



AGMS CABOCHON CONTEST

Purpose: To foster knowledge in lapidary arts and in this event focusing on cabochons.

Goal: To encourage each member to learn more about the lapidary arts whether that is learning through doing or learning through evaluating and, in this event, focusing on cabochons.

Classes:

Adult	Traditional
Adult	Free Form
Junior	Traditional
Junior	Free Form

Cabochon Material: The material choice for the cabochon will change yearly and AGMS will try to closely follow that year's Show Theme. Material choice will be announced at the January general meeting and will run in the Stone Chipper.

Cabochon Submission: After completing registration form, the artist will check cabochon in with the Cabochon Contest Chairperson. The Cabochon Contest Chairperson will conceal the identity of the cabochon by giving it a unique number. The Cabochon Contest Chairperson will give all cabochons to the judging / evaluation committee.

Judging/Evaluation Committee: Will consist of two lapidary instructors, two general members and the Cabochon Contest Chairperson.

RECOGNITION

All cabochons will be displayed at the Austin Gem and Mineral Society annual show, Gem Capers. The Cabochon Contest Chairperson will be responsible for setting up the exhibit including cabochons, scores, artist name and ribbon. Each artist will receive copies of the score sheets, appropriate ribbon and will be recognized at the November meeting.

There will be two additional awards:

Best of Show	This will be judges' choice.
People's Choice Award	This will be determined by popular vote at the show.

Point Formula: 105 points maximum will be awarded. Below is the point formula for evaluating the cabochon.

MATERIAL	20 POINTS
Quality, Orientation to pattern in stone	
SANDING/GRINDING	25 POINTS
Flats, Scratches	
POLISH	30 POINTS
“Water” finish, high luster	
SYMMETRY FOR TRADITIONAL CABS	25 POINTS
Dome, Outline, Curvature, Symmetry	
OR	
EXECUTION FOR FREEFORM CABS	25 POINTS
Dome, Outline, Curvature, Use of Material	

An additional 5 points may be added as a degree of difficulty factor or for a truly outstanding stone.

Rules: Below are the guidelines that will be used in evaluating the cabochons. AFMS rules have been used as the primary source for these rules.

GENERAL RULES

1. Contest is open to AGMS members.
2. Junior is defined as having not yet reached his/her 18th birthday by contest entry dead line.
3. Limit of 2 cabochons submitted per member.
4. Each year there will be a different material, or stone. None other will be accepted.
5. Cabochon must be the work of the submitter.
6. Cabochon must be submitted no later than the September general meeting.
7. Cabochon will be returned no earlier than the December Officer Induction Banquet.
8. Appeal may be made to the Chairperson, in writing. After careful consideration the decision of the Chairperson is final.
9. In the case of a tie, the Cabochon Contest Chairperson will confer with all judges to choose the winning entry.

TRADITIONAL CABOCHON RULES

1. Traditional cabochons must have domed tops and must have at least one plane of symmetry. A plane of symmetry exists when a straight line passed through the middle of the cabochon gives two equal halves in shape and size. Traditional examples are: heart, cross, star, square, rectangle, diamond, teardrop, pear, circle, oval and kite.
2. The reverse side of traditional cabochon may have a bevel or chamfer. A bevel or chamfer is not mandatory.
3. Polishing the reverse side of traditional cabochon is not required unless the cabochon would benefit from such a polish. Examples being quartz with inclusions or Montana agate.
4. Sawing, or creation of the slab, can be done by someone other than the exhibitor.
5. Trimming of the slab on a trim saw to a pre-form shape cannot be done by anyone else unless the exhibitor is a junior. Juniors may have slab trimmed by an adult.
6. All work is to be done by hand. NO tumbling or auto equipment can be used.

FREEFORM CABOCHON RULES

1. Freeform: Freeform, or modern and creative, cabochons may have domed, concave, flat, or other tops and have any shape that exhibits both the skill and creativity of the artist. They are not restricted to having a plane of symmetry.
2. The reverse side of the freeform cabochon may have a bevel or chamfer. A bevel or chamfer is not mandatory.
3. Polishing the reverse side of freeform cabochon is not required unless the cabochon would benefit from such a polish. Examples being quartz with inclusions or Montana agate.
4. Sawing, or creation of the slab, can be done by someone other than the exhibitor.
5. Trimming of the slab on a trim saw to a pre-form shape cannot be done by anyone else unless the exhibitor is a junior. Juniors may have slab trimmed by an adult.
6. All work is to be done by hand. NO tumbling or auto equipment can be used.

Final Note:

It is important to remember that this is an educational program. Participation is optional. With that being said, we must remember that growth is powerful and rewarding. Whether the growth is through creating the cabochon or growth is through judging the cabochon, it will be a most rewarding experience for all.

And let us not forget integrity. Integrity is vital. The goal to improve one's work or one's own knowledge can only benefit AGMS by being a leader in our knowledge of lapidary arts through cabochons. Whether it be selecting the rough, the final design and execution of the design or being able to assist in selecting a cabochon from a dealer, we can only win with our growing knowledge and confidence.

The Cabochon Contest Chairperson will try, to their utmost ability, to be fair and honest. AGMS members are expected to do the same.

Respectfully,

Susan Postlethwait
2010 Cabochon Contest Chairperson