

# THE DANISH SYSTEM



**DEFINITION** - A method of evaluating a participant's product, skill, or exhibit relative to the standards developed for that class or contest.

**HOW TO USE** - After the evaluation of each item in the class, the entire class is subdivided into four groups according to the merits of each item (performance) relative to the standard.

## THE FOUR GROUPS:

- ⚙️ **Blue** - excellent; exhibit most nearly meets the standard (does not indicate perfection). Example of a numerical score = 90 -100.
- ⚙️ **Red** - good; relative to pre-established standards, a few specific shortcomings have been identified. Example of a numerical score = 80-89.
- ⚙️ **White** - fair; many improvements are needed in order for the exhibit to meet the pre-established standards. Example of a numerical score =70-79.
- ⚙️ **No award** - far below standards expected for that exhibit. Example of a numerical score - 69 - below.

## WHY THE DANISH SYSTEM?

- ⚙️ Provides recognition for a maximum number of exhibits or contestants.
- ⚙️ Recognizes the existence of and allows for relatively minor differences of entries and performances.

## ABUSES OF THE DANISH SYSTEM

- ⚙️ Too many or too few blue, red, or white placings are made.
- ⚙️ Ribbons are awarded on a set bell-curve which pre-establishes number of blues, red, whites allowable.
- ⚙️ Application of standards is too rigid or too lax.
- ⚙️ Standards were not clearly understood prior to judging.
- ⚙️ When judging exhibits, allowances are made for age differences, abilities, and experience.

## CONSIDERATIONS

- ⚙️ Items should be judged against standards, not against other items.
- ⚙️ Exhibitor should not be judged. Only the product, exhibit, or performance of the exhibitor should be judged.
- ⚙️ Judge should not assume experience because of age.