



• THE BRITISH •
GEOTECHNICAL
ASSOCIATION

COOLING PRIZE COMPETITION

Rules and notes for entrants

1. The competition is open to Student or Full members of the British Geotechnical Association under the age of 30 on 31st December 2015.
2. Entrants may write a paper on any topic dealing with the engineering behaviour of the ground, whether it be a description of an industrial design or construction project, development of a new piece of equipment, or research. The aim of the competition is to encourage young engineers to write their first technical paper, and therefore equal merit will be given to high quality industrial experience as to state-of-the-art research. The work does not have to be solely that of the author, but the author's part should be stated clearly.
3. Papers must not exceed 2000 words and should be submitted to the BGA Co-ordinator at the ICE in PDF format. Entrants must also submit a brief c.v. indicating their age, education, past experience etc.
4. Upon their receipt, papers are examined by a panel of BGA committee members and members of the ICE Local Association hosting the event. The panel will select up to 4 papers from finalists who will present their papers at the competition.
5. Presentations should be 10 minutes in length using appropriate visual aids for the audience of BGA and Local Association members. A panel of three geotechnical engineers will judge the competition. Presentations must keep strictly to time and should emphasise the geotechnical aspects of the work. After each presentation the Chairman will allow 5 minutes of discussion in which the judges and audience may question the author on their presentation.
6. After the final presentation, the judges will retire to choose the winner, considering the written papers, the verbal presentations, the relative ages and experience of the contestants and the way they handled questions. During judging, a special lecture will be given by a guest speaker.
7. When the judges return, their chairman will comment briefly on each submission and announce the winner who is presented with prizes from the BGA and Ground Engineering magazine. Part of the BGA prize is sponsorship to attend the Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference (YGEC). Each finalist will receive a prize (see below). The judges may, at their discretion, recommend a runner-up to be considered for sponsorship to YGEC.
8. The winner of the Cooling Prize is invited to submit their winning paper for publication in Ground Engineering. Winning and runner-up papers will be retained in the Cooling Prize Competition file, in the ICE Library.



The BGA is a
member of the
Ground Forum

In case of any query please contact:
The Coordinator BGA on 020 7665 2007
Email: bga@britishgeotech.org.uk
<http://www.britishgeotech.org.uk>

9. After the competition the finalists are invited to join the judges and BGA members for dinner as guests of the BGA and Local Association. Travel and accommodation expenses will be met by the BGA.

10. The criteria on which papers are judged originate from Dr Leonard Cooling and are as follows:

Content

- (a) Importance of problem and technical substance of paper
- (b) Grasp of subject and aptness of method of attack
- (c) Clarity of presentation of main results
- (d) Details of descriptions relating to soil and water conditions
- (e) Intrinsic merit in stimulating thought

Presentation

- (a) Clarity of delivery
- (b) Aptness of approach and emphasis of findings
- (c) Grasp of subject and skill in summing up
- (d) Confidence and efficiency in dealing with questions
- (e) Audience reaction – interest aroused as evidenced by discussion

11. Prizes

- I. £200 cheque from Ground Engineering
- II. Cut glass decanter
- III. BGA sponsorship to the YGEC
- IV. Landmarks in Soil Mechanics, a collection of Rankine Lectures (or equivalent)
- V. Dinner
- VI. CPD days
- VII. Refereed paper can be added to your list of publications
- VIII. CV brownie points!

Runners-up get (iv to viii) and possibly (iii)



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