

# NBS 2022 JUDGING VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

The National Button Society values and appreciates those members who volunteer their time and expertise in the judging room during our annual show. There are a few different ways in which volunteers can assist in the showroom.

## Judges

- These are the people who bring to the table years of experience handling different types of buttons. That experience can be over a broad range of topics or within a narrow range of categories, such as glass or military.
- Qualification for serving as an NBS judge includes judging experience at the national, regional or state level. It is common for judges of varying experience levels to be paired together, which allows for better education across our judging pool.
- A good working knowledge of the Blue Book and adherence to its guidelines is expected.
- There are tools available in the showroom to assist you during the process. This includes a library of button-related publications and the combined experience of all other judges within the room.
- The ability to work on a team and maintain consistency as you assign points across trays is a must.

## Clerks

- These are the people who carefully read off criteria to the judges and record information on our judging sheets, tray slips, and control cards.
- No experience is necessary, but attention to detail is a plus, and ability to perform simple math calculations accurately is expected.
- Clerks are to remain quiet while judges are communicating. Any questions not related to your data entry should be posed after tray judging is complete, unless the judges specifically let you know otherwise or ask you a direct question.

## Runners

- These are the people who do all of the moving: bringing trays to judging tables as directed, moving them to the spotting area after judging, etc.
- Runners watch for hands to be raised and then go to respond to the needs or questions of the judging teams, conveying that information back to the head judging table.
- Requirements are physical mobility, the ability to follow directions, and limited talking during judging.

## How do I volunteer?

- Judges, clerks and runners are required to attend an hour-long judging meeting at 4:30 p.m. on the Monday evening of the convention. During it, you will fill out a sheet based on your job preference, along with your level of experience and areas of expertise. The lead judging staff will create teams from these sheets Monday night, and your assignment and table number will be posted outside the judging room prior to opening Tuesday.
- Availability for both days is ideal, but if you are only able to assist for one day then we can work with that.

**NOTE:** We may occasionally have more clerks than needed, or an odd number of judges. So, while we will make every attempt to utilize our volunteers, there will be times when we do not have a spot available. We may also ask a judge to clerk, if needed, or we may have one clerk for a morning shift and another for the afternoon. Your ability to be flexible as needed is very much appreciated!

For any questions related to judging contact NBS Chair of Judges Barbara Weeks at  
JudgesChair@nationalbuttonsociety.org