
AYRS John Hogg Memorial Prize Award 2007

The AYRS announces another award of a £1000 Prize in memory of John Hogg, the distinguished amateur yachting researcher, who died in 2000.

The aim of this international award is to encourage and recognise important amateur contributions to the understanding and development of sailing performance, safety and endurance. Preference will be given to on-going work where the prize money is likely to benefit further development. Other than nominations for a “lifetime achievement” award, the work should have been performed within the last few years. Work that has previously been entered for the John Hogg Prize is not eligible, unless in the intervening period significant advances have been made.

Nominations, whether of oneself or another, should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary, Amateur Yacht Research Society, BCM AYRS, London WC1N 3XX, UK, to arrive by **1st October 2007**. Nominations may be made by or for anyone, whether or not they are a member of AYRS. Those nominating someone else must obtain the written agreement of the nominee and forward it with the entry.

‘Amateur’ in this context means primarily work done as a pastime and largely self-funded. Details should be given of any grants or other funding or assistance received. Work carried out as part of normal employment is not eligible, neither is paid-for research where the researcher does not own the results, but subsequent commercial exploitation of research need not debar work carried out originally as a pastime. Projects carried out as part of a course of education may also be admissible. A significant factor in determining the amateur status of such work is the ownership of the intellectual property rights in the results. Those with ongoing projects are as eligible to apply as those whose work is completed.

Whilst it is not essential that any innovations embodied in the work be demonstrated and “debugged”, the work must have some practical application, which should be made clear in the entry.

The submission shall cover the following:-

- A summary, of not more than one page, identifying the nominee and the work submitted, and including a short statement of its merits to justify its submission.
- The description of the work itself, its novelty, its practical application, its degree of success to date, and (briefly) your hopes for the future.
The work will be judged on the results achieved to date. Please spare us a complete history of your researches except to the extent that they are truly relevant. The use of your already published material, whether or not peer reviewed, incorporated in an entry, is welcome.

- Submissions must be made in English, IN HARD COPY sent by post, to arrive by the due date. FOUR COPIES ARE REQUIRED – one for each of the three judges and one for the Secretary.
Electronic transmission, the use of website pages, and of direct extracts from patent applications (which are written by and for lawyers and can generally be shortened) have resulted in unsatisfactory presentation, hence the need for hard copy of a dedicated paper.
- Diagrams, graphs and photographs may be used, video material on VHS PAL videotapes or DVDs can be helpful supporting material. Programs and presentations on disk may be entered as part of a submission (accompanied by explanatory text etc). Appendices may be used, e.g. for mathematical workings. Direct reproduction of pages from an author's web site has generally proved unacceptable (due to formatting variations) and is not welcome.
- Entries should be printed on A4/letter paper in a legible font. Successful short-listed entries to date have ranged from about 22 A4 sides of text with 6 of photos, to one winner with 5 sides, 3 of photos and one A3 drawing. Clarity, legibility and brevity pays!
- Separately, a brief biography of the nominee(s) should be included, and their amateur status and qualifications should be explained.
- Nominees may care to say how they will use the prize should they win.
- AYRS will wish to publish brief summary accounts of entries, and may also seek further articles from entrants. Grant of permission to publish such articles is a condition of entry. To this end it will be helpful if entries can (if necessary) readily be abridged for publication in *Catalyst*, and if a computer disk copy of the entry is included. However any information received as part of a submission will be treated 'In Confidence' if so marked.

The winner and runners-up will be announced at the London Boat Show in January 2006. All short-listed entrants will receive one year's free membership of AYRS and a certificate; the winner will receive a cheque for £1000.

The Judges, whose decision shall be final, will co-opt experts as required to assist their deliberations.

Submission of an entry will be taken as signifying the entrant's acceptance of these rules.

Queries concerning possible entries may be made by phone or e-mail to the AYRS Honorary Secretary on tel/fax +44 (1727) 862 268; e-mail office@ayrs.org.

Tips for making your entry effective

1. Never forget that the winner of the John Hogg Prize is the entrant who can persuade the judges that his/her work is innovative, has merit, has practical application, and is the most deserving of the prize. Your idea may be the best, but unless you can bring the judges to realise that fact, it will not win.
2. Remember the judges have only a limited time to look at each entry. Don't expect them to wade through pages of dross to find the nugget that is hidden in them. Present your work clearly and concisely, and in such a way that they quickly understand it, its merits and its practical application.
3. Be sure your entry will stand alone. Don't expect the judges to come back to you for more information – they won't. By all means refer to books, articles etc, but make sure the judges can understand your idea without going and looking them up. If they are interested, they may do so, but first you have to get them interested!
4. The judges are all practical people. You don't need to "talk down" to them; but on the other hand don't force them to read pages of mathematics! (See 2.) Equations may be useful to demonstrate a particular point, but long mathematical derivations are best relegated to an appendix.
5. It helps, but is not essential, to have already demonstrated the practicality of your work. Theory is fine, but unless the judges can see the practical application, it will not get their attention.
6. Presentation ought not to win prizes, but it does help get a good entry noticed.
7. Don't just send a collection of loose pages - put them in a binder and give them a pretty cover/front page.
7. Remember a picture can be worth a thousand words; and a picture in colour can be worth more.
8. Remember too that those pictures do not have to be static. One of the better entries to date sent a video, with an intelligent commentary on the sound-track.
9. You can add a sound-track to PowerPoint presentations as well, but if you send a PowerPoint file remember that not everybody has PowerPoint software, so use the "Pack & Go" feature so your presentation will run on any (Windows) system. [Sorry, Mac users]
10. Don't expect the judges to go and read your webpage. They don't have the time. Use it as a supporting reference by all means, but if the information there is essential make sure it is packaged with your entry.
11. Remember to send enough copies of your entry – FOUR – one for each judge and one for the AYRS Office. The judges can view things like videotapes at their meetings, or they can pass them round; but they don't want to share paperwork, and the AYRS Office has neither time nor resources to do lots of photocopying.
12. Finally, don't forget to put in a disk (CDROM for preference) with all the printable material on it. Most entries get printed in *Catalyst*, often in an edited form. We need the files to work from. Oh, and don't forget to make sure the files are in a format we can read! (See the AYRS website submissions page for more help.)



John Hogg and the AYRS

A gifted professional engineer and keen amateur sailor, John's special interest was in measuring and recording the interaction of wind speed, wind angle and sail trim and their effect on optimal boat speed. He contributed seminal papers to the AYRS journal describing his work based on data from innovative electronic equipment developed and built in his spare time.

During the sixties he produced polar diagrams for a wide range of racing yachts and particularly for wing sail, multihull and hydrofoil projects. In 1962 he built and evaluated radio controlled scale models under sail to validate tank test data for the Kurrewa V America's Cup challenge.

From the Society's creation until his death in June 2000, John encouraged and assisted members to support published work with hard quantified evidence in the interest of the science.

The John Hogg Prize, to celebrate John's life and work, is funded by donations.

The aim of this international award is to encourage and recognise important contributions to the understanding and development of sailing performance, safety and endurance. Submissions may be made by members or non members to arrive not later than 1st October 2005.

The winning entry will be announced and the prize will be awarded at the London International Boat Show in January 2008. All short-listed entrants will receive one year's free membership of the AYRS.

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