



National ASA
YOUNG JUDGES
& PARADERS
CHAMPIONSHIPS

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS AUSTRALIA
HANDBOOK

NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP HANDBOOK

[Version 24th July 2023]



AGRICULTURAL SHOWS
AUSTRALIA

JUDGING INSTRUCTIONS

THE JUDGING CARDS FOR THIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOULD BE ON GREEN COLOURED PAPER.

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The National Agricultural Shows Australia (ASA) Grain Young Judges Championship (National Championship) through competition provides education and experience for future judges for Agricultural Shows and industry alike.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. To be eligible to compete in the National Grain National Championship each Competitor must have lived, worked or attended school within a State/ Territory they represent in the previous three (3) months and can only represent one State/ Territory at a National Championship in any given year.
2. Competitors must be fifteen (15) and under twenty five (25) years of age on first (1st) May in the year of the Competitor's State/ Territory Final. Competitors under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by a chaperone.
3. Each year one (1) Competitor is to represent each State/ Territory and one (1) Competitor to represent the Region (New Zealand).
4. The Computer Scoring Program is to be used at the National Championship Final.
5. The Championship judge must not have access to any Master Score Sheet prior to the announcement of the winners of the National Championship.
6. At no time during the National Championship should a competitor talk with the Championship judge unless directed to do so by the Ring Steward.
7. State / Territory/ Region Secretaries must inform the ASA Secretariat of the name, address and telephone number of their Competitor in a Judging Championship going on to a National Championship Final. The ASA Secretariat will advise these Competitors of the venue and times of the National Championship Final.
8. The winner and runner-up of the National Championship should be requested to do a report on any travel tour they undertake to validate sponsorship money.
9. Winners are ineligible to compete again after winning the final of the National ASA Grain Judging Championship.
10. Competitors will be eliminated from the National Championship if the Judge's Steward considers they are receiving outside assistance.

PROCEDURE FOR RUNNING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Three (3) Classes of four (4) grain exhibits to be judged by Competitors. One (1) Class judged at a time.
2. Each class will consist of four samples of the same species, the species may be any grain, oilseed, or pulse. Within a class multiple varieties of the same species may be represented.
3. Selection of grain exhibits:
 - i. A good sample of grain is of equal size, a regular shape and a similar colour.
 - ii. Uncleaned grain contains broken grain, weed seeds, foreign matter and soil.
 - iii. Diseased grain is likely to be discoloured.
 - iv. Insect pests are likely to have damaged the grain.
4. Each Class of grain exhibits should be in one (1) or two (2) litre containers.
5. Each Competitor may select his/ her Class for the Oral presentation.

6. Grain exhibits in each Class must be identified by being numbered one to four (1 to 4), and not A B C D. This is essential when the Computer Scoring Program or Hormel Slide are used.
7. All Competitors will take part in the Oral judging and use the card/ sheet marked 'Oral Class'. Before the commencement of the Oral presentation, each Competitor is required to give instruction to the Ring Steward to place the ribbons on each grain sample in their placement order. The ribbon colour order being Blue – First (1st), Red – Second (2nd), White – Third (3rd), Yellow – Fourth (4th).
8. Visual judging will take place first. Competitors will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes to judge the four (4) grain exhibits for each Class and to complete each Visual Judging Card.
9. Each Competitor in the Oral Class is allowed two (2) minutes for speaking. Penalty points apply – One (1) point should be deducted for every ten (10) seconds or part thereof over the allotted two (2) minutes.
10. In the oral section the competitor will select one of the three classes to present on.
11. The winner of the National Championship is marked out of a maximum of two hundred (200) points: fifty (50) points or the placings in each of the three (3) Classes, and fifty (50) points for the Oral Class.
12. Competitors in the Oral Class are scored on their accuracy of observation, their comparative statements, speaking ability and general presentation and dress.
13. In the case of a dead heat the Competitor with the highest total points for Visual judging will be declared the winner, or if there is still a dead heat the Championship judge will have the final say. All tie-break details are to be confirmed by the Judge's Steward.

JUDGING CARDS

1. Judging Cards are simple in design. All that is required by Competitors is to place the grain exhibits in order from one to four (1 to 4).
2. It is essential that one (1) Championship judge officiate for all Classes.
3. The Championship judge, when filling out his/ her Master Card, is to note a numerical difference between the grain.
The Hormel Slide shows the degree of penalty as related to the degree of difference between the grain exhibit placings and the Competitor is scored accordingly.
4. The Oral Section Guideline may be retained by the Competitor. It is designed to ensure Competitors use comparative details in their Oral description of the Class.

The Work Sheet is to note the features of each grain exhibit and the reason it was placed in its position.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TIMING

To maintain the interest of the Competitors and the spectators, it is important the entire National Championship is completed in approximately one and a half (1½) hours. The timing should be as follows:

Visual Judging

Judging three (3) classes Fifteen (15) minutes each

45 mins

Changeover time	5 mins
Data Reader Steward to finalise competitor's visual scores	5 mins

Oral Judging

Note: All Competitors, except one (1) should be taken out of hearing range of the Judging Ring

Six (6) Competitors placings – One (1) minute each	6 mins
Six (6) Competitors oral tests – Two (2) minutes speaking	12 mins
Changeover times	8 mins
Comments from Championship Judge on oral class	9 mins
Announcement and Presentation of Awards	10 mins
Total time	95 mins

To maintain the impetus of the National Championship, immediately the Championship judge has completed his/ her final comments, the National Championship results should be ready to be announced and the Awards and Presentations made.

RESOURCES

ORAL SECTION GUIDELINES

Competitors will give their placings to the Ring Steward upon entering the Judging Ring for their Oral presentation.

Competitors will then be allowed two (2) minutes to clearly express their views to the Championship judge and spectators the reasons they placed the exhibits in a particular order. Penalty points apply – One (1) point should be deducted for every ten (10) seconds or part thereof over the allotted two (2) minutes.

Competitors should have their reasons organised and emphasise the most important points they wish to make.

When giving the reasons, the main objective is to inform the Championship judge that the Competitor has seen and compared each sample in the Class.

It is important to make comparisons between the grain exhibits rather than describe individual grain samples.

Commence the Oral reasoning as follows:-

‘I placed this Class four, one, three, two [4, 1, 3, 2]’.

Give the most important reasons first and remember to use comparative terms. Where necessary the Competitor can then follow with:

In my opinion No one (1) is better than No four (4) in

This demonstrates to the Championship judge the accuracy of any priorities. Mention major faults, if present.

Continue in similar manner by comparing the middle pair and finally the bottom pair.

Remember:

- Be concise;
- Show conviction in the placings;
- Give important reasons first;
- Use comparative terms.

DRESS - Competitors must be neatly and suitably attired, and male Competitors must wear a tie. Points will be deducted for poor presentation. Shorts and thongs are not permitted.

REASON CARD FOR COMPETITOR'S NOTES

Class:

Placings: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

*Please remember when speaking to say why you put first (1st) place over second (2nd), second (2nd) place over third (3rd), etc.

Exhibit 1	Good Attributes	Placing
	Faults	
Exhibit 2	Good Attributes	Placing
	Faults	
Exhibit 3	Good Attributes	Placing
	Faults	
Exhibit 4	Good Attributes	Placing
	Faults	

NOTES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE

In the selection of a Class of grains for the National Championship, the aim should be to get a group of four (4) upon whose placing experienced Judges, after careful inspection and consideration, would be likely to agree. The exhibits to include three at least (3) different Classes of grains.

A suitable Class might be made up of a fairly clean sample, a fairly obvious poor sample 'tail', and two others that present a more difficult choice. They will be judged against the standard of what is considered a good quality grain type, rather than one that pays strict attention to specific gain points. It should be made clear to the Competitors that each grain exhibit is to be judged on its present showing and not on which it has done or might do.

Prior to the National Championship the Championship judge can select the grain exhibits to be judged – if required this can be done a day or two before the National Championship. On the day of the National Championship the Championship judge will decide on the correct placing of the grain exhibits in each Class and note on the Master Card.

At no time during the National Championship should the Championship judge talk with a Competitor unless directed to do so by the Ring Steward.

In filling out the Master Cards, the Championship judge is required to note a numerical difference between grain exhibits as directed in instructions for use of the Computer Scoring Program or Hormel Slide. Computer Scoring Program shows the degree of penalty as related to the degree of difference between the grain exhibit placings and the Competitor is scored accordingly.

A Competitor is in as good a position as is the Championship judge to observe both the good and bad points of the grains. But even if he/ she does so, he/ she may draw different conclusions because he/ she does not give those good and bad points the same importance as does the Championship judge. This difference of opinion will be reflected in the Competitor's low score for placing, and he/ she should not be further penalised in the Oral Test if his/ her observation has been accurate and the Championship judge considers the reasoning to be logical.

Each Competitor in the Oral Class is allowed one (1) minute to confirm the grain samples in his/ her order of merit and two (2) minutes to state his/ her reasoning for the placings. If he/ she finishes in less than this time, but has said all that was needed to support his/ her case, he/ she should not be penalised. If he/ she exceed the two (2) minutes, marks should be deducted from the overall oral score. One (1) point should be deducted for every ten (10) seconds or part thereof over the allotted two (2) minutes.

At the conclusion of the National Championship the Championship judge is asked to give his/ her own reasons for the placing of the grain exhibits. Comment on the various oral and ringcraft styles of the Competitors may also be made.

As far as possible to maintain Competitor and spectator interest in the National Championship, it is important that it is confined to a time limit. Championship judges are asked to confine their comments to the allotted time suggested.

DRESS – Competitors must be neatly and suitably attired, and male competitors must wear a tie. Points will be deducted for poor presentation. Shorts and thongs are not permitted.

COMPETITION CARDS

NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

VISUAL/ PHYSICAL CLASS PLACING CARD

Competitor's No: _____

Species: _____

Placings: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th Max. Points [50]

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NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

VISUAL/ PHYSICAL CLASS PLACING CARD

Competitor's No: _____

Species: _____

Placings: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th Max. Points [50]

----- Cut here ✂ -----

NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

VISUAL/ PHYSICAL CLASS PLACING CARD

Competitor's No: _____

Species: _____

Placings: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th Max. Points [50]

NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

COMPETITION JUDGES PLACING CARD

Competitor's No: _____

Class: _____

Placings:

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
1 st - 2 nd	2 nd - 3 rd	3 rd - 4 th	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

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NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

COMPETITION JUDGES PLACING CARD

Competitor's No: _____

Class: _____

Placings:

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
1 st - 2 nd	2 nd - 3 rd	3 rd - 4 th	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

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NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

COMPETITION JUDGES PLACING CARD

Competitor's No: _____

Class: _____

Placings:

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
1 st - 2 nd	2 nd - 3 rd	3 rd - 4 th	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

ORAL CLASS CARD

Competitor's no:							
Selected grain class:							
Class						Max Points	Score
Competitor's Placing							
a) Accuracy of observations						15	
b) Ability to compare grain exhibits						15	
c) Speaking ability						10	
d) Presentation and dress						10	
						Subtotal	
						Penalties	
						Total	

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NATIONAL ASA GRAIN JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIP

ORAL CLASS CARD

Competitor's no:							
Selected grain class:							
Class						Max Points	Score
Competitor's Placing							
a) Accuracy of observations						15	
b) Ability to compare grain exhibits						15	
c) Speaking ability						10	
d) Presentation and dress						10	
						Subtotal	
						Penalties	
						Total	

