

International Bulletin Contest (IBC)

General Guidelines

Purpose

The purpose of the International Bulletin Contest is to promote better communication within our Society. All chapters are encouraged to produce a bulletin; districts are encouraged to give recognition to their chapter editors.

Administration

An IBC chairman shall be appointed by the PROBE president not later than November 15 of the year preceding the contest. The PROBE VP-BE shall appoint a panel of six certified judges, two from each category. The IBC chairman shall provide each judge with a copy of these IBC general guidelines, along with necessary category score sheets and the bulletins to be judged.

Publicity

The VP-BE shall send a news release containing information about the IBC, including the chairman's name, address, and phone number, to the *PROBE* editor in time for publication in the fall issue. He shall also address a letter with this information to all district bulletin chairmen. A copy of this form shall accompany those letters.

Eligibility

Each district shall be eligible to submit as many entries, both ELECTRONIC and HARDCOPY as they wish. Each district bulletin chairman shall certify that each entrant has published at least six issues of a monthly bulletin during the contest (calendar) year, or six months of bulletins published on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. IF there is no district chairman, entrants may enter directly to the IBC Chair.

Submission of bulletins

For monthly bulletins, six copies of each of two consecutive issues published during the year are to be submitted. One copy of each issue must be an off-the-press copy (for L&R judges), but the other two may be photocopies. For weeklies, eight consecutive issues are required, the first four together, and the second four together. For biweeklies, four consecutive issues are required, the first two together, and the second two together. Bulletins and verifying materials must reach the IBC chairmen by April 1.

Judging

Each member of the double panel of judges shall judge one issue of the two submitted for each category. The IBC chairman shall determine which issue shall be judged by each judge. Scoring in the IBC will be done in three categories, as follows:

- Content, 800 points;
- Layout and Reproduction (L&R), 600 points;
- Grammar and Style (G&S), 600 points

--total 2,000 points.

Each issue is allocated one-half of the points: 400 for Content, 300 for L&R (D&G for ELECTRONIC bulletins), 300 for G&S.

The PROBE IBC Judging Panel is listed here.

Reporting the scores

Judges shall return all entries, completed judging forms, a scoring summary, and critiques (optional) to the IBC chairman by June 1. All mailings between judges and the IBC Chairman shall be at PROBE expense. The chairman shall tabulate scores from the judges' score sheets and shall determine the final ranking of all entries. In case of ties, the tie will be broken by the Content score. If a tie still exists, the Grammar & Style score will be used as the tie breaker.

Announcing the winners

Winners will be announced at the annual PROBE meeting at the international convention, and awards will be made to those present. Awards for those not present will be forwarded to the appropriate district representative for later presentation at a district function at which the winner can be properly recognized. The first place winner will receive a personal plaque and have his or her name added to the permanent (formerly called traveling) plaque which shall be on display in the Barbershoppers' Museum at the International Headquarters. Second and third place winners will receive a personal certificate only. Certificates of participation will be sent to the districts for presentation to all entrants. The IBC chairman will provide the scores to the *PROBE* editor after the International convention.

Returning the bulletins

Judged bulletins, with judges' critiques (optional) and score sheets, with a copy of the scores for the entire contest for each editor, shall be sent by the IBC chairman to the bulletin editors.

Winners' further eligibility

An IBC winner shall not again be eligible to participate in competition at the international level for two years. This in no way constitutes prohibition of his competing at the district level should the district hold a competition.

Critiques

Critiques by IBC judges are optional but highly suggested since district contests are not generally held.

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