

British Youth Stamp Championships

Guidelines for Exhibitors

The British Youth Stamp Championships are organised by Stamp Active Network, sponsored by Stanley Gibbons, and the entries are displayed at Autumn Stampex as part of the National Competitions.

The Championships are open to all young collectors up to the age of 21 normally resident in the United Kingdom.

Entries can be submitted in one of two categories:

Traditional and Postal History – these entries are based on the stamps and/or postal history of a single country (or group of related countries);
Thematic or Open Philately – such entries should tell a story that follows a pre-determined Plan.

The entries should be mounted on proper stamp album leaves, or on suitable paper of A4 size. However, do ensure the paper is of good quality and strong (flimsy paper will not be able to withstand the weight of the material mounted on it), and **MUST** be placed within a clear protector – again, please ensure this is of good quality, as flimsy, thin plastic protectors are not ideal when the pages are mounted in the frames.

The stamps and other material must be carefully and adequately mounted on the pages – do ensure that items do not fall off, or are displaced, during transit. Writing up can be by hand or computer.

The number of sheets that can be entered depends on the age of the entrant (the age is taken as at 1 September). However, a minimum of 16 pages (sufficient to fill one frame) must be submitted, and it is highly recommended that entries be of multiples of 16 pages.

The age groups, and number of pages (frames) required is as follows:

Class A	19 to 21 years old	16 to 80 pages (1 to 5 frames)
Class B	17 and 18 years old	16 to 64 pages (1 to 4 frames)
Class C	14 to 16 years old	16 to 48 pages (1 to 3 frames)
Class D	12 and 13 years old	16 to 32 pages (1 or 2 frames)
Class E	up to 12 years old	16 to 32 pages (1 or 2 frames)

All entries must be the original work of the entrant: application forms must be signed by a parent, guardian or stamp club leader.

Entries are marked depending on the nature of the exhibit and the age of the entrant. **It should be noted that entries in the British Youth Stamp Championships are marked to a higher standard compared with entries in the Stamp Active competition. Young collectors exhibiting for the first time might find it better initially to enter the Stamp Active competition.**

The marking is as follows.

Marks for Thematic Philately and Open Philately

Category	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D	Class E
Treatment					
Structure of Plan	15	15	14	12	10
Degree of development of ideas	15	15	15	15	12
Correct classification of material	5	5	5	5	5
Thematic knowledge	15	12	10	8	8
Sub-total	50	47	44	40	35
Philatelic knowledge					
Philatelic knowledge	20	18	16	15	15
Sub-total	20	18	16	15	15
Material					
Condition and Cleanliness of material	8	10	13	15	20
Presence of important material	12	10	7	5	5
Sub-total	20	20	20	20	25
Presentation					
General impression of the exhibit	4	5	5	10	10
Arrangement of material on pages	2	4	5	5	5
Mounting	2	3	5	5	5
Writing up	2	3	5	5	5
Sub-total	10	15	20	25	25
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100

Marks for Traditional Philately and Postal History

Category	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D	Class E
Treatment					
Importance, Plan and structure	16	16	16	16	14
Correct classification of material	5	5	5	5	5
Degree of development and explanations	14	12	10	8	8
Sub-total	35	33	31	29	27
Philatelic knowledge					
Philatelic knowledge	22	22	22	22	22
Depth of studies	13	10	7	4	4
Sub-total	35	32	29	26	26
Material					
Condition and Cleanliness of material	6	9	12	15	19
Presence of important material	14	11	8	5	3
Sub-total	20	20	20	20	22
Presentation					
General impression of the exhibit	4	5	5	10	10
Arrangement of material on pages	2	4	5	5	5
Mounting	2	3	5	5	5
Writing up	2	3	5	5	5
Sub-total	10	15	20	25	25
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100

The awards are as follows:

Large silver-gilt for 90 points and above;

Small silver-gilt for 85 to 89 points;

Large silver for 80 to 84 points;

Small silver for 70 to 79 points;

Silver-bronze for 60 to 69 points;

Bronze for 50 to 59 points

Certificate for up to 49 points.

A trophy is awarded for the best overall entry (The Melville Cup).

Completed and signed entry forms must be sent to:

Richard West
39 Waverley Avenue
Sutton
Surrey SM1 3JX.

Entries, carefully packed, must be received and must also be sent to
Richard West

The closing dates for receipt of entry forms and completed entries will be found on the Stamp Active website.

www.stampactive.co.uk

Entries will be judged prior to Autumn Stampex so that entrants can be advised of their awards prior to the exhibition. The awards are presented during the early afternoon of the Saturday of Autumn Stampex, held at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London (close to Angel Underground Station).