

JUDGES TRAINING MANUAL

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'Chubby Cheeks' (Paul Black 1985, SDB)

 Paul Black



Acknowledgements

This eighth edition of the Handbook for Judges was completed with the cooperation, energy, conviction, dedication, and determination of the Handbook Team, the AIS Board of Directors, and all the people who wrote, revised, and edited the chapters. A loud chorus of thank you to everyone!

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Special thanks to the Handbook Team: Bonnie Nichols (Chair), Jody Nolin, Gary White, Claire Schneider, and Andi Rivarola.

Note from the Scribe

This edition of the Handbook For Judges is special because it truly was a collaborative effort. It was a pleasure to work with everyone: the Handbook Team, the AIS Board of Directors, the section groups and societies, individual members and especially those people who offered editorial advice. Yes, this revision was a major undertaking, but the cooperation and assistance that I received certainly made the process glide along smoothly.

Thank you to everyone!

Claire Schneider, July 14, 2021

Introduction to the 8th Edition of the Handbook for Judges and Show Officials

The 8th edition of Handbook for Judges and Show Officials has been approved by the American Iris Society and is the authority for evaluating iris in the garden and exhibitions. It is referred to throughout simply as the Handbook.

The Handbook is available online for free or for purchase through the AIS Storefront.

FORMAT CHANGES

The most innovative change to the Handbook is making it available electronically. This will facilitate keeping the Handbook up to date. Revised and approved chapters will be accessible almost immediately for download or purchase.

Because single chapters can be revised and replaced, a unique page numbering system was needed: each chapter begins with page 1. This system of pagination produces an interesting Table of Contents, with each chapter beginning on page

one. To avoid any craziness, page numbers are not included in the Table of Contents. To help with navigation, each page does contain an abbreviation of its chapter title. A suggestion is that judges use a set of 30-tab dividers in the Handbook, one tab for each chapter.

The electronic version of the Handbook will print on standard sized paper, 8.5 by 11 inches, making it fit into a regular 3-ring binder. Again, this will facilitate keeping the Handbook up to date because single chapters can be replaced. To ensure that the judges have the latest edition, the most recent date of revision is added to each page.

There are a few other minor changes. The Scales of Points have expanded titles and have been set into tables. The chapters have been reorganized and renumbered.

JUDGING CHANGES

A significant change involves exhibition judging. At their November 2017 meeting, the AIS Board of Directors approved a motion that introduction is no longer required for exhibiting a registered, named cultivar in the Open Horticultural Division of a show.

Two new chapters have been added: “Container-Grown Iris” and “Single Blossom Entry.” Ribbons won in these sections will count for the sweepstakes awards. However, exhibits in these sections are NOT eligible for Best Specimen of Show.

Two chapters of explanation have been added to the Handbook: “Comparison of BB, IB, MTB and SDB Iris” and “Terminology: Understanding Aril and Arilbred Iris.”

The minimum number of flowers on a bloom stalk has been updated for some classes. For border bearded iris (BB), the minimum now is 7 buds on a terminal and two branches (up from 5 buds on a terminal and 2 branches). For miniature tall bearded iris (MTB), the minimum now is 7 buds, 8 to 9 preferred, on a terminal

and two branches (up from 6 buds, 8 to 9 preferred, on a terminal and two branches).

The chapter “Novelty Bearded Iris” has been renamed “Novelty Iris” and now includes novelties from all classes of iris plus “Space Agers.” The chapter “Bulbous Iris” has significant changes.

The Appendix is new and includes a Model Show Schedule, Preparing Iris for Exhibition, Practice Garden and Exhibition Point Scoring and Judge’s Activity Record.

PROCESS

The 8th Edition of the Handbook was completed in several steps. Small groups met via Zoom or by phone to review, revise, and edit each chapter. A few groups and individuals sent their additions and revisions by email. Each chapter also was studied by the Handbook Revision Team, consisting of Bonnie Nichols (chair), Jody Nolin, Andi Rivarola, Gary White, and Claire Schneider. Incorporating the results of those conferences, a final draft of each chapter was posted online for the AIS Board of Directors to review. Once or twice a month from January to June 2021, special AIS Board Meetings were held to approve each chapter, one by one. The approved chapters have been combined along with other chapters, Glossary and Appendix to produce a final, 8th Edition of the Handbook.

FUTURE PROCESSES

Future revisions of the Handbook will be scheduled annually. The deadline for the submission of additions and changes to the Handbook will be January 1st of each year. The Handbook Revision Team will review those recommendations and present revisions to the AIS Board of Directors for approval no later than the May AIS Board Meeting. With these deadlines, future revisions of any chapter or, if

needed, the entire Handbook, should be ready for release on July 1st of the year of submission.

Send your corrections, changes, and revisions to the scribe, Claire Schneider, itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com

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GLOSSARY

COVER: 'Chubby Cheeks' is the winner of the 2021 AIS Board of Directors Award. "This distinctive award is neither a garden award nor an exhibition award. This award is made by The American Iris Society's Board of Directors to honor an iris which has not won a Dykes Medal, but which shows clearly in its progeny that it is among the greats of irisdome. Candidate cultivars for this award are presented to the Board of Directors by the Awards Committee but can be nominated by any AIS member. The Board of Directors Award, which is not an annual award, was established in 1972 and first awarded in 1975."

Handbook For Judges and Show Officials



Edition 8.22

Note: This chapter and others from the *Handbook for Judges* are available online. It is recommended that judges and other readers check out the Introduction and Table of Contents in the full version of the *Handbook* in order to know the full list of available resources, e.g., Glossary, essays, Judge's Activity Record, etc.
