

Knitting Challenge 2018



The Guild encourages all machine knitters to use their knitting machines to be creative, to develop their own individual style in design and also in the way they adapt patterns written by others. The Judges will be looking for this as much as technical ability.

Categories 1– 4 are open to entries from members and non-members of the Guild of Machine Knitters.

Category 1. Garment of your own design *For this category you are required to design and knit a garment or outfit for an adult, child or baby. Built in patterns and pre-punched punchcard pattern designs allowed. You must do the stitches and rows calculations yourself and may be assisted by using such accessories as a charting device or computer programme such as DAK. The Judges will be looking for creativity in design and style. Winner is awarded the **GMK Award**.*

Category 2. A garment from a published pattern *(scan or photograph of pattern to accompany entry.) The Guild recognises that we have many wonderful knitters who do not consider themselves able to work without a pattern. For this category you are required to work from any published pattern for an adult, child or baby garment. You may add little touches, but the pattern must not be altered substantially. Winner is awarded the **Fiskerton Trophy**.*

Category 3. Socks and booties *Any style or length, single or double bed, preferably fancy or decorated but still capable of being worn. 80% must to be machine knitted. Winner is awarded the **Silver Cup**.*

Category 4. Open Category *Non-wearable, bags (any size or shape), blankets/throws, cushion/chair upholstery, children's toys and mobiles, book covers, floor mats, wall hanging, decorations, sculptures, curtains/window blinds and decorations etc. A flight of fancy, fabric flair, machine knitted art. Entries should be at least 75% machine knitted. Winner is awarded the **Alison Lee Award**.*

Judging: Three Judges will be chosen from College/University Tutors, Designers, previous winners and qualified machine knitters/assessors known to us. In all categories the Judges will be looking for:

- creativity – innovative use of yarn, patterning, decoration (max 25 points),
- finish and tension plus suitability of yarn for the design - style of finish including seams and ends, blocking/pressing, suitable and even tension, weight and type of yarn for the style and purpose of the garment (max 25 points),
- presentation and visual appeal - neatness, good use of colour, design features, (max 20 points),
- choice of techniques – suitability and combination of patterning and finishing (max 15 points),
- degree of difficulty – taking into account the length of time you have been knitting (max 15 points).

The Creativity Cup will be awarded to a member of the Guild of Machine Knitters whose entry is deemed by the Judges to be the most creative whilst demonstrating the best use of the stitch structures that can be achieved on a knitting machine together with good finishing techniques and presentation.

The Long Buckby Award will be given to a member of the Guild of Machine Knitters who enters the Knitting Challenge for the first time and whose entry is judged to show the highest standard of workmanship and presentation. The same entry cannot win both the Creativity Cup and the Long Buckby Award.

Please do not attach any identification or labels to your entry. **The Judges' decision is final.**

Closing date for submission of entries: **Friday 4th May 2018.**

Please send your entry to: Guild of Machine Knitters 2018 Challenge c/o Liz Holness, 166 Tavistock Road, Fleet, Hampshire GU51 4HG

The results will be announced and all entries displayed at the 2018 National Guild Day and AGM after which they can be collected from the AGM, returned by post or donated to a nominated charity of our choice. For postal returns a cheque/postal order or stamps to cover return postage should be enclosed with your entry.

We regret that we cannot forward Cups and Awards to overseas winners however certificates and prizes will be forwarded where practical and suitable.

Guild of Machine Knitters Knitting Challenge 2018 Entry Form



Please submit this form with your entry. (Use one form per entry – Photocopies accepted)
Please do not attach any identification or labels to your entry.
There is no entry fee.

(Please print clearly)

Name: Guild Membership Number.....

Address:.....

..... Post Code.....

Telephone Number..... E-mail Address.....

Please tick category entered:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Garment of own design <small>(see notes below)</small> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Garment from a published pattern <small>(see notes below)</small> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Socks and booties | <input type="checkbox"/> Tick here if own design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Open Category | <input type="checkbox"/> Tick here if own design |

Techniques used

.....

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Machines used

.....

Yarns used

Notes: Additional information for Judges *(use plain paper if insufficient room)*

Category 1:

- Who is the garment intended for (child / teen / adult / male / female/ disabled)?
- How would you describe the style (classic/trendy/holiday/special occasion / outer wear etc.)?

Category 2:

- Which publication and issue is the pattern from? Or
- Please state which Designer and pattern name used or other pattern identifying information.

How many years in total have you been machine knitting?

This **is / is not** the first time I have entered the knitting challenge or competition. (Delete as appropriate)

I will **collect** my entry/my entry will be **collected by**...../please **post back/ donate** to a charity nominated by the Guild. *(Delete as appropriate)*

Guild membership fee (if needed - cheques only please) £20.00 per year (April-March)

I agree that my entry may be exhibited and that my name and a photograph of the entry placed in the Guild Newsletter, on the Guild website and in other material used to promote the Guild (whether printed or online).

Signature Date

Closing date for submission of entry: Friday 4th May 2018

Please send your entry to: Guild of Machine Knitters 2018 Challenge c/o Liz Holness, 166 Tavistock Road, Fleet, Hampshire GU51 4HG

Remember to enclose sterling cheque/postal order/stamps to cover the return postage costs for your entry if your entry is to be posted back to you. This may also be sent by separate post but if doing so, please clearly indicate your name and address so that we can match it to your entry. Please make cheques payable to '**Guild of Machine Knitters**'.

PLEASE NOTE: Cups and Awards will not be forwarded to overseas winners.