

## So you are going to be reading awards at the regional...

You have one of the most important jobs at our regional banquet. How you present the awards can make the event a night to remember for our award winners and guests, or one that is remembered with negativity and disappointment. Of course we want only positive thoughts and happy memories!

This document isn't intended to be a set of rules. It isn't intended to tell you "what to do". It's a compendium of hint, tips, and observations from attending many awards banquets over the years,

## You are representing our beloved organization ...

Remember when you are standing at that podium that you are representing TICA.

You might be nervous, and that's fine. Just make sure you don't enjoy the cash bar so much that your judgement, personal interactions, and speaking are affected. You can always enjoy that extra "toast" after your job at the podium is done,

## Be conscious of guests who might not be TICA members (yet) ...

Over the years we have had more and more guests attend our banquets who show in other cat associations, Be aware and welcoming of our guests. After all, we all love our cats and are here to celebrate friends and felines.

Remember it is just as inappropriate to "put down" those other cat associations as it to make political, racist, or any other hateful comments.

## Be mindful of your time at the podium...

The award recipients are in the limelight – not the individuals reading the awards. Remember, your job can easily be replaced by a pre-recording of the award information. (BTW ... that is the way at least one other association does their awards presentation.)

Do not use your time at the podium to expound on various topics, tell stories, or share anecdotes.

A simple statement congratulating the winners in the class is always appropriate.

## Watch your pacing ...

Don't keep your eyes locked on your announcer's list reading name after name without stopping. Be conscious of your peers as they walk up to receive their awards.

In general ...

1. Announce the winner
2. Watch as the owners come up to accept their award
3. Allow the owners time to enjoy their time in the spotlight
4. As the owners start walking back to their seat, read the next winner

This way everyone has time for their own awards without being tripped over by the next award winner.

## Study your list in advance ...

How do you feel if your cat's name – or your name – is mispronounced? Yes, we all make mistakes, but many of those can be avoided by studying your list in advance and getting with cat owners if you have any questions.

## Cattery names – not always obvious from the spelling ...

I know there are others out there, but here are some that might not be initially obvious at first glance –

MTNEST: empty – nest

CUZZOE: cuz (as in “cousin”) – zoh – ee

AUTUMSUN: autumn – sun

WYNDCHYMES: wind - chimes

CAROCATS: care – o – cats

K-LA: kay – lah

CATERABLU – cat – err – a – blue

WFB – double u – eff – bee (i.e. the letters)

PENELANE – penny – lane

SAZIKATZ – saz – ee – cats

SASSIETAT – sassy – tat

QROWN – crown

CALICOON – kal – (short i) – coon

IRUSKHA – eye – rus - ka

In your research, if you find other that I can add to this list, please let me know.

### Know and say the cat's titles ...

You know how hard you worked for your cat's titles – others have too. Make sure you know what the letters mean and that you announce the words, not just the letters:

LA – Lifetime achievement winner  
IW – International winner  
RW – Regional Winner  
BW – Breed Winner

OD – Outstanding Dam  
OS – Outstanding Sire

Championship	Alters	Household Pets
CH – Champion GRC – Grand Champion DGC – Double Grand Champion TGC – Triple Grand Champion QGC – Quad Grand Champion SGC – Supreme Grand Champion	CHA – Champion Alter GRCA – Grand Champion Alter DGCA – Double Grand Champion Alter TGCA – Triple Grand Champion Alter QGCA – Quad Grand Champion Alter SGCA – Supreme Grand Champion Alter	MAS – Master GRM – Grand Master DGM – Double Grand Master TGM – Triple Grand Master QGM – Quad Grand Master SGM – Supreme Grand Master

So, let's say a cat is listed on your announcer's list as ...

OD LA BW SGC ITSACATTERY FLUFFY CAT

You would announce the name as ...

“Outstanding dam, lifetime achievement winner, breed winner, supreme grand champion ITSACATTERY FLUFFY CAT”

Yeah, it's a mouthful, but the cat and owner worked hard for those titles!

### Announcing special awards ...

We may some special awards every year in addition to the top-25, breed, and junior awards. Some of these are in memory of special people we have lost.

The only suggestion here is keep your presentation reasonably short and in honor of the ones being remembered.

Long, unrelated stories detract from making these awards special and take focus away from those being remembered.

### Your announcer's list ...

Included in the email with this document is the full announcer's document. I will have printed copies at the show for you as well, but you can start practicing your section now.

As you can see, the document is printed in a large font, so it is easier to read and is in the order the awards will be presented (25<sup>th</sup> > 2<sup>nd</sup> best) and in alphabetical order for breed only winners).

### Announcing the best cat, kitten, alter, household pet, or household pet kitten ...

Our bests this year will be announced at the very end of the evening by our Regional Director.

For each best we have music to play when those awards are presented.