

Overview and FAQ of the Kingdom of Atenveldt 2009 A&S Competition

General Questions 1

What is the same and what is different vs. last year?

- There will be two primary sections of competition, the General and Champion Competitions.
 - General Competition
 - **Same:** Has the same Categories and Subcategories as last year.
 - **Same:** Has the same judging sheets and scoring system as last year.
 - **Same:** Is open to all entrants, and has both “Open” & “Novice” Divisions (the same as last year).
 - **Same:** Category winners are determined the same as last year, based solely on points.
 - **Same:** 1 to 8 maximum items can be entered, but only a maximum of 2 items may be entered by the same person in the same Category or Subcategory (again, the same as last year).
 - **Same:** Group entries are allowed, the same as last year.
 - **Same:** Documentation is required with a maximum of 10 WRITTEN pages, the same as last year.
 - **New:** Items entered as part of the Champion Competition (i.e., an entrant’s Championship Display) may NOT be included in the General Competition and cannot be category winners.
 - Champion Competition
 - Champion candidates must enter 5 different items covering at least 4 different main Categories (not Subcategories), same as last year (no group items or entries). A candidate may enter up to 3 other additional items in the General Competition, but these “extra” items may not be part of the Champion Competition.
 - These 5 items will make up a single display (the “Championship Display”), which will be presented (in person) to and evaluated by a Champion Selection Committee (CSC).
 - The CSC is made up of the Crowns, Heirs, current Champion, and the KMOAS, plus any other advisors desired by the Crown.
 - Each champion candidate will present to and discuss their display of 5 items with the CSC (performance entries will be presented at this time).
 - Each CSC member will complete an evaluation sheet covering the entire display and the candidate’s presentation.
 - Once all the presentations are complete, the evaluation sheets will be tabulated and the results discussed with the Crown prior to the interview with the Crown (with CSC in attendance), if this had not been conducted in conjunction with the Championship Display evaluation (Crown option).
 - The new Champion will be **selected by the Crown** based on the CSC evaluation sheets, feedback from the CSC and interview results.

General Questions 2

- **What is the difference between “Open” and “Novice” Divisions?**
 - Note that the Novice and Open Divisions are only used within the General Competition. The Champion Competition has no such Divisions.
 - The Novice Division is for those who have never entered in ANY kingdom level competition before; i.e., this is not based on the skill level of the entrant. An entrant who has never entered in a kingdom level competition before may enter in the Open Division.
- **May I enter an item I entered in a Baronial level A&S event in the past?**
 - Yes, you may. You can even take feedback from the judges from that local event and update your item and/or documentation prior to entering it into the Kingdom competition.
 - No item which has been entered into an official Atenveldt Kingdom A&S Competition may be entered again. You may enter the same type of item again, just not the same item.
- **Why was the Champion section separated from the General section?**
 - Some newer artisans had reported that they were nervous about entering into the Kingdom A&S Competition because they would be put up against those who were going for Champion.
 - Likewise, some Laurels have stated that they did not want to enter for Champion because it may reduce turnout from some artisans.
 - Since we want all levels of artisans to feel welcome to both enter and compete, it was decided to separate the sections. There is the Novice Division for 1st-time entrants, the Open Division for experienced entrants in the General Competition (but now without the Champion candidates' display items), and the separate Champion Competition for those who want to compete at the highest level.
 - In addition, we wanted to add new challenges to the Champion part of the competition in an effort to continue to improve and challenge our top artisans and give better exposure to the crowns.

Competition Judging Questions

- **How many judges will judge my items in the General Competition?**
 - There will be 3 judges per item. The same 3 judges will score all the items in a single Category or Subcategory.
- **Is the judging “blind”?**
 - In the General Competition, an entrant can chose to put their name onto their entry and/or documentation, or not.
 - In the Champion Competition, the judging is not blind.
- **How are the judges picked for the General Competition?**
 - Judges are picked by the KMOAS, and his/her team, prior to the event.
 - Judges are required to be certified.
 - If needed, emergency judges may be chosen from the populace in attendance who have experience in any Category where an extra judge is needed.
 - Judges may not be entrants in a Category they are judging, but may compete in other Categories.
 - Champion candidates (who are certified) can be judges in the General Competition, since their Championship Display items are not part of the General Competition.
 - Judges must give commentary on the judging sheets.

Documentation Questions

- **What should/must I cover in my documentation?**
 - Documentation MUST include:
 - Information showing the item is pre-17th century, and its use.
 - A general description of the entry covering:
 - Materials used
 - Methods and tools
 - A reference list and/or footnotes
 - Documentation is your “voice” to the judge telling them about your item.
 - Documentation should be made as easy to read and to find information as possible.
 - Try to cover the key questions of Who, When, Where, Why, What, & How.
 - If something about your item took a great deal of skill, precision, time, etc. to accomplish, make sure to point that out in your documentation ,as a judge may not be aware of that.
- **Can I put my name on my documentation and/or items?**
 - Yes, you may put your name on your items and/or documentation.
 - In the General Competition, you may also keep your entry “blind” (i.e., anonymous)—your choice.
- **How long can my documentation be?**
 - 10 pages of written text maximum (10 point font at the smallest).
 - Use of pictures can greatly aid your documentation and does NOT count as written text.
- **Can I have a friend write my documentation?**
 - No, you must author your own documentation; BUT, you can have your friend proofread it (strongly suggested).

Populace Choice

- **How is/are the winner(s) of Populace Choice chosen?**
 - The following Populace Choice awards are given at the Kingdom A&S Competition:
 - Populace Choice: Static Open
 - Populace Choice: Performance Open
 - Populace Choice: Static Novice
 - Populace Choice: Performance Novice
 - Populace Choice: Championship Entry
 - The winners of the above award categories are chosen by voting of the populace—the entry with the most votes in each genre wins.

Going for Champion?

- **What qualifications do I need to compete for Champion?**
 - You must send a letter of intent to the Crowns and KMOAS, 30 days before the Competition, stating the qualifications and goals of the entrant.
 - You must be a member of the SCA, and have lived in Atenveldt for at least 6 months before the competition.
 - You must specify 5 different items covering at least 4 different Categories (NOT Subcategories), and pre-register them 30 days before the event. See section IV of the rules for complete details.
 - You must be on site the day of the Competition.
 - You must fulfill the responsibilities of the Champion should you win (see section V of the rules).
- **What do I have to make and/or prepare to compete for Champion?**
 - A display made of 5 documented, different items, covering at least 4 different main Categories, which have not been entered in any Kingdom A&S Competition before.
 - Be prepared to present, review, and discuss your display and items in front of the CSC and members of the populace.
 - Be prepared to be interviewed by the Crown and explain your plans & goals should you win.
- **Does my display need to be a “themed” group of items?**
 - No, your display is not required to be based on a theme. It may also be easier to show a wide, well rounded, skill set by presenting unrelated entries. However, some candidates may find it easier to present a themed display to the CSC, rather than a group of unrelated items. This is a personal choice on the part of the candidate.

Going for Champion?

- **How much time will I have to present my display to the CSC?**
 - You will be given what the Crown deems sufficient time to present and discuss your Championship Display. Of course, this may in part depend upon the number of Champion candidates in the Competition, and upon the Crown's other obligations at the event. Attempt to be both thorough and brief (at the same time)...
- **Will the CSC review or score my documentation?**
 - Yes, and no. The CSC may well review your documentation; however, they will not score the documentation for each of your 5 entries. Your entire set of documentations contained in your Championship Display will be evaluated and scored as a set, and documentation may be brought up during the CSC evaluation.
- **What are the “key elements” the CSC is looking for in my display presentation / discussion?**
 - Just as in the General Competition, your Championship Display will be evaluated and graded based upon the same six criteria used in judging individual entries. However, there will be an additional criterion added to the Championship Display judging sheets reflecting facets of the candidate's ability to present and communicate about their entries.
- **How do the Crowns decide who will be the next A&S Champion?**
 - Each Crown is different and may focus on different parts of the competition; but generally, the Crowns want a Champion who is a skilled and knowledgeable artisan who can communicate well. They also are looking for someone who will be an “ambassador” and Kingdom representative to further expand and improve the Arts and Sciences during their time as A&S Champion.