

Requirements for Honorary Senior Judges

1. The title of Honorary Judge is changed to Honorary Senior Judge

2. **Who may be moved to the Honorary status.** To be considered for Honorary Senior Judge the individual must maintain continuous membership in a local dahlia society and the American Dahlia Society. This position should be used only for a Senior Judge who has served many years but, for reasons as determined by the Club/Conference Evaluation Chair, is no longer fully able to fulfill the requirements for maintaining their judging status.

3. **What may the Honorary Senior Judge participate in.** They may continue to serve by judging occasionally at local dahlia shows or contributing other valuable assistance, but may not participate in the judging of seedlings at a trial garden or the seedling bench. They should not be used as team leaders except when a Senior or Accredited Judge is not available. Judges for the Head Table or Court of Honor should be the most knowledgeable and up to date on current information released through annual judges training and judging at local shows.

4. **How can an Honorary Senior Judge return to a fully recognized Senior Judge status?** For an individual to return to Senior Judging status within three years after becoming an Honorary Senior Judge;

a. Be listed as an Accredited Judge in the club's judging record for the first year after the request (transitional year).

b. During the year they are listed as an Accredited Judge, they must fulfill all requirements listed to maintain status for a Senior Judge.

c. Attend a judging class which is being presented by a local club/conference.

d. Show and judge in two (2) ADS sanctioned shows.

e. Judge four (4) seedlings at an ADS trial garden or on the seedling bench supervised by a Senior Judge. If a trial garden or a seedling bench is not within a reasonable distance, the applicant may perform the seedling judging at a local garden, where seedlings are grown as described in the policy manual.

5. When all above items are completed, the applicant may retake the senior test. The method the test is given will be determined by the local club/conference Judging Chair. If the individual has completed all requirements during the transitional year, the Accreditation Chair for the club/conference may then list the individual as returning to Senior status.

If the individual does not complete the requirements during the transitional year, the Accreditation Chair will notify the individual in writing their request for returning to Senior status is not approved.

If the individual was listed as an Honorary Judge for longer than three years, they must re-enter the judging program as an Accredited Judge and complete all required training the same as a new Accredited Judge to advance to Senior Judge.