

AIS AFFILIATIONS CHAIR REPORT SPRING 2011

Since this was my first year, I had a lot to learn. As of May 1, 2011, three affiliates did not send their affiliation application in. Since then, two have reaffiliated.

We have a total of 169 affiliates at this time. Two affiliates disbanded, one has not reaffiliated yet, and we added two new affiliates. One in Region 9 and another one in Region 24.

This Spring, the fees collected were \$2,900. This is an increase of \$350 from last year.

I have been contacted by a few board members requesting an overhaul of the affiliations process and the fees being paid, and I agree that a reconfiguration of this process is needed.

These are my points of concern:

1-The fees are being paid by the clubs least able to afford them. Clubs that have less than 10 AIS members have a very small budget and have very small money reserves. A lot of the checks have come from members own personal bank accounts.

2-Small affiliates are being penalized for being small. I have heard several RVP's say that the affiliates have tried and tried to entice people to join AIS, but to no avail.

3-The clubs that pay the affiliation fee, usually only have one iris show per year. They are receiving only one set of medals, valued at \$30.

Larger clubs, on the other hand have 2, 3, or even 4 shows a year and receive medals up to \$120 in value, and do not pay any affiliation fees at all.

It is my recommendation that we should charge all clubs a \$25 or \$30 yearly affiliation fee. This would be more fair and equitable for all clubs to share in the cost of being affiliated.

Respectfully submitted
Susan Boyce
Affiliations Chair