



United States Faceters Guild

2016 Single Stone Competition

Please include a signed copy of this form with your stone, entry fee, and return packaging. You are **required** to provide return postage and a 6" x 9" bubble padded envelope or box for stone return.

Please use a 1-1/8" clear stone cup for your stone. Entry deadline is June 20, 2016.

Entries may be mailed to: Stone Handler, John Lichtenberger, 6625 Skyline Dr, Ashland, KY 41102 USA

Name:	
Address:	
City/zip (country)	
Phone:	
Email:	

The most common questions about the USFG Single Stone Competition:

1. This is a closed competition; cutters **must** be current members of the USFG. For non-members or former members, membership application/fees/renewals may be submitted with the cutter's entry.
2. This is a single stone event; **one cutter, one class, one stone**. Cutters may not enter multiple stones and/or classes.
3. Cutters **may not** enter stones in classes below prior certifications levels.
4. If you have qualified for the IFC, you are considered a certified Master by the USFG, and **must** compete in the Grand Master Class. You **may not** compete in a lower class.
5. If you are certified in the Grand Master Class, you **must** continue to compete in the Grand Master class.

Entry Class (circle one)	Novice	PreMaster	Master	Grand Master
Entry Fee (US funds)	**FREE**	**FREE**	\$25	\$25
Stone Data	Stone Size, mm		Stone Color	
	Stone Species		Stone Weight	
Faceting Machine used?				
What is your USFG Certification Level? _____		Have you ever participated in the Australian IFC? _____		

Note: All cutters will be entitled to receive awards and/or certification for qualifying scores. See SSC Rules for complete detail. <http://www.usfacetersguild.org/docs/CurrentSSCRules.pdf>

*Signature / Date	
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*Your signature indicates you accept the Rules & Conditions of USFG competition, and that you hold harmless the USFG, Judges, and Staff from any liability due to the loss or damage to your stone.

Complete USFG Single Stone Competition rules may be found at
<http://www.usfacetersguild.org/docs/CurrentSSCRules.pdf>

See Back of Form for More Detail

To participate in the Annual USFG Single Stone Competition, you must be a member. If you are a non-member, you can send a complete membership application with payment of dues with your stone, mailed to the Stone Handler. Your stone must be placed in a 1-1/8" diameter round plastic gemstone container. Mail this stone container, entry fee, signed entry form, additional 6" x 9" bubble protected envelope with your return address, return postage and/or insurance for the return of the stone and scoring material by the Stone Handler, is required. If a stone is determined to be pre-judged or faceted by another cutter, the USFG Board may at any time declare the stone disqualified and remove award/certification.

When a Judge receives your stone, it is assumed to be perfect and starts with a score of 100 points.

The Judge will view each facet on your stone to determine any errors which will subtract points from your beginning score of 100. The Judges use an Official Score Sheet to record each anonymous stone. This score sheet has 11 areas of importance to be reviewed and scored.

The first 7 areas of importance deal with judging the quality of facets and polish. Areas 1 through 7 are scored at .25, .50, or 1 full point depending on the level of severity of error for each facet. The method of evaluation assigns .25 (1/4) point if Barely Visible with 10X, .50 (1/2) point if Easily Visible with 10X, and 1 full point if Way Out with the use of a 10X loupe or if visible using the naked eye: 1. Scratch or inclusion that comes to surface; 2. Pitting or inclusions that surface and/or foreign matter on surface that will not wipe off (wax, epoxy, etc.); 3. Grooved facets or herringbone effect in quartz; 4. Flat facet and sharp edges; 5. Facet uniformity; 6. Meetpoints at 4 or more facets (meet points with less than 4 facets are not scored); 7. Chips on edges (line between facets).

The next 4 areas of importance deal with judging how well a cutter has recreated the design shape and measurements as listed on the diagram. Areas 8 through 11 are scored with a 3 point "OUT" error per stone for each area of importance: 8. Girdle uniformity (each girdle facet is the same shape, and has the correct girdle thickness); 9. Stone is "OUT" if not within design length-to-width (L/W) ratio limits; 10. Stone width is "OUT" if not within width limits; 11. Stone is "OUT" if not within girdle thickness limits.

Each annual USFG Single Stone Competition will have a separate design for each of the 4 classes of skill level: Novice; Pre-Master; Master; and Grand Master. Each design will have a specification sheet that includes the 4-view plan, cutting instructions, material type, and dimension limits. The annual USFG Single Stone Competition offers awards and certification for certain scores in each of the 4 skill level classes. Below outlines the minimum required scores to be eligible for certification, awards, and moving up to the next class.

<u>Minimum Score</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Move to next Class</u>	<u>Perfect Score</u>
Novice Class	85.0000	90.0000	90.0000	100
Pre-Master Class	90.0000	93.0000	93.0000	100
Master Class	93.0000	95.0000	95.0000	100
Grand Master Class	95.0000	98.0000	Remain in Class	100

The USFG Board and Competition Committee will determine new designs each year. In 2015 the SSC Rules were changed slightly, so you may want to review them on the website. www.usfacetersguild.org

In the USFG Single Stone Competition the Stone Handler will code each stone before it is sent to the appropriate judge. The judge will score your stone using your special code and return to the Stone Handler. The Stone Handler will apply the score to each stone, recording the cutter's name, score, city, and state/country. This information will be provided to the USFG Board and then published to website, newsletter, etc. The Stone Handler may take pictures of the winning stones; these pictures will become the property of USFG, and may be used in publications. Once approved by the USFG Board, the certificates and awards will be produced and mailed to those eligible cutters. A cutter's stone may be disqualified by the Board if it does not qualify under the Rules. A disqualification or a score can be protested with a letter or email to the USFG Board or the Stone Handler, as explained in the official rules.