

PROPOSED RULES FOR AIS 2020 INTERNATIONAL IRIS COMPETITION

OCTOBER 18, 2016

1. Judged irises will be two-year clumps of Tall Bearded Iris to be received in summer of 2018. Hybridizers sending plants will be allowed to send 2 plants of each variety (or seedling) up to 5 varieties total. Varieties may be named or numbered seedlings. US hybridizers will be allowed to also send these same varieties as Convention guests.

Reasoning—Presby will be limiting us on the amount of space we will have to plant. Keeping it to Tall Bearded helps with that and keeping it to 5 (instead of 8) varieties (seedlings) per hybridizer allows more hybridizers to enter. Also most European Judges don't see beardless and may not feel competent to judge them. Japanese iris are not likely to bloom during the Convention. Also, since this is being promoted as an International Iris Competition we should stay with Tall Bearded iris. Franclris only includes TBs and the Firenze Competition only has a very small Border Bearded section.

2. Judged iris will be received by Presby Memorial Iris Garden in Montclair NJ, planted, and maintained in a separate row of the garden marked for the 2020 Competition. Each variety received will be issued a number starting at #100 and going up in sequence. A list of the variety numbers with the matching names/seedling numbers will be kept under lock and key by the Chairmen of the Competition Committee. Co-chairs Kathy Chilton and Jill Bonino will be at Presby to supervise the planting.
3. There will 5 judges for the competition---2 North American judges and 3 overseas judges. Judges will pay for their own round trip airfare to the 2020 Convention. The AIS will pay for all Judges hotel, meal, convention registration and entertainment expenses.

Reasoning—Including Canadian Judges is a good idea. The more international the better.

4. Judging will be done according to approved Point Scoring system for a Blind Judging Contest. The Competition Committee will approve the Point Scoring system prior to the beginning of the competition.
5. Judging will begin on the Monday of Convention Week and continue through Tuesday and Wednesday of Convention Week. Judges will visit all of the Convention gardens during Thursday, Friday and Saturday of Convention week. Sometime on Thursday at the hotel there will be a meeting to compile a list of the 10 winners for the Competition. These will be the 10 varieties that received the highest point totals by the Judges. Members of the Competition Committee will have Friday to notify winning hybridizers so they may attend the Awards Banquet, if possible, or designate someone who is at the Convention to accept their award.

6. Winners will be announced at the Saturday night Awards Banquet and Judges will each receive an engraved plaque with the 2020 Convention Logo. The Top 10 winners will receive a plaque with room for a photo and engraving. The Grand Prize winner will receive an AIS 100th Anniversary medal.
7. Deleted. See NEW #9.
8. Competition plants will be dug during the same time as the other 2020 Convention Guest iris. Hybridizers will be asked to donate their entries for the competition to be used for AIS fundraising.

Reasoning—Shipping of plants back to foreign countries is expensive and can be a bureaucratic nightmare.

9. Garden labels will be made with variety name (seedling #), hybridizer, year introduced, and country of origin. As soon as the judging is over on Thursday, these labels will be placed next to each garden label with a number. This way the public will be able to do their own judging on Friday and Saturday. A People's Choice winner will also be announced at the Saturday Awards banquet and the hybridizer will receive a certificate for People's Choice.