

## **(401-422) SEWING/NEEDLECRAFT**

1. **(401) Separates** – Shirts, etc., skirts
2. **(402) Dresses/Formals/Jumpers**- one piece only
3. **(403) Repurposed clothing** – This can be a piece of clothing that has been repurposed or recycled into another piece of clothing (i.e. pants turned into a skirt, piece of shirts turned into a skirt or another shirt, a shirt made modest, a shirt to apron, etc.) All pieces must be sewed into the garments.
4. **(411) Afghans** - Afghans can be either crocheted or knitted. No baby afghans in this category.
5. **(412) Counted Cross-Stitch** - No stamped cross stitch accepted. Pictures must be framed. The back of all work must be accessible for judging. Examples: tablecloths, place-mats, pictures, samplers.
6. **(413) Crewel** - decorating fabric using mostly wool yarn or thread. This is different from embroidery as the medium is yarn, not embroidery floss. Pictures must be framed. The back of all work must be accessible for judging. Examples: pictures, chair covers, pillows, etc.
7. **(414) Crochet** - Examples: baby afghans, shawls, tablecloths, bedspreads, dresses, sweaters, baby garment sets (sweater, cap, mittens, or booties).
8. **(415) Embroidery** - decorating fabric with embroidery floss or thread. The back of all work must be accessible for judging. Pictures must be framed. No counted cross-stitch. Only regular "needle and thread" embroidery will be judged. Examples: scarf, pillowcases, tablecloths, hand towels, placemats, borders for skirts, pillows, pictures, samplers.
9. **(416) Knitting** - Examples: baby afghans, shawls, tablecloths, bedspreads, dresses, sweaters, baby garment sets (sweater, cap, mittens, or booties). Machine knitting not allowed.
10. **(417) Needlepoint** - decorating open-weave canvas with wool (or synthetic) yarn. Pictures must be framed. The back of all work must be accessible for judging. Examples: pictures, chair covers, pillows.
11. **(418) Quilts** - Quilts may be machine or hand constructed. (Hand constructed quilts will receive higher points.) Minimum size 36x36 (baby quilt). Quilts must have been started and completed within fifteen months before Student Convention and must not have been entered in any other contest.
12. **(421) Home Décor** – anything made from fabric that would be used in home decorating. Examples: scarves, tablecloths, runners, pillows, placemats, etc. Note: Latch-hook and Punch and Sew are not allowed.
13. **(422) Miscellaneous Sewing** – This category is saved for any needle & thread project that does not fit any other category.

### **Requirements:**

1. Submit a pattern. If your project didn't have a pattern, then draw one up.
2. Submit a sewing report. Write a small summary of why you picked your project, changes that you made to the pattern, color selection, etc.
3. For garments: Submit a picture. For repurposed garments: submit a before and after picture. It is important for the judges to see your finished project on a "model" for fit and modesty.
4. Entries must have a display card securely attached to the project with the following information neatly printed or typed: event, student's name, school name. Display card must be clearly visible.

Any garments entered must be girls/ladies apparel. Contestants must not receive help on their projects other than instructions. All fashions must meet WCA Convention dress requirements. Do not submit mini-skirts, slacks, pantsuits, shorts, bathing suits, or sleepwear. (These rules also apply to the subjects used in Needlework entries.) Thin or "see-through" fabrics must be fully lined WITH OPAQUE MATERIAL. LACE MATERIAL IS SEE-THROUGH. No needlework entries should attempt to portray the face or image of Christ. The contestant is encouraged to be creative and vary from the pattern.

## HINTS FROM THE SEWING JUDGES

The qualities the judges look for are originality and careful attention to details. High points are given for neatness, cleanliness, uniformity, and precision. Patterns used in garment entries (purchased or original) must accompany the sewing entry to receive the highest possible points. There are 5 points for submitting the pattern, and another possible 10-20 points for creativity. In crochet, knitting, and afghans, there is another possible 10 points for gauge. These points cannot be given if the pattern is not submitted. An original pattern will receive higher points than a stamped pattern. (Get some great tips from this pdf: [Measuring Up](#))

### GARMENT SEWING HINTS:

1. Make sure the student reads and understands the guidelines and Progress Control/Judge's Form of the category before choosing a garment. Garments submitted for judging should fit the criteria of the chosen category.
2. Have the students select an outfit that would use as many of the areas that are being judged as their ability allows. Garments that use more details such as set-in sleeves, zippers, collars, etc., will receive higher points.
3. Keep a diary or record of the time you spent on your project. Also save your receipts so you can calculate your cost.
4. Have the student check with sewing books to learn proper techniques, i.e. proper seams, etc.

[link]

### NEEDLEWORK HINTS:

It is best not to have any knots or loose ends. When working with an even number of threads you may use this technique: cut your thread twice the length needed, fold in half, thread loose ends through the eye of needle, bring needle up from back side of fabric, go down, and catch loop end of thread with needle--now you have started your work without knots or loose ends. To tie off without knots, simply hide ends in same color thread. When framing your needlework picture, DO NOT PUT GLASS in the frame. The glass distorts stitches and makes judging difficult.

### QUILTS HINTS:

Quilting stitches (the stitches that go through all layers of the quilt) are what the judges are looking for. "Tying" is very easy and cannot compare to actual "quilting." Hand quilting will receive higher points than machine quilting

## JUDGING CRITERIA

AREAS OF EVALUATION	POSSIBLE POINTS
Pattern submitted	5
Workmanship	25
Degree of Difficulty	10
Suitability of article to its purpose	10
Beauty and originality of design	20
Harmony of color and design	20
<b>Special consideration - Garments</b>	
Christian appearance (length, cut modesty)	10
Or	
Special consideration – Needlecraft & Quilts – Blocking Home Décor – Blocking/proportions	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>