



## 1 Purpose

- 1.1 The IAC Judges Program was established to ensure judges of IAC regional and national contests are knowledgeable of current IAC Official Contest Rules while performing the duties of judge at IAC-sanctioned contests.
- 1.2 The IAC Judges Program is divided into two key areas:
  - a) Judges Education
  - b) Judge Certification.

## 2 Judge Education

### 2.1 General

- 2.1.1 The IAC Judges Education Program was established to:
- 2.1.2 Ensure judges at IAC regional and national contests are knowledgeable of new and revised judging criteria.
- 2.1.3 Provide schools for judge training in accordance with the IAC Official Contest Rules.

### 2.2 Administration

- 2.2.1 The IAC Judges Education Program is administered by the IAC Judges Chair and Instructors.
- 2.2.2 The IAC Executive Director works closely with the Chair to implement administrative procedures necessary to manage the program.
- 2.2.3 The Judges Program Chair works closely with the Rules Committee to ensure understanding of new and revised judging criteria at IAC Judges Schools.

### 2.3 Policy

- 2.3.1 Details of Judges Program policies are listed in the Judges School Guidelines. These guidelines are reviewed and updated annually by the IAC Judges Program Chair.

### 2.4 Responsibilities

- 2.4.1 The Program Chair:
  - a) Develops and reviews the Judge School curriculum. Reviews curriculum annually according to all contest rules and policy and procedure changes approved by the IAC Board.
  - b) Selects and trains qualified individuals as Judges School Instructors.
  - c) Maintains a list of approved Judges School Instructors.
  - d) Develops and maintains guidelines and procedures for hosting a Judges School.
  - e) Prepares all required instructor materials and distributes copies to each approved Instructor.
  - f) Acts as contact for IAC Chapters considering hosting an IAC Judges School. Chapters must name one contact person to handle all arrangements. Coordinates and



approves school dates based on Instructor availability and schedule. Assigns or approves an instructor to each scheduled judges' school.

- g) Approximately two weeks prior to school dates, sends electronic copies of Judges School Guidelines and all necessary forms and paperwork to the Judges School host, who will reproduce the materials locally.
- h) Following Judges Schools, verifies the list of attendees on the IAC website.
- i) Verifies the automated updates to the IAC website's current Judges List.
- j) Works closely with the IAC Executive Director to monitor the overall results of the Judges School Program and submits an annual report to the IAC Board of Directors.

2.4.2 The IAC Executive Director is responsible for:

- a) submitting school information to the IAC website
- b) Sport Aerobatics magazine's monthly calendar.

### 3 Judge Certification

#### 3.1 General

3.1.1 The IAC Judge Certification Program is established to provide a steady influx of new Regional Judges and to upgrade those Judges to National Judges as their experience grows. The Judges Chair updates each IAC member's IAC record with their Judge certification.

#### 3.2 Administration

3.2.1 The IAC Judges Certification Program is administered by the Judges Program Chair. The IAC Executive Director works closely with the Chair to implement administrative procedures necessary to manage the program.

#### 3.3 Responsibilities

3.3.1 The Judges Program Chair is responsible for the following:

- a) Prepares the Regional Judge, National Judge, and Judge Revalidation and Currency online/written exams.
- b) Grades all written exams; providing a report of exam to each examinee; and maintaining a record of exam results in the IAC Judges database.
- c) Approves all applications for Regional and National Judge certification and communicating to each Judge applicant the status of their application.
- d) Verifies the IAC official records of judging activity for all IAC judges.
- e) Maintains the IAC Approved List of Judges on the IAC website.
- f) Participates in the selection of Judges for the U.S. National Aerobatic Championships in accordance with Section 501.4.

3.3.2 The IAC Executive Director is responsible for directing questions from the membership regarding Judge certification to the Judges Program Chair.

#### 3.4 Certification Levels



- 3.4.1 Two levels of Judge qualification will be supported:
  - a) Regional
  - b) National
- 3.4.2 Regional Judge certification will be the entry-level of qualification.
- 3.4.3 National Judge certification will require a higher level of practical experience and knowledge of rules and contest procedures.

## 4 Regional Judge Certification

### 4.1 Overview

- 4.1.1 New candidates for Regional Judge must complete a training program consisting of academic and practical elements as described below.
- 4.1.2 Written and oral exams complete the certification process.

### 4.2 Academic Training

- 4.2.1 Academic Training for Regional Judges consists of two training sessions:
  - a) Session 1 is titled, "Introduction to IAC and the Aresti Language" and covers basic contest administration and operation along with learning the Aresti symbolic language.
  - b) Session 2 is "Practical Aerobatic Judging" and covers the essence of judging including grading criteria and the rules and responsibilities essential to performing the tasks of a grading judge.
- 4.2.2 Classroom training is provided by IAC-Certified instructors hosted by local Chapters. A schedule of training locations and dates may be found on the Judges School Calendar of the IAC web site.
- 4.2.3 Both academic training sessions described above must be completed within the current or previous contest year. If a candidate completed the academic training prior to the previous contest year, then completion of either Session 2 or attending the "Advanced Aerobatic Judging" course within the current or previous contest year may be used to satisfy this requirement.
- 4.2.4 Following completion of both Sessions 1 and 2, the IAC Regional Judge Exam must be passed within the current or previous contest year with a minimum score of 80%.

### 4.3 Online Training

- 4.3.1 Session 1 may optionally be accomplished by completing the online "Introduction to IAC and the Aresti Language" course along with the associated Judge Knowledge quizzes available on the IAC web site.
- 4.3.2 Credit for completion of the online training will be acknowledged by an official IAC communication.



4.3.3 Proof of successfully completing the Session 1 online training must be provided when registering for Session 2 in the classroom.

#### 4.4 Practical Training

4.4.1 The new Regional Judge Candidate must perform the duties of Grading Judge Assistant (Recording does not suffice) for no less than 40 flights, of which 10 are Advanced or Unlimited category, within the current or previous contest year.

**Exception:** The requirement for at least 10 of the 40 flights to be in the Advanced or Unlimited category will be waived for a candidate who has competed in Advanced or Unlimited within the current or previous contest year.

4.4.2 At a chapter practice day, a contest practice day, or as a non-contest activity behind the Judges Line during contest flying, the prospective judge candidate must award grades for a minimum of 3 flights, each flight composed of a minimum of 9 figures, under the supervision and coaching of a current Judge. The supervising Judge shall report the satisfactory accomplishment of this instruction to IAC.

4.4.3 If more than three (3) supervised training flights are accomplished, each additional training flight will reduce the requirements for Assistant Judge experience specified in 4.4.1 by five (5).

**Example:** completing a total of 5 supervised training flights with a current judge/coach would reduce the minimum number of Assistant Judge flights required to 30, ten of which must be Advanced or Unlimited if the 'recent competitor' waiver of subparagraph (a) above does not apply.

#### 4.5 Practical Exam

4.5.1 Following successful completion of the above training requirements the candidate must request a current National Judge to select another current Judge to jointly administer an oral/written Practical Exam, to be accomplished in person at a time and place mutually agreeable between the candidate and examining Judges.

4.5.2 Prior to commencement of the Practical Exam, the candidate must present to the examining judges an official IAC communication from the Judges Program Chair stating that all prerequisites were successfully completed.

4.5.3 The examining Judges must use the Practical Exam to ensure the candidate will be able to perform the duties of a Regional Judge. As a minimum, this will be accomplished by reviewing with the candidate all questions marked with incorrect responses on the Regional Judge Exam, and testing the candidate's knowledge of the rules and practical ability to apply those rules and judging criteria within a competition situation.

4.5.4 Upon satisfactory completion of the Practical Exam, the examining Judges will submit, via email or the IAC web site, a report of the exam's result, including the date of the exam and the examining Judges' names and IAC numbers, to the IAC Judges Certification Chairman.

#### 4.6 Certification



- 4.6.1 When the training and exam requirements are met the candidate will be certified as a Regional judge and the IAC official records will be updated accordingly.
- 4.6.2 The newly certified Regional Judge will be added to the IAC Current Judges List upon completion of the current-year Revalidation and Currency (R&C) Exam. If the newly certified Judge completed the academic training sessions, Regional Judge Exam, and Practical Exam within the current contest year, the R&C Exam is not required.

## 5 National Judge Certification

### 5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 National Judges may judge at any IAC contest including the U.S. National Aerobatic Championship. They are distinguished from Regional Judges by obtaining an increased amount of academic training and practical experience.
- 5.1.2 Completing the 1 day, classroom-only “Advanced Aerobatic Judging” seminar, or alternatively, Session 2 of the “Introduction to Aerobatic Judging” course within the current or previous contest year.
- 5.1.3 Passing the current IAC National Judge Exam with a minimum score of 80% within the current or previous contest year.

### 5.2 Practical Experience

- 5.2.1 Performing as a Regional Judge in at least three (3) contests for no less than 80 flights, within the current or previous two contest years. Twenty-five (25) of the flights graded shall be Advanced or Unlimited.  
**Exception:** This requirement shall be waived if the Regional Judge has competed in the Unlimited or Advanced categories in the current or previous contest year. All of the requirements of this paragraph shall be waived if the Regional Judge has graded 250 flights or more since their certification, as reported by the IAC database.
- 5.2.2 Serving as the Assistant to a Chief Judge for a minimum of ten (10) flights, within the current or previous two contest years.

### 5.3 Practical Exam

- 5.3.1 Following successful completion of the requirements above, requesting a current National Judge to select another current National Judge to jointly administer an oral/written Practical Exam, to be accomplished in person at a time and place mutually agreeable between the candidate and examining Judges.
- 5.3.2 Prior to commencement of the Practical Exam, the candidate must present to the examining judges an official IAC communication from the Judges Program Chair stating that all prerequisites were successfully completed.
- 5.3.3 The examining Judges must use the Practical Exam to ensure the candidate will be able to perform the duties of a National Judge. As a minimum, this will be accomplished by reviewing with the candidate all questions marked with incorrect responses on the National Judge



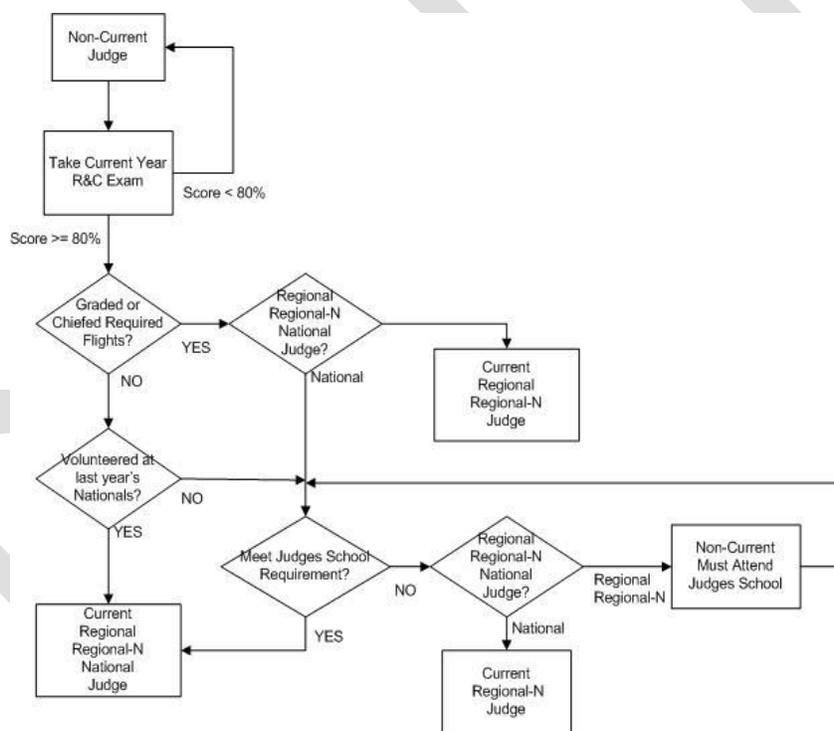
Exam, and testing the candidate's knowledge of the rules and practical ability to apply those rules and judging criteria within a competition situation.

- 5.3.4 Upon satisfactory completion of the Practical Exam, the examining Judges will submit, via email or the IAC web site, a report of the exam's result, including the date of the exam and the examining Judges' names and IAC numbers, to the IAC Judges Program Chair.

#### 5.4 Certification

- 5.4.1 National Judge Certification is completed once all above requirements are met.
- 5.4.2 The candidate will be certified as a National judge and the IAC official records will be updated accordingly.
- 5.4.3 A newly certified National Judge will be added to the IAC Current Judges List provided they have also completed the current-year Revalidation and Currency (R&C) Exam.

## 6 Judge Currency



#### 6.1 To retain currency each IAC Judge must:

- a) Pass the current year IAC Judge Revalidation & Currency Exam with a score of 80% or higher.
- b) Have either
  - i. served as a Grading or Chief Judge for either



- (i) Twenty-five (25) total flights within the previous calendar year in IAC sanctioned contests.
    - (ii) Twenty (20) total flights of which five (5) or more flights were Advanced or Unlimited Free Programs.
  - ii. Has attended a sanctioned Practical Aerobatic Judging seminar within the previous 2 calendar years for Regional Judges or previous 3 calendar years for National Judges. Note: The Practical Aerobatic Judging seminar is presented as day two (2) of the traditional 2-day Introduction to Aerobatic Judging school in addition to being presented as a stand-alone one day seminar.
  - iii. **Served** as a Chief or Grading Judge at the previous year's U.S. National Aerobatic Championships.
- 6.2 A National Judge becomes a Regional-N Judge if they have not either
- a) Attended a sanctioned Advanced Aerobatic Judging seminar or a Practical Aerobatic Judging seminar within the previous three (3) calendar years
  - b) **Served** as a Chief or Grading Judge at the previous year's U.S. National Aerobatic Championships
- 6.3 A Judge retains currency until the publication of the current year IAC *Revalidation and Currency (R&C) Exam*, as long as that judge's name was on the IAC website's Current Judges List as of December 31 of the previous year.