A Self-assessment Guide to the Core Competencies for Student and Associate Judges

Functional Competencies	**6mos**	**1Yr**	**2Yr**	**3Yr**	**4Yr**	**5Yr**	**6Yr**
Center Operations							
Registration of plants	X						
Selecting a plant for presentation to a team	X						
Presenting a plant to a team		X					
Representing team in award discussion		X					
Knowledge of Genera							
Recognition of the 9 alliances found on the score sheet (Cattleya, Cym, Paph, Den, Milt, Odont, Phal, Vanda, Pleurothallid)							X
Recognition of minor but common genera for the General Scale (e.g. 0nc, Ctstm, Bulb, Phrag, Enc, E)							(on going)
Recognition of uncommon genera							X
Recognition of Cattleya species							Proficient
Purpose of organized hybridization			X				
Awareness of breeding lines				X			
Focus on a particular minor genus for a program						X	Proficient
Understanding of plant genetics (ploidy, albinism and mutation)							X
Description Writing							
Purpose and importance of OPro	X						
Proper measuring techniques		X					
Basic terminology (flower parts)		X					
Advanced terminology				X			Proficient
Research and Award Scales							
Basic			X				
Merit				X			
Horticultural				X			
Understanding of Award Classes					X		
Understanding of judging criteria and point scales							Proficient
Understanding of 'Special Annual Awards'							X
Understanding of bias control							X
Ability to state and support opinion							X
Resources (Handbook, OPro, RHS, POWO)							X

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Variations on Plant Assessment Teams							
Nomination procedure		X					
Basic team requirements		X					
What constitutes a proper team			X				
Educational Presentations							
Basic presentation		X	X	X	X	X	X
Advanced presentation							X
Show Operations							
Exhibit judging			X	Proficient			
Ribbon judging				Proficient			
Registration				Proficient			
Class folders							Proficient
Day-of operations							Proficient
Lead ribbon team (including clerk management)			X				Proficient
Captain AOS judging team				X			
Chair of show judging							Proficient
General conduct							
Professionalism							
Integrity							
Ethics							

It is difficult to give a timeline for students and associates as to when they should be able to demonstrate understanding and proficiency regarding psycho-social competencies. There are little lessons in these characteristics of demeanor at nearly every center judging and show. There are occasional open discussions of these facets of judging as well.