

# **2017 EDITION**

**ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND INC**

**COMMITTEE ON AWARDS**

**JUDGES HANDBOOK**

Containing

**PRINCIPLES OF AWARD JUDGING**

and

**JUDGING BY-LAWS**

Issued: June 2017

# ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND

## JUDGES HANDBOOK

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These By-laws and Principles of Award Judging replace and supersede all previous editions.

# PRINCIPLES OF AWARD JUDGING

This document sets out the principles for the scoring of Awards, and is an expansion of By-law 6, which is supreme if any dispute arises.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Council system of judging is designed to recognise new or superior forms of orchid species and to reward lines of hybridisation leading to improvement in flower form and colour in all genera. Recognition is also to be given to growers who exhibit plants that evidence superior culture. Ideally these two elements should provide the foundation of all judging decisions.

Judges must be knowledgeable of the species used in hybridising and the parents of any particular hybrid. Judges must also be familiar with the dominant features transferred by the species and hybrids and the reasonable expectation of breeding lines. This will enable them to decide whether the hybridiser's goals have been achieved and whether in the judge's eye an award is merited.

Judges must have a well-developed concept of perfect flower form and optimum cultivation. They may then appraise complex hybrids on a personal concept of theoretical perfection. In the judging of any particular flower or plant both elements should be considered, though in varying degrees.

Plants should project indefinable qualities of charm, attractiveness and personality. The effect may be due to unusual colour combinations, flamboyant lip patterns, unique flower carriage, non-traditional flower form, evenness of spike or flower grouping and other eye-catching qualities.

## 2. OCNZ AWARDS

### Quality Awards

To be recommended for a Quality Award a plant should receive a mean score of:-

**First Class Certificate**, (FCC/OCNZ), 90 or more points,

**Award of Merit**, (AM/OCNZ), 80 or more points,

**Highly Commended Certificate**, (HCC/OCNZ), 75 or more points.

### Award of Distinction. (AD/OCNZ)

This Award is given for an unusual feature of a plant which cannot, in the opinion of the Judges, be evaluated otherwise in the Council system.

The recommendation must record the specific unique feature for which the Award was recommended i.e. unique colour or a uniquely new inter-generic combination. The AD should not be used as a sympathy award for a plant that does not quite measure up as an HCC. No score is used and the recommendation requires a majority vote of the judges present.

### **Certificate of Botanical Merit (CBM/OCNZ)**

To obtain a CBM a plant must be a species or natural hybrid, rare or unusual in cultivation. It should be well established and in flower. The purpose of the award is to grant recognition once only to a species or natural hybrid for which definitive information on form, colour, size, and floriferousness in cultivation may not be readily available thus providing a base record against which other cultivars may be judged for standards of excellence at subsequent submissions. The owner may be required to provide evidence of identification before the award proceeds. A majority vote of the judges present is required. No point scale is used.

### **Certificates of Cultural Commendation and Excellence (CCC/OCNZ & CCE/OCNZ)**

Judges should be cautious not to engage in the endless awarding of large specimen plants of easy to grow species. The points scale is designed to place more emphasis on the difficulty of attaining an outstanding level of culture in the plant being judged.

The Chairperson will ask the panel if a plant should be scored for a cultural award. If nominated the plant is then scored using the following scale. A mean score of 80 or more points is required for a CCC award and 90 or more points for a CCE award.

Size and condition of Plant	30
Floriferousness	30
Freshness and condition of Blooms	20
Difficulty of growing plant to specimen size	20
Total Points	100

### **Plant Breeders Award (PBA/OCNZ)**

Six different clones in flower from the same seed capsule to be exhibited at the same time. Award to recognize: Quality or outstanding colour or new breeding line. At least one of the plants exhibited to have received an OCNZ quality award and the rest to be near award quality. Previously awarded clones may be included in the group. No judging form to be used for the award but a hand vote or secret ballot to be used. The judging team must record the specific values for which this award is granted. If the hybridizer & exhibitor are different, each shall receive a certificate. The Award is not given a cultivar name. The majority of judges must approve the award.

### 3 JUDGING GUIDELINES

#### **Comments Applicable to Both Points Scales**

The overall plant should appear in a healthy condition with the spike to be judged free of any major flower blemishes and have no missing flowers or buds. A plant with buds or flowers detached may be judged if these were accidentally broken in transit and are exhibited with the plant. Plant and flowers should be free of pests and disease.

The plant should be outstanding for its type in as many characteristics as possible. Bi-generic and multi-generic hybrids should show commendable improvement rather than the expected average from the combination of their parents. Characteristics of species in recent parentage should be taken into account. Any one fault should not be penalised more than once.

#### **Form**

A flower to be judged must be mature or set. The flower form should be symmetrical. Twisting, reflexing and other distortions, if not natural to the genus, should be penalized.

#### **Colour**

Flower colour should be definite, clear and bright, evenly dispersed throughout. Markings should be well defined and evenly distributed. Irregular spotting when characteristic in any genus should not be penalised.

#### **Size**

Size should be at least comparable with that which could be expected from the parentage, i.e. the geometrical mean.

Flower to be measured as in Section 4 on page 21.

#### **Substance and Texture**

Substance should be sufficient to hold the petals and sepals firm and be not less than the average of the parents.

Texture is the desirable features of a flower surface that enhances appearance.

Generally the flower should be of great substance and texture, refined quality, firm, fresh, lustrous and without blemish.

#### **Habit and arrangement of inflorescence**

The stem should display the flowers in a pleasing manner, clear of the foliage. The stem should not be twisted or distorted and should be strong enough to support the flowers unaided. Flowers should not be bunched on the inflorescence although this may be acceptable in some genera (e.g. *Miltonia*, coloured *Phalaenopsis*).

#### **Floriferousness**

It is desirable that 75% of the flowers on the inflorescence to be judged should normally be open. This is particularly important in genera that are prone to fading. It does not apply to sequential flowering genera. Sequential flowering genera should be judged when the spike is fresh.

The flower count should be comparable with that which could be expected from the parentage. Where a species or hybrid is normally expected to produce only one, or in exceptional circumstances, two flowers on its inflorescence, then the plant should be judged under the Single Flower Point Scale. These plants should not be unfairly penalised. Although a plant with one flower may be judged, judges should be aware that

in different flowerings of a particular cultivar, flower size could be inversely proportional to the number of flowers on a stem.

## Overall Impact

Although not awarded points, plants should project indefinable qualities of charm, attractiveness and personality. The effect may be due to unusual colour combinations (floral or vegetative), flamboyant lip patterns, unique flower carriage, non-traditional flower form, evenness of spike or flower grouping and other eye-catching qualities.

Specific guidelines for defined genera appear later in this document by genus.

## The Awards Points Scales

### Multiflowered

The multiflowered scale is to apply to plants that are expected to have more than one flower on a spike.

Flower form		30
Flower colour		30
<b>Other characteristics</b>		
Size of flower	10	
Substance and texture	10	
Habit & arrangement of inflorescence	10	
Floriferousness	10	40
<b>Total</b>		100

### Single flowered

The single flowered point scale is to apply to those plants that would normally be expected to only produce a single flower per inflorescence (or in exceptional circumstances two flowers).

Flower form		30
Flower colour		30
<b>Other characteristics</b>		
Size of flower	10	
Substance and texture	15	
Stem & presentation	15	40
<b>Total</b>		100

## **Cattleya Alliance (Standard)**

A standard Cattleya is the conventional full round circumscribed circle form typified by the exhibition type. Plants with small or miniature flowers of standard shape would be considered here.

### **Form**

The flower should be tending to fullness and roundness. A circumscribed circle, drawn with the column base as the centre, should touch the petal and sepal tips and the lower lip margin. The flower parts should fill the greater part of the interior of the circle. The ventral sepals should be broad and fill the gap between the petals and the lip. The petals should be relatively wide, balanced, frilled or undulated at the margins according to the breeding but must not fall forward. The lip should be proportionate to the petals, closed towards the base and more or less rolled around the column. The flower should be nearly flat when viewed from the side, the lip curving down and not jutting out at right angles to the plane of the sepals.

### **Colour**

Flower colour should be clear and bright, evenly dispersed throughout and not 'washed out' at the petal midrib. The hue should not be broken or splashed except where it is well defined and pleasing to the general effect. Lip markings, particularly edging, should be well defined and in a symmetrical pattern.

### **Substance and texture**

Heavy waxy substance and crystalline texture are qualities sought.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The stem should be strong and upright, displaying the flowers without crossing, crowding, twisting or distortion.

### **Floriferousness**

The number of flowers expected will vary according to the parentage.

## **Cattleya Alliance (Modern & Other)**

These Cattleyas show unconventional flower presentation, form and / or colour. Size is taken into account but is not an important consideration in this group of plants.

### **Form**

Flowers should be well proportioned and where appropriate uniform in shape. The overall impression of the flower shape must be pleasing.

### **Colour**

Flower colour should be clear and bright and evenly dispersed throughout. Colour patterns or a mixture or suffusion of strong colours should combine to produce a pleasing effect.

### **Substance and texture**

Heavy waxy substance and sparkling crystalline texture are important features. It may be appropriate not to heavily penalise flowers lacking these qualities where the breeding lines are incapable of providing them.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The stem should display the flowers in a pleasing manner, clear of the foliage.

### **Floriferousness**

The flower count should be comparable with what could be expected from the parentage. Multiple spiking may be rewarded here where this is expected and is not merely due to the plant being of a specimen size.



## **Cymbidium (Standard)**

Any Cymbidium may be judged including cut spikes. The entire spike being judged should be free of any major flower blemishes. If more than one spike is on display, then the best spike will be selected and one flower will be designated for determination of form. When judging cut spikes there should be sufficient stem below the last flower to indicate clearance of the foliage.

For the purposes of clarification the following are defined as large flowered Cymbidium species.

1. *Cymbidium erythrostylum*
2. *Cymbidium sanderae* (formerly *parishii* 'Sanderae')
3. *Cymbidium lowianum*
4. *Cymbidium hookerianum* (formerly *grandiflorum*)
5. *Cymbidium iridioides* (formerly *giganteum*)
6. *Cymbidium eburneum*
7. *Cymbidium tracyanum*
8. *Cymbidium insigne*

### **Form**

The flower should be tending to fullness and roundness. Some fine cultivars have a more open star-like appearance; other good forms may be slightly cupped. Excessive cupping is a fault. The dorsal sepal is almost always curved forward or hooded but this should not be pronounced. Furling or reflexing of flower parts is undesirable. The lip should be broad, in proportion, well displayed and never pinched or turned under at the distal end.

### **Colour**

If one colour is suffused over another this should be harmonious not blurred. Veining, if present, must be regular and distinctive. Sepal staining should be penalised if it detracts from the overall effect. The lip should be distinctively coloured either to contrast with the other flower parts or to blend in a concolour effect.

### **Size of flower**

Generally a flower 110mm or over in natural spread should score high points for size.

### **Substance and texture**

The flower surface should be fresh with a lustrous sheen.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The inflorescence may be erect or arching but not twisted. Flowers must be clear of the foliage and should be well spaced and displayed.

### **Floriferousness**

While the number of flowers expected will vary according to parentage, there should be an average of eight flowers and buds per spike unless immediate parentage negates this possibility, e.g. *Cym. eburneum* hybrids.

## **Cymbidium (Intermediate)**

These must have a miniature flowered or foliated species in their parentage. Flowers of 100mm or more in natural spread should be presented as Standard Cymbidiums. Intermediate Cymbidiums should not be thought of as merely dwarf Standard Cymbidiums.

### **Form**

The flower should be symmetrical in form and well balanced. More variations in acceptable form are possible with Intermediate Cymbidiums than would be desirable in Standard Cymbidiums. Excessive hooding, furling or reflexing of flower parts is not desirable. The lip should be broad, proportionate to the rest of the flower and not turned under at the distal end. With more than one spike on the plant to be judged, the best spike will be selected and one flower will be designated for determination of form.

### **Colour**

Because of the ancestral species involved, blurred colours are a common fault and must be heavily penalised. Development of intermediates has progressed to the point where colour evaluation should be the same as for Standard Cymbidiums. Polychromes (three or more colours excluding the lip) are quite acceptable but should not be smudged or lifeless. The lip colour must enhance the general effect.

### **Size**

Flower size should be over 60mm and under 100mm natural spread.

### **Substance and texture**

Polyploidy is common in Intermediate Cymbidiums and substance is rarely weak. The flowers should be fresh and with a lustrous sheen.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The inflorescence may be erect, arching or pendulous, but in all cases the flowers must be displayed clear of the foliage. Flowers should be well spaced, bunching is a common fault in Intermediate Cymbidiums.

### **Floriferousness**

There should be an average of at least 12 flowers and buds per spike unless immediate parentage negates this possibility, e.g. *Cym. virescens* hybrids.

## **Cymbidium (Miniature)**

Miniature Cymbidiums must have miniature flowers and foliage with a miniature flowered and foliated species in their parentage. A plant with several inflorescences evenly distributed is highly desirable. Cut sprays are not eligible to be judged. Foliage should be clean and glossy without excessive trimming and with dead husks removed.

### **Form**

Acceptable form for Miniature Cymbidiums allows some leeway but the sepals and petals should have enough width to give the appearance of flower roundness. They may be flat or slightly concave. Excessive hooding, furling, or reflexing of flower parts is undesirable. The lip should be full and wide, lending balance to the flower with no turning under at its distal end. The best spike will be selected and one flower designated for determination of form.

### **Colour**

Stripes, shadings or overlays of colour must enhance the overall colour effect. Fresh glistening colours are to be strongly favoured. The lip colouring should be distinctive and add to the beauty and charm of the flower.

### **Size**

Flower size should be 60mm or under. Any flower with a natural spread exceeding 60 mm, or hybrids with larger foliage (e.g. bred from *Cym. madidum*), should be considered as an Intermediate Cymbidium.

### **Substance and texture**

The substance of an award quality Miniature Cymbidium should be not less than the average of its parents. Flowers should be fresh with a lustrous sheen.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The inflorescence may be erect, arching or pendulous but in all cases the plant should display its flowers free of interference from the foliage. Flowers should be spaced so that they display themselves well.

### **Floriferousness of spike and plant**

There should be an average of at least 12 flowers and buds per spike unless immediate parentage negates this possibility (e.g. *Cym. virescens* hybrids).

## **Asian (Chinese) Cymbidiums - the Jensoa group**

Though the majority of Cymbidiums come from Asia this is a group of seven that have been cultivated in China and Japan for many centuries.

They are:     *Cymbidium ensifolium*,  
                  *Cymbidium sinense*,  
                  *Cymbidium kanran*,  
                  *Cymbidium cyperfolium*,  
                  *Cymbidium faberi*,  
                  *Cymbidium munronianum*  
                  *Cymbidium goeringii*

When judged in Asia the plant's age and recorded history are important factors in their placing and awarding. Likewise the pot they grow in is also part of the judging.

Plants with variegated foliage and those containing the red factor are prized and highly sought after. The perfumed flowers are not large and showy and they do not always display above the foliage. The flower is starry shaped and usually there are between two and nine flowers per inflorescence. Flower segments are usually long and narrow and the petals tend to come forward as though protecting the column. In Chinese cymbidiums this is considered a desirable trait.

*Cym. sinense* has a longer inflorescence and more flowers than other members of this group. All members of this group are very variable in colour and appearance. Colours range from white through yellow and orange to dark purple, often with striping.

## **Dendrobium (Nobile and Phalaenanthé types)**

### **Form**

The flower should generally be circular in outline, the dorsal and ventral sepals wide and evenly spaced. The dorsal sepal should not be hooded. Petals should be broad and rounded, overlapping the sepals. The broad lip must not jut forward nor turn under and should be large enough to balance the flower.

### **Colour**

This should be clear and fresh without smudging or blurring. Although many Phalaenopsis types will carry the colour of flower segments into the lip, more pronounced colour contrast is normal for the Nobile types.

### **Substance and texture**

The crystalline texture of the Nobile type Dendrobiums and the velvet texture of many Phalaenopsis types add greatly to their visual appeal.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

With Nobile types the flowers should be evenly distributed on each pseudobulb of the previous season. The inflorescence of Phalaenopsis types may be erect to arching and the flowers should display themselves without excessive overlapping.

### **Floriferousness**

In Nobile hybrids, floriferousness should be assessed on the percentage of flowering nodes on the cane being judged. A cane with every node on the upper two-thirds producing at least two flowers should gain near maximum points.

## **Dendrobium (Other types)**

The genus Dendrobium is extremely large and diverse. Dendrobiums included in this group are Ceratobium, Dendrocoryne, and other types that have sepals and petals more or less equal to each other.

### **Form**

The flowers should be uniform in shape. Petals can be twisted or flat. Individual flowers should still exhibit the expected symmetry of the type. The lip should add balance to the flower.

### **Colour**

The flower should exhibit both harmony and brilliance of colour. The lip should be distinctively and attractively coloured.

### **Size of flower**

The size of many flowers in this group will be greatest in the vertical plane.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

They may gracefully arch, but should not droop so that individual flowers present themselves poorly. Flowers should not be bunched on the inflorescence.

### **Floriferousness**

Expectations will vary with the species involved. A massed floral effect is desirable and flowers arranged sparsely on the stems should be heavily penalised.

## **Miltoniopsis**

Miltoniopsis (Pansy orchid) are generally large, full flowers and come mainly from Northwest South America.

### **Form**

The flowers should be a well-filled-in oval form. The sepals and petals should be balanced, wide, but may reflex slightly at their tips. The lips should be predominantly large and symmetrical.

### **Colour**

The colour should be definite, crisp and fresh. Any mask should be sharply defined and symmetrical. Odd colour blotches, as distinct from waterfall lip markings are common in many Miltoniopsis and should not be penalised unless they are a distraction.

### **Substance and texture**

The velvety texture of good Miltoniopsis should be recognised and rewarded.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The inflorescence may be upright or gracefully arching. Flowers should be well spaced and well displayed.

### **Floriferousness**

Miltoniopsis must have at least three flowers and/or buds on the stem.

## **Oncidium Alliance**

Plants showing *Onc. alexandrae* (syn. *Odm. crispum*) type form should have lips approximately equal in size to the petals and sepals.

### **Form**

In general the *Onc. alexandrae* type flower form should tend toward roundness, fullness and flatness fitting within a circumscribed circle. Flower segments may be serrated or frilled, providing that this does not destroy the overall form. Care must be taken to ensure that the lip is flat and proportionately developed. Not all flowers in this group fit the full round form however and should not be penalised for this e.g. Brassia or Tolumnia etc.

### **Colour**

The flower colour should have well-defined patterns. Markings should be reasonably well balanced though some variations in spotting are normal. The total effect of various colour combinations should be to give the flower a pleasing bright appearance. The colours of the lip mask and crest should add to the attractiveness of the flower.

### **Size of flower**

Generally branched spray types will have smaller flowers. In some inter-generics flower size may be smaller than expected, and while this will necessitate a lower score for flower size, it may be easily offset by high evaluations in other areas.

### **Substance and texture**

The substance should be greater than the average of the parents. Texture should be fresh and crystalline. Any tendency towards transparent spots in pastel flowers must be heavily penalised.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The inflorescence may be simple or branched depending on parentage. Lateral branches should be strong enough to carry the flowers without drooping. Bunching and clustering of flowers in some inter-generics is a serious fault.

### **Floriferousness**

In general spikes should have at least eight flowers and buds.



## **Paphiopedilum (Complex Hybrid)**

Complex hybrids are the result of many generations of selective breeding that have obscured the contributions of species in their ancestry.

### **Form**

The desirable form of complex hybrid flowers is round to broadly oval, balanced and filled. The dorsal sepal should be large, rounded and slightly concave. Reflexing of any flower part is undesirable. Petals should be broad with length in proportion to the rest of the flower. The ventral sepal (synsepalum) should be large enough to background the pouch and, when viewed from behind the flower, must lock with the dorsal sepal and neither should reflex at their junction. The pouch to be full in proportion and not protrude excessively forward nor hang down and expose the staminode. A split ventral sepal does not disqualify the flower so long as the overall effect is not discordant.

### **Colour**

This should be clear and definite with banding, spots and markings well defined. Breaks in the pouch colourings are common and should be heavily penalised. Blurred colour overlaps are distracting and should also be penalised.

### **Size**

Invariably white Paphiopedilum Complex Hybrids will be smaller than other colours.

### **Substance and texture**

Substance in Paphiopedilums is generally heavy. Transparent edges on the dorsal are frequently encountered. Some greens may lack substance. A waxy or varnished texture is characteristic.

### **Stem and presentation**

The stem should hold and present the flower well above the leaf axial. The stem measurement is taken from the axial to the base of the ovary.

## **Paphiopedilum (Multifloral, Species or Other)**

For these Paphiopedilums, usually having at least one parent at or close to species level, the general criterion is improvement over the parents without loss of the species character and charm.

### **Form**

The flowers should be well proportioned and symmetrical. When compared with complex hybrids more variation in pouches may be expected but proportion must not be lost.

### **Colour**

Unusual colours and colour combinations can all be considered but they should be clear, fresh and glistening without colour confusion or blurring. Markings should be evenly balanced on opposite sides of the flowers.

### **Substance and texture**

Giving due regard to the breeding, flowers should have a waxy or varnished sheen.

### **Stem and Presentation**

The stem should hold and present the flower well above the leaf axial. In Multiflorals flowers should be spaced so that they display themselves well.

### **Floriferousness**

Multifloral Paphiopedilums should have two or more flowers open per stem with the exception of those that open successively, i.e. Sub-group Cochlopetalum, which can have one flower per stem.

## **Phalaenopsis**

### **Form**

The flowers should have a pleasing well-balanced shape with sepals and petals as broad and flat as possible taking breeding into consideration. Standards bred predominantly from *Phal. amabilis* species will be more or less circular in outline. The intermediates and miniatures bred from other species will exhibit considerable variation in form.

### **Colour**

Colours should be balanced and uniform through all the flowers on the spike. Spots, stripes and bars should be definite and distinctive. Shading should be pleasing.

**Harlequin type.** These flowers have *Phal. Golden Pecker* in their background and they are likely to display unusual colour variations, such as uneven, irregular or different sized blotches and spots. If the flower in question has this feature, it should not be penalized.

### **Size**

Recognition has to be given to the fact that parentage will determine size.

### **Substance and texture**

The surface should be either crystalline or waxy.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The flowers should be both well spaced and well displayed.

### **Floriferousness**

The number of flowers will vary according to the breeding. Generally standards will have seven or more flowers but plants with flowers other than white, pink or purple may have fewer flowers depending on breeding. Sequential flowering plants should not ~~te~~ be penalised, e.g. *Phal. violacea*.

## **Vandaceous**

With hybrids that have at least one parent at or close to species level, we should expect an improvement over the parents. Consideration must be given as to whether the parent is a strap leaf or terete leaf Vanda or Ascocentrum.

### **Form**

The flower should be generally circular in outline and flat when viewed from the side. The sepals should be broad and rounded and arranged in an equilateral triangle. The dorsal sepal should be as nearly equal to the ventral sepals as possible. The petals should be broad and rounded as nearly equal to the dorsal sepal as possible and should fill the gap between the sepals. The lip should complement the rest of the flower in size and shape. Any spur or nectary, if present, should also be harmonious with the rest of the flower. On a proportion of terete leaf Vandas and Ascocentrums, basal thinning of the petals can be expected depending on species and breeding.

### **Colour**

The colour of the flower should be definite and clear. When two or more colours are suffused they must be harmonious and not mottled. Coloured venation, if present, should be definite and distinctive. The lip should be attractively coloured.

### **Size of flower**

Considerable size variation in the size of Ascocendas may be expected depending on the relative proportions of Ascocentrum and Vanda in their parentage.

### **Balance, proportion and arrangement of inflorescence**

The inflorescence may be erect or gracefully arching depending on the parental background, with the flowers well spaced and displayed.

### **Floriferousness**

Because of the sequential nature of many Vandaceous inflorescences, it is almost impossible to determine when most of the inflorescence is open and set. Nevertheless, it is essential that any inflorescence should be mature enough to show the true potential of the flower. The number and size of flowers to expect will vary according to the species and breeding.

## 4. MEASUREMENT AND DESCRIPTION OF AWARDED PLANTS

Uniform standards in measuring and describing awarded plants and flowers are critical to maintaining accurate records for the purpose of comparison. Flowers should be handled carefully when being measured as they have yet to be photographed. Flowers are measured and described to provide reference data for judges and interested growers who may need to evaluate subsequent cultivars without having seen the original. The description should be brief and accurate explaining clearly why the particular cultivar was recommended for an award. Flowers should not be described as 'larger than average' or a plant as 'large and well grown' when it is obvious that this is the basis for the award. If a plant with outstanding individual flowers is exhibited prematurely, the award description should explain why a higher award was not proposed. Comments like 'a young plant with flowers bunched on the inflorescence' can be very useful to judges in another region who are viewing the image of an individual flower on a crowded inflorescence.

Photographic images provide useful information. They are an adjunct to judging but in themselves do not allow adequate appraisal for a full evaluation.

### Measurements

All measurements must be recorded in millimetres (mm).

The natural spread is recorded in three measurements.

- Across the petals at their widest part (Not required for Masdevallia & Pleurothalid)
- Across the widest part of the flower that is visible, be it Lip, Petals or Sepals.
- Vertically, from the top to the lowest edge of the flower.

#### a) Dorsal Sepal

- i) Width. Measured without manipulation or damage to the flower at the widest point.
- ii) Length. The distance from the point of attachment or confluence to the tip measured along the central vein without manipulation or damage to the flower, including caudae in Masdevallia etc.

#### b) Ventral or Lateral Sepal - Width and Length measured as for Dorsal Sepal.

#### c) Petal - Width and length measured as for Dorsal Sepal. Not required for Masdevallia and Pleurothalid.

#### d) Lip - Width and length measured as for Dorsal Sepal. Not required for Masdevallia and Pleurothalid.

**Note** - Spur length is measured from its attachment to the labellum to the tip, and should be recorded separately

### Description

The importance of correctly describing the flower cannot be over emphasised, as this is the official record of the award. It should be possible to create a mental picture of the awarded bloom from the description provided.

The following points are provided to give guidance in this process.

- a) **Form** – may include but not be limited to the following: number of open flowers, number of buds, directional tendency, oval, frilly edged, tails crossed, elongated pouch, warts, hair, whether pendulous or erect: under, over or clear of foliage.
- b) **Colour** - clarity, intensity and hue of the background and overlay colour. Note any patterns, marking, spots, strips, and edging or blushing. There is no universally accepted terminology for colours so particular attention should be paid to describing them as accurately as possible. Wherever available the RHS standards or Gibbon's Stamp Colour Guides should be quoted.
- c) **Substance** - is the quality of density, thickness or firmness in a flower. If below standard the petals often display weaker substance than the other flower parts.
- d) **Texture** - is the surface quality of a flower that enhances its appearance. Adjectives like crystalline, waxy and velvet that glow, sparkle, wrinkle, smooth, or rough are often used to describe texture
- e) **General Comments** - Attractiveness generally as striking or exceptional. Spike presentation, e.g. stands clear, above foliage, upright. Good spacing, symmetrical, arching, straight, strong, self-supporting.
- f) **Cultural awards** – The description must include the measurement of the overall spread of the plant and the size of the pot (if applicable). Flower measurements must include at least the horizontal and vertical spread of a representative flower.

# OCNZ JUDGING BY-LAWS

## 1. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

### 1.1 Committee on Awards (COA)

1.1.1 The COA shall consist of 7 members:

- (a) The Chairperson, appointed by the OCNZ Executive; and
- (b) Three members, appointed by the OCNZ Executive; and
- (c) The three Regional Chairpersons, elected by their Regions.

1.1.2 The COA is charged with the maintenance and overall supervision of the OCNZ Judging System. The COA reports to the OCNZ Executive.

### 1.2 Appointment of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of COA

1.2.1 The OCNZ Executive will seek, from Accredited, Senior or Reserve Judges, written nominations for the position of COA Chairperson, to be submitted by 1 October in each year. Nominees must be Accredited or Senior Judges of the OCNZ Judging system. All nominations must be signed or assented to by the nominees. Nominations and assents may be submitted to the Executive by email in one or more messages.

1.2.2 At its last scheduled meeting in each calendar year the OCNZ Executive will appoint the COA Chairperson. The Executive will consider but will not necessarily be bound by the submitted nominations.

1.2.3 The appointment will take effect at the commencement of the first COA meeting in the next calendar year, when any change-over will take place, and will continue until the commencement of the first COA meeting in the following calendar year.

1.2.4 At its first meeting in each calendar year the members of COA will elect, from among their number, a Deputy Chairperson.

### 1.3 Appointment of members of COA

1.3.1 The three members referred to in By-Law 1.1.1(b) will be appointed by the OCNZ Executive immediately after the OCNZ Annual General Meeting each year. They will normally and preferably be Accredited or Senior Judges, but if necessary may be Reserve Judges or non-Judges, however the COA must at all times include a majority of Accredited or Senior Judges. In a year that no AGM is held because of a National Orchid Expo, the appointments will be made at the Executive meeting held at the time of that Expo. Such appointments will continue until the conclusion of the first Executive meeting after the OCNZ AGM in the following year.

1.3.2 The Regional Chairpersons are appointed by their respective Regions, under By-Law 3.

### 1.4 COA

1.4.1 The COA will consider, and if thought fit will ratify, awards recommended by the judging panels (refer By-Law 6.2).

1.4.2 The COA has the right in its absolute discretion to refuse or withhold ratification of any award.

1.4.3 The COA will hold its first meeting in each new year as soon as convenient, but usually in January or February, at which it will review all ratified awards from the previous year and decide upon the “year” awards under By-laws 8.1 to 8.4.

- 1.4.4 Where possible COA meetings will be held in conjunction with OCNZ Executive meetings, to minimise travel costs
- 1.4.5 COA may also meet at the time of any National Judging Seminar, and on such other occasions as may be necessary.
- 1.4.6 Between meetings, COA decisions may be made by email.

## **1.5 Duties of COA Chairperson**

The duties of the COA Chairperson include:

- 1.5.1 Presiding at all meetings of the COA.
- 1.5.2 Maintaining an up to date National Register of judging personnel, comprising Senior, Accredited and Reserve Judges, Associate Judges, Observers and Judging Auxiliaries, including a participation record of judging personnel.
- 1.5.3 Directing the overall organisation of National Judging Seminars.
- 1.5.4 Circulating to all COA members, for ratification or otherwise, the particulars and photographs of award applications submitted.
- 1.5.5 Maintaining the OCNZ Awards Register and photographic collection of all OCNZ awarded orchids.
- 1.5.6 Reporting regularly to the OCNZ Executive on all matters relating to OCNZ Judging.
- 1.5.7 Preparing an annual report to be presented to the OCNZ AGM.
- 1.5.8 Subject to the direction of the OCNZ Executive, providing details and photographs of OCNZ awards to Orchidwiz and/or other national or international orchid awards databases.

## **1.6 Duties of COA Deputy Chairperson**

The duties of the COA Deputy Chairperson include:

- 1.6.1 Assisting the Chairperson in all matters.
- 1.6.2 Keeping the minutes of COA meetings.
- 1.6.3 Carrying out the Chairperson's duties if he/she is absent.

## **2. JUDGING PERSONNEL**

### **2.1 Classes of Judges in the OCNZ Judging System**

- 2.1.1 **Accredited Judges** are responsible for the judging of flowers, plants and displays. They have been trained in the OCNZ System and are responsible for maintaining their knowledge and skills at a high level.
- 2.1.2 **Senior Judges** are Accredited Judges who have been honoured by their peers. They are excused the attendance requirements of Accredited Judges but are expected to continue to give their experience and leadership to the Judging System.
- 2.1.3 **Reserve Judges** are Accredited Judges who, by reason of ill health, visual difficulties, great distance to travel, or other exceptional circumstances are unable to meet the attendance or visual requirements of active Judges and have been granted reserve status at the discretion of the COA.
- 2.1.4 **Associate Judges** are Judges in training who are to assist in the various judging functions as directed by the appropriate chairperson. Associate Judges are expected to maintain above minimal participation in judging activities and will be called on to make major contributions to Judging Seminars and training sessions.



They may take part in Class judging at shows if approved as defined in By-law 4.1.4.

2.1.5 **Observers** are potential Judges who will assist in the various judging functions as directed by the appropriate chairperson. Observers are expected to maintain above minimal participation in judging activities. They may take part in Class judging at shows if approved as defined in By-law 4.1.4.

2.1.6 **Judging Auxiliaries** - Persons with a keen interest in orchids, judging and associated administration, who are members of a Society affiliated to the OCNZ and are unable to fully participate as Judges, may be invited to become Judging Auxiliaries. Their main contribution will be clerical assistance in judging activities. The appropriate Supplemental Chairperson will discuss the invitation, prior to its issue, with the Regional Chairperson who will advise the Chairperson, COA accordingly. Judging Auxiliaries will be expected to show a significant degree of participation in judging activities other than in judging for Awards.

## 2.2 **Appointment and Accreditation of Personnel**

2.2.1 **Observer** - Any member of an Orchid Society affiliated to the Orchid Council with a keen interest in orchids may apply through an appropriate Chairperson to be an Observer.

The Observer must pass the Ishihara or equivalent colour vision test before progressing to Associate. A trainee with impaired colour vision may progress through the training system and, after undergoing the usual training to a satisfactory level and at the discretion of COA, may become an Accredited Judge with the proviso that they do not write up a colour description on their own.

An Observer must have a record of satisfactory attendance and performance of up to six meetings before being considered for advancement, but if the local panel agrees, a person may be advanced to associate before this time. Should an Observer not be advanced, the Regional Chairperson will seek comments from the Accredited Judges and pass these on to the unsuccessful candidate who will be re-eligible for consideration in a further six months.

2.2.2 **Associate Judge** - Normally progression to Associate Judge is by promotion of Observers by use of *Form 2*. Provided the Observers have received a three-quarters majority vote from the Accredited Judges within the panel, the appropriate Supplemental Chairperson will recommend their names to the Regional Chairperson who will confirm the promotions and pass on the information to the Chairperson of the Committee on Awards.

During their term as Associate Judges, should they fail to show satisfactory progress, their appointments may be terminated by a three-quarters majority vote of Accredited Judges in a secret ballot at a semi-annual business meeting.

In exceptional cases new entrants who have considerable judging experience elsewhere, for example an Accredited Judge of an international system, may be admitted to the OCNZ system as Associate Judges with the possibility of accelerated promotion to Accredited Judge on recommendation to COA by Supplemental or Regional Chairperson.

2.2.3 **Accredited Judge** - An Associate Judge must normally serve satisfactorily for four years with that status before being considered for advancement to Accredited Judge. Exceptions include transfer from another system as in By-law 2.2.2 para 4 or on return to the OCNZ system after a period of standing down. Accredited Judges of each Supplemental Region will vote in secret ballot on Associate Judges being considered for Accreditation. Only Accredited Judges

will be involved in discussion and normal ethical considerations will apply (e.g. close relatives also being excluded). A three-quarters majority of those present is required for recommendation. Recommendations from the Supplemental Region to the Regional Chairperson may be discussed by the Regional Chairperson with the Accredited Judges of the Region, prior to being passed on to the COA for ratification.

In passing on the recommendation to the Committee on Awards the Supplemental Chairperson shall complete and submit *Form 2*.

Should an Associate not be advanced, after consideration, the Regional Chairperson will seek comments from the Accredited Judges and pass these on to the unsuccessful candidate who will be re-eligible for consideration in a further six months. Any Associate who fails to be advanced after two successive semi-annual meetings will be deemed to have dropped out of the OCNZ Judging System.

**2.2.4 Reserve Judge** - This status may be conferred on Accredited Judges who by reason of advancing age, ill health, visual difficulties, great distance to travel, or for other exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the COA, find it too difficult to meet the minimum attendance or visual requirements of Accredited Judges. An Accredited Judge in such a situation may request the Regional Chairperson to ask the COA for the recognition of such status.

Reserve judges have to judge at least once a year involving actual or practice scoring of Awards to remain in the System. However, they may not vote on accreditation of Associates and their involvement in Award Judging will be subject to By-law 6.1.4. Reserve Judges may revert to full Accreditation provided they undergo a period of revision as an Associate for up to one year and will then be eligible for promotion to Accredited status as provided in By-law 2.2.3.

**2.2.5 Senior Judge** - This is an honorary status conferred on an Accredited Judge by their peers and cannot be requested by the individual. The promotion should originate direct from the COA, or by a request in writing with justification from the Supplemental Region through the Regional Chairperson. Normally they will be expected to have given their experience and leadership to the judges on a generous basis and to continue to do so. Senior Judges, though exempt from normal attendance requirements in recognition of their considerable experience and abilities, are expected to attend at least one judging annually, involving actual or practice scoring.

**2.2.6 Satellite Judge:** In exceptional circumstances by reason of remoteness, distance, and/or time from a Supplemental Judging Panel, the COA may on the recommendation of a Regional Chairperson, grant approval for an Accredited Judge to be a Satellite Judge at large and not attached to a Supplemental Panel. Any such approval shall be at the absolute discretion of the COA and may be given on such terms as to maintenance of judging standards as the COA thinks fit in each particular case.

**2.2.7** All references within this section 2.2 to a majority vote refer to a majority of those present at the meeting and references to discussion and voting by Accredited Judges includes Senior Judges.

**2.3. Membership of Affiliated Society** - All personnel in the Judging System must be members of an Orchid Society affiliated to the Orchid Council of New Zealand Incorporated.

### **3. CHAIRPERSONS OF REGIONS AND SUPPLEMENTAL PANELS**

#### **3.1 Appointment of Regional Chairperson and Deputy**

- 3.1.1 Each Region (see By-Law 10) will at its first regional business meeting of the calendar year elect a Regional Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson, who must be Accredited or Senior Judges. Their appointment will take effect from the conclusion of that meeting and continue until the conclusion of the first regional business meeting of the following calendar year.
- 3.1.2 The Regional Chairperson will promptly inform the COA Chairperson of the names and contact details of the persons so elected.

#### **3.2 Duties of Regional Chairperson**

The duties of the Regional Chairperson include:

- 3.2.1 Co-ordinating OCNZ judging activities in the Region, and the activities of Supplemental Panel Chairpersons in the Region, particularly in regard to judging at shows.
- 3.2.2 Maintaining an up to date Regional Register of judging personnel, comprising Senior, Accredited and Reserve Judges, Associate Judges, Observers and Judging Auxiliaries, and their participation record, as received from the Supplemental Panel Chairpersons, and forwarding details of same to the COA Chairperson from time to time on request.
- 3.2.3 Receiving, checking and forwarding to the COA Chairperson applications to enter the judging system and applications for advancements, in accordance with By-Law 2.2 and Forms 1 and 2, and other matters relating to status of judging personnel under that By-Law or By-Law 5.
- 3.2.4 Arranging and presiding at Regional Judging Seminars and business meetings.
- 3.2.5 Receiving award applications, with accompanying judges' score sheets, photographs and payment of award fees, checking the details, and sending them on to the COA Chairperson.
- 3.2.6 Promptly notifying the COA Chairperson of any changes in Regional Chairperson and Deputy, and of any changes in Supplemental Panel Chairpersons and Deputies.
- 3.2.7 Serving as a member of COA.

#### **3.3 Duties of Deputy Regional Chairperson**

The duties of the Deputy Regional Chairperson include:

- 3.3.1 Assisting the Regional Chairperson in all matters.
- 3.3.2 Keeping the minutes of Regional meetings.
- 3.3.3 Carrying out the Regional Chairperson's duties if he/she is absent.

#### **3.4 Appointment of Supplemental Panel Chairperson and Deputy**

- 3.4.1 Each Supplemental Panel (see By-Law 10) will at its last business meeting in each calendar year elect a Chairperson and Deputy for that panel, who must be Accredited or Senior Judges. Their appointment will take effect from the conclusion of that meeting and continue until the conclusion of the last Supplemental Panel business meeting of the following calendar year.
- 3.4.2 The Supplemental Panel Chairperson will promptly inform the Regional Chairperson of the names and contact details of the persons so elected.

### **3.5 Duties of Supplemental Panel Chairperson**

The duties of the Supplemental Panel Chairperson include:

- 3.5.1 Arranging and presiding at judging meetings and judging opportunities (see By-Law 5), particularly at shows.
- 3.5.2 Maintaining an up to date local panel register of judging personnel, comprising Senior, Accredited and Reserve Judges, Associate Judges, Observers and Judging Auxiliaries, and their participation record, and forwarding details of same to the Regional Chairperson immediately after the panel's last meeting in each year and at other times as the Regional Chairperson may request.
- 3.5.3 Ensuring that award application forms are correctly completed and signed, and forwarding same together with judges' score sheets and photographs and award fees to the Regional Chairperson.

### **3.6 Duties of Supplemental Panel Deputy Chairperson**

The duties of the Deputy Chairperson include:

- 3.6.1 Assisting the Supplemental Panel Chairperson in all matters.
- 3.6.2 Carrying out the Supplemental Panel Chairperson's duties if he/she is absent.

## **4. JUDGING PANELS**

### **4.1 Regional Judging Panels - (See By-law 10)**

- 4.1.1 New Zealand will be divided into Regions comprising a number of Supplemental Regions, the number of which shall be proposed by the COA and confirmed by the OCNZ Executive from time to time.
- 4.1.2 All classes of Judging Personnel resident in each Region, including Chairpersons and Deputies, will collectively constitute the Regional Judging Panel.
- 4.1.3 All classes of Judging Personnel resident in each Supplemental Region, including Chairperson and Deputies, will collectively constitute the Supplemental Regional Judging Panel.
- 4.1.4 Accredited Judges including Senior and Reserve Judges may judge in any Region or Supplemental Region at any time. Associate Judges and Observers may participate in Show Judging with the approval of the appropriate Chairperson.
- 4.1.5 The Chairperson (COA), or their appointed deputy, will preside over the Council Judging at a National Show. In the Regions the appropriate Chairperson would normally preside but these arrangements are intended to be flexible and harmonious.
- 4.1.6 The Show organisers should make a request for Council Judging at least two months prior to the show date. Consultation between the Show Marshall and the Judging Chairperson is advisable when preparing the Show Schedule.
- 4.1.7 A qualified judge from any other recognised judging system (other than the OCNZ system) may be invited to join an OCNZ Judging Panel, but in Award Judging there must be a majority of OCNZ Judges involved in the scoring of any particular plant.

- 4.2 **Sub-Regional Panels** - The establishment of a Sub-Region (within a Supplemental Region) is the first step in the development of a new Supplemental Region. The establishment of a Sub-Region will be approved by the COA and by the OCNZ Executive. The local group will appoint a Chairperson and Deputy in

consultation with the Chairpersons of the Supplemental Region and the Region. Normally such Sub-Regional Chairperson will be an Accredited Judge but this may not always be practicable. The Sub-Regional Chairperson will organise training as in a Supplemental Region with assistance from the Region or Supplemental Region as appropriate. When a suitable number of its Judges are Accredited and normally within three years, the Sub-Region will be considered by the COA for status as a Supplemental Region.

## **5. JUDGING ADMINISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE**

5.0 Orchid Judging is a dynamic and developing discipline. All Judging Personnel will be expected to take an active part in the continuous learning process. In joining the System entrants should be aware of this continuing commitment and the need to show leadership in their Orchid Society activities.

5.1 **Judging Meetings** – Supplemental Chairpersons will ensure that at least ten judging opportunities are available for their personnel each year. An important part of these judging opportunities involves the scoring of plants for awards. If actual award scoring is not appropriate then practice scoring should be done. On all occasions an attendance register will be maintained for these and all other meetings referred to in By-laws 5.3 to 5.6.

5.2 **Notice of Activities** - All personnel must be given adequate notice of meetings, shows and all judging activities. While this notice may conveniently be given at prior meetings, those members absent must be notified.

5.3 **Regional Seminars** - Within each Region, two Seminars, each lasting one day, will be arranged each year. Such seminars will usually include a short business meeting.

5.4 **Regional Business Meetings** - All Judging Personnel of the Region are to attend the Regional Business Meeting, which will normally be held in association with a Regional Seminar. The Deputy Chairperson will keep minutes.

5.5 **National Seminars** - Each year the COA will organise at least one National Seminar. Where possible the location(s) will be rotated to balance the travel costs.

5.6 **Occasional Meetings** - Other meetings may be arranged from time to time to discuss judging matters and attendance of all personnel is to be encouraged.

5.7 **Minimum Attendance Requirements** - Observers, Associate and Accredited Judges must attend a minimum of:

- one National Seminar every two years,
- one Regional Seminar each year,
- six Judging Sessions involving scoring each year of which four must be Training Sessions.

While Reserve and Senior Judges are only required to attend one Judging Session involving scoring each year they are encouraged to lend their experience and leadership at more frequent opportunities. All attendances will be notified through Regions to the COA who will review sub-standard attendance and make any necessary recommendations to the Executive regarding continuance of personnel in the OCNZ Judging System.

- 5.8 Leave of Absence** - The COA may approve a period of leave of absence for an active member of a judging panel, in case of ill health, overseas travel, or for personal reasons. Requests must be made in writing to the Regional Chairperson who will pass on the request with his recommendation to the Chairperson, COA. In cases of prolonged absence, temporary reversion of status to a lower grade may be advised, or training extended.
- 5.9 Lapsed or Inadequate Attendance**
- 5.9.1 Judging personnel who fail to attend any judging function in one year will be written to at their last known address by their Supplemental Chairperson to ascertain their intentions. If no reply is received the person will cease to be a member of the Council Judging System.
- 5.9.2 Judges who fail to maintain an adequate attendance record as specified in By-law 5.7 will be asked to provide an explanation and indicate their intentions, by the Supplemental Chairperson who will send a recommendation to the COA through the Regional Chairperson. In general the alternatives are; to transfer to Reserve Judge status, to revert to Associate Judge status and recover adequate attendance, to resign, or to be excluded from the Judging System. The COA acting on the recommendation of the Supplemental Chairperson has absolute discretion in this matter.
- 5.9.3 The provisions of By-law 5.9.1 will apply to Reserve Judges who fail to maintain their limited attendance requirements (refer By-law 2.2.4 & 5.7).

## 6. ORCHID COUNCIL AWARDS

In recognition of standards achieved, the following Awards are available within the Orchid Council Judging System:

Quality Awards:

First Class Certificate,	FCC/OCNZ
Award of Merit,	AM/OCNZ
Highly Commended Certificate,	HCC/OCNZ
Award of Distinction,	AD/OCNZ
Certificate of Botanical Merit,	CBM/OCNZ
Certificate of Cultural Commendation,	CCC/OCNZ
Certificate of Cultural Excellence	CCE/OCNZ
Plant Breeders Award,	PBA/OCNZ

These Awards are defined in Section 2 of the Principles of Award Judging.

### 6.1 Procedures for Award Judging

- 6.1.1 If an exhibitor asks that a panel judge a plant then the exhibitor agrees to accept responsibility for items in By-law 6.1.2 and 6.2.3 should the plant be recommended for an Award. If the plant is judged spontaneously by a panel at a meeting or show, the exhibitor has the right to decline the Award.
- 6.1.2 Full and correct details of ownership and parentage must be supplied when plants are submitted for judging. A plant to be considered for a Cultural Award must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for at least one year.
- 6.1.3 It is the responsibility of the Judging Chairperson to advise the exhibitor of the requirements regarding the associated fee, photographs and registration. Photographers who submit photographs to support an Award Application agree and require that;
- Copyright is owned by the Photographer.
  - Permission is given for the photograph to be printed in OCNZ Journals and publications, including its website and Award CD.
  - Permission is given for the photograph to be used by OCNZ and affiliated Judging Groups and by an individual for private research only.
  - The photograph may not be reproduced elsewhere without the permission of the Photographer.
- 6.1.4 Three or more Accredited or Senior Judges must be present to constitute a quorum for Award Judging. None of these may be a Reserve Judge unless there are three or more Accredited or Senior Judges on the panel. A second Reserve Judge may be involved if there are six or more Accredited or Senior Judges on the Panel.
- 6.1.5 If the Judging Chairperson is of the opinion that a plant or inflorescence is insufficiently mature for best evaluation, they may advise the exhibitor to submit the plant at a later date to a representative panel. Any plant or inflorescence that has been evaluated by an Orchid Council Panel may not be reconsidered by the same or any other Council Panel on the same blooming.
- 6.1.6 The Chairperson of the Judging Panel will ask the Judges whether they wish to score a plant. Any one Judge may nominate for scoring. Any plant that does not receive support is deemed to have been judged. Any Judge may at any time abstain from scoring a plant and need not give their reasons for this abstention.

- 6.1.7 It may be necessary to conduct considerable research prior to scoring a plant and exhibitors should wherever possible, warn a Chairperson in advance if they are submitting an uncommon plant. Appropriate reference books may be consulted and comparative measurements made prior to distributing judging forms. Other than pointing out missing flowers, other damage, disease, vermin, or expressing doubt about the name, Judges should avoid specific reference to their estimation of the qualities of the plant under consideration. The ability to reach an independent assessment of a plant to be judged is the mark of a competent Judge.
- 6.1.8 Mericlones.
1. A mericlone that has been awarded in other systems and has also been previously awarded by OCNZ should not normally be considered for further award unless -
    - (a) It is significantly different from the previously awarded mericlone, such that the difference can be accurately and adequately described, or
    - (b) It merits a higher award than that previously given by OCNZ.
  2. A mericlone of a plant that has been awarded in other judging systems is eligible to be considered for a quality award under OCNZ criteria.
- 6.1.9 Judges should be cautious about being influenced by Awards in other Judging Systems particularly bearing in mind the changes in appreciation brought about by time. Often an AM/AOS or AM/RHS given fifteen years ago would not reach a current HCC/OCNZ today, while it may be appropriate to give an HCC/OCNZ to a plant that may have gained a higher Award elsewhere.
- 6.1.10 Following the scoring of an orchid for a quality or cultural award, the points given by the Judges (being Accredited or Senior Judges, and including Reserve Judges as provided under By-law 6.1.4) are listed in order from highest to lowest. The “range” of points for this by-law is the figure obtained by subtracting the lowest score from the highest. If that range is greater than 5 points, the Chairperson will announce the range of scores without identifying the judges and will give any judge the opportunity to reconsider their score but without requiring any judge to adjust their score. If after any reconsideration the range still exceeds 5 points, the median score is calculated as follows:  
Count the number of scores, add 1 and divide by 2. Find this position on the list. If it goes through a score (original number was odd), that is the median. If the position is between two scores (original number was even) then the median is the average of the one above and the one below.  
Scores are now discarded progressively, starting with those furthest from the median, whether above or below, until the range of the remaining scores is 5 or less. The median is not recalculated. The final score for the award is the average of the remaining scores, to 2 decimal places, and is not rounded up or down to a whole number. The scores of at least 3 Accredited or Senior Judges must remain for an award to proceed.
- 6.1.11 At Shows an Interim Certificate specifying the Award should be signed by the Chairperson and displayed with the plant.
- 6.1.12 Plants granted Quality Awards are to be registered with the RHS and ratification will be withheld until registration has been confirmed.
- 6.1.13 Except for Cultural Certificates (which are given to the grower rather than the plant), awarded plants must be given a Cultivar epithet if a hybrid or a Varietal epithet if a species, before the Award will be ratified. The epithet should follow the Rules and Recommendations of Nomenclature for Cultivated Orchids



published by the International Orchid Commission.

- 6.1.14. The orchid must be photographed. In order to obtain quality award photos it is important that camera support, such as a monopod or tripod, is used.
- All Awards require an entire 'front on' image of a single flower on which the award was assessed. Where the flowers are small, the photo should be taken as close as possible, still maintaining sharp focus.
  - Photos for cultural awards require the foliage and the inflorescence to be shown.
  - Plants with tall inflorescences, as in the *Oncidium* alliance, may require up to three photos, one showing the foliage, one showing the inflorescence, one showing the whole plant.
  - The digital image should be taken on a minimum of 6 megapixel camera set at maximum resolution and supplied on a CD/DVD.
  - Where multiple images are provided the designated award photo must be identified.
  - NO alteration or manipulation to the flower or foliage is permissible.
  - Good quality photography is necessary for all awards. The COA reserves the right to not ratify the award if the photography is of poor quality or has evidence of alteration.
- 6.1.15 Trainee Judges (both Associate Judges and Observers) should score as many plants as possible including flowers and plants rejected by Accredited Judges. Their scores or votes are not used to determine whether the plant gains an Award, or the level of such an Award. In any discussion after Judging is completed the trainees are to be encouraged to contribute their opinion.

## **6.2 Award Ratification**

- 6.2.1 The Supplemental Chairperson is responsible for sending to the Regional Chairperson an accurately completed application form together with the prescribed fee. This is for any Award recommended from within their region. This material, after checking, will then be sent to the Chairperson of COA. As from 1 January 2009, the cost of an award is set at \$20 per award. Any plant that receives multiple awards at any one judging will only incur one award fee.
- 6.2.2 Award recommendations should reach the COA within four months of the date of the Judging otherwise the Award may lapse.
- 6.2.3 For all awards the COA will consider the details including the marking of the Judges, which must be available. For ratification a simple majority will suffice, but for an FCC five or more COA members must be in favour. The discretion of the COA shall be absolute. Should COA consider that a mistake has been made the award application may be rescinded or downgraded.

## **6.3 Show Judging**

- 6.3.1 Council Judges should welcome the opportunity to judge at any show providing that the appropriate arrangements have been made with the Judging Chairperson (ref. By-law 4.1.6).  
Judges should at all times be aware of their role as representatives of the Orchid Council of New Zealand and attempt whenever possible to educate exhibitors and explain the judging process.
- 6.3.2 Organisation of the show judges is the prerogative of the Regional Chairperson, Supplemental Chairperson or their designated representative. It is recognised that with the multiplicity of shows on certain weekends the number of Council judges available will be limited.

6.3.3 The Show Schedule for any show is the guideline for Council Judges and ideally consultation should take place between the Society and the Judging Chairperson (By-law 4.1.6). Some Show Schedules may differ from Council policy and Judges should be flexible in such circumstances. Judges should note however that in placing plants / displays, if an appraisal is not provided by the Society, the appropriate Council appraisal should be used.

## **7. JUDGES CONDUCT**

- 7.1 Judges are to be encouraged to wear their Judges Badges at all times during Judging sessions.
- 7.2 Judges should always accord their fellow Judges the courtesy of respecting divergent opinions. While judging, it is common for Judges to disagree but it is important that they are never disagreeable.
- 7.3 No judge should be present (or within sight) during the judging of any plant or display in which they have an interest.
- 7.4 Judges should feel free to engage in frank discussion after a plant has been scored. The score or comments of individual Judges should not be divulged outside the judging area by judging personnel or assistants.
- 7.5 There should be no need to touch flowers during judging. If any manipulation of the flowers is required it must be done with care by the use of a pen or similar instrument. Judges should not shift, move or carry any plants during judging. If required it should be done, or directly supervised by the Panel Leader, Show Marshall or Judging Chairperson.
- 7.6 Equipment to be carried by Judging Personnel during any judging session includes: Judges Handbook (Containing the Principals of Award Judging and Judging By-laws), a magnifying lens, a suitable measuring device, a show schedule if appropriate, a suitable clipboard and a calculator.

## **8. ORCHID COUNCIL "ORCHID OF THE YEAR"**

- 8.1 At the first COA meeting of the year the ratified Quality Awards for the previous year (usually AM and FCC) will be reviewed and one Quality Award will be selected as the 'Orchid of the Year'.
- 8.2 At the same time the COA may decide to review the Quality Awards given to Cymbidiums during the year and select one as the 'Cymbidium of the Year'.
- 8.3 At the same time the COA shall review the awards given as cultural certificates during the year and may select one as the 'Cultural Award of the Year'.
- 8.4 At the same time the COA shall review all Awards given to Species during the year and may select one as the 'Species of the Year'. This review will include all awards other than the PBA
- 8.5 In all cases the selection must have a photograph that is suitable for reproduction in the OCNZ Yearbook.
- 8.6 **George Fuller Trophy**  
This Trophy, in memory of George M Fuller MBE, late Patron of OCNZ and himself a previous winner of the Orchid of the Year, was given by his family and first presented in 2017. It is awarded yearly on a perpetual basis to the exhibitor of the orchid selected as the Orchid of the Year. The Trophy at all times remains the property of OCNZ. The winner each year may have possession of the Trophy until it is required for presentation to the next year's winner. The Trophy shall be returned to OCNZ promptly upon request by the Secretary or by the COA Chairperson.

## **9. DEFINITIONS AND TERMS USED IN THESE BY-LAWS**

- 9.1 Executive means the Executive Committee of the Orchid Council of New Zealand.
- 9.2 Panel or Team applies to a group of Council Judges carrying out judging duties.
- 9.3 Pointing, scoring or assessing is the act of evaluation of a plant or exhibit within the Council Judging criteria.
- 9.4 Exhibit may mean a plant or a group of plants in a display.
- 9.5 Awards Chairperson is the Chairperson of the Committee on Awards (COA).
- 9.6 Missing flowers are defined as flowers aborted or not present at the judging. Flowers present but detached through damage in transport are not regarded as missing.
- 9.7 COA has the right to amend the wording of these rules without altering the intent.

## **10. REGIONAL STRUCTURE**

### **NORTHERN REGION**

Northland Supplemental Region  
Auckland Supplemental Region  
Waikato Supplemental Region  
Bay of Plenty Supplemental Region

### **CENTRAL REGION**

Hawke's Bay Supplemental Region  
Taranaki Supplemental Region  
Manawatu Supplemental Region  
Wellington Supplemental Region

### **SOUTHERN REGION**

Marlborough Supplemental Region  
Nelson Supplemental Region  
Canterbury Supplemental Region  
Otago Supplemental Region

**ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND INC  
COMMITTEE ON AWARDS  
FORM 1 - APPLICATION TO JOIN THE JUDGING ORGANISATION**  
Ref By-law 2.2.1

**Name** (block letters)..... Date of birth: ...../...../.....

Address: .....  
.....

Postcode: .....

Email: .....

Telephone: Home: (0 ) ..... Mobile: (0 ) .....

Have been a member of ..... Orchid Society since .....

Note: if you are a member of any other judging system (in NZ or overseas)

Judging system .....

Status: ..... Date obtained: .... /...../.....

I understand that involvement with Orchid Council judging requires a significant time commitment and some financial outlay, and I agree to abide by the judging by-laws.

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

I recommend the acceptance of the above named as a [*delete two*] Observer / Associate Judge / Accredited Judge in the ..... Supplemental Region.

Colour vision checked:

Supplemental Region Chairperson: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

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Regional Chairperson: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

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Approved Registered Observer:  
Signed for COA ..... Date: ...../...../.....

Approved Associate Judge:  
Signed for COA ..... Date: ...../...../.....

Approved Accredited Judge:  
Signed for COA ..... Date: ...../...../.....

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[June 2017 revision]

Distribution: 1 copy to Regional, 1 to COA

**ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND INC**  
**COMMITTEE ON AWARDS**  
**FORM 2 - PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE / ACCREDITED JUDGE**  
Ref. By-law 2.2.2 or 2.2.3

From the \_\_\_\_\_ Supplemental Region

.....(Name)  
who is an Observer / Associate Judge has met or exceeded the attendance requirements at judging and seminars. (if waived under By-law 2.2.2 last paragraph. a special statement is required from the Regional Chairperson.) The candidate has evaluated a representative selection of orchids and generally scored within acceptable limits. As an Associate judge the candidate has performed adequately in presenting orchid material to a group. The Accredited Judges of the above Supplemental Region, have by a three quarters majority taken in secret ballot, recommended promotion to the status of Associate / Accredited Judge.

Supplemental Region Chairperson..... Date ...../...../.....

Regional Chairperson .....Date...../...../.....

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Approved as an Associate Judge

Signed for COA.....Date ...../...../.....

Approved as an Accredited Judge

Signed for COA.....Date...../...../.....

Distribution:- 1 copy to Regional, 1 to COA

### Form 3

#### Orchid Council of New Zealand Score Sheet for Quality, Cultural and Display Judging

Date	Judge's Name	Status	Signature
Plant Name			Cultivar Name
Parentage			

	Feature	Points	Multi flowered	Points	Single flowered
<b>Form -</b>	Overall	15		15	
	Sepals	5		5	
	Petals	5		5	
	Labellum/pouch	5		5	
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>		<b>30</b>	
<b>Colour -</b>	Overall	15		15	
	Sepals	5		5	
	Petals	5		5	
	Labellum/pouch	5		5	
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>		<b>30</b>	
<b>Size</b>		10		10	
<b>Substance &amp; Texture</b>		10		15	
<b>Stem &amp; Presentation</b>		XXXXX	XXXXX	15	
<b>Balance proportion &amp; arrangement</b>		10		XXXXX	XXXXX
<b>Floriferousness</b>		10		XXXXX	XXXXX
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>40</b>	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>100</b>	

REMARKS (continue over page)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Award / Points</b>
/

CULTURAL CERTIFICATE (CCC / CCE)		
Size & condition of plant	30	
Floriferousness	30	
Freshness & condition of blooms	20	
Difficulty in growing to specimen size	20	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	

DISPLAY JUDGING		
<b>Arrangement</b> Presentation, Placement and visibility, colour, harmony and finish	25	
<b>Effect &amp; Theme</b> (if required) Visual impact, Interest, Balance & proportion, Originality	25	
<b>Quality</b> of Plants and Flowers, Freshness, and Award quality	40	
<b>Labelling</b> Visibility, correctness, ease of reading	10	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	

## PERCENTAGE POINTS TABLE

<b>%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>70</b>	3.50	7.00	10.50	14.00	17.50	21.00	28.00
<b>71</b>	3.55	7.10	10.65	14.20	17.75	21.30	28.40
<b>72</b>	3.60	7.20	10.80	14.40	18.00	21.60	28.80
<b>73</b>	3.65	7.30	10.95	14.60	18.25	21.90	29.20
<b>74</b>	3.70	7.40	11.10	14.80	18.50	22.20	29.60
<b>75</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>7.50</b>	<b>11.25</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>18.75</b>	<b>22.50</b>	<b>30.00</b>
<b>76</b>	3.80	7.60	11.40	15.20	19.00	22.80	30.40
<b>77</b>	3.85	7.70	11.55	15.40	19.25	23.10	30.80
<b>78</b>	3.90	7.80	11.70	15.60	19.50	23.40	31.20
<b>79</b>	3.95	7.90	11.85	15.80	19.75	23.70	31.60
<b>80</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>12.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>24.00</b>	<b>32.00</b>
<b>81</b>	4.05	8.10	12.15	16.20	20.25	24.30	32.40
<b>82</b>	4.10	8.20	12.30	16.40	20.50	24.60	32.80
<b>83</b>	4.15	8.30	12.45	16.60	20.75	24.90	33.20
<b>84</b>	4.20	8.40	12.60	16.80	21.00	25.20	33.60
<b>85</b>	4.25	8.50	12.75	17.00	21.25	25.50	34.00
<b>86</b>	4.30	8.60	12.90	17.20	21.50	25.80	34.40
<b>87</b>	4.35	8.70	13.05	17.40	21.75	26.10	34.80
<b>88</b>	4.40	8.80	13.20	17.60	22.00	26.40	35.20
<b>89</b>	4.45	8.90	13.35	17.80	22.25	26.70	35.60
<b>90</b>	<b>4.50</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>13.50</b>	<b>18.00</b>	<b>22.50</b>	<b>27.00</b>	<b>36.00</b>
<b>91</b>	4.55	9.10	13.65	18.20	22.75	27.30	36.40
<b>92</b>	4.60	9.20	13.80	18.40	23.00	27.60	36.80
<b>93</b>	4.65	9.30	13.95	18.60	23.25	27.90	37.20
<b>94</b>	4.70	9.40	14.10	18.80	23.50	28.20	37.60
<b>95</b>	4.75	9.50	14.25	19.00	23.75	28.50	38.00
<b>96</b>	4.80	9.60	14.40	19.20	24.00	28.80	38.40
<b>97</b>	4.85	9.70	14.55	19.40	24.25	29.10	38.80
<b>98</b>	4.90	9.80	14.70	19.60	24.50	29.40	39.20
<b>99</b>	4.95	9.90	14.85	19.80	24.75	29.70	39.60
<b>100</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>

## **MEASUREMENTS**

<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Width (mm)</b>	<b>Length (mm)</b>	<b>Natural Spread (mm)</b>	<b>Number of</b>
Dorsal Sepal			Across petals	Spikes
Petals			Across visible limits of flower	Flowers
Ventral Sepals			Vertically	Buds
Lip/Pouch				



**ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND INC  
COMMITTEE ON AWARDS  
FORM 4 - AWARD APPLICATION (2013 Revision)**

<b>Points:</b>	<b>Rec. Award:</b>	<b>COA No:</b> /
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Owners Details				PLANT			
<b>Name(s):</b> (Use names as wanted on certificates)				<b>Genus:</b>			
<b>Address:</b>				<b>Hybrid Grex or Species name:</b>			
I grant permission to the OCNZ to use the plant name and photograph for its purposes and publications and confirm that the plant and owner details as shown on this form are correct: (Cultural only) I/we have owned the plant for _____ years				<b>Cultivar</b> (if hybrid): <b>Varietal name</b> (if species):			
<b>Signature:</b>				<b>Parentage:</b>  <b>X</b>			
<b>Date:</b>				<b>RHS Registered</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Place judged:</b>			<b>Date judged:</b>		<b>Supplemental Region:</b>		
Dimensions	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Natural Spread (mm)		Number of		
Dorsal Sepal			Across petals		Spikes		
Petals			Across visible limits of flower		Flowers		
Ventral Sepals			Vertically		Buds		
Lip/Pouch							
<b>Full Description:</b> (including colours – RHS or Gibbons codes)							
<b>Accredited Judges Involved</b> (Please indicate after name if Senior (S) or Reserve (R))				<b>Associate Judges Involved</b>		<b>Name of photographer:</b>	
						I agree to the terms and conditions in OCNZ Judging By-Law 6.1.13.	
						<b>Signature:</b>	
						<b>Digital Image included:</b>	
						<b>Fee included:</b>	
						<b>Signed Judging Chairperson:</b>	
						<b>Signed Regional Chairperson:</b>	
<b>Notes:</b>				<b>Received:</b>			
				<b>Ratified:</b>			
				<b>Certificate Made:</b>			
<b>Signed Chairperson:</b>				<b>Certificate Sent</b>			

COA use only

3 Copies Distribution: Sub-regional Chairperson 1; Regional Chairperson 1; COA 1

**UPDATES – SIGNOFFS**

Date received

Page No. Changed

Updated date

Signature

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**NOTES:**