**AFMS BULLETIN CONTEST SPECIFIC GUIDELINES –** *Revised 7/30/2023 for contests beginning in 2024*

**ORIGINAL ADULT POETRY**

1. Original Adult Poetry **AUTHORS**:

-must be an adult, 18 years of age or older  
-must be a member of the club that submitted the entry in the regional competition

-is **not** the current regional or AFMS BEAC (there is now a category specifically for BEACs)

-may have only one AFMS submission per club per category per region  
-a 1st place AFMS trophy winner is NOT eligible for AFMS in the same category for the

following 2 years

2. Original Adult Poetry:

-is hobby-related  
-was written expressly for the club bulletin from which it was entered  
-was written for one bulletin and one region  
-was NOT written by the current regional or AFMS BEAC  
-was NOT written for a regional newsletter  
-has NOT been previously published in a magazine or company publication  
-has NOT been previously used for a display case, show handout, or class/seminar

-should not be copied verbatim from a source (plagiarism!)  
-will be judged in the following areas: **BEAC or judge will circle appropriate choices under A, B, E, & F**:

A. Appeal/Interest  
 1. General Audience **OR**

2. Specialized Audience

B. Meter Rhythm

1. Open Verse (unrhymed) **OR**

2. Rhyming

C. Originality of subject matter and/or Approach

D. No apparent copyright violations

E. Clarity & Appropriateness

1. Serious topic or purpose **OR**

2. “Just for fun”

F. Suitability of verse style for subject

1. Hai-ku **or**

Limerick **or**

Short stanza **or**

Acrostic Poem

**OR**

2. Long stanza

G. Spelling & Grammar appropriate

H. Title appropriate; Author identified