.

(i) Names of species or varieties of species cannot be modified by extra words, such as “gray GALENA crystals”. “Gray” and “crystals” are descriptive terms, and are not the name of the mineral.

(ii) The names of all mineral species and varieties to be judged shall be in upper case (capital) letters. When a specimen shows more than one mineral and not all are to be judged, use all lower case (or small upper case) letters for the identified material not to be judged. (Example: a specimen of galena, calcite and marcasite with only galena and calcite to be judged would be labeled: GALENA, CALCITE, marcasite; or GALENA, CALCITE, MARCASITE

(iii) Group names (i.e. tourmaline, garnet, etc.) are unacceptable and a specific species must be identified.

(2) The name of the chemical classification - e.g., sulfide, carbonate, oxide, silicate, et al., as found in the **AFMS Mineral Classification List**. The chemical classification may be in all upper case (capital) letters, all lower case letters or with the initial letter in the word capitalized.

(3) The locality of origin (if in U.S., state and one or more of the following: county, area, district, city or parish; if foreign, country and one or more of the following: prefecture, department, district, city, county, territory, area, canton, or province. Current name preferred, previous name accepted). Name of mine is desirable as additional information.

B-1-2009

## JUDGING POINTS FOR CARVINGS

See Section II, Pages S-II-1-2003 and S-II-2-2005

Category	L	S	Q	W	VM	D
Q	5	10	10	65	10	
BB	5	10	10	65		10

### CLASSES FOR SUBDIVISION CA

**CA-1 Carving(s):** Soft Stone, one piece (solid mass), any size - one to six (1-6) Carving(s). One piece must have minimum measurement of 100 X 150 millimeters. (BB)(2)(T16).

**CA-2 Carving(s):** Hard Stone, one piece (solid mass), any size - one to six (1-6) carving(s). One piece must have minimum measurement of 100 X 150 millimeters. (BB)(2)(T40).

**CA-3 Carving(s) - Composites:** Any size - one to six (1-6) carving(s). One piece must have minimum measurement of 100 X 150 millimeters. (BB)(2)(T41).

**CA-4 Carvings - Diorama:** Any size. (Q)(2)(T41).

**CA-5 Carvings - Mixed:** May include Soft Stone, Hard Stone, Composites. Any size - six to ten (6-10) carvings. (Q)(2)(T41).

**CA-6 Carvings - Miniature, Soft Stone:** one piece (solid mass) - ten to fifteen (10-15) carvings. (BB)(1)(T16).

**CA-7 Carvings - Miniature, Hard Stone:** one piece (solid mass) - ten to fifteen (10-15) carvings. (BB)(1)(T40).

**CA-8 Carvings - Miniature, Composites:** Ten to fifteen (10-15) carvings. (BB)(1)(T41).

**CA-9 Carvings - Miniature, Diorama:** In which all carvings are miniatures. (Q)(1)(T41).

**CA-10 Carvings - Miniature, Mixed:** May include Soft Stone, Hard Stone, Composites. Ten to fifteen (10-15) carvings. (Q)(1)(T41).

**CA-11 Carving(s) - Synthetic and/or Glass:** May include boules, stabilized turquoise, and glass. No plastics. Any size - one to ten (1-10) carving(s). One piece must have minimum measurement of 100 X 150 millimeters. (BB)(2)(T41).

C-10-2009

### 13.0 SUBDIVISION CW: ONE TYPE OF WORK

#### RULES FOR SUBDIVISION CW

**Rule 13.1** Intarsia Jewelry size. The face of each finished piece is to be flat or domed, but cannot be capped. Pieces may or may not be backed for stability. (Backing on intarsia does not qualify as a doublet). A minimum of four (4) components in each piece.

**Rule 13.2** (For doublets & triplets) **Quality** shall refer to the finished product; under **Workmanship** the bonding agent must not show; there must be no visible air pockets. **Workmanship** shall also include the best use of color pattern and design features, such as plumes, sagenites, and ‘stars’

#### JUDGING POINTS FOR ONE TYPE OF WORK

See Section II, Pages S-II-1-2003 and S-II-2-2005

Category	L	S	Q	W
F	5	15	25	55
G		15	25	60

#### CLASSES FOR SUBDIVISION CW

**CW-1 Polished flats**, more than one material; minimum twenty (20) maximum thirty (30)  
(F)(2)(T21)

**CW-2 Polished flats**, one material; minimum twenty (20), maximum thirty (30), (F)(2)(T21).

**CW-3 Bookends**, minimum five (5) pairs. (F)(2)(T21).

**CW-4 Spheres**, variety of material, minimum five (5). (F)(2)(T21).

**CW-5 Transparencies**. (F)(2)(T21).

**CW-6 Intarsia**, Jewelry size. A minimum of twenty (20) and a maximum of forty (40) finished pieces per case (G)(1)(T31).

**CW-7 Intarsia**, Picture size. (G)(2)(T31).

**CW-8 Intarsia**, Table Tops. (G)(2)(T31).

**CW-9 Doublets and/or Triplets**. (F)(1)(T21).

**CW-10 Contoured Polished Specimen(s)** One piece must have minimum measurement of 100 X 150 millimeters. (F)(1)(T21).

**CW-11 Mosaics**. (G)(2)(T31).

**CW-12 Composites**, (must be exhibited in Class CA-3 or CA-8 if all carvings). (F)(1)(T21).

C-17-2009

**Rule 15.10** Use of commercial minor findings will be allowed in all classes of this division. Minor findings refer to pins, catches, hinges, ear-screws, chains, cuff-link backs, etc.

Minor accessory stones will be allowed in all classes of this division except D-2 or D-6. Minor accessory stones shall not exceed 4mm in diameter (pearls allowed) and shall not be judged.

**Rule 15.11 Stones not necessarily cut by the exhibitor** will be allowed in Classes D-9, D-10, and DST-6 and will be judged for Quality but not Workmanship.

**Rule 15.12 All Classes in this division must contain a minimum of ten items**

**Rule 15.13 OUT-OF-CLASS** specimens for Jewelry and Art Metalcraft classes are:

- (a) Minerals and materials embedded in plastics.
- (b) Jewelry included in Art Metalcraft classes or Art Metalcraft in Jewelry classes.
- (c) Items with no stones in Classes D-1, D-4, D-5, D-7, D-8, and D-9. Stones, including minor accessory stones, used in Class D-2 or D-6 will be considered OUT-OF-CLASS.
- (d) Items in which accessory stones exceed size limitations.
- (e) A piece of jewelry is considered as **OUT-OF-CLASS** unless the necklace has a chain, the bola a cord, the pin a clasp: however, a belt buckle does not need a belt attached.
- (f) All castings which are cast directly from commercial patterns.
- (g) Tumbled stones.
- (h) items under the imposed minimum of ten.

Deductions for **OUT-OF-CLASS** specimens shall be five (5) points for each **OUT-OF-CLASS** specimen to be deducted from the **TOTAL** score awarded the exhibit.

**Rule 15.14 References**

Creative Gold & Silversmithing - Sharr Choate  
Design and Creation of Jewelry - Robert Van Neumann  
Jewelry Concepts and Techniques - Oppi Untracht  
Metal Working Techniques for Craftsmen - Oppi Untracht  
Jewelry Making (for Schools, Tradesmen, Craftsmen) Murray Bovin  
Metal Enameling - Polly Rothenberg  
The Art of Engraving - James B. Meek  
How to Make Wire Jewelry - Fern Jenkins & Viola Thrasher

D-3-2009