

## 2016 Notes on Organising the Allotment Competition

### Timetable:

1. Decision as to whether to hold the Competition is made at the **January ALM** (the Federation AGM is too late)
2. **Invitation for entries sent out in April** - I think that it is better sent out separately from the AGM papers
3. 1<sup>st</sup> Judging in late May, although we have often done it in early June – only individual entries are judged
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Judging in early September - judging of individual plots is concentrated on those with high marks at the first judging that are contenders of awards and the sites are judged
5. Award Ceremony – this has been held in late October but this year we are trying late September to get the results out much closer to the time of the final judging

Work of the Committee: this is basically set by the timetable

After January approval of the holding of the competition.

Find judges and, in consultation with them, decide dates of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> judging days.

2 days are timetabled but in the last 2 years only 1 days has been needed

Prepare invitation letter for associations to manage entries in April

Contact Town Hall to book the Assembly Room for the Award Ceremony

In consultation with the Federation Committee invite someone to present the awards

Book a bar company from the Town Hall's approved list to provide the bar at the

Award Ceremony

After the closing date for entries, which set approximately a month before the 1<sup>st</sup> judging date

Prepare timetable of visits to sites on the judging day

Notify associations that have entered of timings of the inspections asking for confirmation they can be there and who will show the judges round

Approximately a month before the 2<sup>nd</sup> judging

Notify associations that have entered of timings of the inspections asking for confirmation they can be there and who will show the judges round

After the 2<sup>nd</sup> judging

As close as possible to the 2<sup>nd</sup> judging hold a meeting of the committee and the judges to review the results and allocate the awards

Notify all participants by email, where possible. This requires 4 separate groups of communications: for individual entries that have and have not won awards and to associations that have and have not won awards.

Arrange collection of the cups and shields from the previous year's winners for engraving. In the past the Parks Department has taken and collected them from the engravers but we have to do it this year.

Before the Award Ceremony

Find a venue for the Awards Ceremony We have used WOCC over the past few years as good bus services and it has really good rates.

Organise with the Treasurer writing of the cheques

TTT 15.08.2016

## 2019 ALLOTMENT COMPETITION

Date

Dear Member

After a break of 3 years the Allotment competition is being run again in the Centenary Year of the Oxford and District Federation of Allotment Associations. The judges will be Mike Kent, who has judged on many occasions in the past years, and Tina Mould, who was Parks Operational Manager at the City Council.

The form of the Competition this year has been altered. To enter the competition your Association must first ask for entries from your members and decide on the best plots in each category. You must then enter the site and individual plots in 3 or more of the 5 categories. You may enter a second plot each category. The age categories are: over 75 years of age, 65-74 years, 35-64 years, and under 35 years. In addition there is a class for plots of less than 5 poles (127 m<sup>2</sup>) kept by a plotholder of any age.

All individual entrants compete for the Challenge Trophy for the best plot.

As in previous years the Judges will be looking for plots that grow a wide range of vegetables all year round, together with seasonal soft fruit. The emphasis is strongly on the quality of the crops and the overall productivity of the plot.

The prize for the Challenge Trophy will be £100.

For the 5 categories of plots there will be a winner and runner-up with prizes of £50 and £30 respectively.

Entries for the Alderman Knight award for the best kept allotment site are restricted to associations that are members of the Oxford and District Federation of Allotment Associations. The prizes for the best kept allotment site will be £300 and £100 for the runner-up. The sites will be judged in both June and September.

On the day of the first judging the site committee may recommend a new plot holder, who has started on the site in the last 2 years, to receive a certificate for special effort.

The timetable for the competition is:

Final date for entries to Tim Treacher (address below): Friday 17 May

First round of judging: Week beginning 17 June

Second round of judging: Week beginning 16 September

Presentation of the awards will take place at a celebration of the Centenary of ODFAA in October at a place to be confirmed later. All entrants and their partners will be invited.

Copies of the entry form, and the judging criteria and marking schemes for both plots and sites are attached to this email. The entry form can be returned by email.

Yours faithfully

ODFAA Competition Sub-committee

## ODFAA ALLOTMENTS COMPETITION

### Entry Form for Alderman Knight Award for the Best Kept Allotment Site

Name of Association: .....

Secretary: Name: .....

Address: .....

..... Post Code: .....

Telephone: ..... Mobile:.....

Email: .....

Person who will guide the judges:

..... Mobile Number: .....

The association must first ask for entries and decide themselves on the best plot in each category. Entries to at least 3 of the 5 following categories are required for entry in this Competition. Sites may enter all 5 categories. 2 best plots maximum for each

#### Under 35 years

Plotholder/s ..... Plot Number/s: .....

Address: .....

Postal Code: ..... Email address: .....

#### 35 – 59 years

Plotholder/s ..... Plot Number/s: .....

Address: .....

Postal Code: ..... Email address: .....

#### 60- 69

Plotholder/s ..... Plot Number/s: .....

Address: .....

Postal Code: ..... Email address: .....

#### 70+

Plotholder/s ..... Plot Number/s: .....

Address: .....

Postal Code: ..... Email address: .....

#### Plots less than 5 poles

Plotholder/s ..... Plot Number/s: .....

Address: .....

Postal Code: ..... Email address: .....

Please send the entry forms by Friday 6 May to:

**Presentation of Allotment Centenary Competition Awards  
7.00 pm Monday 28 October  
West Oxford Community Centre**

All entrants and new ploholders together with their partners are invited by the Oxford and District Federation of Allotment Associations and the Oxford City Council to the Presentation of Awards at 7.00 pm on Monday 28 October at West Oxford Community Centre. In addition a member of your Association Committee and their partner is invited.

The judges will make brief comments on this year's competition. Photographs of most the plots and sites that entered will be projected during the evening. The evening is a good opportunity to chat with allotment holders from other allotment associations, members of the Federation of Allotments Committee and OCC representatives. There will be a free drink at the beginning, vegetarian nibbles and a pay bar afterwards.

Please contact the members from your site that entered the Competition and your recommended new ploholders and issue this invitation asking for an RSVP. We will need numbers so let John Lardner know by 20 October of the total number coming from your site. John's contact details are John Lardner - [johnlardner@hotmail.com](mailto:johnlardner@hotmail.com)

A printed list of the results of the competition will be available at the end of the evening.

There were 55 entrants to the Competition, including new ploholders, and 36 of them will receive either an award, a highly commended certificate or a new plot holder's certificate.

Yours sincerely

Ian Sheppard and Tim Treacher  
ODFAA Competition Sub-committee