**CHANGES TO THE COMPETITOR & JUDGING MANUAL: ISSUE NO. 8 – APRIL 2015**

**All changes to the manual since April 2015**

* **Changes to Manual that were made June 2016**

**Ruling on the Repercussions to Competitors who have been caught cheating at Levels 2, 3 & 4 – June 2016**

A submission was present at Ulverstone and due to communications breaking down the approval was not given for this amendment to the new Manual until June 2016. It is to be included in the new manual when it is next printed but effective immediately.

The Following is a Ruling on the Repercussions to Competitors who have been caught cheating at Levels 2, 3 & 4 – June 2016.

(This obviously does not include a competitor that submits and entry and places it in the wrong section.)

1. The Competition Committee contacts the competitor and requests the competitor to explain why the entry has been submitted under their name.

2. If the Competition Committee is still not satisfied with the answer, it may advise the Competitor that he/she has been disqualified, and that ALL entries have been removed from the competition, and will not be displayed.

Then;

**A. If it is a State run competition**, the Competition Committee then advises the relevant State body of their actions, including the name of the competitor and appropriate details.

The Competition Committee also recommends that the competitor be banned from all future competitions in that State.

The Competition Committee also gives the details of the competitor and the action taken to all other State bodies for their awareness, in order that they can make their own decisions re treatment of this person.

Or,

**B. If it is a National competition**, the Competition Committee advises all State bodies of the details, including the name of the competitor, and recommends to AFLACA that this competitor be banned from all future competitions that are run under the rules of the latest Competitor and Judging Manual.

* **The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 15th April 2017 at Lithgow.**

**All these changes were approved and become effective immediately.**

***First:***

Page 41 of the Manual the following change has been made: the highlighted statement has been added to the manual in the appropriate place as shown below:

**PART D: LAPIDARY – GROUPS 1 TO 17**

**D11. FACET CUTS:** There are 4 Facet Groups and 6 individual Facet Sections:

**GROUP 8 - *SECTION 8A - STANDARD BRILLIANT - CONTINUOUS GIRDLE***

***SECTION 8B - STANDARD BRILLIANT - FACETED GIRDLE***

**GROUP 9 - *SECTION 9A - STANDARD OBLONG STEP CUT WITH CUT CORNERS***

***SECTION 9B - STANDARD SQUARE STEP CUT WITH CUT CORNERS***

**GROUP 10 - *SECTION 10 - MODIFIED STANDARD CUTS***

**GROUP 11 - *SECTION 11 - FANCY CUTS***

**“Unless otherwise specified in the design the facets will always be flat. Concaved facets are not permitted on Standard Cuts”**

Then follow with **D11.1 DESCRIPTION OF FACETING TERMS (in alphabetical order)**

etc etc

**Also on page 44 and page 47 the word “usually” is to be DELETED**

**Page 44**

D11.4.4 ***DEFINITIONS OF STONES IN THESE SECTIONS:*** A stone cut from a single piece of Natural or Man-made transparent Lapidary material as defined in D2 on page 19 and D11.1r on page 42, not laminated in any form, on which a number of ~~usually~~ small flat surfaces have been cut and polished.

**Page 47**

D11.5.4 ***DEFINITIONS OF STONES IN THESE SECTIONS:*** A stone cut from a single piece of Natural or Man-made transparent Lapidary material as defined in D2 on page 19 and D11.1r on page 42, not laminated in any form, on which a number of ~~usually~~ small flat surfaces have been cut and polished.

***Second:***

**This change is for the use of beads in all the Jewellery Sections.**

Where beads have been used the beads are purely to compliment the main item(s) and do not dominate. The highlighted statement has been added to the wording.

On pages 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 & 71

**vii Beads must be in Natural Lapidary Material or Natural Organic Material as defined in D2.1 and D2.4 on page 19 – the beads are purely to compliment the main item(s) and must not dominate.**

***Third:***

**This change is for the use of Natural Lapidary Beads to be used in Enamelling Jewellery without mount. The highlighted words have been added.**

Page 81

E13.5 ***SECTION 26B -*** *ENAMELLED JEWELLERY WITHOUT MOUNT:*  Enamelled Jewellery in which the backing material may be bought or formed by the entrant. Commercial spacer beads and caps along with Natural Lapidary Beads are permitted in enamelled necklaces and bracelets, *provided they are purely to compliment the main item(s) and do not dominate,* **and they will not be judged.** Items will be judged on Aesthetic Appeal, Creativity, Enamelling Technique and Finish. Entries MUST be Functional, ie have a point of suspension.

**Beads must be in Natural Lapidary Material or Natural Organic Material as defined in D2.1 and D2.4 on Page 19**

***Four:***

**The change is to include a new ruling to prevent the use of coated metal or wire.**

**Reason for preventing the use of coating is that Finish on Metalcraft workmanship would not be able to be judged.**

E3.3 ***METALWORK WORKMANSHIP:***

a. ***Quality:*** This feature assesses the entrant’s Metalcraft in relation to the various aspects involved in production of the article, including cutting, forming, drawing, jointing and orientation of joined components and trueness of intended shape.

**b. Finish: Unintentional scratches, file marks, dents, rough edges, remains of solder where not required and traces of polish remaining on finished piece of jewellery are all detrimental to the Finish. Perfection of Finish (gloss, satin or matt) is also taken into account.**

**The change is to add another definition under E2 General Definitions.**

**Page 63**

**E2.4 *METAL*: All Metal/Wire must be exposed, not coated with plastic or any substance which covers the metal/wire. However, this does allow for silver, gold, copper, titanium and rhodium plating.**

* **The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 31st March 2018 at Willunga SA.**

**All these changes were approved and become effective immediately.**

***First:***

**Page 71 of the Manual the following change has been made: the highlighted statement has been added to the manual in the appropriate place as shown below:**

**E10.** **GROUP 23: *SECTIONS 23A TO 23D*** *- COMBINED JEWELLERY.* In these Sections Metalwork must be partly Hand-Fabricated, partly Cast or partly Metal Clay. **Patterns, moulds and dies MUST ALL be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as Patterns which are also accepted.** Entries must conform with the Definitions in E2 and E4 on pages 63 and 65.

*And to the sections below*

***SECTION 23A:*** *COMBINED JEWELLERY* ***NOT*** *INTENDED TO INCLUDE LAPIDARY, FOSSIL OR MINERAL ITEMS.* Entries must be entirely of metal, partly hand-fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.**

***SECTION 23B:*** *COMBINED JEWELLERY* ***WITH*** *LAPIDARY ITEM/S CUT AND SET BY ENTRANT.* Metalwork must be partly hand-fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.**

***SECTION 23C:*** *COMBINED JEWELLERY* ***WITH*** *NATURAL FOSSIL OR MINERAL SPECIMENS SET BY ENTRANT.* Metalwork must be partly hand- fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.**

***SECTION 23D:*** *COMBINED JEWELLERY* ***WITH*** *COMMERCIAL LAPIDARY ITEM/S SET BY ENTRANT.* Metalwork must be partly hand-fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.**

***Second:***

**Faceting Changes:**

**D11.4.5 Page 44 the word “Continuous convex curve for the” to be added**

11.4.5 ***SECTION 8A*** *- STANDARD BRILLIANT WITH CONTINUOUS GIRDLE:* This is cut as per diagram below and has 3 rows of Facets on the Crown and 2 rows of Facets on the Pavilion, making 58 Facets *(including Girdle Facet)* and 41 Meets. It has a ***continuous*** convex curve for the girdle.

***Third:***

**Judging Sheets for Group 11 - Currently the judging sheet that is on the AFLACA website has additional words “Points Gained” off to the right hand side of the Judging sheet. This is not there for the judges but as a help only for the use of the back room calculators’. The meeting approved the use and it is to remain as it is.**

***Four:***

**Page 42 D11 .2 Judging Features**

b. ***Outline of Girdle:*** The accuracy which has been achieved in cutting required Outline Shape. Tolerance up to 0.1mm allowed before deducting points.

The **Length to Width Ratio** may only apply if stipulated by a Competition Committee as a **Special Condition for Open Division - Only**. It is to be calculated and judged within the above feature.

Also on Page 47 – Note the use of the “Length to Width Ratio” may only apply if stipulated by a Competition Committee as a Special Condition for Open Division – ONLY. And to be calculated using the judging feature - Outline of Girdle

***Five:***

**Page 42 D11 .2 Judging Features**

The wording for part c be changed to include “If a design has a zig zag girdle, the highest points of the girdle are to be used to gauge the parallel plane”

C . ***Table Parallel to Girdle Plane:*** This feature is judged by eye. Points are awarded/deducted depending on variation from parallel, up to maximum available. If a design has a zig zag girdle, the highest points of the girdle are used to gauge the parallel plane

***Six:***

**Page 43 D11 .2 Judging Features**

The wording for part m to be changed to include “or Apex as calculated and measured by the judge”

m. ***Girdle Too Wide:*** A Girdle which, at its narrowest point, is more than **5%** of the total height of the stone from the Culet to the Table or Apex as calculated and measured by the Judge, will lose all points for this feature. A Girdle which is too narrow to be assessed at 10X magnification is ineligible for Standard or Modified Standard Cut Sections. This is the only all-or-nothing Facet judging feature.

* **The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Sunday 21st April 2019 at Rockhampton QLD.**

**All these changes were approved and become effective immediately.**

***First:***

**Ametrine a variety of QUARTZ is to be added to H4.4 b on page 109.**

**H4. DEFINITIONS (cont):**

H4.4 ***MINERAL VARIETY (cont):***

b. Following is a complete listing of the ***ONLY*** Varietal names which are permissible in competitions. Varietal names are in alphabetical sequence, followed by Species name in CAPITALS:

Adularia a variety of ORTHOCLASE Melanite a variety of ANDRADITE

Ametrine a variety of QUARTZ Morganite a variety of BERYL

Amethyst a variety of QUARTZ Pennine a variety of CLINOCHLORE

Aquamarine a variety of BERYL Rose a variety of QUARTZ

Citrine a variety of QUARTZ Ruby a variety of CORUNDUM

Emerald a variety of BERYL Sapphire a variety of CORUNDUM

Goshenite a variety of BERYL Sheridanite a variety of CLINOCHLORE

Heliodor a variety of BERYL Smaltite a variety of SKUTTERUDITE

Hiddenite a variety of SPODUMENE Smoky a variety of QUARTZ

Kasoite a variety of CELSIAN Topazolite a variety of ANDRADITE

Kunzite a variety of SPODUMENE Tsavolite a variety of GROSSULAR

Leuchtenbergite a variety of CLINOCHLORE Tsavorite a variety of GROSSULAR

As detailed in H8.1.1a on page 118, on mineral labels the Species name must appear first in CAPITAL letters, followed by the variety in capital and lower case letters, eg. QUARTZ var Rose.

***Second:***

**Faceting Changes:**

**Page 41 of the Manual the following change has been made: the highlighted statement has been added to the manual in the appropriate place as shown below:**

***f. Curved Surface:*** A Facet which has been deliberately curved in one or more directions. A continuous Curved Girdle is judged as one Facet. Concave and Convex facets are curved facets.

* **The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 18th April 2020 via Video Conference (Zoom)**

**The first two changes will come into effect from the GEMBOREE 2022, the third and fourth changes are effective immediately.**

***First:***

**FREE FORM**

**Submission – Re: To include Heart shape free forms with an inside curve by adding a few words to Part D6.1.1 . Page 32**

**As shown in the Manual Page 32 Paragraph D6.1.1, D6.1.2, & D6.1.3**

D6.1.1 Stones with relief or incised pattern are not eligible in Free Form - they are Carving, Cameo or Intaglio. However, a Heart shape with an inside curve is acceptable.

D6.1.2 There is some overlap in definition of Free Form and Carving. Accordingly, entries will be accepted if they fit the definition of the Section in which entered.

***Second:***

**Adding – Degree of Effort to Carving and Scrimshaw**

To introduce on the Carving/Scrimshaw judging sheet – **Degree of Effort** (refer to page 21 – Degree of Effort: relates to the number of TECHNIQUES and SKILLS used, not how well they have been executed) and reduce the amount of points given to **Craftsmanship** (refer to page 20 – Craftsmanship: this relates to the degree of skilful finish apparent in the various aspects involved in production of the article) or simply put how well the techniques and skills are executed. **The points are to be halved and Degree of Effort allocated 15 and Craftsmanship allocated 15 for Carving. For Scrimshaw Degree of effort allocated 15 points and Craftsmanship allocated 10 points.**

The following is the new Judging sheet for Carving and Scrimshaw – As from GEMBOREE 2022

**Section 5A CARVING - Fully 3-Dimensional**

**\*Section 5B CARVING - In Relief**

**\*Section 5C CAMEO**

**\*Section 5D INTAGLIO**

**\*Section 5E Carving not otherwise Specified in Group 5A to 5D**

**\*Competition Committee to indicate the appropriate Section**

JUDGES SECTION No.

ENTRY No.

DESCRIPTION

Aesthetic Appeal/Creativity (Refer D3.1 - p 19 and D3.20 - p 21)

(2nd Judge) (1st Judge)

Artistry and Beauty .......................(.................) 10 (................)

Balance/Design/Creativity ..............(.................) 10 (................)

EXECUTION OF DESIGN

Degree of Effort ……………………………….. 15

Craftsmanship .............................................. 15

\*\*Shape ...................................................... 10

Saw, Grinding, Sanding Marks, Scratches .......... 15

Undercut & Pits ............................................ 2

Chips .......................................................... 3

Fractures/Flaws ............................................ 5

Cleanliness/Cementing .................................. 5

++Polish/Finish ............................................. 10

TOTAL POSSIBLE 100

\*\* Shape is truth of form to the design depicted. In the event of the design being an abstract, points for Shape will be added to Balance/Design/Creativity.

++ Points for Polish/Finish will be awarded on Judge’s assessment of the overall quality of evenness of the gloss, satin or matt areas of the entry.

JUDGE COMMENTS

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JUDGE SIGNATURE DATE

**Section 6 - SCRIMSHAW**

JUDGES SECTION No.

ENTRY No.

DESCRIPTION

Aesthetic Appeal/Creativity (Refer D3.1 - p 19 and D3.20 - p 21)

(2nd Judge) (1st Judge)

Artistry and Beauty ............................(.................) 10 (................)

Balance/Design/Creativity ...................(.................) 10 (................)

EXECUTION OF DESIGN

Degree of Effort ………………………………………. 15

Craftsmanship ...................................................... 10

Design ...................................................................... 10

Grinding, Sanding Marks, Scratches ....................... 15

Pits ....................................................................... 2

Chips ................................................................... 3

Fractures ............................................................. 5

Cleanliness ......................................................... 5

++Polish/Finish ..................................................... 15

TOTAL POSSIBLE 100

++ Points for Polish/Finish will be awarded on Judge’s assessment of the overall quality of evenness of the gloss, satin or matt areas of the entry.

JUDGE COMMENTS

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JUDGE SIGNATURE DATE

***Third:***

**Submission to add additional wording – relating to how to measure Specified Size cuts**

**The following words are to be added: “as measured across the shortest axis of outline shape” after from Specified Size,**

**On Page 43 D.11.2:**

p. ***Specified Size:*** For every 0.1mm or part thereof away from Specified Size, **as measured across the shortest axis of outline shape**, 1 point will be deducted from the maximum for this feature. *However* a tolerance of up to and including 0.1mm above or below Specified Size, as measured by the Judge, will be allowed before any points deduction.

***Fourth:***

**Submission to changing the light recommendations for Judging**

**The following wording was agreed upon to be added add on page 8 B5.12 after energy saving**

**Halogen globe “or the equivalent 470 lumens – 3000 kelvin globe.**

**The following is how it should read:**

B5.12 Entries will be judged under the lighting conditions given with Section Definitions and Conditions. **Sections 1 - 28 to be judged under 40 Watt maximum incandescent lamp or 28W energy saving halogen globe or the equivalent 470 lumens – 3000 kelvins globe.**

* **The following change to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 3rd April 2021 at Hobart.**

**Submission to change the wording in Section 5C Cameo -** To avoid any future concerns and remove the ambiguity of the current rule, it is proposed that the wording in Section D8.5.1 be amended to add the following words after 100mm **“including base**”.

  The amended section should now read -

D8.5.1   ***SIZE:*** Minimum size of entries in Cameo competitions is 25mm on the *longest* dimension of outline shape. Maximum size is 100mm **including base**. **Note:** entries are eligible if they are up to and including 1mm *below* minimum size, or 2mm *above* maximum size. "

* **The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 16th April 2022 at Mudgee.**
* That the wording on both Section 11 – Fancy Cuts and Section 11 Fancy Cut Specified Size be changed to avoid confusion when calculating the score when features do not apply.

The changed wording is shown below.

***# In types of cuts where any of these features do not apply, the points shown for each inapplicable feature are to be subtracted from 100 (#Pre-Modified Total). The total points gained will be divided by the #Pre-Modified Total, then multiplied by 100 to give a percentage result (Total Possible).***

Both judging sheets have been altered to reflect this change and will be put on the AFLACA website to be used immediately.

* The second change relates to the enamelling sections. Sections 24, 26A and 26C. In all these sections - points are added to various other judging aspects which do not apply to the original concept. In any of the other judging categories – the rules are if you cannot see anything how can the judge take points off.
* Section 24 – Enamelled Jewellery – a change to the allocation of points when the enamelling is done directly onto the setting. Therefore, if the enamelling is done directly onto the setting – the competitor should receive full marks. On the existing sheet the points were added to Metalwork Workmanship.
* Section 26A – Enamelled Jewellery in Commercial Mount – A change to the allocation of points when the enamelling is done directly onto the Commercial mount. On the existing sheet the points were added to Faulty Mount.  (This change is being suggested in line with the others, but the chances of this ever happening are very rare – because the competitor cannot guarantee the metal is what it is stamped.)
* Section 26C – Enamelling Non-Jewellery – a change to the allocation of points if the backing is not visible. If the back of the piece is not visible and the front is not cracked the back of the piece has been enamelled correctly and the competitor should receive full marks. On the existing sheet the points were added to Degree of effort.

The judging sheets have been altered to reflect these changes and are on the AFLACA website to be used immediately.

* **The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 30th March 2024 at Willunga.**
* The addition of a new definition has been added - While it is known in the J & R Manual that coatings are not allow there is not a specific ruling hence that under definition the word Coating is now added
* D2.6 **Coatings** - must not be used in any way, this includes any lacquer, resins and any other coatings that are available. (page 19)
* **The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 19th April 2025 at Ballarat.**
* **Specified Size for Faceting. It was decided that for all specified size that the faceting diagrams must show where the size is to be measured (even have a fifth view if possible). This should be included in B9.10 page 11 and D11.2 p. page 43. – Effective Immediately**
* **3D printing -** That on Page 69 Group 21 – E8 the following changes are made: USING COMMERCAIL WAX MODELS, PATTERNS OR 3D PRINTERS. This is also to be added to Sections 21A, 21B, 21C, 21D, 21E, 21F, 21G. – Effective immediately
* Additional wording be added to the rule B9.6 page 11. -"The Competition Committee cannot take any responsibility for entries whilst in transit through Australia Post or other commercial carriers. However, the Competition Committee should take reasonable steps such as 'Signature Required' when posting entries to help avoid any possible loss of entries whilst in transit." Also additional words to be added - That committees do not show competition co-ordinator or GEMBOREE wording etc in schedule and on the return post to entrants that the address from be a person’s name only, not for example “GEMBOREE competition co-ordinator or words to that effect.
* **The following changes to the Manual were approved by the AFLACA J & R Delegates as the results of an email that was circulated on the 21st July 2025.**
* That the number of Tumbled Stones on the Judging Sheet on page 55 be reduced to a maximum of three or Four

**The consensus was that the number be reduced to three (3).**

This has now been adopted as from 17 August 2025.