



# Local Nasirat Ijtima Judges Guidelines

**JazakAllah Ahsanal Jazah for taking precious time out for a Nasirat-ul Ahmadiyya Canada Local Ijtima! Please read and review the following instructions carefully with full attention way prior to the event.**

## *Pre-Judging Preparation:*

- Perform 2 Nafl prayers and give Sadqa before beginning your judging duties to seek blessings and guidance
- Accept judging responsibility only within your area of confidence and expertise
  - For instance, if you feel unsure about judging Arabic recitation, refrain from taking on this responsibility

## *Conduct and Confidentiality:*

- Execute your role with fairness, and maintain confidentiality. Avoid discussing your marking decisions or evaluations with others at any time or place
- Avoid using phones, hitting the table, or making any noises during the competition, as these can distract Nasirat and increase their anxiety
- Show welcoming, friendly body language, such as a smile, to create a comfortable environment for participants

## *Scoring Criteria:*

- There can only be **one first, one second, and one third place** in each competition regardless of the number of participants. Ties are not allowed under any circumstance
- Advancement to Regional Level
  - **No minimum score requirement** is needed for participants to advance from the Local to the Regional level. All (and only) 1st position holders at the Local level are eligible to move on to the Regional level regardless of their score, but must have fulfilled their Membership & Ijtima chandas
- Advancement to National Level (From Regional)
  - To qualify for the National Ijtima, the first-place position holder at the Regional level must achieve a score of **90% or higher**
  - If the first-place position holder does not meet this 90% requirement, they will still receive their medal in recognition of their position. However, they will not qualify for advancement to the National level
  - This requirement should be clearly communicated to the first-place position holder and their family if they do not achieve the 90% score, so they understand they cannot participate at the National Ijtima

### *Scoring Criteria (cont'd):*

- Ensure that you are not giving identical scores to participants to avoid ties
  - Use your best judgement to carefully review marks to determine if one Nasirah stands out for the position
- Mistake Deduction Policy
  - Deduct marks for a mistake only once per occurrence. For instance, if a Nasirah repeats the same mispronunciation or Tarteel error, only one deduction should apply
    - Deduct separately for unique mistakes

### *Competition Structure:*

- Judges should not be assigned to multiple competitions in a row to avoid fatigue and maintain objectivity
- Each competition will have 3 judges, with one appointed as the Chief Judge
  - The Chief Judge should be selected based on experience and knowledge within the competition they are chosen for
- If the Chief Judge notices a significant discrepancy between 2 judges' scores and a 3rd judge's score, the judgement team should discuss and ensure fair judgement

### *Documentation of Marks & Feedback:*

- Judges should sign their judging sheets, include their contact information, and submit them to the Local Secretary Nasirat after judging is complete
- Judges will be provided the opportunity to provide general feedback through the "Suggestions Page". Please add constructive feedback for Nasirat, who may discuss it with Mothers/Guardians to help prepare them for future competitions. Ensure feedback is respectful, supportive, and in-line with marking guidelines
  - However, judges themselves *cannot* disclose any of the feedback themselves, rather this will be the responsibility of the Nasirat Secretary

### *MOST IMPORTANTLY:*

- Judges should create a supportive and encouraging environment for all Nasirat
  - It is essential that the judges selected maintain a safe, positive space where Nasirat feel confident to present without fear
  - These Nasirat are of our future, and we must ensure they have an uplifting and joyful experience during the ijtimā - *Let's help them shine on their special day! :)*