

TAMI Award Tie-Breaking Procedures

Introduction

This guide provides a structured approach to handling ties in the TAMI Awards program to ensure fairness, consistency, and adherence to program rules. These practices aim to help TAMI Awards administrators manage ties while maintaining a four-award limit per category and guaranteeing recognition for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. These measures aim to protect the value and prestige of winning a TAMI Award while also ensuring that recognition happens in every place level. Note: These procedures are meant to serve as guidelines and cannot anticipate all potential possibilities. Therefore, if the procedures outlined are not sufficient to clearly resolve a tie in a category, the VP of Awards will consult with the Awards Committee on the best way to proceed, and integrate any lessons learned in the future.

General Rules for Tie-Breaking

1. Maximum of Four Award Winners Per Category

- Only one placement (e.g., 1st, 2nd, or 3rd) may have two winners. While this rule has been generally held in practice, making this more formal allows for better consistency in handling ties across categories and causes less confusion around adjustments based on the below guidelines.

2. At Least One Winner for Each Placement

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will always have at least one winner, even if displacement occurs.

3. Displacement Is Acceptable

- Lower placements may be adjusted (or displaced) to enforce the four-award limit.
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Tie-Breaking Process

When ties occur, follow these steps:

Step 1: Allow Ties at Higher Placements (if possible)

1. Two Tied for 1st Place:

- Both entries are awarded 1st place.
- The next available placement is adjusted using tiebreaking criteria to maintain the four-award limit.

2. Tied at 2nd or 3rd Place:

- Allow ties only if the total number of awards does not exceed four.
- Use tiebreaking criteria to reduce ties as needed.

3. Displace Remaining Winners:

- If necessary, move entries to lower placements to ensure only four awards are given.

Step 2: Apply Tiebreaking Criteria

To resolve ties, the VP of Awards will tag scores in system based on the following order of priority:

Step Tiebreaker

Step 1 Compare **Overall Impression** scores. The entry with the higher score in this category receives the higher placement.

Step 2 If tied, compare **Production Quality** scores.

Step 3 If still tied, add scores for **Goals and Objectives** and **Outcomes and Achievements** and compare the combined scores.

Step 4 If too many scores remain tied, a third judge (non-TAMIO member) will evaluate and add a third score for **Overall Impression** only.

Examples of Tie Management

*Note: These SOPs are based on expected outcomes based on past experiences with TAMIO entries. If an outlier case, such as several ties in several places, causes any issues, the TAMIO VP will consult with the TAMI Awards Committee on the best course of action and suggest changes to programming in the future.

Scenario 1: Two Tied for 1st Place

Placement	Entries	Action
1st Place	Entry A, Entry B	Both receive 1st place.
2nd Place	Entry C	Assigned based on the next highest score.
3rd Place	Entry D	Assigned based on the next highest score.
Total Awards	4 (acceptable).	

Scenario 2: Two Tied for 1st, Two Tied for 2nd

Placement	Entries	Action
1st Place	Entry A, Entry B	Both receive 1st place.
2nd Place	Entry C, Entry D	Use tiebreaking criteria to select one 2nd place winner . Remaining entry cascades to 3rd place.
3rd Place	Entry E	Use tiebreaking criteria to select one 3rd place winner .

Placement	Entries	Action
Total Awards	4 (acceptable).	

Scenario 3: Two Tied for 2nd Place, Two Tied for 3rd Place

Placement	Entries	Action
1st Place	Entry A	Assigned based on the highest score.
2nd Place	Entry B, Entry C	Both receive 2nd place (2 awards total).
3rd Place	Entry D, Entry E	Use tiebreaking criteria to select one 3rd place winner .
Total Awards	4 (acceptable).	

Scenario 4: Tied Entries at All Levels

Original Tie	Adjusted Placement
Two or more tied for 1st	Use tiebreaking criteria to select two 1st place winners . Remaining entry cascades to 2nd place.
Two or more tied for 2nd	Use tiebreaking criteria to select one 2nd place winner . Remaining entry cascades to 3rd place.
Two tied for 3rd	Use tiebreaking criteria to select one 3rd place winner .
Final Outcome	Two 1st, one 2nd, one 3rd; total of 4 awards (acceptable).