

South Downs Woodturners - serving woodturning in Sussex Competitions - Guidelines for Judges

Objectives

In running competitions South Downs Woodturners aim to promote the hobby of woodturning and encourage members to enjoy their craft. We encourage members to improve the standard, variety and complexity of their work together with encouraging the inclusion of other materials and techniques. However, we recognise that some members wish to concentrate on one form of woodturning, and we want to respect that.

Judging

It is necessary to differentiate between different aspects of items for the purpose of selecting between them. In some cases you may need to be extremely particular to differentiate between similar items. This extreme scrutiny should not generally be included in feedback given to entrants. In arriving at decisions judges should consider woodturning in it's broadest context including embellishments and inclusion of other materials / techniques, and consider all design influences.

Please use the Guidelines to maintain consistency when considering:

Design and Innovation

has the item been designed, is it pleasing, and is there any innovation

Finish

has the wood been finished appropriately with tooling and/or sanding and has an appropriate finish been applied, is it to a good consistent standard

Turning skills

what level of complexity and turning ability was required, taking account of the group being judged i.e. Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced

awarding marks out of 10 for each, with a maximum of 30 marks overall.

Feedback to members

Judges will be required to provide feedback to individual members at their request. All entries should be given appropriate positive feedback, with suggestions regarding opportunities for improvement provided judiciously. Personal preferences should not generally be expressed. Judges comments should be consistent with their markings and be designed to encourage members to continue with their turning, and to progress within their level of ability, time and equipment available to them.

South Downs Woodturners - Competitions - Guidelines for Scoring

Score	Design and Innovation Design	Innovation	Finish Wood / Sanding	Applied Finish	Turning skills Complexity	Skills demonstrated
0	Not pleasing to the eye	A poor copy No innovation	No attempt to finish turn or sand	No finish applied (when one is required)	Very simplistic	Crude workmanship, little effort made
1						
2	No real attempt at design	No innovation shown	Crude attempts at finish turning and sanding	Inappropriate finish poorly applied	More than one distinct feature	Poor workmanship
3						
4	Clear attempts at design are evident	A good copy with some enhancements	Some tool marks and / or inconsistent sanding	Some inconsistencies in the applied finish	Several interesting features, well integrated	Reasonable workmanship
5						
6	Good design elements incorporated but not executed as well as possible	Some unique features and / or different materials and / or techniques	Good overall, minimal tool marks and fairly good, reasonably consistent sanding	Reasonably good overall finish but with some issues still evident on close inspection	Good level of features and detail and / or use of different materials, techniques etc.	Good level of skills demonstrated in producing the item
7						
8	Good design, however some small improvements potentially possible	Good attempts to innovate and / or combine materials and / or techniques	Some imperfections in the wood that could potentially have been rectified	Some imperfections in the finish that could potentially have been rectified	Series of complex features and / or construction method and/or materials etc.	Multiple complex techniques required, mostly achieved successfully
9						
10	There are no improvements that could realistically improve the design: Visually pleasing / very interesting	A very innovative design, or significant and worthwhile progression of an existing design	No obvious way to improve turned / sanded finish No evidence of tear out in difficult timbers	The best finish for the item Consistent all over, including in areas difficult to access	Exceptional complexity in the turning, construction and / or good use of different materials / embellishments	Exceptional technique - crisp transitions and smooth well matched curves, consistent wall thickness etc.

Note: Clearly true perfection is almost impossible to attain, therefore here we must consider the best that can practically be achieved.