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*American Federation
of
Mineralogical Societies*



*AFMS Uniform Rules
8th Edition*

Updated for 2013

*AFMS Publications Committee
Ronald Carman, Chair*

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**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.

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1.0 DIVISION A - OPEN DIVISION

Please read all of Section I.

RULES FOR DIVISION A

Rule 1.1 - Eligibility - This division is only for mixed exhibits, exhibits of materials which by their nature cannot be displayed adequately in other divisions, or exhibits which do not meet requirements of classes in other divisions

Rule 1.2 - Duplication will not be charged if it is required by the nature of the exhibit.

Rule 1.3 - Exhibits in the Open Division are not limited in space, unless limitation is shown for a specific class. The Host Society has the right to restrict such exhibits as floor space needs dictate.

Rule 1.4 - Deduction for OUT-OF-CLASS specimens shall be five points for each OUT-OF-CLASS specimen, to be deducted from the total score awarded the exhibit.

Rule 1.5 - For Displays in Class A-8:

(a) Quality will be judged on the obviousness of the particular feature(s) of the specimens exhibited.

(b) Special Features include the physical features of the specimen(s), minerals present, etc., and must be identified on the labels.

(c) Labeling: Deductions for labeling errors (illegibility, incorrect spelling, information, or identification, and/or lack of required information) shall be two points for each error, not to exceed the total points allowed in this class. **Consistent errors** (the same error appearing on more than one label and in every instance in which that error could be made) shall be penalized two points for each instance of each consistent error up to a limit of one-half of the points allowed for labeling.

Rule 1.6 - Items in classes that would be examined under magnification in their respective classes shall be examined according to the respective Division Rules in these classes. (Sec. I, Part 1, Rule 3.9)

Rule 1.7 - Gem Trees (Handcrafted miniature trees)

- A. Materials may be natural or polished, not necessarily by the exhibitor, using the approved AFMS current Reference List of Lapidary Materials
- B. The base shall be stone, complementary to the trees.
- C. The minimum number of trees shall be four; maximum number eight.
- D. Trees shall have labels identifying all material used to make the tree.
- E. Workmanship shall be judged on neat twisting of wire, no visible glue or spider webbing, and no missing or loose stones.
- F. Design shall be judged on tree form, originality and individuality, as to use of old ideas or styles as well as new ideas. All materials used shall be complimentary. Color, texture, creativity and form shall contribute to the character and balance in the design.
- G. OUT-OF-CLASS shall include trees with no decorative stones, commercially cast trees, figurines or other decorative material. 5 points will be deducted for each OUT-OF-CLASS item from the total score.

A-1 (2003)

Rule 1.8 – An Award of Trophy #1 shall be given to each class in Division A, provided the scoring qualifications are met.

JUDGING POINTS FOR DIVISION A

A-1 Mineral and/or Minerals

Labels - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on
Showmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on
Quality - deduct up to 30 points for quality deficiencies commented on

A-2 Lapidary

Labels (See Rule 9.3) - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on
Showmanship (See Rule 9.7) deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on
Quality (See Rule 9.6) deduct up to 30 points for quality deficiencies commented on
Workmanship (See Rule 9.5) deduct up to 20 points for deficiencies commented on

A-3 Jewelry and Art Metalcraft

Labels - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on
Showmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on
Quality - deduct up to 30 points for quality deficiencies commented on
Workmanship - deduct up to 20 points for deficiencies commented on

A-4 Fossils

Labels - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on
Showmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on
Quality - deduct up to 30 points for quality deficiencies commented on

A-5 Project, using minerals, lapidary items, fossils, educational materials, petrified wood, wood casts, jewelry and/or art metalcraft in any proportions.

Labels - must explain what the project is. Charts, drawings, pictures, etc. may be used.
Deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on
Showmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on
Quality - deduct up to 30 points for deficiencies commented on

A-6 Fluorescent Minerals

Labels - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on
Showmanship - - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on
Quality - deduct up to 30 points for quality deficiencies commented on

A-7 Mixed Display -a combination of two or more of the categories minerals, lapidary, jewelry, art metalcraft, petrified wood, and fossils in about equal proportions by number of specimens. Duplication will not be charged if one duplicated specimen is a mineral and others are jewelry or lapidary.

Labels - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on
Showmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on
Quality - deduct up to 15 points for quality deficiencies commented on
Workmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on

A-8 Geographical Specialties - This class is to be used only when other classes in this or other divisions of these Rules do not accommodate the display. Labels in this class must indicate the locality and specialty being shown.

Labels - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on

Showmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on

Quality - deduct up to 25 points for quality deficiencies commented on

Specialty Designation - deduct up to 5 points for deficiencies commented on

A-9 Gem Trees - handcrafted miniature trees

Labels - deduct up to 10 points for errors commented on

Showmanship - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on

Workmanship - deduct up to 20 points for deficiencies commented on

Design - - deduct up to 15 points for deficiencies commented on

A-3 (2014)

18.0 DIVISION F - FOSSILS

Please read all of section I.

RULES FOR DIVISION F

Rule 18.1 Labeling

(a) All specimens shall have labels showing the following six items in any uniform sequence:

1. Common name. When a single part of a fossil is used, the common name shall include that part. Examples: trilobite pygidium, shark tooth, elm leaf.
2. Period (epoch for Cenozoic).
3. Locality (for U.S. - area and state; for Canada - area and province or territory; for other foreign countries, the country name is sufficient).
4. Phylum (for animals) or division (for plants).
5. Class or subclass (animals) or subdivision or class (plants).
6. Scientific name (genus and species).

NOTE: The proper method of writing the scientific name is to capitalize only the first letter in each word of the genus, but to write the specific name all in lower case letters. Both words must be underlined separately or italicized. EXAMPLE: Phacops rana or *Phacops rana*.

Some fossils have not yet been placed in a genus. When the fossil has not been placed in one of the classification categories (phylum, class, genus, or species), the word “undescribed” or another appropriate term should be used in place of the classification.

When the exhibitor has not described the fossil as to species, the abbreviation “sp.” must follow the genus name. EXAMPLE: Achistrum sp. or *Achistrum* sp. The sp. is never capitalized, italicized, or underlined. It will be permissible to use the sp. when, after research, the exhibitor is unable to determine the species, but he must realize that he will be considered in error if the judge(s) can name the species or tell the exhibitor in what reference(s) the name may be found.

(b) A single group label may be used to show information common to all specimens or groups of specimens. Each error on such a group label will be considered a single error. For example, brachiopods may be grouped under a “brachiopod” label. In Class F-9 (fossils from one rock unit), fossils from one locality may be grouped under an appropriate locality label.

F-1 (1999)

(c) Such factors as neatness, size and placement of labels for viewing will be considered under showmanship. Additional label information will be judged for accuracy, and any errors will be penalized the same as errors in required information.

(d) Deductions for labeling errors (illegibility, incorrect spelling, information, or identification, and/or lack of required information) shall be two points for each error and not to exceed the total points allowed for labeling in that class. **CONSISTENT ERRORS** (the same error appearing on more than one label and in every instance in which that error could be made) shall be penalized the number of points for a single error for each instance of each consistent error up to a limit of one-half of the points allowed for labeling in that class.

(e) The use of numbers with corresponding lists in lieu of labels is not acceptable and will receive no labeling score.

(f) When a specimen to be judged is attached to a “host” specimen, the name of the host specimen may or may not be shown. If shown, the host specimen will be identified as “host”, but will not be judged.

Rule 18.2 Variety of Material shall refer primarily to variety of life forms and time units represented in the exhibit (subject to limitations of the exhibit). The nature of the exhibit will determine other variety criteria.

EXAMPLES: Variety of localities and formations would be required in Fossils from One Time Unit (Class F-6). Fossils from One Rock Unit (Class F-9) would be judged on variety of localities when that unit occurs in more than one area. Variety of replacing materials will enhance a fossil display. Exhibits should include a sufficient number of specimens to illustrate a good representative variety.

(a) Variety of life forms

1. Variety of life forms in classes F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, FT-1, FM-1, and FC-1 will be judged on the variety of major life forms as defined in the current AFMS Fossil List (phyla in invertebrates, class in vertebrates, and taxa for plants) within the limits of the class entered.

If the exhibit contains more specimens than the possible number of phyla (and/or divisions), variety of life forms shall also be based on variety of classes and subclasses (subdivisions and classes for plants); then, if necessary, on variety of orders, families, etc.

EXAMPLE: If an invertebrate exhibit contains one specimen more than the possible number of phyla, two gastropods should not be shown. A pelecypod, scaphopod, or cephalopod could be shown if the other mollusk is a gastropod.

2. Variety of life forms in Restricted Classes F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, F-10, FM-2, FT-2, and FC-2 will be judged in comparison to the complete variety of life forms (to level of species) obtainable within the limits of the exhibit entered.

F-2 (2000)

EXAMPLE #1: In an exhibit of one family, two different species of one genus should not be exhibited until all the genera are represented.

EXAMPLE #2: In an exhibit of Scientist's Cliffs, Maryland fossils (Miocene), absence of trilobites and graptolites would not be penalized since they do not occur in the Miocene.

3. Complete exhibits of special parts shall not lose points for lack of other parts.

EXAMPLE: Plant reproductive structures, plant leaves, shark teeth.

(b) Variety of time units

1. Variety of time units in classes F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, FT-1, FM-1, and FC-1 will be judged on how many of the sixteen required periods and epochs are represented in the exhibit.

The required periods are: Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Mississippian, Pennsylvanian, Permian, Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous.

The required epochs are: Paleocene, Eocene, Oligocene, Miocene, Pliocene and Pleistocene.

NOTE: Fossils older than Cambrian are not required, but if used should be labeled as Precambrian.
(Precambrian is an era of time.)

2. Variety of time units in Restricted Classes F-6, F-7, F-8, F-10, FM-2, FT-2 and FC-2 will be judged in comparison to the complete variety of the time units obtainable within the limits of the class entered.

EXAMPLE #1: Trilobites - Cambrian to Permian

EXAMPLE #2: Ordovician Fossils - Variety of Time Units not applicable or considered

Rule 18.3 Quality of specimens shall refer to perfection of the life forms as shown in the fossil state, freedom from excess foreign material, skill in preparation, skill in repair and preservation of the specimen, and ease of identification by the external form.

Rule 18.4 Rarity - A specimen shall be considered rare if the particular genus or species is seldom found in that locality or formation. In a display representing one locality or formation, rarity shall be based upon what is available at that locality or in that formation. If references do not list current availability, or the exhibitor's reference list does not indicate that rarity, the judges' decision is final.

Rule 18.5 Showmanship shall refer to the ability of the exhibitor to use the material exhibited, the background material, lighting, arrangement, labeling, and sufficiently attractive specimens to create a display which will attract and hold the interest of the viewer upon the specimens exhibited. Showmanship will also include additional (not required) information designed to make the exhibit more interesting and educational.

Examples of additional information include: subgenus, subspecies, name of the author of the species, formation, list of replacing materials, exact locations. This kind of additional information may be included in the reference list instead of being used on the labels. See Rule 18.8(c).

F-3 (1999)

Rule 18.6 OUT-OF-CLASS shall include each specimen:

- (a) over an imposed size limitation
- (b) not of the type specified for the class
- (c) not a valid fossil
- (d) specimens over or under the imposed number limitation, except as allowed in Rule 18.7(b)
- (e) petrified plant life/fossil plant life with lapidary work

Deduction for OUT-OF-CLASS specimens shall be five points for each OUT-OF-CLASS specimen to be deducted from the total score awarded the exhibit.

Rule 18.7 Duplication:

- (a) Specimens are not duplicates if the species, subspecies, or recognized variety is different for each labeled specimen or specimens. See Part (b).
- (b) No deduction will be made for multiple specimens of the same species displayed so as to show different specific details, habits, or behavior patterns **if** they are grouped together and identified by one label.
- (c) Matrix with multiple specimens of one species will not be charged with duplication, but excess matrix may adversely affect the showmanship score. The exhibitor should indicate in some manner which fossil is to be judged if it is not obvious.
- (d) Each additional specimen of an identical species, subspecies, or variety will be considered as one duplication.
- (e) For each duplication, two points shall be deducted from the total score awarded to the exhibit.

Rule 18.8 Authorized references are:

- (a) For phyla, divisions, subdivisions, classes, subclasses, and common names: the AFMS "Fossil List". This list also explains the accepted use of other reference material.
- (b) For time and rock unit names, if used: United States Geological Survey and state geological survey reports, or any geological publication.
- (c) For scientific name: since no single reference will identify all fossils as to genus and species, the exhibitor will identify his specimens using the best scientific authority available. Dealer references alone are not acceptable.

Rule 18.9 Reference List of Scientific Names

The exhibitor must post **outside** his case information relative to his specimens. This may be a list, a notebook, file cards, posters, etc. The information must include a list showing where he obtained the scientific name for each specimen - the name of a publication or article, the author, date of publication, page number, and plate or figure number of any illustrations. Reproduced copies of pages may also be used. It is preferable to cite a publication for each name, but if the exhibitor was unable to find a published reference for that fossil, he must give the name of the individual or institution who identified that specimen for him. This individual or institution should be an authority in the field of paleontology and in the phylum that is shown. Other information pertinent to the fossils may be included - maps of areas, variety of material (localities, formation, life forms, time units: see Rule 18.2), quality of specimens or specimen preparation (how and why: see Rule 18.3), rarity - what is rare, with reasons; replacing minerals, if any, etc. (See Rule 18.4), and anything that is of help to the exhibitor, to the judges, and to the viewing public. (The exhibitor may desire to have available a duplicate copy of his information, as well as other reference books.)

A total of five points shall be assigned to the Reference List; the number of points earned shall depend on the completeness and accuracy of the list, which will not be judged for spelling errors.

If the exhibitor chooses to use a classification system different from any listed in the AFMS "Fossil List", the reference(s) must be cited in the Reference List.

JUDGING POINTS FOR DIVISION F (See Section II, Page T-2):

Category	L	S	O	R	O	W	VM	SP	RL
K	30	10	30	5			20		5
N	30	5	20	5	5	10	20		5
L	25	10	25	5			15	15	5

CLASSES FOR DIVISION F:

F-1 Animal Fossils, in approximate proportion of four invertebrates to one vertebrate. (K)(2)(T32)

F-2 Vertebrate Fossils (K)(2)(T32)

F-3 Invertebrate Fossils (K)(2)(T32)

F-4 Plant and Animal Fossils, in approximate proportion of four invertebrate, one vertebrate, and two plants. (K)(2)(T32)

F-5 Plant Fossils (K)(2)(T32)

F-6 Fossils from One Time Unit (era, period or epoch, such as Paleozoic, Permian Miocene, etc.) (K)(2)(T32)

F-7 Fossils from One Classification Unit Examples: one phylum or division, class, family, or genus, such as Arthropoda, Trilobita, Illaecidae, Bumastus (K)(2)(T32)

F-8 Fossils from One Locality (K)(2)(T32)

F-9 Fossils from One Rock Unit (group, formation, member, bed, etc.) (K)(2)(T32)

F-10 Specialized Fossils includes one category from each of the two following groups: (K)(2)(T32)

Group 1 - One Classification Unit (kingdom, phylum, subphylum, super-class, class, family, genus; Invertebrates are also considered a unit.)

Group 2 - One Locality, or One Time Unit, or One Rock Unit

EXAMPLES: Vertebrate Fossils from Calvert County, Maryland
Mississippian Crinoids
Brachiopods from the Silica Formation

Additionally, one category from either Group 1 or Group 2 may be added to more accurately define the exhibit.

EXAMPLE: Trilobites and Brachiopods from the Bromide Formation

Restrictions shall be documented in the Reference List. See Rule 18.9.

F-6 (2003)

19.0 SUBDIVISION FT: THUMBNAIL FOSSILS

Please read all of Division F rules.

RULES FOR SUBDIVISION FT:

Rule 19.1 A Thumbnail Fossil is defined as any fossil displayed so that it fits into a one-inch cube. (See Rule 2.11) Micromounts will be considered OUT-OF-CLASS in a thumbnail display.

Rule 19.2 Thumbnails may be displayed either in or out of boxes.

Rule 19.3 Thirty-five specimens are to be shown.

JUDGING POINTS FOR THUMBNAIL FOSSILS (See Section II, Page T-2):

Category	L	S	O	R	VM	RL
K	30	10	30	5	20	5

CLASSES FOR SUBDIVISION FT:

FT-1 Thumbnail Fossils, general classes equivalent to any one of the following classes:

F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5. (K)(1)(T33)

FT-2 Thumbnail Fossils, restricted classes equivalent to any one of the following classes:

F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, or F-10. (K)(1)(T33)

The exhibitor shall clearly state which fossil class the exhibit represents.

EXAMPLE: Class FT-2 (F-8)

F-7 (2005)

20.0 SUBDIVISION FM: MICROMOUNT FOSSILS

Please read all of Division F rules.

RULES FOR SUBDIVISION FM:

Rule 20.1 Micromounts are specimens in which the details are so small as to require magnification to identify and evaluate the specimen.

- (a) Micromount specimens shall be of a size small enough to fit into a one-inch cube. See Rule 2.11.
- (b) Any appropriate mounting such as boxes, cubes, micropaleontology slides, or pedestals may be used. Labeling information may be recorded on the paper surface of each slide, or separate labels may be prepared.
- (c) Micromount exhibits shall contain thirty-five mounts in this subdivision.
- (d) Evaluation of the exhibit shall be based upon the microscopic examination of all mounts.

Rule 20.2 Workmanship refers to the ability of the exhibitor to display the intended material with the least amount of distraction from the central point of interest, e.g. lack of glare or roughness of boxes, no glue showing, pedestal not visible when viewing specimen, excess matrix trimmed, etc.

Rule 20.3 Orientation refers to the proper positioning and angulation of the specimen so that the central point of interest may be observed without necessitating further movement of the mount than to place it in focus under the microscope.

Rule 20.4 Showmanship - Any method which will enable the viewer to better visualize the micromounts will be considered, i.e. photographs, drawings, magnification, models of fossils, etc. (In this situation, plastic or plaster models will **not** be considered out-of-class.) See Rule 18.5 for more details.

Rule 20.5 The exhibitor must leave display case keys and a copy of the reference list with the Rules Chairperson or assistant prior to the time of judging, or arrange to open the case when necessary. See Part I, Rule 3.9.

JUDGING POINTS FOR MICROMOUNT FOSSILS (See Section II, Page T-2):

Category	L	S	Q	R	O	W	VM	RL
N	30	5	20	5	5	10	20	5

F-8 (2005)

CLASSES FOR SUBDIVISION FM:

FM-1 Micromount Fossils, general classes equivalent to any one of the following classes:

F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5. (N)(1)(T34)

FM-2 Micromount Fossils, restricted classes equivalent to any one of the following classes:

F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, F-10. (N)(1)(T34)

The exhibitor shall clearly state which fossil class the exhibit represents.

EXAMPLE: Class FM-1 (F-3)

21.0 SUBDIVISION FC: FOSSILS COLLECTED IN THE FIELD BY THE EXHIBITOR

Please read all of Division F rules.

RULES FOR SUBDIVISION FC:

Rule 21.1 All fossils displayed in this subdivision must have been collected in the field by the exhibitor.

Rule 21.2 If thumbnail or micromount fossils are exhibited in the FC subdivision, then a minimum of twenty-five and a maximum of thirty-five specimens are to be shown.

JUDGING POINTS FOR PERSONALLY COLLECTED FOSSILS (See Section II, Page T-2):

Category	L	S	O	R	VM	SP	RL
	25	10	25	5	15	15	5

CLASSES FOR SUBDIVISION FC:

FC-1 Fossils Collected in the Field By the Exhibitor, general classes equivalent to any one of the following classes: F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5. (L)(2) and FT-1 (L)(1), and FM-1 (L)(1)(T35)

FC-2 Fossils Collected in the Field By the Exhibitor, restricted classes equivalent to any one of the following classes: F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, and F-10. (L)(2) and FT-2 (L)(1), and FM-2(L)(1)(T35)

The exhibitor shall clearly state which fossil class the exhibit represents.

EXAMPLE: Class FC-1 (F-1) or Class FC-2 (F-9)

DIVISION I – BEADING & BEADWORK

Please read all of Section I.

DEFINITION OF BEADING:

RULE 25.0 Beaded jewelry refers to articles intended for personal ornamentation and wear. Examples: Necklaces, bracelets, earrings, rings or any combination thereof. The BEADING division consists of three sub divisions:

STRAIGHT STRINGING: Necklaces or bracelets where the beads are strung one after the other on thread, wire or other acceptable stringing material. The stringing material must be listed on the label.

WOVEN: Beads (usually small beads) are woven in a preset or freeform pattern. Bead Weaving can include crystals, stones as a centerpiece.

EMBROIDERY: Beads attached to a backing material with thread, including focal, small accent beads and crystals.

GENERAL JUDGING CRITERIA FOR BEADING AND BEADWORK

Rule 25.1

1. All articles of jewelry must be the original work of, but not necessarily the original design of the exhibitor. Pieces **shall** be identified as original or from someone else's design. This **shall** all be noted on a separate piece of paper, if not original, note the source, with full designer credit. The sheet with the information must be given to the Rules Committee and is to be posted on the case with the final judging sheet.
2. Beadwork must consist of glass, pearl, stone, metal, wood or petrified wood; no plastics are allowed. Subsidiary materials may consist of the following: minerals, lapidary material, fossils, exotic woods or petrified woods. All lapidary materials must be in compliance with the latest AFMS Lapidary, Mineral, or Fossil Name list.
3. The use of commercial minor findings is allowed in all classes of this division. Minor findings refer to crimp beads, crimp covers, beadtips, wire protectors, bullion, clasps, jump rings, earwires, and spacers.
4. All beading submissions, regardless of category (straight strung, woven, or embroidery), **shall** be judged for the following attributes:
 - a. Esthetically pleasing
 - b. Attractive color combination (if more than one color is used)
 - c. Arrangement:
 1. Does the final piece move well, or if meant to be stiff, is it?
 2. Are beads missing, or is the pattern altered (for instance, a blue bead where a red bead is meant to be. It is a common mistake, but in judging it should be noted)
 3. Are the end beads snug against the clasp? A poorly put together jewelry piece will often have a noticeable gap between the last bead, the crimp bead or the cover bead and the clasp.
5. Subsidiary stones or material need not be the work of the exhibitor and are not to be judged for workmanship.

I-1-2011

RULE 25.2 LABELING

1. All submissions must be labeled identifying one or more beading techniques, (see list of beading techniques, Rule 25.5) Straight stringing must state the type of bead and/or lapidary material, the stringing medium, and findings. Techniques are not required on labels in Classes I-1 through I-3.
2. Deductions for labeling errors (illegibility, incorrect spelling, information or identification, and/or lack of required information) shall be one point for each error and not to exceed the total points allowed for labeling in that class. Consistent errors (the same error appearing on more than one label and in every instance where that error could be made) shall be penalized the number of points for a single error for each instance of each consistent error up to a limit of one-half (1/2) of the points allowed for labeling in that class.
3. The use of numbers with corresponding lists in lieu of labels is not acceptable and will receive no labeling score.
4. All specimens used in conjunction with a specific design, i.e. Lapidary material, minerals, exotic woods, petrified wood, and/or fossils, must be correctly identified on the label. All labels must contain the beading technique(s), as well as the type of bead, thread, findings.

RULE 25.3 SHOWMANSHIP

1. Showmanship: Shall refer to the ability of the exhibitor to use the material exhibited, the background material, lighting arrangement, and labeling features (such as size, color and neatness) to create a display which will attract and hold the interest of the viewer upon the work exhibited.

RULE 25.4 QUALITY (Artistry)

1. A judge should take a moment to look at the piece and decide how much effort went into the design, the weave, and the overall appearance of the piece. In this aspect, the more everything works together, the higher the score. If a piece looks rushed or incomplete, the quality/artistry of the entire work is lessened. Some jewelry can work beautifully if it is kept simple, and others are completely original due to the intricacy of the bead combinations. (You might read into that last statement that some jewelry is so overdone that it borders on tasteless rather than tasteful and that a plain piece, even when woven correctly , can remain looking uninspired or dull)
2. Subsidiary specimens/stones used in the articles of jewelry will be judged for quality, according to the respective divisional criteria for quality.

RULE 25.5 VARIETY OF WORK

1. Variety of work shall include the use of one or more of the following techniques: Peyote, tubular peyote, Herringbone, Tubular Herringbone, Brick stitch, ladder stitch, square stitch, netting, branching, fringing, bezeling, woven chain (daisy, Petersburg, herringbone, simple spiral), Bead embroidery.
2. No variety of work is considered when entered in classes I-1 through I-3.

RULE 25.6 WORKMANSHIP

NOTE: Case may be opened to check workmanship, if locked – key must be left with Rules Committee (a security guard or a member of the Rules Committee must be present)

I-2-2014

CLASP:

1. Is the clasp appropriate for the item? Example: a gold clasp where a silver one would have blended in better with the design. Is the clasp too large or too small for the piece?
2. Connectors stay fastened while being worn. This is especially important.
3. Has the clasp been incorporated into the necklace or bracelet properly; does it compliment the piece?
4. Extra credit should be given for a clasp that is completely hidden, or if the clasp augments the appearance of the piece so well that it can work as the centerpiece of the necklace. Any clasp that is totally made out of the same beads as the rest of the piece is especially attractive.

CRIMPS:

1. Functions properly – holds securely in place on the wire.
2. Are attractively shaped – a decorative addition to the necklace or bracelet
OR
3. Are hidden in the interior of another bead if the crimps are not attractive.

STRAIGHT STRINGING:

1. Crimps or knots (or both) are used where needed to ensure that should the thread or wire break, a minimal amount of the beadwork will fall.
2. The thread or wire used for stringing is appropriate for the material being strung. (Rock beads will cut most threads)
3. The stones or beads lay correctly.
4. Are the threads hidden well? Do they stick out in odd places or make the beadwork take a different shape where they occur?
5. The thread or wire is covered properly so that it remains mostly hidden – or are the wires showing to be a part of the overall design (There are necklaces where the wire is supposed to be seen; the color of the wire is complimentary to the overall piece).
6. If using natural pearls in straight stringing, they must be knotted in between, which is the traditional form of stringing pearls. When using glass pearls, they may be knotted in between or a small bead may be placed between each pearl. In Bead Weaving it is not necessary to knot between either type of pearl.

WOVEN:

1. Uniform Weave
2. Should be a good representation of the stitch used.
3. No threads showing.
4. Weave is tight if meant to be, not hanging loosely and vice versa.
5. Thread add-ons are not readily apparent. (Sometimes when switching threads or beads, a Beader can forget to hide the switch, and the piece looks slightly off center.
6. Sides are uniformly and attractively finished.

RULE 25.7 DESIGN

1. ORIGINALITY – different beads or weaves have been used in such a manner that it makes the piece stand out as one of a kind. Items created from an original pattern, by the exhibitor **shall** be given special consideration. (Give this piece the bulk of the points in this section)
2. In Beadweaving and Embroidery classes, pieces **must** be identified as original or if from someone else's design. This shall all be noted on a separate piece of paper; if not original, note the source with full designer credit. The sheet with the information must be given to the Rules Committee and is to be posted on the case with the final judges' score sheet.
3. UNIQUE – all pieces should strive to appear unique and stand out in some fashion since the pieces are handmade.

I-3-2014

RULE 25.8 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

1. Bead Stringing, single pieces or sets No less than 10 items
2. Bead weaving/embroidery, single pieces or sets No less than 10 items
3. Sets would be considered necklace with matching earrings, or necklace with matching bracelet, or two earrings.
4. Single pieces would be considered earrings alone, bracelet alone, necklace alone, or ring alone.
5. A piece with mixed techniques shall be considered by the piece.

RULE 25.9 OUT OF CLASS

1. Out of class pieces for this division consist of plastic beads and/or minerals or fossils embedded in plastic, items with stones in a no-stone class, or items without stones in classes with stones.
2. Pieces under the minimum required number
3. Deduction for out of class pieces shall be five points for each out of class item, to be deducted from the total score awarded to the exhibit.

RULE 25.10 REFERENCES:

1. Mastering Beadwork: A Comprehensive Guide to Off-loom Techniques
Carol Huber Cypher
2. Netted Beadwork: A Beadwork How-To Book
Diane Fitzgerald
3. Exquisite Beaded Jewelry: Use Basic Techniques to Create Distinctive Designs
Lynda Musante
4. The Art of Beadwork: Historic Inspiration, Contemporary Design
Valerie Hector & Lois Sherr Dubin
5. The New Beadwork: (Hardcover)
Kathlyn Moss & Alice Scherer
6. Complete Beading for Beginners:
Karen Rempel
7. Step-by-Step Bead Stringing: A Complete Illustrated Professional Approach:
Ruth F. Paris
8. Beading with Right Angle Weave:
Christine Prussing
9. The Art of Bead Embroidery; Techniques, Designs & Inspiration
Heidi Kummler & Sherry Serafini
10. Beading with Brick Stitch: A beadwork How-To Book
Diane Fitzgerald
11. Indian Bead-Weaving Patterns: Chain-Weaving Designs Dead Loom Weaving
and Bead Embroidery – An Illustrated “How –To” Guide
Horace R. Goodhue.

There are so many wonderful books out there for reference

I-4-2013

JUDGING POINTS FOR DIVISION “I”

See Section II, page 2, 2011

CATEGORY	L	S	Q	VW	W	D
H	15	15	10	15	35	10
BB	5	10	10		65	10

CLASSES FOR DIVISION “I”

- I-1. Single Strand w/or without stones (BB) (1) (T-37)
- I-2. Multiple strand w/or without stones (BB) (1) (T-37)
- I-3. Mixed single & Multiple strand w/or without stones – approximate equal proportions
(BB) (1) (T-37)
- I-4. Bead weaving with only seed beads (H) (1) (T-42)
- I-5. Bead weaving with stones (H) (1) (T-42)
- I-6. Bead weaving mixed, w/ or without stones – approximate equal proportions (H) (1) (T42)
- I-7. Bead embroidery with stones. (At least one (1) large stone, crystal or found object
with beading around it. (H) (1) (T-42)
- I-8. Mixed bead embroidery and/or Bead weaving, w/or without stones, approximate
equal proportions. (H) (1) (T-42)

I-5-2013