

KU-RING-GAI ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

Benching Guidelines – Revised December 2014

1. Points toward the annual point score are allocated on the basis of 5 for first, 3 for second, 1 for third in each class at the monthly meetings. In addition to these place points, each plant will receive a point for being benched, up to a maximum of 5 points for each exhibitor in each class.
2. To be eligible for point scoring and judging, plants must be owned and grown by the exhibitor for at least 6 months. Growers are encouraged to bring any orchid in flower even if recently acquired. Those ineligible for judging should have “NOT FOR JUDGING” marked on the bench card; they will still receive a benching point subject to the exhibitor benching not more than 5 plants in that class.
3. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to bench plants in the correct class. If in doubt, the Benching Marshall shall be consulted for advice. The Benching Marshall or his assistants may move a plant incorrectly benched but they are not responsible to do so. Plants benched incorrectly will not be judged but will still receive a benching point.
4. Class 1 Specimen Orchids, Class 2 Miniature Orchids, and Class 33 Seedling are special classes in which any qualifying orchid may be benched, regardless of any other class for which it may qualify.
5. Excepting Classes 1, 2, 26, where a class states that it is mandatory for particular type of orchid to be benched there, the exhibitor must comply with the mandatory obligation. For example, all Native Australian species and hybrids must be benched in classes 3,4,5,6,7.
6. Where no mandatory rule applies and a plant may fit the description of two classes, the exhibitor may choose either class. For example, a Vandaceous species or hybrid may be benched in the Vandaceous Species and Hybrids class or in Miscellaneous (Species or Hybrid) – Asia classes as appropriate.
7. Man made line bred species are still species (e.g. *D. kingianum* x *D. kingianum*)
8. A novice grower ceases to be eligible to exhibit in a given novice class when he/she has won the annual point score first prize for that class, except at the discretion of the committee. A novice becomes an open class exhibitor when he/ she has won any 3 classes. A novice may exhibit plants in open classes at any time.
9. Judging at monthly meetings will use the Australian Orchid Council standards in all classes unless otherwise specified.
10. On the basis of:
(a) FLORIFEROUSNESS (*flowering to potential*) and
(b) QUALITY OF FLOWER,
Judges will choose 1 species plant and 1 hybrid plant each meeting from the open classes, and 1 species or hybrid plant from the novice classes as “Best of the Evening”

OPEN BENCHING CLASSES:

- 1 **SPECIMEN ORCHIDS**
Must have a minimum of 5 racemes. Judged on culture and flowering to potential.
- 2 **MINIATURE ORCHID (Species or Hybrid)**
Any orchid with flower width of 12 mm or less and raceme not to exceed 200 mm.
- ** **Classes 3 to 7 - Australian Orchids: It is mandatory that Australian Native Species and Hybrids are benched in these classes.**
- 3 **AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES**
All Australian native species except Terrestrials and Sarcanthinae. (See ** above)
- 4 **AUSTRALIAN SARCANTHINAE SPECIES**
Includes all Australian monopodial genera such as *Sarcochilus*, *Plectrohiza*, *Parasarcochilus* etc. Note: where also found in countries other than Australia, the grower must make sure the benched plant is in fact Australian. (See ** above)
- 5 **AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS (OTHER THAN SARCANTHINAE)**
Includes naturally occurring hybrids *D. x gracillimum*, *D. x delicatum* etc. All species in the parentage of any hybrid must be Australian Natives. (See ** above)
- 6 **AUSTRALIAN SARCANTHINAE HYBRIDS**
All species in the parentage of any hybrid in this class must be Australian Native Sarcanthinae Species. (See ** above)
- 7 **AUSTRALIAN NATIVE TERRESTRIALS - SPECIES AND HYBRIDS**
Species and hybrids of Australian terrestrial genera such as *Pterostylis*, *Cryptostylis*, *Diuris*, *Corybas*, *Acianthus*, etc. (See ** above).
- 8 **HYBRID LAELIINAE (CATELYA) ALLIANCE– STANDARD**
For *Cattleya* alliance hybrids with flowers 120mm diameter or larger.
- 9 **HYBRID LAELIINAE (CATELYA) ALLIANCE – INTERMEDIATE**
For *Cattleya* alliance hybrids with flowers over 70mm and under 120mm diameter.
- 10 **HYBRID LAELIINAE (CATELYA) ALLIANCE – MINIATURE**
For *Cattleya* alliance hybrids with flowers 70mm or less in diameter.
- 11 **HYBRID LAELIINAE (CATELYA) ALLIANCE – CLUSTER TYPE**
For *Cattleya* multi flowering alliance hybrids. All flower sizes but with a minimum of 5 flowers per raceme.
- 12 **PAPHIOPEDILUM SPECIES**
- 13 **PAPHIOPEDILUM HYBRIDS**
- 14 **ONCIDIINAE ALLIANCE HYBRIDS (Under 35mm)**
This class is for *Oncidiinae* Alliance Hybrids where the flower is less than 35mm across the natural position of the petals.
It is mandatory that all Oncidiinae Alliance Hybrids under 35mm be benched in this class.

- 15 ONCIDIINAE ALLIANCE HYBRIDS (35mm and under 60mm)**
This class is for Oncidiinae Alliance Hybrids where the flower is 35mm and under 60mm across the natural position of the petals. *It is mandatory that all Oncidiinae Alliance Hybrids 35mm and under 60mm be benched in this class.*
- 16 ONCIDIINAE ALLIANCE HYBRIDS (60mm and over)**
All Hybrids within the Oncidiinae Alliance Hybrids where the flower is 60mm and over across the natural position of the petals. *It is mandatory that all Oncidiinae Alliance Hybrids 60mm and over be benched in this class.*
- 17 ONCIDIINAE ALLIANCE SPECIES** (see benching card for list)
It is mandatory that all Oncidiinae species be benched in this class.
- 18 VANDACEOUS ALLIANCE SPECIES AND HYBRIDS**
All “**monopodial**” species and hybrids **may** be benched in this class but the class is intended for the showier exhibition types such as Vanda, Ascocentrum, Rhynchostylis, Aerides, Renanthera, and their hybrids. Vandaceous species and hybrids may alternately be benched in Misc. Species or Hybrids Asia and Other.
- 19 DENDROBIUM SPECIES**
It is mandatory that Dendrobium species other than Australian Natives, be benched in this class.
- 20 DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS.**
It is mandatory that Dendrobium hybrids other than Australian Native or Softcane be benched in this class.
- 21 SOFTCANE DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS – Applies only in Sept, Oct, and Nov.**
Restricted to, and **mandatory** for, **hybrids** of the Dendrobium nobile type.
- 22 LAELIINAE SPECIES** (See benching card list)
For species in the Laeliinae tribe of the Orchidaceae.
It is mandatory that Laeliinae species be benched in this class.
- 23 MISCELLANEOUS SPECIES – AMERICAS**
All American species other than those qualified for Class 17 Oncidiinae, 22 Laeliinae, or Class 30 Pleurothallidinae.
- 24 MISCELLANEOUS SPECIES –ASIA & OTHER**
All species other than those qualified for Classes : 3 to 7 (Australian), 12 (Paphiopedilum), 17 (Oncidium), 19 (Dendrobium), 22 (Laeliinae), 23 (American), 30 (Pleurothallidinae).
- 25 MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS – AMERICAS**
All hybrids of American genera other than those which have a mandatory specific class. (eg Laeliinae, Oncidiinae, Pleurothallidinae).
- 26 MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS – ASIA & OTHER**
All hybrids of **non** American genera, except those which have a specific class.

Note regarding classes 27, 28, 29 : - Cymbidium species may also exhibit in Miscellaneous Species Asia and Other (Class 24).

- 27 CYMBIDIUM – SPECIES AND HYBRIDS – STANDARD.**
With flower width greater than 90mm across the widest limits
- 28 CYMBIDIUM – SPECIES AND HYBRIDS –INTERMEDIATE.**
With a flower width 61 to 90 mm.
- 29 CYMBIDIUM – SPECIES AND HYBRIDS –MINIATURE.**
With a flower width less than 61 mm.
- 30 PLEUROTHALLIDINAE SPECIES**
Mandatory for species of Pleurothallid genera. eg Dracula, Dryadella, Masdevalia, Lpanthes, Pleurothallis, Restrepia, Stellis etc.
- 31 PLEUROTHALLIDINAE HYBRIDS**
Mandatory for hybrids of Pleurothallid genera. eg Dracula, Dryadella, Masdevalia, Pleurothallis, Restrepia, Stellis etc.
- 32 PHALAEOPSIS HYBRIDS – flowers less than 75mm across**
32 & 32A are mandatory for hybrids within the genera Phalaenopsis and Doritis, (*Phal. and Doritis species may be exhibited in either 18 Vandaceous, or 24 Species Asia and Other.*)
- 32A PHALAEOPSIS HYBRIDS – flowers 75mm or more across**
32 & 32A are mandatory for hybrids within the genera Phalaenopsis and Doritis, (*Phal. and Doritis species may be exhibited in either 18 Vandaceous, or 24 Species Asia and Other.*)
- 33 SEEDLING CLASS**
Seedling means the complete plant grown from seed and flowered for the first time, including species and hybrids. Plants that have been divided prior to being exhibited on the show bench are **NOT** eligible to be shown as seedlings. For exhibition purposes, seedlings shall retain their status as seedlings throughout the flowering season in which they first flowered. *Mericlones cannot be benched in this class.*

NOVICE BENCHING CLASSES (See Benchng Guideline 8)

Note: Exhibitors must be novice in the class in which the plant is exhibited.

- 34 NOVICE AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES and HYBRIDS**
Mandatory for all Australian native species and hybrids.
- 35 NOVICE LAELIINAE (CATTLEYA) ALLIANCE – SPECIES AND HYBRIDS**
Mandatory for all Cattleya alliance hybrids.
- 36 NOVICE CYMBIDIUM – includes standard, intermediate and miniature types.**
Mandatory for all Cymbidium hybrids. *Species Cymbidiums may also be entered in Class 37*
- 37 NOVICE Oncidiinae – All Oncidiinae Species and Hybrids are to be benched in this class and includes all intergenerics.**
- 38 NOVICE MISCELLANEOUS SPECIES – For all species other than those qualified for Classes 34 and 35.**
- 39 NOVICE MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS – For all hybrids other than those qualified for Classes 34, 35, and 36.**