

**EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES  
BULLETIN EDITORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**The following pages contain guidelines and information for**

**The 2021 Bulletin Editors' Competition**

**On the following pages you will find the forms and rules for the 2021 Bulletin  
Editors' Contest (all 2020 bulletins)**

**Please read the attached rules, guidelines and checklist carefully.  
Note the deadline for all entries is**

**January 10, 2021**

**Please send all packets for competition to:**

**Bulletin Editors Advisory Committee  
c/o Mary Bateman  
52 Harrison Street  
Morristown, New Jersey 07960-3827**

**REMEMBER:**

**No entries will be accepted by e-mail.  
ALL entries must be mailed in hard copy format.**

**NOTE: All changes (highlighted in red) are for the 2021 contest only.**

**EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES**  
**BULLETIN EDITORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**CONTEST RULES**

The files (in PDF format) for the BEAC Contest are available individually. The forms are undated as they do not change from year to year. You only need to download the editors' guidelines and the specific forms you are using. To quickly find a file, click on the form you need. Once you are on the form you need, you can print it by simply going to the print menu and choosing print "selection" or you can print out the entire file. Please note that all the files you need are attached, you must mail your entries to the address below to be considered. Any entries that are e-mailed will not be considered for judging. It is also important that you first read all the rules and checklist carefully. **All entries should be received by January 10, 2021 and sent to the address on the front cover or on the Editors' Checklist.** There is no need to include a digital copy of your entry(ies).

We would like to specifically bring the following to your attention:

- 1- Features is divided into two categories—Drawn Features and Written Features.
- 2- If an author is a member of more than one club and writes for other newsletters, please check to make sure your bulletin was the first to publish that article, poem, etc. If submitted by two clubs, the entry will be disqualified.
- 3- Be sure to include the applicable forms, filled out completely and attached to the entries. As a timesaver, please feel free to print labels with the following information and affix to each entry form in the space calling for this information: bulletin name, club name, editor's name, address and e-mail. Feel free to duplicate any additional forms you may need.
- 4- Check that all information provided on the entry forms is correct. This information is used to produce the wording on trophies, certificates and in the Editors' Breakfast article in the *EFMLS News*.
- 5- You do not need to include an electronic copy of your entries for the 2021 Contest. AFMS rules require that all the entries sent to the national contest be sent as a hard copy. Any electronic copies will be made by the BEAC Chair.
- 6- A reminder concerning copyrighted bulletins and original articles, poems, drawings, etc.: copyrighted bulletins, original publications, articles and poems are eligible for both the EFMLS and AFMS contests with the understanding that permission is granted for another club to print it without obtaining permission. However, they must give credit to your newsletter and the author. It is also understood that all entries sent on for the AFMS competition may also be reproduced in booklet form for distribution to interested club newsletter editors without obtaining permission. Remember, if you have copied an article from other than a club bulletin you **MUST** have received permission from the publication and the author to reprint it. If you printed an article, poem, etc., from another bulletin, be sure that you have included the name of the bulletin and the date in which it was published. Note that material that has come from the internet is assumed to be copyrighted and you need permission to reproduce it—unless stated otherwise on the site. In any event, the source still needs to be noted (in the case of the

internet, you need the site and URL from which it came, title, author(s), etc.) Remember all internet material is assumed to be copyrighted. Unless noted otherwise, you may need permission to use material from an internet site, in any event, the source still needs to be indicated.

**7. PLEASE NOTE:**

**BULLETIN CATEGORIES:** Choose only ONE category in the categories M, S, L and N. Example: If you are a new editor, you cannot submit bulletins in both the New Editors category and one of the other bulletin categories. All bulletins for whichever category you choose, must meet the criteria for that category. Both bulletins must meet the criteria for the same category.

**ALL OTHER CATEGORIES: For the 2021 contest only, you may submit up to five entries in each category per the following guidelines for that category.**

# EFMLS BULLETIN EDITORS' CONTEST GUIDELINES

The EFMLS Bulletin Editors' Contest was designed to give editors an opportunity to have their publications judged by others with similar interests. Judges' comments are meant to improve the quality of the publication, thus, resulting in better communication and a sharing of information throughout the Federation. All the categories for entry have been modified as closely as possible to meet the guidelines for the AFMS competition.

Entries may be submitted in any of the following fourteen (14) categories:

CATEGORY M: Mini Bulletins  
CATEGORY S: Small Bulletins  
CATEGORY L: Large Bulletins  
CATEGORY N: New Bulletins, New Editors  
CATEGORY OE: Original Educational Articles and Advanced  
CATEGORY ON: Original Non-Technical Articles  
CATEGORY P: Original Poetry Adults and Juniors  
CATEGORY FW: Written Features  
CATEGORY FD: Drawn Features Adults and Juniors  
CATEGORY J: Junior Articles  
SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

## 1. BULLETINS

### Use Forms A and B

The bulletin entry must be published **January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020** and be an original issue and not a copy. If your bulletin is distributed through electronic means, a hard copy of the electronic issue is permissible.

A bulletin can be entered in only one of the following categories:

CATEGORY M: Mini Bulletins – Five (5) pages or less (Includes one-page bulletins)  
CATEGORY S: Small Bulletins – Six to eleven (6-11) pages  
CATEGORY L: Large Bulletins – 12 to 20 pages  
CATEGORY N: New Bulletins, New Editors – One to twenty (1-20) pages

For categories M, S and L use these guidelines:

- A page is defined as an 8.5" X 11" sheet with standard print (12 pitch).
- A legal size sheet (8.5" X 14") will count as 1.5 standard pages.
- Pages which have been reduced photographically will be counted based on their unreduced size.

- A sheet printed on both sides is counted as two pages.
- The cover (mailing) page is counted if it includes a “news” item, e.g. a report of an event that is not published in the newsletter or a continuation of an item in the issue. Do not count the cover page if it contains only standard masthead information that is copied for every issue. If you use an envelope or other separate mailer that has pertinent information, include it with your entry.
- No electronic copies will be accepted for judging. If you send out your newsletter electronically, you may print out copies to send with your entry forms.

For category N, use these guidelines:

- A “New Editor” is one who has not previously edited a newsletter for an EFMLS club and who became editor in the current judging year. Only one club bulletin per “new editor” can be submitted. If a “New Editor” began editing bulletins for more than one club during the year, and they are a new editor for all those bulletins, only the first club’s bulletin they edited is eligible. A person who assumes editorship from a family member cannot be considered a “New Editor.” An assistant editor or co-editor (moving up to editor) does not qualify for “New Editor” status.
- A “New Bulletin” is one for a new club, or for a club which has not previously published a bulletin.

## 2. BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

CATEGORY OE: Original Educational/Technical Articles and Advanced – Adults

CATEGORY ON: Original Non-Technical Articles – Adults

CATEGORY J: Junior Articles –12 years of age and under, 12-17 years of age

CATEGORY P: Original Poems – Juniors and Adults

CATEGORY FW: Written Features -- Adults

CATEGORY FD: Drawn Features – Junior and Adults

### CATEGORY OE: ORIGINAL EDUCATIONAL/TECHNICAL ARTICLES

#### Use Form OE or OE Advanced

Any original educational/technical article written by an adult member of the EFMLS affiliated club may be entered in this category. The article must have been published during the contest year and written expressly for the EFMLS club bulletin from which it was entered. An article written for the Federation newsletter is not eligible. *The article must be at least a half-page in length.*

**Entries in this category should not be simply “reports.”** A field trip report can qualify as an educational/technical article if it goes beyond reporting who went, who found what, and who got lost, i.e., **a travelogue does not belong in this category.** A report becomes an educational/technical article if it includes historical and/or geological information, gives complete (technical) descriptions of the material found, and/or uses research to support the educational value of the report. **If research of any kind is done, a bibliography must be**

**included.** An article is also considered to be “educational” if it gives a “how-to” procedure for lapidary work, exhibiting, micromounting, etc., if it provides a description of a particular mineral or fossil; or if it is a safety study on hazardous minerals, shop practices, or field work. If an educational/technical article has been previously published in a magazine or company publication, used as information for a display case, or handout at a show, class, seminar convention/meeting or previously published on the internet, it **CANNOT** be considered an original article.

When filling out the cover sheet for your original educational/technical articles, pay special attention to the designation of “Advanced Author.” The “Advanced Author” is one whose earnings are primarily in the earth science field or who has had writing/photos published in a commercial or professional context. If the author is an engineer, specify what kind. If he is a professional in earth sciences, state the area of expertise. In addition, a person 18 years of age, or older, who has ever won a trophy in adult articles in the AFMS competition is regarded as an “Advanced Author.” This information will help the BEAC Chairman to determine the proper category wherein the entry is classified for the AFMS competition as well as if it is in the right category for the EFMLS competition. The top three winners with a score of 90 or above of these categories will be sent to the AFMS national contest.

### **CATEGORY ON: ORIGINAL NON-TECHNICAL ARTICLES**

#### **Use Form ON**

These original articles written by an adult club member are of informational rather than technical natures. **Entries in this category should not be simply “reports.”** *Entries must be at least a half-page in length* and may include such things as show critiques, program reviews, book reviews, and editorials on matters pertaining to the hobby in general. **A report of a field trip, club social event, rock swap, etc. that is mainly an accounting and could have been written by anyone who was present with little personal reflection, analysis, critique by the author is not a non-technical article.** If an article has been previously published in a magazine or company publication or as other public information, previously published on the internet, or the content is made up largely of quoted passages it **CANNOT** be considered an original article. The top three winners of this category will be sent to the AFMS national contest. This is the same as the AFMS Written Features Category.

### **CATEGORY P: ORIGINAL POEMS (JUNIORS AND ADULTS)**

#### **Use Form P Adults or Form P Juniors**

A poem written by a junior or an adult can be entered in this category. In the case of junior contributions, be sure to share the author’s age at the top of the score sheet. Poems must be related to the hobby. In addition, there is a designation for poetry content, serious or humorous. Please note this on the heading of the score sheet. The top three winners in either the adult or junior category with a score of 90 or above will be sent to the AFMS national contest.

## **CATEGORY FW: WRITTEN FEATURES (ADULTS)**

### **Use Form FW**

Written features are items (other than poems) in sentence form which add spice to a club's bulletin, however, does not necessary follow the form of an article. They must be original, and there is no length limitation. A possible entry might include a humorous antidote, president's column, shop hints, play on mineral names, special club contest, or club history commentary (not just copied quotes from old newsletters, the author should introduce persons input/analysis). Entries from this category are not sent on to AFMS as they have no category equal to this EFMLS category.

## **CATEGORY FD: DRAWN FEATURES (JUNIORS AND ADULTS)**

### **Use Form FD Adults or FD Juniors**

Junior and adult drawn features are original items that bring spice to a bulletin but do not follow a literary form. Included here are puzzles that are made up of a form (not word puzzles), cartoons, crystal structures (drawn by author and incorporated in an original application). The drawn feature should have some accompanying description/heading to add to the originality of the drawing. Drawn features must be hobby related and an original creation of the artists/author. A drawn feature may be computer generated (computer graphics, Photoshop, etc.) if it was created by the artist within the contest period. It should have a heading/description, however, the drawing predominates; has not been previously published in a magazine or company publication including another EFMLS club bulletin, has not been previously used for a display case, show handout, or class/seminar. The top three winners in either the adult or junior category with a score of 90 or above will be sent to the AFMS national contest.

## **CATEGORY J: JUNIOR ARTICLES**

### **Use Form Junior Under 12 or Junior 12-17**

Any registered junior member of a club may be submitted for original articles in this category. There are two age categories, under age 12 and 12-17, that encompass a wide range of abilities. In selecting entries, look for quality that would be expected from an average youth of that age. For example, a seven-year old (2<sup>nd</sup> grader) might be expected to write one paragraph or one-third of a page with no bibliography. The high school student should be able to research material and write an article one-half to one page or more in length with a bibliography. Minutes of a meeting/program or a report are not an original article and should not be entered in this category even if a junior member of your club writes them. The top three winners in each junior category with a score of 90 or above will be sent to the AFMS national contest.

## **3. SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS**

### **Use Form A**

A Special Publication is rarely something that was published in a club's newsletter or bulletin. The rare exception to this may include an entire bulletin that was devoted to the passing of a club member, without any other club news, and which can reflect the subject exclusively when handed out to the public. If your club printed in the contest year a NEW, one-time only publication, such as a show program, a club information pamphlet, shop procedures, lapidary techniques and hints, anniversary issues, club history, field trip guides, etc., please send it in using **Form A, clearly labeled as a "SPECIAL PUBLICATION."** A club or society may enter more than one Special Publication (**up to five (5) entries**) if the subject and purpose is different. The EFMLS does not judge such publications in its contest. However, if more than three entries are received, the top three, as evaluated by the BEAC chairman, will be sent on to the AFMS for their competition for Special Publications. The publication should be club and/or earth science related and the authors must be members of the club submitting the entry. Copyrighted publications that are evaluated in the top three will be submitted to AFMS with the understanding that by submitting a special publication, you are granting permission to reproduce the publication(s).

If you need further information regarding what constitutes a Special Publication, please contact the BEAC Chair.

## 4. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. The three highest-scoring entries in each category judged by EFMLS will be forwarded to the AFMS for national competition (except EFMLS Written Features--Adults). Three Special Publications will also be forwarded. Entries under the category OE will be subdivided into "Advanced" and "Non-Advanced" articles and the three highest-scoring entries from each of these categories will be forwarded to the AFMS. Please note that only the BEAC Chairman can submit entries to the AFMS competition.
2. **Following the "General Considerations" is a chart of those eligible for EFMLS trophies for this year's and last year's contests.**



3. All applicable forms must be filled out completely and attached to the entries by the bulletin editor submitting them. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL INFORMATION ON THE FORMS BE CORRECT.** Information for the awards, certificates, contest write-up in *EFMLS News*, and for those entries sent on for the AFMS national contest are taken from these forms.
4. All entries must have been published during the contest year and must be submitted through the club bulletin editor.
5. Only one editor per club per year will be eligible for competition. Be sure that the same person edited all submitted bulletins.
6. An article, poem or feature may be a copy from the original bulletin issue, however, **the title of the newsletter, the month and the year of the issue and page number must be included on the entry's page.** If necessary, send additional pages of the bulletin that have this information with the entry so this criteria is met. Information handwritten in the margins is not acceptable.
7. Each editor may submit no more than
  - a. **Five (5)** entries in each of Categories OE, ON, P, FW, FE, J
  - b. Two (2) entries by the same author per category, a total of three (3) entries by the same author in all categories combined.
  - c. If the editor is also an author, he/she can submit no more than two (2) entries per category, a total of three (3) entries in all categories combined excluding the bulletin category.
8. All entries will be judged in the category assigned by the submitting editor. If an entry is in the wrong category, its score will suffer because judging criteria differs among the categories. Be sure to enter in the proper category. If you are unsure, feel free to contact the BEAC chairman for clarification.

The date at the head of the column is the year they received the trophy:

CATEGORY	2019 Bulletins	2020 Bulletins
Mini Bulletins	None	None
Small Bulletins	Carolyn Weinberger	None
Large Bulletins	Daniel Fontaine	Hutch Brown
New Editor/Bulletin	David Ball	Brittany Martin
Original Educational/Technical Articles	Shannon Phillips	Jeff Guerber
Original Educational/Technical Articles—Advanced	Harold Moritz	Vivian Gornitz
Original Non-Technical Articles	Barbara Hadley	Cassandra Franklin-Barbajosa
Written Features	Jim Stedman	David Brandon
Poetry (Adult)	Jessica Lippy	Betsy Oberheim
Poetry (Juniors)	Eddie Gonzalez	None

Drawn Features (Adult)	None	Betsy Oberheim
Drawn Features (Junior)	Trent Meyers	Gavin Manning
Junior Articles	None	None

(NOTE: Those listed under 2019 will be eligible to be considered in their respective categories in 2022; 2020 AFMS trophy winners will be eligible in 2023.)

The above are eligible in the EFMLS contest in any other category Note: Only the BEAC Chair can enter entries into the AFMS national contest.

<b>Category</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Mini Bulletin	None	None
Small Bulletin	None	Kathy Hrecka Micromounters of the National Capital Area
Large Bulletins	None	None
`New Editor		David Ball Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, Inc.
Original Adult Articles	Sue Martin Northern Virginia Mineral Club	Harold Moritz Lapidary and Mineral Society of Central Connecticut
Written Feature		None
Drawn Features Adults	Betsy Oberheim Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club	None
Junior Drawn Features 12-17	None	Trent Meyers Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club
Adult Poetry	Betsy Oberheim Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club	Jessica Lippy Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club
Special Publications		Bill Shelton New York Mineralogical Club

(NOTE: The date at the head of the column is the year they received the AFMS trophy. Those listed under 2019 will be eligible to be considered in their respective categories in 2022; 2020 AFMS trophy winners will be eligible in 2023.

## 5. PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING ENTRIES

1. Download the score sheet forms for all the categories you are submitting an entry. Read the General Guidelines and the Guidelines for each entry. After you have chosen your submissions, fill in the top portion of each score sheet proofreading carefully to make sure the information is accurate. Print out three copies to be sent to EFMLS. Print or save a copy for yourself, if you wish to keep a copy for your records.
2. CATEGORIES M, S, L, N: Make three (3) packets each consisting of two issues of your choice, both the same size, as noted for the entering category. Each packet must contain copies of the same two issues. Using paper clips, attach each packet with the BULLETIN SCORE SHEETS (Forms A and B) to the front of each packet. Fill in the information requested on the top part of Form A. To save time, you may affix a label with the required information as long as the information is in the same sequence as the form. Fill in the dates of the issues you are submitting on both Form A and B.
3. CATEGORIES OE, ON, P, FW, FD, J: Submit three (3) copies of each entry with the appropriate score sheet (labeled as FORM OE, ON, P, etc. respectively) stapled to the front of each, fill in the information requested at the top of the score sheet. To save time, you may affix a label with the required information as long as the information is in the same sequence as the form. Entries must be the entire page (s) from the bulletin in which they were published, although the article, poem, etc. may be shorter than one page (see guidelines above to determine minimum length).
4. SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS: Send two (2) copies of the publication with Score Sheet A stapled to the front. Fill in the information requested at the top of each form. Again, you may affix a label with the required information as long as the information is in the same sequence as the form. More than one special publication may be submitted if the subject and purpose are different.

## EDITOR'S CHECKLIST

**Before sending your entries, please check the following:**

- Are both bulletin entries in the same category?
- Are all the pages of the entry included?
- Is the page dated?
- Is it submitted in the correct category?
- Was it originally published in the issue?
- Are there any copyright infringements?
- Are the forms filled out and attached to each copy?
- Is the information on the forms correct?
- Are the correct number of copies included? (Three each except special publications)
- Is the author a club member?
- If a junior poem or drawing, is the author's age noted?
- Is the writer an "Advanced" author?

**All entries, should be sent by **JANUARY 10, 2021** to:**

Bulletin Editors Advisory Committee  
c/o Mary Bateman  
52 Harrison Street  
Morristown, New Jersey 07960-3827

## QUESTIONS AND/OR CLARIFICATION?

Contact the BEAC Chair at the above address, or via e-mail at [mbateman1@verizon.net](mailto:mbateman1@verizon.net) or by phone at 973-993-3192.