

*American Federation  
of  
Mineralogical Societies*



*AFMS Uniform Rules  
8th Edition*

*Updates for 2015*

*AFMS Publications Committee  
Ronald Carman, Chair*



**Division B - Minerals**

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**4.1** To each class of each competitive division and to each of the exhibitor groups competing in those classes there shall be awarded: one first place” (blue) ribbon; one “second place” (red) ribbon; one “third place” (white) ribbon, provided that minimum point scores as listed in Part I, Rule 4.5 have been achieved. Awards will be based upon point score achievement only, not upon the number of exhibits in the class, and it shall not be required that any awards be given in any certain class.

**4.2** Each Regional Federation may decide what trophies, if any, it wishes to award and the eligibility requirements applicable to such trophies.

**4.3** In the interest of more equitable competition, exhibitors are divided into six exhibitor groups. (See 4.4) An exhibitor of any age may enter the Novice, Advanced or Master Exhibitor Group. Any exhibitor who is a Junior on the opening day of the show may compete in the Junior Exhibitor Group. See Rule 1.6.

#### **4.4 Exhibitor Groups:**

- A. Novice Exhibitor Group** This is a beginner’s group; therefore, experienced exhibitors are urged to enter higher competition to assure equitable competition for the newcomer. An exhibitor who has been awarded one blue first place ribbon in the Novice Group **MUST** compete in a higher group if he / she wishes to enter the same class again.
- B. Advanced Exhibitor Group** - An exhibitor who has been awarded one blue first place ribbon in Advanced Group **MUST** compete as a Master if he / she wishes to enter the same class again.
- C. Master Exhibitor Group.**
- D. Junior Exhibitor Group** Juniors who have been awarded a blue first place ribbon **MUST** compete in an adult group if they wish to enter the same class again.
- E. Society Exhibitor Group** All materials and/or workmanship shall be that of the society or of five (5) or more members of said society provided that not more than 20% of the material/workmanship shall be that of any one member.

**Scores achieved by societies exhibits**, are considered only with scores of other exhibiting societies, and are NOT competing with individual exhibitors.

S-I-5-2015

**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**

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S-I-13-2015

- (g) Guide to capitalization: Gem names when used in labels, titles, or headings, are written in all capital letters, but when used within text material they are not capitalized. Descriptive terms may be placed on the label in parentheses, if so desired, and will be judged for accuracy, spelling, and punctuation, e.g. AGATE (Crazy Lace) or AGATE, Crazy Lace; AGATE (Botswana) or AGATE, BOTSWANA; JASPER (Biggs) or JASPER, Biggs; TOURMALINE (Bi-color) or TOURMALINE, Bi-color, etc. If a material is cut and polished as a gem stone, then the name of the base material and any inclusions shall be given, e.g. EPIDOTE in QUARTZ, GOLD in QUARTZ, COPPER in DATOLITE, MARCASITE in AGATE, etc.

**Rule 9.4 Sawing** done by persons other than the exhibitor will be allowed where the purpose of the sawing is to prepare material for cabochons, etc., but will not be allowed if such sawing comprises an essential operation for the finished form, such as shaping material for bookends, etc.

**Rule 9.5 Workmanship** (lapidary treatment) refers to shaping, symmetry, and polish of the material; to perfection of polished flat surfaces (not rounded); to precision of fitting in intarsia and related work; to shaping and surface finishing of carving; to correctness of angle in faceting. Craftsmen who demonstrate the ability to work a greater variety and hardness of material will receive a relatively higher score. In cabochon classes, variety of shapes will be considered under Workmanship. Size of pieces should be large enough to demonstrate the exhibitor's ability to work and form the substantial areas and masses. When mountings are allowed they may be hand-wrought or commercial and are not judged. They need not be wearable as displayed - chains, bola cords, etc. are not necessary. [See Rule 5.3 (a)] Coatings such as oils or various resins in place of polish in all classes calling for polish shall have one-half of the workmanship points deducted, except for soap stone carvings, which may still use beeswax on the carvings.

**Rule 9.6 Quality of material** shall refer to color, color pattern, freedom from flaws, freedom from undesirable inclusions, suitability of the material for the use to which it is put. Natural materials shall be used unless other materials are permitted by Rule 9.2.

**Rule 9.7 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, neatness, etc.) to create a display which will attract and hold the interest of the viewer upon the specimens exhibited.

**Rule 9.8 References** The current AFMS "Approved Reference List of Lapidary Material Names" is the authority for lapidary names. If the material is not named or is not discredited therein, the following references may be used (irrespective of listed order).

AFMS "Mineral Classification List".

Dana's System of Mineralogy, 7th Edition.

Dana's Textbook of Mineralogy, 4th Edition.

Michael Fleischer's Glossary of Mineral Species; for shows in each calendar year, that edition with revisions, current as of January 1 of that year.

"Encyclopedia of Gemstones" by Joel Arem

C-6-2015

## 12.0 SUBDIVISION CF: FACETED GEMSTONES

Please read all Division C Rules.

### RULES FOR SUBDIVISION CF

**Rule 12.1** Faceted gemstones are stones cut to a selected geometric pattern by the placement of flat, convex or concave surfaces called facets. (Facets need not cover the entire stone, e.g., partially faceted domes, etc.)

- (a) Faceted gemstones may be of any size, with the exception that at least one gemstone shall be 4 mm or less in its maximum dimension parallel to the girdle, and at least one gemstone shall be 20 mm or more in its minimum dimension parallel to the girdle.
- (b) Faceted gemstones are of three types as follows:
  - (1) **“Round” Type** are stones cut with a regular facet arrangement about the center line of the stone and with three or more planes of symmetry. Examples: round brilliants, equilateral triangles, pentagons, hexagons, etc.
  - (2) **“Fancy” Type** are stones which have either one or two planes of symmetry. Examples: ovals, marquis, pears, hearts, kites, rectangles, etc.
  - (3) **“Freeform” Type** are stones that do not have a regular facet arrangement about the center line of the stone nor any plane of symmetry. The planes of symmetry referred to above do not include the plane of the girdle.

**Rule 12.2** The number of faceted stones will be a minimum of twenty (20) and a maximum of forty (40) except in Classes CF-3 and CF-5. The number of faceted stones will be twelve (12) in Classes CF-3 and CF-5.

**Rule 12.3** Exhibitor must leave display case keys with the Rules Chairperson or assistant prior to time of judging, or arrange to open case when necessary. See S-1-4-2011, Rule 3.9.

C-12-2015