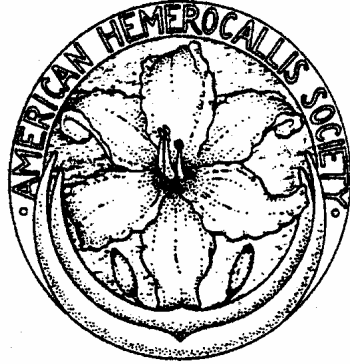


# Steps to Becoming a Garden Judge



Any member of the American Hemerocallis Society who meets the criteria, is interested, and is willing to maintain the etiquette and responsibilities required of Garden Judges is welcome to apply. The maximum number of garden judges for any AHS Region is 15% of the AHS membership in that Region. The following steps were updated in 2006.

## **Conditions For Initial Appointment As A Garden Judge**

- Training to become an accredited AHS Garden Judge may begin with either Workshop 1 or 2 after one year of AHS membership. Successful completion of both workshops is necessary.
- An application to be certified as a Garden Judge may be submitted any time after completing instruction and two consecutive years of AHS Membership.
- Applicants must be a paid-up AHS members as of January 1 annually.
- Applicants attest that they are regularly seeing large numbers of award-eligible daylilies and they are growing a representative collection of award-eligible daylilies.
- Applicants must have attended at least one of their own regional meetings or the AHS National Convention that included garden tours within the previous three years. If the judge's own region does not hold regional meetings during the bloom season, the judge may substitute an adjacent region's meetings.
- Applicants must own and become familiar with the contents of the latest update (2006) of the AHS *Judging Daylilies* handbook.
- Applicants should obtain an *Application for Appointment* form from the AHS Web site, the AHS Garden Judges Chairman, or the local Garden Judges Workshop Chairman.

- Applicants should send the completed application to the AHS Regional Vice President (RVP) no later than December 1 of the year all training requirements have been met.

If the applicant completes all requirements prior to the current year voting deadline (September 1<sup>st</sup>) and wishes to vote in the current year, the application must be submitted to the RVP with a copy to the AHS Garden Judges Chairman immediately. The Garden Judges Chairman will coordinate with the Awards and Honors Chairman to issue a ballot to the applicant prior to the September 1<sup>st</sup> voting deadline.

If it is determined that the qualifications are satisfactory, the RVP will review the application and forward it to the Garden Judges Chairman by December 1<sup>st</sup> for final approval. The appointment is made by the Garden Judges Chairman unless the applicant's region has reached its allotment for Garden Judges. If this is the case, the applicant will be placed on a waiting list until an opening occurs. At that time, the applicant may be asked for an updated application.

## **Reappointment**

Judges are required to apply for reappointment by December 1 of the year in which their five-year term ends. All judges whose terms are ending will receive an *Application for Reappointment* form from the AHS Garden Judges Chairman during the month of February of the year in which their five-year term ends. They must document on their application that they meet the criteria for reappointment.

To qualify for reappointment, Garden Judges must

- Document on the applications that they are regularly seeing large numbers of award-eligible daylilies and they are growing a representative sample of award-eligible daylilies.
- Have attended at least one of their own regional meetings that included garden tours in the last three years or a National Convention in the last five years. If the judge's own region does not hold regional meetings during the bloom season, the judge may substitute an adjacent region's meeting.
- Be paid-up members as of January 1 annually.
- Have voted their ballots on time each year.
- Be familiar with the contents of the latest update of *Judging Daylilies* as it relates to Garden Judges.
- Have attended and paid the appropriate fees for or instructed in at least one accredited Garden Judges Workshop 2 within the last three years of their term.

- Present with their application a log of garden visits made during their five-year term. This log must include at least twenty-five garden visits, with at least fifteen visits in the judge's own region, and the other ten from different gardens regardless of their locations. The log must include the name of the garden or garden owner, the city/state/country, and the year of the visit. A judge's own garden will not be counted. Specific numbers may be waived in regions where numbers of gardens or great distances make visitations infeasible.

Send the completed renewal application and five-year log to the Regional Vice President before December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## ***Responsibilities of Garden Judges***

### **Activities**

1. Renew annual membership in AHS before January 1 each year. Late payment causes a lapse of AHS membership and loss of garden judge status.
2. Vote every year and send in the Awards and Honors ballot before September 1. The ballot is for the bloom season of the current year, not the previous season. Don't mark it and return it before bloom season.
3. Take an active part in a local daylily club if there is one near you; attend regional meetings and the National Convention when possible.
4. Promote the public's appreciation of daylilies.
5. Refrain from criticizing the local organization, its members, or other judges.
6. Welcome AHS visitors to your garden during bloom season.
7. Know who serves as the AHS Awards and Honors Chairman, AHS Garden Judges Chairman, AHS Judges Education Chairman, and your Regional Garden Judges Liaison, and contact them with questions or suggestions for improving the system.

### **Gardening**

8. Maintain a personal collection of new cultivars of hybridizers from various geographical areas, particularly including cultivars from the immediate region.
9. Know and grow some outstanding examples of all *Hemerocallis* forms and types.
10. Rotate your collection to assure familiarity with current contenders for AHS awards.
11. Visit as many gardens as possible and talk to other daylily gardeners about their experience with daylilies, particularly those contending for awards.
12. Always arrange garden visits with your host in advance.
13. When you arrive at a garden, always let your host know you are there.
14. Take extreme care to prevent damage to daylilies during a garden visit.
15. Ask permission before stepping into a flower bed to take a picture.

16. Do not disturb pollen or any spent or new blooms.
17. Do not select anyone else's seedlings to be pre-registered, registered, or considered for awards. The hybridizer has to make his or her own selections.

### **Judging Daylilies**

18. Evaluate the merits of the complete plant in the garden.
19. Develop a consistent method that is focused exclusively on what is observable in each cultivar.