



WAWA Inc

Convenors' Forum, Saturday 27th April 2024

Held at: Mandurah Woodturning Group Clubroom

Commencing at 9:38 am

Chairperson Steve Horley Deputy Convener

Minutes

By Zoom Peter Compton, Dave McLachlan

1. Welcome and safety brief.
2. Attendees: Steve Horley, Ross Crawford, Neil George, Garry Taylor, Frank Dymond, Alan Kelly, David Milton, Ian Ludford, Age Bolton, Dennis Haddon and Malcolm Alcock. By Zoom Dave McLaughlin
3. Absences and Apologies. Barbara Jennings, Max Heath, Stuart North, Peter Compton
4. Actions from Previous Minutes. Nil
5. **General Business**
 - 5.1. **From Groups:**
 - 5.1.1. Groups who are holding a weekend workshop to put three or four lines of description about what each demonstration is about when putting agenda in Newsletter/webpage. Members are looking for more information about the demonstrations and if there was more then it may encourage more people to attend.
 - 5.1.2. Several agenda items related to the competition items and possible ambiguity of the way they are described in the Newsletter and webpage leading to possible issue in judging objectively. Ian Ludford and Davis Milton explained in detail how the items are described and how the judging process works, particularly with relation to difficulty and embellishing. This included why the sheet of terms and definitions has been included in the publication of competition items (Newsletter # 231 p19). The consensus of the meeting was that the groups need to be clearer on their expectations of submitted items by better description, photos if relevant, what are permitted or not permitted and judging criteria to be used. It was agreed the WAWA CoM secretary will circulate with the call for next year's items the current terms and definitions, and the judging criteria and schemes for groups to be guided by.
 - 5.1.3. Specific issues raised about difficulty and its relevance in judging was considered and the unanimous consensus was that the current balance of turning, finishing, originality-design-timber and difficulty is appropriate and correct in it use in the judging criteria. It is noted that generally the more experienced turners excel in this area compared to less experienced and thus score higher.

- 5.1.4. Issues relating to concern about plain and embellished turning competing in same competition is simply resolved by the application of General or Artistic scoring criteria being requested by nominating group of the item.

6. From WAWA CoM

6.1.1. Governance:

- 6.1.2. A proposal from a member to change the rules on Life Membership from a merit-based award to include a duration of membership criteria award after a period like 30 or 35 years was considered. The President gave summary of comments gained from discussions and submissions from existing Life members and others. CoM members expressed their views. The consensus of the CoM and the submission is “ **That there will be no changes to the Rules and criteria for awarding Life Membership to WAWA. It will remain a merit-based award. A recognition of length of membership will be made by the issuing of a member’s badge at the anniversary of milestone memberships at 25 years and each 5 years after that anniversary with the milestone years imprinted on badge.**” The forum ratified this position of CoM.

6.1.3. WeWs finance process

- 6.1.3.1. An outline of the various area WAWA treasurer will be integrating more digital related banking process to banking systems, WeWs financing and running and membership subscriptions and related matters. The use of tap and go at WeWs is becoming more desirable. WeWs will remain for groups to expense from their resources and claim back from WAWA.
- 6.1.3.2. It was recommended by Age Bolton **that the visitor fee be removed for attendance at a WeWs. This was agreed to by forum.**

6.1.4. Judging

- 6.1.4.1. There is a need to run a judges training course as we have several inquiries for this course. Potential candidates are requested to register on web form. Possible use David Rechter or Denis Tapley if Barbara is away. (Raised for information) Forum recommended that some additional training on embellishment is needed.
- 6.1.5. Com discussed selling arrangements and use of POS devices. It is clear various groups are now using this facility as cash is less prevalent in transactions. CoM members considered that a policy and set of guidelines need to be developed, based on groups who have this facility advice. (Conveners Forum)
- 6.1.6. Newsletter editor requests that groups try and improve write ups with more pictures and art work.
- 6.1.7. DBC discussions with government for noting only. “ The president has not received any response from Fran Stanley following earlier emails and has attempted to phone her on several occasions, left messages and again received no response. Ian Kealley has also been in email contact on other licencing issues and also requested an update on the Processing licences. Ian advised her that after April 15 all correspondence would be via the Minister. Ian reminded her that Processing licences also needed to be addressed.

It was proposed that the President be authorised to initiate correspondence with the Minister. **This was approved by CoM**

Due to President travelling schedule for next 2 months at the end of April it was proposed that Ian Kealley (who is now a member of WAWA) be authorised to speak on behalf of the Association on Processing Licence matters during the Presidents absence, on the proviso that the CoM, via the Secretary is kept apprised of all relevant correspondence and discussions.

Barbara indicated that we are after the Government to legislate or amend Act to allow craft woodworkers such as hobby Woodturners not to require to have a processing licence which the current Act requires.

This was approved by CoM

It was raised by the Secretary that we need to make sure there is some urgency applied to our actions on this matter to ensure action is taken before election process starts latter this year. We must be prepared to escalate this to political system outside the government by either or raising it

with opposition shadow minister, local members and or the press to exert pressure on current government. “

7. Other Business

- 7.1. Groups are reminded that they need to consider what items they would like to submit for next years competition. Formal submission will be called for in May and be accompanied by the information requested by forum which is the current Handbook guidelines on judging and scoring, terms, and definitions. Groups to consider these when submitting items and description with particular attention to judging classification ie General, Artistic or Measurement classification.
- 7.2. Ian Ludford ran through the membership Management system (MMS) being implemented by WAABLE and fielded questions from the meeting floor. Implementation will be in about August this year.
- 7.3. Next Meeting: **To be advised.**

APPENDIX

WAWA COMPETITIONS

General Provisions

The WAWA competitions cover a number of elements.

- (1) The first is the *monthly competition in 4 categories*: Beginner, Novice, Intermediate and Advanced. Certificates are presented for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in each category.
- (2) Next is the *Popular vote*, where Members present vote according to their own judgement. Certificates are presented for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.
- (3) Then there is the *Open competition* where the Novice, Intermediate and Advanced categories are made into one overall category and the judges of the day select 1st, 2nd and 3rd place getters. Beginners are not eligible for the Open award.

Note: Where competition items are considered too difficult for Beginners a modified item may be offered.

Rules and procedures for Weekend Workshop Competitions

1. The competitions will run from September to August. The September AGM will include the awards presentation.
2. Each Member may enter one item per competition in his/her respective category. Multiple objects (e.g. a pair) will constitute one item.
3. Any item being entered must not have been judged at any prior Association workshop. Items judged at Group level are deemed to be not previously judged and vice-versa.
4. All items will be made to the specifications for that particular competition. Any item not conforming will lose marks in the design criteria.

5. Any item entered must be that Member's own work.
6. All items must be entered by 9:00 am on the day of the workshop. Late entries will not be accepted.
7. Items to be judged will not have any person's name visible.
8. All items to be judged will be ticketed with the category and entry number e.g. N5, I3, A7 and displayed in their appropriate places.
9. The host Group will ensure there is a suitable area to display competition items with the appropriate category markers in place.
10. A minimum of two judges will be selected by the Competition Co-ordinator prior to the competition. The judges selected must not have an item in the competition of the day. They will judge the entries, allocate the place getters and be finished by 2:00pm. The judges' decision is final.
11. Points scored are 7 for 1st place, 5 for 2nd place, 3 for 3rd place and 2 for 4th place. In addition, each other competitor receives 1 point for entering the competition. First, second and third places in the Beginner, Novice, Intermediate and Advanced receive a cash prize and certificates.
12. The presentation of prizes will be conducted on the day of the workshop.
13. Members are eligible to join the Beginners category in their first year of turning. Previous turning experience prior to joining WAWA will be counted.
14. After the August competition members will be assessed with a view to promotions to the next higher category. Progression will be based on the average of the judges scores of the member's last 10 entries in the competition. Competition co-ordinators discretion may be needed where they had less than 10 entries in total to be averaged. Where the average exceeds the promotion thresholds the member will be promoted. For example:
 - Beginner to Novice – Average greater than 65
 - Novice to Intermediate – Average greater than 75
 - Intermediate to Advanced – Average greater than 80

These promotion thresholds will be reviewed annually, with thresholds published to coincide with the annual round of promotions after the August workshop. All promotions are subject to discretion by the Competition committee.
15. Any Member may self promote to any category, but may not demote, with the following exception: Members who have achieved the rank of Advanced but who feel that their skills may be dropping due to age and/or ill health may approach the Competition Co-ordinator and request a step back to Intermediate level. A review of their recent judged scores will be used to determine if this is appropriate.
16. The competition co-ordinator will be permitted to enter competitions.

AGM Awards:-

- **Accumulated Points.** Beginner, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Popular vote points accumulated during the year. 1st, 2nd and 3rd will all receive a trophy.
- **Keith Stout Memorial Trophy** is awarded for accumulated points in the Open category throughout the year. 1st receives the Perpetual Trophy plus a commemorative trophy to keep; 2nd and 3rd receive a small trophy.

Royal Show Competition:-

A Competition of Excellence is to be held at the annual Royal Show, or a similar alternative venue. The competition will be open to Novice, Intermediate and Advanced turners. There is no Beginners category as this is a showcase of Excellence.

There will be two classes in the competition:

1. Plain turning. This is any item which does not include off-lathe embellishing. For example, a bowl with the rim embellished with turned beads is acceptable but one with painting or carving is not.
2. Open Artistic. Any item which is not plain turning.

Members may enter one item into each class.

The **President's Trophy** is presented to the best turned item in the competition, plus a commemorative trophy to keep. The **Cyril Jones Trophy** is presented to the winner of the Popular vote for this competition, plus a commemorative trophy to keep.

Annual Competition Schedule

The Annual Competition cycle is a core element in WAWA's activities and is intended to showcase, recognise and reward high-quality turning while at the same time improving the quality and range of turning overall. The competition schedule is run in conjunction with WAWA's monthly workshop cycle hosted by its Groups.

The schedule of items selected for inclusion within the annual cycle is developed by Groups in discussion with the Competition Coordinator. All Groups are expected to contribute to this process.

Timeline for Developing the Annual Competition Schedule

	Deadline date	Event
1	April Workshop	Request for Groups to submit competition items
2	June Workshop	Circulation by Competition Committee of draft list to Groups for comment and/or modification
4	July Workshop	Groups' submission of modified lists to Competition Committee for finalising
5	August Workshop	Notification to members of the Competition Schedule for the coming year -- that is, for the next calendar year
6	September	Publication of the Competition Schedule in the WAWA Newsletter

WAWA Competition Guidelines

Types of Competition Items

Competition items are divided into four types, with different score weighting for the judging criteria. Most items would be in the 'general' group (for want of a better term). A few competitions would be 'Artistic' where creativity is given a higher weighting. 'Measurement' competitions are based on provided drawings where the accuracy of achieving these measurements is the priority. The Wood Show competition is 'Open' where again creativity is encouraged and scored the same as 'Artistic'.

Scoring

Points allocation for the judging criteria and competition types is as follows:

	Type of Competition Item		
	General	Artistic or Open	Measurement
Turning	30	25	25
Finishing	30	20	20
Originality/Design/ Timber	20	35	5
Difficulty	20	20	0
Measurements	0	0	50
Total	100	100	100

The following is a guide to judges in allocating points for a particular item in each criterion:

- Less than 50% Poor, not up to competition standard
- 50% - 65% Average, several noticeable defects
- 65% - 80% Good, several minor defects
- 80% - 95% Excellent, minor defects in one or two aspects of criteria
- More than 95% Near Perfect in all aspects of criteria

General considerations

- Scores are the average of the two judges. In the case of a dead heat or an obvious serious difference in marks, judges should compare notes, look at the item and where it varies in score, adjust the score if deemed appropriate.
- Judges should not enter that competition. However, judges will receive one 'participation' point for their individual accumulated points, and one point for their Group in the Group competition.
- Weekend Workshop Accumulated Points System

1st place	7
2nd place	5
3rd place	3
4th place	2
Participation	1

Guide to the Definitions of Turned Items

The Australian Woodturning Exhibition criteria listed below have been adopted for WAWA competitions:

- Bowl – the diameter is greater than the height, and the opening is more than 50% of the diameter.
- Vase – the height is greater than the maximum diameter.
- Platter – the height is a maximum of 10% of the diameter.
- Hollow vessel – maximum opening is less than 20% of the maximum diameter. If piece has been joined, the largest join will be considered to be the opening through which the piece has been hollowed.
- Natural edge – item with a naturally occurring edge (untooled and unsanded) on the majority of the rim of the piece.
- A lidded bowl would first satisfy the bowl criteria, but with a lid added. The lid would not be counted in the height.
- A lidded box could be any container with a lid

Criteria for Judges of WAWA Competitions

Turning

1. Tool Work: cleanness of cut, sharpness of corners, roundness of beads and coves, no visible tearout, continuity of line, and is change of continuity marked by a clear change in design?
2. The centre of bowls, platters, et cetera are to have no noticeable high or low points.
3. If items have joints, segmented, or laminated: are these well-hidden? If obvious, are they designed to be unobtrusive? Alternately, do they look clean, tightly finished with no excessive glue lines or gaps, and does the grain and/or colour line up to match?
4. If the embellishment is carved, is the carving well-defined, balanced, and attractive?
5. Is the method of chucking evident, and is the base well finished?
6. Is the wall thickness even throughout where relevant?
7. With lidded boxes, the disruption of the grain between the lid and the box should not be evident. Lids on boxes are to be neat and fit well.
8. Burl Turning: the surface is to be cleaned with no non-natural chips.

Finishing

1. If sanded, is the finish smooth throughout?
2. Are there any scratch marks that are evident and affect the appearance?
3. How well executed is the final finish? There should be no brush marks, or orange peel of spray work and an absence of dust and foreign particles attached during the application or drying stages. The finished item should feel smooth and show no sign of runs.
4. Where the item has been textured or embellished, is it finished to the necessary quality?
5. Does the finish that has been selected show the item to best effect

Originality, Ingenuity of Design, and Selection of Timbers

1. Is the design original, unusual, unique, or otherwise standing out as being different?
2. If the design pleasing to the eye, with curves and lines flowing and appropriate?
3. Is the item proportional in all aspects?
4. Regardless of the species of wood, is the quality of the wood acceptable?
5. To what extent has timber grain, knots and other natural timber patterns been used to contribute to the overall effect?
6. If embellished, is the embellishment integral and complementary to the design?
7. If the item is segmented, is the contrast between the different timbers pleasing and complementary to the design?
8. If it is a functional item, does the design fit the purpose?

Difficulty and Complexity

[This category is based on the experience of the judges where they consider the difficulty in handling, chucking, turning and finishing.]

1. Has the item been turned off centre?

2. Has the item been turned with multiple chucking variations – i.e. inside/outside turning?
3. Can the judge determine the difficulties and intricacies of the chucking or other methods of holding the item?
4. Is the item segmented or laminated, and to what degree of difficulty?
5. Does the item demonstrate a high degree of skill in its execution?

Measurement

To calculate the allocation of points for measurements:

Start with 50 points.

- Deduct 1 point for each measurement out by less than 0.5 mm
- Deduct 2 points for each measurement more than 0.5 mm but less than 1mm out
- Deduct 3 points for each measurement more than 1 mm but less than 1.5mm out
- Deduct 4 points for each measurement more than 1.5 mm out

Definition of Competition Item terms

Techniques:

- **Identical set:** Two or more items that must be identical in design and appearance.
- **Matched set:** Two or more items that must be readily identifiable as belonging together. May have different dimensions and/or different but themed embellishment. An example would be a salt and pepper set.
- **Miniature item/set:** Complete item/set must fit inside a 50 mm cube whilst in display mode.
- **Natural or Live Edge:** The edge has not been cut with tools. It may or may not have bark affixed.
- **Ornamental turned and decorated item:** Any hand woodturned item which has been decorated or embellished with repetitive patterns and shapes that have been created by mechanical cutting tools such as a rose engine or CNC lathe.
- **Spindle turned item:** Majority of components must be turned with the grain running parallel with the axis of the lathe and their length must be greater than their maximum diameter.
- **Wood art:** No restrictions other than it must be obvious that the lathe played a part in the making process and the exhibit contains some wood or wood products. May comprise any other materials, may be painted, carved, burned, or include any other design feature.

Items:

- **Box:** May or may not have a lid. The inside bottom of the box must be reachable with the fingers so that small items can be retrieved.
- **Bud vase:** A tall (≥ 150 mm), self-supporting, slender vase for holding a single stemmed flower, usually a rosebud. May or may not have a water-holding insert.
- **Bowl:** A vessel whose opening must be greater than 50% of diameter and overall height must be less than diameter.
- **Goblet:** A drinking vessel with a container, foot, and stem.
- **Grinder:** A machine for cutting or crushing a substance (e.g. coffee, salt, or pepper) into very small pieces.
- **Hollow form:** Must be hollowed through an opening which is less than 20% of the maximum diameter. If the piece has been joined the largest join will be considered to be the opening through which the piece has been hollowed.
- **Lidded Box:** Must have a lid. The inside bottom of the box must be reachable with the fingers so that small items can be retrieved.
- **Mantle clock:** A clock that has been designed to stand on a shelf, and not hang on a wall.
- **Pen or pencil:** Functional writing instrument assembled using timber.
- **Platter:** A plate. Height not more than 10% of maximum diameter.
- **Scoop:** a utensil used as a shovel or ladle,
 - esp. a small shovel with deep sides and a short handle, - used mainly for dry solids;
 - esp. a utensil with a long handle and round bowl - used mainly for dispensing liquids;
 - may or may not have a specified volume
- **Shallow bowl:** A bowl whose height should be between 20% - 30% of the diameter.
- **Supported Box:** The supporting element(s) (legs) must be inside the widest diameter of the box. The legs must not prevent the inside bottom of the box being reached with the fingers.
- **Suspended Box:** The suspending element(s) (legs) must be outside the widest diameter of the box. The legs must not prevent the inside bottom of the box being reached with the fingers.
- **Vase:** Height must be more than the maximum diameter.
- **Wand:** Min length 200 mm, max length 300 mm - max diameter 7.5% of length.