

RULES FOR EXHIBITORS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY TO AVOID DISQUALIFICATION.

GENERAL

1. **The Show Committee** reserves the right to interpret the rules in the best interest of the Show, including the right to refuse an entry, the Show Manager being the referee.
2. **Right to inspect gardens of competitors.** The Committee reserves the right to visit by permission, before or after a show, gardens and allotments from which plants, flowers, fruit or vegetables have been entered for competition.

ENTRIES

3. **Home-grown.** All horticultural entries must be bona-fide produce of the exhibitor, grown by him/her for a period of at least six weeks before the date of the show.
4. **Cleanliness.** To prevent possible disqualification and removal from the Hall, all exhibits must be clean and free from disease. Containers should be clean and free from damage.
5. **Loss or Damage.** Entries are accepted on condition that the Society is not responsible for loss or damage to any exhibit or to the exhibitor's personal property.
6. **Entry forms must be submitted to the Show Recorder by 4pm on the Wednesday prior to the show.** Earlier entries would be much appreciated. Late entries are at the discretion of the Chief Steward and Show Recorder. Late entries and alterations are at the discretion of the Show Recorder. In case of difficulties please phone: 023 9246 8359 or email: show.recorder@hihs.org.uk Entries can also be made via the website hihs.org.co.uk
7. **The entry fees** for classes, unless otherwise specified are:
 - 50p for Open classes
 - 30p for Members Only classes
 - Free for Junior classes

Afternoon Show entry is free to all adult exhibitors with three or more entries.

8. **Limitations.**
 - a. No person shall stage more than one entry per class.
 - b. Only one entry per household in each class with the exception of cookery, junior, photography, handicraft classes and floral art.

EXHIBITING

9. **Entry cards** must be collected from the Show Recorder's table on arrival at the hall. Each to be placed name downwards by the relevant exhibit. If not entering, place the card on the show bench, marked "No Entry".
10. **Naming.** The variety of blooms and plants should be stated on cards available from the Show Recorder. Cards stating "variety not known" are available. Please note, in the event of a tie, the one that is named will be selected.
11. **Help for exhibitors.** Stewards are present during staging to advise but it is the exhibitor's responsibility to ensure that the entry conforms in all respects with the schedule.
12. **Staging.** Exhibits should be staged as attractively as possible. Quality and uniformity are vital and are more important than size.
13. **Moving of exhibits.** Apart from the exhibitor, only Stewards may move exhibits for the following reasons:-
 - a. Before judging, as little as is necessary to make room on the show benches for other exhibits.
 - b. After judging, as much as is necessary to present an attractive and well balanced show bench to the public.
14. **After staging and before leaving the hall,** exhibitors must check that their entries are in accordance with the schedule and the correct entry card is name down by each exhibit.

HORTICULTURAL CLASSES

- 15. Constitution of fruit and vegetable dishes.** Every dish must consist of one cultivar only unless mixed dishes are permitted by the Showing and Judging Standards. Numbers in a dish and maximum points in a collection are specified in the Showing and Judging Standards, pages 50 and 51.
- 16. Members Only** classes are open to families holding the Society's current membership card.
- 17. Flowers.** Society vases must be used whenever possible. The stems of cut material must reach water. Vases may be packed with clean paper provided or with natural material. Newspaper must not be used because of discolouration to the vases.
- 18. Rings** are available for measuring exhibits for which sizes are quoted. They must pass through without touching.
- 19. Vegetables.** Roots must be carefully washed. Beet, carrots, parsnips and swedes should have the leaves cut so that approximately 75mm of leaf stalk remains. Radishes should have foliage trimmed back to 30mm. Onions should be trimmed back to the basal plate.
- 20. Fruit** must be shown on the plates provided. The appearance of fruit is enhanced by its natural bloom. Apples must not be polished. All fruit except apricots, peaches and nectarines should be shown with stalks. Currants should be shown in strigs as grown.

21. Definitions.

Vase	has a height greater than the width of its mouth i.e. bikini vase.
Bowl	has a width equal to or greater than its height.
Pot/Container	the diameter of a pot/container is the inside measurement made as close to the top as possible. With square or rectangular pots/containers it is the inside measurement made straight across the top at right angles to the rim.
Cultivar	is the international name for "variety", e.g. "Peace" is a variety whereas rose is a kind of flower.
House plants	given reasonable treatment will thrive in a dwelling room for several years.
Pot plants	are for use in a greenhouse or for short periods in a dwelling room.
Display	is primarily for attractiveness of the arrangement.
Novice	is an exhibitor who has not won a 1st prize in any relevant class at any HIHS show.
Shrub	is a woody stemmed plant, naturally branched from or near the base, lacking a single trunk.
Stem	a stem is the main stalk and flower(s).
Foliage	the inclusion of foliage from plants other than those of the flower/seed heads/fruits being exhibited in the vase is not permitted.
Orchids	must be of a minimum of second year growth. First year growth will be classified as "not as schedule".
Daffodils	for Daffodil Classifications see our website www.hihs.org.uk or the Daffodil Society Handbook.
Dahlias	for Dahlia information see our website www.hihs.org.uk or the Dahlia Society Classified Directory.

COOKERY

- 22. Covers.** All dishes exhibited must be covered by a display cover or cling film. Display covers are provided by the Society and can be obtained from the Show Recorder on the morning of the show. Plates, bowls and dishes must be plain and white, to assist anonymity. White plates are available from the Society.
- 23. Jars.** The contents of a jar should be clearly labelled and with the day, month and year of making. Jams etc should reach within 3mm of the top of the jar and be covered with a waxed disc and cellophane top OR a brand new plain white metal top. Chutneys should reach within 12mm of the top of the jar. Jars containing vinegar must have brand new plain white metal screw tops. Coffee jars must not be used. Pickles and chutneys should be at least 12 weeks old, unless otherwise stated. They must be ready to eat.
- 24. Mixes.** Pastry, bread, pizza and cake mixes are to be homemade from raw ingredients.
- 25. Warning.** Items of food exhibited in the Cookery and Junior classes are not to be sold, raffled or given away, as they have not been stored in accordance with the Health and Safety Regulations. Fresh cream must not be used for decoration or filling.
- 26. No meat or fish to be used.**

JUNIOR EXHIBITORS

- 27. Age limits.** Juniors have separate groups - 4 to 7 years, 8 to 10 years and 11 to 14 years, on the date of the show.
- 28. Prizes are awarded for each class.**
- 29. Own work.** The design and construction of exhibits must be entirely the junior's own work.
- 30. Marking.** A label naming the exhibitor must be firmly fixed to the exhibit and out of view.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- 31. Own work.** The photograph must be the work of the exhibitor. The photograph may be professionally developed and printed. Photographs may not be entered into a HIHS show on more than one occasion. Maximum print size 210mm x 297mm unless otherwise stated. Mounting optional.

FLORAL ART

- 32. Judging** will be to the 3rd Edition (2015) of the NAFAS Competitions Manual. Mrs Gilly Webster (Tel: 023 9246 4103) has kindly consented to advise would-be exhibitors on any difficulties experienced in the interpretation of classes in Floral Art.
- 33. An exhibit** is composed of natural plant material with or without accessories. Staging will be in alcoves approximately 560mm deep x 610mm wide. Height optional unless otherwise stated.

HANDICRAFT

- 34. Own work.** Items of handicraft must be the work of the exhibitor. To be displayed in an area of 600mm x 600mm unless otherwise stated. Items may be folded to fit space. No item of handicraft may be entered into our show on more than one occasion.

JUDGING

- 35. Privacy.** No person other than the judges, stewards and others appointed by the Show Committee may be present during judging.
- 36. The Judges'** decisions are final with regard to the relative merit of the exhibits.
- 37. Protests** must be made in writing to the Show Manager, with a fee of £1, not later than 3pm on the day of the show. In the event of a dispute being upheld the fee will be returned.

PRIZES AND TROPHIES

38. Points for exhibits will be awarded as follows:

1st = 4, 2nd = 3, 3rd = 2 and 4th = 1

39. Withholding prizes.

Prizes or medals may be awarded or withheld at the discretion of the judges and Show Manager if the quality of entries is not sufficiently high. Prizes and medals will not be withheld because there are insufficient entries.

40. Prize money will be as follows unless otherwise stated in the schedule:

1st = £2, 2nd = £1.50, 3rd = £1.

Prize money will be paid out at the Show Recorder's desk when announced, at about 3pm on the day of the show. Any unclaimed after one month will be returned to Society funds.

REMOVAL OF EXHIBITS

41.

After the prize-giving an announcement will be made that exhibits may be removed. Any exhibit remaining ten minutes after the announcement will be donated to local causes.

EXHIBITING FOR THE FIRST TIME?

PLEASE READ THE RULES FOR EXHIBITORS VERY CAREFULLY.

If you need clarification of the rules or description of the classes, any member of the Show Committee will be pleased to help.

A useful reference for exhibitors is the R.H.S Horticultural Show Handbook which can be obtained from the R.H.S at Wisley, or a copy is available for inspection from the Show Manager/Chief Steward.

On show days, stewards will be in the hall to give every assistance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all contributors and our volunteers who have supported the society, our shows and events throughout this year.

We are grateful to all who contribute to our talks, events, outings, working at our Trading Centre and giving their time to community projects and school gardening clubs.

