

SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DELL'IRIS A.P.S.

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Dear hybridizers,

another blooming season is over and the moment has come to launch the call for the 2028 Competition.

We're proud that the number of the participant to our contest is encreasing: the “palette” of the competing varieties becomes more and more stimulating!

As you already know, the first prize, Fiorino d'Oro, this year goes to Terry Aitken for 'Rocket Woman': the due recognition for a gorgeous variety and for a magnificent career in hybridation! The Jury was composed by Anna Cadd (USA), Chris Towers (UK), Augusto Bianco, Simone Luconi and Maria Carla Monaco (Italy): i want to thank them not only for the excellent work of selection and evaluation, but also for having been so brave in facing rain, hail and mud to judge the competing irises!

This year too, we had good moments of friendship and exchange of views: we welcomed a group of colleagues of the Société Française des Iris et Plantes Bulbeuses who shared with all of us ideas, opinions and... good food!

I hope that this trend continues in the future and I, then, ask you to send us your new varieties who will enter the 2028 Competition after three years in our Giardino dell'Iris.

You will find the attached official Call, but we would like to stress some important elements:

a) for all the hybridizers:

- TB and BB are the two categories in the race ;
- the Call including many important special prizes, I ask you to send us varieties suitable to such prizes (best blue, violet, pink, red, yellow variety, most original colour, best branching, best commercial, best scented and best BB);
- each hybridizer can participate with up to 6 varieties per category and for each variety up to 2 rhizomes can be sent;
- **please note:** the documents needed to enter the Competition are: a) the description, the seedling number of the variety and its name (if registered) b) an entering code for each variety; c) a photo of each variety;
- the plants should arrive in Florence between September 1st and September 30 2025;
- outside the parcel, you have to stick the two red&white tags (you will find them in the

attached “fascette_dogana.pdf” file).

- **the shipping address is:**

Società Italiana dell’Iris – Concorso Internazionale dell’Iris

c/o KiPoint, piazza Beccaria n. 19/r

50121 Firenze – Italia;

b) for the non UE hybridizers: in addition to the overmentioned conditions, you have to stick outside the parcel also the RUP tag (RUP.pdf).

Looking forward to receiving your plants in order to welcome them in our beloved Giardino.

Dont'esitate to write for any need!

Sofia Cavini
Responsible for the Competition

Florence, June 10th 2025