



SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

# Newsletter Competition Qualitative Judges

**DATE:** January 11, 2004  
**TO:** STC Newsletter Competition Judges  
**FROM:** Tom Barnett, Competition Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Judging Instructions and Deadline

Thank you for serving as a judge for the 2003–2004 STC Newsletter Competition!

This year, we received 42 entries, a bit below last year. We had a great response from you, former Newsletter Competition award winners. We've been able to keep the workload for all judges relatively low again, and also maintain a good pool of judging experience. This year we have judges from all parts of the U.S., seven from Canada, two from India, one from Belgium, and one from Israel. Thank you all for making the STC Newsletter Competition possible and successful!

## Web Site, E-mail Address, Phone Number, Mailing Address

- Scoring and commentary files, and copies of many of the enclosed documents, can be downloaded from <http://.stc-annex.com/Newsletters.htm> (click Judges).
- The official scoring files are available in Excel and commentary files are available in Word. Text and PDF versions are also on the sites. I can send you file attachments if necessary.
- **Online-based entries:** A convenient list of entries and links to their Web sites can be found on [www.stc-annex.com/Newsletters/Judges.htm](http://www.stc-annex.com/Newsletters/Judges.htm).
- When you complete your scoring and comments, please submit your scores and comments by **e-mail** if at all possible. Send them **to the STC office** at the address below with “Newsletter Competition” as the subject. If you have any questions, please contact me or the office.

### **Send Results to:**

**stc@stc.org**

USPS Mail or Express Delivery:  
901 North Stuart Street, Suite 904  
Arlington, VA 22203

### **Questions**

Office: [stc@stc.org](mailto:stc@stc.org), 703-522-4114  
Competition mgr: [tpbarnet@srpnet.com](mailto:tpbarnet@srpnet.com)  
602-236-6914 (w), 480-539-9522 (h)

- Please include the chapter or SIG entrant name and your name on all evaluations.
- Please retain a copy of the scores for reference and backup.
- Do *not* return the newsletters you judge.

## Arrival Deadline for Receipt of Scores and Commentary: March 15

This is the **arrival** deadline. Please plan your judging schedule so that you can send your results in time for them to arrive **by** March 15. If problems arise, please notify me as early as possible.

**Scores** are more important to have finished by this date than comments.

## Judging Teams

You will find in your packet a sheet with your judging team information. The first person on the list of that team can be considered the team leader who is responsible for the team's communication of scores among the team members. We do *not* want to implement consensus judging like the STC professional competitions use. However, we would like you to communicate with your teammates to identify highly skewed scores with respect to those of the other judges on your team. Participation is optional, but we encourage you to do so. Do not change your scores unless there are significant differences among you and your judging team, and the discussion convinces you that your scores should be adjusted. All judges report their own results.

## Some Comments about Your Feedback Comments

Good commentary is extremely important to the newsletter editors and they value your feedback, especially suggestions on how they can improve their newsletters. Please praise achievements and identify areas that lowered an entrant's score. Your positive comments make up the pages of the Annual Conference and traveling exhibits. The **combined commentary** from the 2001-2002 competition is available from the Web site.

## References for Qualitative Judges

(Some documents may be only available from the Web.) Please take a moment to review the enclosed or referenced judging materials:

- ***Rules for the STC Newsletter Competition (AD-39-03, without enclosures).***
- ***Guidelines for the Use of the STC Logo and Logotype (AD-13-03).*** This is a reference document from the STC office that provides rules for the proper use of the STC logo.
- **Judging teams and contact information.** (See Judging Teams paragraph above).
- **Calendar.** This identifies the timeline for judging the newsletters.
- **Suggestion form.** To make the STC Newsletter Competition the best it can be, to make the evaluation of the newsletters as complete and accurate as possible, and to make the judging experience as enjoyable as possible, we appreciate your feedback. This sheet is a handy reminder and place to jot suggestions down as they come to mind. Comments on all aspects of the competition, including the Web site, are welcome. Suggestions can be sent by e-mail or U.S. mail.

### In a separate folder:

- **Sample judging forms for qualitative judges.** Judging forms for Category C. Editorial Quality and Category D. Design and Delivery are provided for each newsletter you will evaluate (may be on the Web).
- **File folders containing newsletter entries.** Each of the enclosed file folders contains three consecutive newsletter issues (or entry forms with URLs for the online and PDF as paper entries) submitted by an STC chapter or special interest group (SIG).

## Final Note

Thanks so very much for your dedication to the STC Newsletter Competition!