



Dear NTC-Participant

Regarding: EBA Convention 2024 Reus (Spain), New Talent Contest (NTC)

On behalf of the EBA Board and the ABE AEB, the organizers of the EBA Convention 2024, welcome you as participant in the EBA-NTC. We thank you for your willingness to show your talent in creating bonsai at the EBA Convention 2024 in Reus.

Below you will find some information about the organization and the course of the NTC.

Important notes for the participants at the EBA New Talent Contest.

1. Introduce yourself at the ticket sales office and information-desk of ABE AEB. You will receive your ticket(s) for the convention and the evening event. You get your tickets for free but you have to pay for additional tickets you need.
2. Using your tickets you have free access to the bonsai exhibition and all demonstrations during the weekend.
3. The EBA New Talent Contest on Saturday starts at 10:00 and takes till 14:00. Please be there in time. The NTC participants, judges and others who are in charge with the NTC should be there no later than 9:30, possibly earlier.
4. The trees for the contest will be provided by the organizers.
5. You have to bring your own tools and wire! If you want to cover the soil with moss at the end of the contest you have to bring your own moss.
6. Special rules of conduct apply during the competition. (See below)
7. After the contest : The trees are presented on tables in the room and will be evaluated by the judges.
8. After the contest and the evaluation: all the trees are moved to a presentation table. A paper with the name of your country will be fixed to the pot of the tree. Make sure that you personally control if the correct paper is fixed to the correct tree. After the contest and the presentation of the trees you can buy your tree at the organizer's cost

price. However, the tree can only be taken away on Sunday, November 24th.

9. You are invited at the Evening Event on Saturday evening, but you have to pay on site for additional Evening Event Tickets you need. These tickets had to be ordered in advance.

EBA NTC Rules and Evaluation / 2024 EBA Convention Reus, Spain

NTC History

The EBA New Talents Contest© was organised for the first time at the 1995 EBA Convention in Monaco.

Through the NTC, EBA tried to offer to young (or rather, new) bonsai enthusiasts the opportunity to show their talents to the general public and as such, stimulate bonsai as a hobby in its member countries.

In order to give the opportunity to all EBA associations on an equal basis, it created the NTC where each country was invited to select their national candidate for the European heat. To that effect, the EBA Members organised a national selection and as such, gave a boost to bonsai activities in all Clubs throughout the continent.

The first editions were purely set up by the Convention organisers and they immediately attracted the attention of all Convention attendees and, in some cases, the specialized bonsai press. A lot of NTC Winners have later established themselves as great bonsai artists.

Subsequently, the EBA Board streamlined the NTC, created appropriate rules and decided together with the AGM that the NTC has to be an activity as part of each future annual Convention programme.

The NTC Contest

The contest will be administered by a committee. It will consist of 3 members, two EBA Board members and one member from the host country.

All countries with a candidate competing in the New Talent Contest should nominate a judge. The person so nominated should have a good knowledge of the Art of Bonsai. The name of the person selected must be sent to EBA Secretary before the coming EBA Convention.

1-The trees prepared for the NTC by the organizers will be freely accessible for public view. The judges will be allowed to look at them before the start of the contest. They are also allowed to dismiss some plants because of a low quality. The organizers have to take care for a sufficient number of trees of good

quality. The size of the trees should be consistent with the duration of the contest (four hours).

The draw allocating trees to the contestants will take place at the beginning carried out by a member of the NTC sub-committee. All trees will be marked by a consecutive number on a label fixed to the pot. No name of a participant or the member country may be displayed on the label permanently attached to the pot. Judges will be allowed to view the allocation of trees and the work of the candidates during the whole contest.

2-At the beginning before working on the trees the participants will be advised in the special rules during the contest by the responsible EBA representative Pierre Bedes (1. EBA-Vice President).

3-The NTC will be open for the public and will take four hours. Visitors are not allowed to take photographs within the working area because of any possible disturbance of the work of the candidates during the contest. Bona-fida photographers from Bonsai Magazines or from the organizers will be permitted to take photographs during the competition and of the trees after judging.

4-Any contact with the public and using mobile phone is strictly forbidden during the NTC. If a participant needs anything he has to ask the present EBA supervisor. A participant could be dismissed in any case of contact with the public or phoning!

5-At the end of the contest everybody has to leave the location with the exception of the sub-committee. The numbers on the pots are exchanged for new numbers from a table drawn up by the committee. Afterwards the judges will begin their evaluation work. Judging will take place with only the judges and sub-committee members present.

6- Judging: Judges have to consider the following points.

- a. Architecture: Idea – originality.
- b. Art: Use of bonsai art, common design, balance etc.,
- c. Techniques: Wiring, techniques used, shari, jin, (if used) branch shaping.
- d. Botany: Perspective, vitality, future of finished tree.
- e. Overall impression: View, aesthetics position, presentation, cleanliness.
- f. The judges have to use the EBA score sheet for their evaluation.

7- To determine the first three winners each judge has to select the first 5 trees in order of merit, 1st, 2nd, 3rd , 4th and 5th. On completing their evaluation judges will set the result by place.

8- Judges are not allowed to evaluate the tree of the NTC participant coming from his own country!!!!!!!

9- Judges have to hand over the results to the responsible EBA- representative for the NTC. He will specify the ranking of the participants. The winner is determined by the lowest score. 2nd and 3rd follow behind. All other

participants are going to be the fourth winners. After judging is complete the trees will be given their original number.

10-The results will be announced at the Evening Event of the EBA Convention by the EBA representatives and the organizers. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd will receive a cash prize and a certificate. All other participants will receive a certificate as the fourth winner. The organizers will also give a small commemorative gift to all participants. There will be no specific publication of the individual score. The first three winners of the NTC will be published on the EBA Website.

If there are further questions about your participation in the contest and the Information above please contact the EBA Secretary as soon as possible.
(detlef.mostler@aon.at)

Best regards

Detlef Mostler (EBA Secretary)

Klagenfurt November 2024