

## COMPETITION CATEGORIES and CRITERIA

### 1. Traditional-Styled Large - Standard

No side shorter than 130cm and no side longer than 240cm.

Pieced or appliquéd quilts, or quilts made with a combination of piecing and appliqué using traditional techniques.

- Quilts using traditional and/or contemporary techniques (e g fusing of appliquéd motifs) that draw on the traditions of quilt making but have a more contemporary/individual approach.
- Quilt can be hand or machine quilted or a combination of hand and machine quilting.
- Whole-cloth quilts, not made using computer-digitized quilt patterns and/or computer-digitized embroidery patterns, should be entered in this category.
- The quilt must be your own design or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.
- **The quilt cannot be a copy of another quilt / artwork nor made from a commercial quilt pattern.**

**Code: TLS= Standard Traditional-Styled Large**

### 2. Traditional-Styled Medium/Small - Standard

- No side shorter than 30 cm and no side longer than 200cm.
- Pieced or appliquéd quilts or quilts made with a combination of piecing and appliqué using traditional techniques.
- Quilts using traditional and/or contemporary techniques (e g fusing of appliquéd motifs) that draw on the traditions of quilt making but have a more contemporary/individual approach.
- Quilt can be hand or machine quilted or a combination of hand and machine quilting.
- Whole-cloth quilts, not made using computer-digitized quilt patterns and/or computer-digitized embroidery patterns, should be entered in this category.
- The quilt must be your own design or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.
- **The quilt cannot be a copy of another quilt/artwork or made from a commercial quilt pattern.**

**Code: TMS = Standard Traditional-Styled Medium/Small**

### **3. Art Pictorial - Standard**

- No side shorter than 30cm and no side longer than 200cm.
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- Quilts that are made primarily of fibre/cloth.
- Quilts that are a depiction/representation of persons, places and/or things. The representation can be realistic or stylized.
- Any other materials/media can be included.
- Some quilting/stitching through three layers must be apparent.
- The quilt must be your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.

**Code: APS = Standard Art Pictorial**

### **4. Art Abstract - Standard**

- No side shorter than 30cm and no side longer than 200cm.
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- Quilts that are made primarily of fibre/cloth.
- Abstract and/or conceptual in nature and do not depict specific persons, places and/or things in a pictorial/realistic style.
- Any other materials/media can be included.
- Some quilting/stitching through three layers must be apparent.
- The quilt must be your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.

**Code: AAS = Standard Art Abstract**

### **5. Traditional-Styled – Masters**

- No side shorter than 30 cm and no side longer than 240cm.
- Pieced or appliquéd quilts or quilts made with a combination of piecing and appliqué using traditional techniques.
- Quilts using traditional and/or contemporary techniques (e g fusing of appliquéd motifs) that draw on the traditions of quilt making but have a more contemporary/individual approach.

- The quilt can be hand or machine quilted or a combination of hand and machine quilting.
- Whole-cloth quilts, not made using computer-digitized quilt patterns and/or computer-digitized embroidery patterns in this category.
- The quilt must be your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.
- The quilt cannot be a copy of another quilt/artwork or made from a commercial quilt pattern.

**Code: TM = Master Traditional-Styled**

## **6. Art – Masters**

- No side shorter than 30 cm and no side longer than 200cm.
- The composition of the quilt can either be pictorial (representational) or figurative or abstract and/or conceptual in nature.
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- Quilt must be made predominantly of fibre/cloth, but any other materials/media can be included.
- Some quilting/stitching through three layers must be apparent.
- The quilt must be your own design or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.
- The quilt cannot be a copy of a commercial pattern or a variation of the original design of another artist working in any other medium.

**Code: AM = Master Art Quilt**

## **7. Open Large**

- No side shorter than 130cm and no side longer than 240cm.
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- The quilt can be quilted by hand or machine or a combination of hand and machine quilting.
- **This category allows the use of one or more of the following:**
  - o made using a published/commercial pattern or

- o made using computer-digitized quilting or
- o made using machine embroidery patterns or
- o have been started in a class or
- o be a replica of an antique quilt (made approximately before 1960) or
- o made by using non-quilted traditional techniques e.g. Yo-yo's, Cathedral Window, Mola, Crazy Patchwork, Kawandi, Kantha, Boro etc.
- o All credits must be given.

**Code: OL = Open Large Quilt**

## **8. Open Medium/Small**

- No side shorter than 30cm and no side longer than 200cm
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- The quilt can be quilted by hand or machine or a combination of hand and machine quilting.
- **This category allows the use of one or more of the following:**
  - o made using a published/commercial pattern or
  - o made using computer-digitized quilting or
  - o made using machine embroidery patterns or
  - o have been started in a class or
  - o be a replica of an antique quilt (made approximately before 1960) or
  - o made by using non-quilted traditional techniques e.g. Yo-yo's, Cathedral Window, Mola, Crazy Patchwork, Kawandi, Kantha, Boro etc.
  - o All credits must be given.

**Code: OMS = Open Medium/Small Quilt**

## **9. Modern**

- No side shorter than 30cm and no side longer than 240cm.
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- The general accepted features/attributes of a Modern quilt should be evident.
- The quilt must be your own design or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.
- The quilt cannot be a copy of another quilt/artwork or made from a commercial quilt pattern.

**Code: MOD = Modern**

## **10. Miniature**

- No side shorter than 15cm and longer than 60cm or with a block/unit side no longer than 10cm.

- Use any technique or combination of techniques, including non-quilted methods e.g. Yo-yo, Cathedral Window and Mola etc.
- May be sewn by hand, machine or any combination thereof.
- The quilt must be your own design or a design derived from using elements from the public domain.
- The quilt cannot be a copy of another quilt/artwork or made from a commercial quilt pattern.
- All miniatures must have a 5cm deep sleeve sewn to the top back of the quilt, 1cm short of either side.

**Important** – Entry must be a Miniature quilt, in all aspects, wherein the size and proportions are small and/or the quilt is a scaled-down version of a regular-sized quilt. In a photo of the finished piece (with no indication of scale) the miniature should look like a full-size quilt.

**Code: MIN = Miniature**

## 11. Collaborative

- No side shorter than 30cm and no side longer than 240cm.
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- A quilt that is made and constructed by **two (2) to four (4)** individuals.
- The individuals can either use their own design or a design derived from using elements from the public domain or a published/commercial pattern.  
In the latter case design credits must be given and the quilt entry must be accompanied by an A4 colour photocopy.
- All credits must be given.
- Observe the limit of 4 quilt entries per individual into the competition.

**Code: COL = Collaborative**

## 12. Challenge

The Theme / Challenge is chosen by the DQG Organizers and will have specific criteria set in this category.

**Code: THE or CHA = Theme or Challenge**

## 13. 3-Dimensional Items

The entry/s must be 3-dimensional.

If not all, at least 50% must be quilted through at least two (2) layers.

For display purposes, the item/s can be hung from a hook, draped over a hanger or be free-standing and self-supporting.

A maximum dimension can be set by the Competition Organizers, depending on their available exhibition space.

**Code: 3DI = 3 Dimensional Items**

## **14. Youth**

Age up to 18yrs (as at 1 Jan in the year of the competition)

Made by 1 person

No side longer than 240cm

Any technique can be used

All work done on the quilt must be entirely the entrants' own work

Quilt can be :

- Your own design, or
- A design derived from using elements from the public domain, or
- A published\commercial pattern. Design credits must be given and the quilt entry must also be accompanied by an A4 colour photocopy of the pattern.

The name and details of the mentor, if any, must be stated on the entry form.

**Code: YTH = Youth**

## **COMPETITION RULES**

**The Rules and Conditions apply to ALL the SAQG Categories & Competitions.**

1. **All entries** must be made predominantly from cloth, consisting of at least three (3) layers and be quilted through all layers or as specified, and has appropriate finished edges.
2. All quilts entered must be quilted by hand, machine, or both, except for Mola, Yo-yo's and Cathedral Window etc.
3. All entries must be in a pristine condition ready for judging and exhibition.
4. All entries must be solely the work of those named and stated as the Maker/s on the Entry Form.
5. No quilt may be entered into more than one category.

6. **Category Choice:** The category choice is the sole responsibility of the entrant. Study the **Categories** and the **Criteria** and choose carefully.
7. **Adhere to Category Criteria:** Each quilt entry must be designed, constructed and quilted by only one person.  
**EXCEPTIONS** are for quilts entered in the **Collaborative, Group and Community categories**, where two (2) or more people have worked on/ contributed to the quilt entry.  
**NOTE:** In the **Open Categories** - if you have constructed and quilted the quilt but you have not used your own design and have used one or more of the permitted (listed) criteria allowed in the Open categories, you must give comprehensive design sources.
8. **Size:** All quilts **MUST** fit the size requirements of the selected category. Quilts must be measured horizontally across the widest part of the quilt, and the measured length of the quilt must include any elements hanging from the quilt.  
**NOTE:** If you enter as a paid participant of a Collaborative, Group or Community Project category, the rule of a maximum of four (4) entries does not apply.
9. **Paid participants:** An entrant can pay someone else for having done work on their entry but may only enter the quilt in the Collaborative, Group or Community categories. The name and details of the paid entrant/quilter must also be stated on the Entry Form as one of the entrants.
10. **Machine quilted entries:** All entrants must indicate on the Entry Form whether quilting is done using a Stationary Machine or a Movable Quilting Machine. See definitions below:
  - a. **Stationary Sewing Machine** includes the use of any sewing machine that allows the quilter to move the fabric rather than the machine and the machine sits on or is mounted on a table. The quilter must predominantly use this method to quilt.
  - b. **Movable Quilting Machine** includes any machine that allows the quilter to move the machine head rather than the fabric and is mounted on a frame. The quilter must predominantly use this method to quilt.
11. All forms of **free-motion machine-quilted quilts** with no computer assisted elements can be entered in any category, whether long-arm, medium-arm or domestic sewing machines. The BSR is not considered a computer assisted device and can be used.
12. **Quilts made using computer-digitized quilting and/or embroidery patterns** can only be entered in the Open Categories. Digitized and/or embroidered **whole-cloth** quilts must also be entered in the Open categories. All entrants must indicate on the Entry Form whether the quilt entry has been quilted on a machine **using digitized patterns**.
13. **No Kits Allowed:** refers to when most of the fabric (cut or uncut), notions, design and pattern included in the kit have been used to make the quilt.
14. **Commercial Patterns and Designs:** Refers to any pattern/design, whether quilting, embroidery and/or cross stitch, etc, that has been purchased in a retail store or online, as well as free patterns. Thus, it is not your own design. This includes published patterns and designs in books, magazines and/or online or downloadable. Published also is defined as a photograph, diagram, image, etc. in hardcopy (paper) or online/social media.

15. **Public Domain:** refers to creative material that is not protected by Intellectual Property (IP) laws (copyright, trademark, or patent). Generally, applicable to designs/motifs older than 75 years or where the IP rights have expired, for example: log cabin, Rose of Sharon, etc. **Pinterest and Google Search are not “public domain”.**
16. **Master Quilter Status:** relates to SAQG NQF competitions and is granted to a quilter who has won the Best of Show and/or a First prize in a Standard Core category. Master Quilters must enter the Core Master categories (Categories 5 & 6). Master Quilters can also enter the Compulsory and Optional categories (Categories 7-17).
17. **Quilt Sleeve:** All quilts must have a 10cm deep sleeve sewn to the top back of the quilt, 2cm short of either side, unless otherwise stated in a specific category (e.g. Miniatures) where specific instructions will apply. Quilts with a width of 180 cm or more must have an opening of 5cm in the middle of the sleeve to facilitate the hanging of the quilt.
18. **Cloth Label:** All quilts must have a cloth label securely sewn to the back of the quilt, placed on the lower left-hand corner (viewed from the back). The label must include: the Quilt Title, Quilt-maker(s) names, Address, Phone Number, Email and Date (or Year) the quilt was made. All the information, except for the Quilt Title, is to be covered by a piece of dark cloth, tacked onto the label. Should the quilter's name appear in any way or form anywhere else on the quilt, this must be covered.
19. **Credits:** When the stated **design source is not exclusively your own**, then comprehensive design credits must be given. This includes using someone else's pattern, artwork, photography, or even another quilt as inspiration, even if the design has been altered.
  - It is the entrant's responsibility to obtain all necessary copyright releases for work that is covered under copyright laws.
  - Proof, as far as possible, such as correspondence, a letter of permission, and or approved confirmation, and an A4 photo or colour photocopy of the design source must be supplied.
20. **Jury Process:** All quilt entries will be juried by SAQG Accredited Quilt Judges, who will check that the entry complies with all the relevant rules and is of an acceptable standard for the SA National Quilt Competition as well as appropriate subject matter. Quilts that are juried out will receive a Jurors' Comment Form and are not eligible to be displayed as part of the Competition/Exhibition.
21. **Judging:** Quilts will be judged by a team of SAQG Accredited Quilt Judges. Each quilt judged in the competition will receive a written Judges' Comment Form. The decisions and choices of the Judges are final and NO queries or correspondence pertaining to the judging will be considered.
22. **Rights:** The DQG Organizers reserve the right to reject any quilt that they deem to be inappropriate or offensive.
23. **Rights:** The DQG Organizers reserve the right to photograph any work and to use images for promotion and publicity purposes and will acknowledge the quilters.
24. **Rights:** The DQG reserves the right to withdraw awards and prizes should it be found and established that the competition Rules and Conditions have not been adhered to, in such a case the award and prize must be returned.
25. **Permission:** By entering this competition, the entrants are giving permission to the Organizers and viewing public to take photographs of their quilt/s knowing that these images may appear on social media platforms.



26. **Risk:** Although the greatest care will be taken with all entries, the quilts are entered and exhibited entirely at the risk of the entrant/s. Entrants have the responsibility to arrange their own insurance for their quilt entries.
27. **Entry and delivery dates:** All quilt entries must strictly adhere to the deadlines.
28. **Quilt Entry Forms will be attached to the September Newsletter**
29. **Costs - The Entry Fee/s are non-refundable.**  
The quilter is liable for all shipping/courier costs or other expenses and insurance pertaining to their quilt entry/s.