

# FLOWER SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS

## Southwest Oregon Chapter – American Rhododendron Society

### I: DEFINITIONS

- A. **Truss:** A single rachis (flowers coming from one bud).
- B. **Spray:** Elepidote – multi-stems emerging from a single stem; may consist of multiple trusses; 16 x 16-inch maximum size. 'Hammerheads', a single stem with multiple flower buds, should be shown in this class.
- C. **Spray:** Lepidote rhododendrons, azaleas, and azalea-dendrons: flowers coming from multiple buds on a single stem not to exceed 16 inches wide and 16 inches above the top of the container.

### II: ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

- A. Any exhibit is eligible to win a ribbon or trophy.
- B. Anyone may enter the show, ARS member or not, amateur or commercial.
- C. A household is considered to be one exhibitor. The Entries & Classification Committee will disqualify duplicate entries. Children under the age of 18 may submit one entry obtained from any garden. Permission from the garden owner must be obtained.
- D. Entries must be in the exhibitor's possession for a minimum of six months prior to the show and must have been primarily cared for by the exhibitor.
- E. An exhibitor that sells and vacates their current property may enter trusses in their name from that property, if they previously owned the property for six months or more. Conversely, a new property owner may compete in our show once they have cared for and owned the new property for six months or more.
- F. Exhibitors may bring entries between 7:00 and 9:00 AM on the opening day of the show. Entries close at 9:00 AM sharp!
- G. Exhibitors may remove their exhibits at 4:45 PM on the final day of the show. Ribbons and trophies should also be picked up by this time. Unclaimed entries will be disposed of properly.
- H. The Entries & Classification Committee has the authority to reassign or disqualify exhibits for an award that infringes on any show rule or regulation. The exhibit may be moved to a non-judged display area or removed from the show. Their decisions are final.

#### I. Truss & Spray Exhibits

1. **Hybrids.** An exhibitor may enter one exhibit in each class, for example, only one 'Blue Peter' and one 'Blue Ensign' in the same class.
2. **Species.** An exhibitor may enter more than one exhibit in a species class. For example, five selections of rhododendron *augustinii* could be entered in the same class.
3. **New American hybrids** (classes 810-840). A new American hybrid is a seedling grown by the individual submitting the entry. The seedling may be shown twice (only) in this category based on the cross. Subsequent showings, if available, will be in a class indicated by the classification schedule.

### III. STAGING OF ENTRIES

- A. Each entry must be in approved water-filled container.
1. The Chapter provides containers for show display.
  2. The show schedule may allow or call for exhibitors to use a specific type of container (such as one that can hold a heavy branch, as part of a theme, or to illustrate a particular design concept).
- B. Exhibitors are responsible for adding water to the containers, grooming and staging their entry, and completing an entry card.
1. Damaged or dead branches, leaves, and buds should be removed.
  2. Cleaning and washing the leaves with water makes for a better presentation. No artificial chemicals can be used to shine the leaves.
  3. Trimming the edge of a leaf is not allowed. Leaves may be removed.
  4. No wire or artificial stem or truss supports. A small foam wedge can be used to hold the exhibit in place.
- C. All entries must have a completed entry card prepared by the exhibitor.
- D. The exhibit and the entry card must be presented to the Entry & Classification Committee at the show site for classification.
- E. The Placement Committee is responsible for the proper placement of horticultural exhibits.
- F. Exhibits may only be moved by designated show staff. Contact the Show Chairman for more information.

### IV: JUDGING

- A. Spectators are not allowed in the exhibit area until judging is complete and trophies are awarded.
- B. Workers are asked to not disturb the judges during the judging process.
- C. The Chapter will make every attempt to care and protect exhibits, but is not responsible for any loss or damage.
- D. Judges should not pick up or move exhibits. Ask clerks for assistance.
- E. Judges should recuse themselves temporarily and avoid judging their own exhibits.
- F. Truss & Spray Judging**
1. All decisions of the judges are final.
  2. Exhibits shall be judged against perfection and compared to all others in its group or class as defined by the show schedule and classification key using the following criteria: **(100 points total):**
    - a) **Flower Truss.** According to variety. Refers to the diameter of individual corollas, number of flowers per, and overall size of truss being true to the greatest extent of the variety. The color should be true to the variety and a good representation of the group in which it is classified. 50 points
    - b) **Foliage.** All leaves should be well shaped, of good color and size, and of good condition without mars or blemishes. Foliage may be removed, but should NOT be trimmed. 30 points

c) **Cleanliness and Presentation.** Exhibits should be clean and in an upright position as much as possible. 20 points

3. Multiple ribbons for first, second, and third place may be awarded. Ribbons for Honorable Mention may also be offered.

4. Judges are encouraged to distribute ribbons (recognition) to the greatest extent possible.

5. The Judging Committee may add or split a class or group when five or more entries of the same variety are entered.

## V: ARTISTIC DESIGN

A. Design classes vary from year to year as described in the show schedule.

B. Design classes and table space may be limited as described in the show schedule.

C. Floral materials used in designs must be generally fresh and in good condition. Exhibitors are encouraged to identify the rhododendrons used in the exhibit and may come from any garden.

D. A class may call for dried materials or allow painting or other material alterations. Line material may be altered as desired.

E. Exhibitors are responsible for the proper placement of artistic/design exhibits.

1. Should the exhibit need to be moved, the exhibitor will be asked to move it. If they are not available, a representative from the Placement Committee will carefully move the exhibit.

2. If the exhibit is accidentally damaged by the committee member during a move, the exhibitor will be asked to quickly make repairs. Show staff will not make repairs.

## F. Judging.

1. Exhibits are judged against how well it meets the show guidelines, and the perfection of design based on principles and elements of design.

2. The schedule should normally include any size limitations, design types, themes, or other conditions by which the exhibit will be judged.

3. Judges should recuse themselves temporarily from judging their own designs.

4. Judges are encouraged to provide suggestions and comments on the back of the entry cards.

## VI: TROPHIES

A. Trophies offered from year to year may vary. See Appendix 1 for the current list.

B. Trophies may be sponsored by members, non-members, and other entities such as commercial, gardens, etc.

C. The Show Chairperson may make trophy adjustments some years. Occasionally there may be a lack of entries in a category or an abundance in another area, these are circumstances that are only evident after receiving all the entries for the show.

D. Only first place (blue ribbon) winners may be considered for trophies.

E. **Best in Show** trophies are selected from among the first place winners.

F. The **Sweepstakes Trophy** goes to the exhibitor that has accumulated the most points in the show.

1. Each first place win (blue ribbons) is worth five points; Second place wins (red ribbons) are worth 3 points; and third place wins (white ribbons) are worth 1 point.

2. Ribbons awarded azalea entries are included for the Sweepstakes Award.

3. The Chapter does not give extra points for trophy. We give trophies for best red, best white, etc., as well as "Best in Show Rhododendron" or "Best in Show Azalea."

G. Trophies may be picked up after the show.

1. If an exhibitor needs to pick up a trophy earlier, they must make prior arrangements with the Show Chair.

2. If the winner is unable to pick up the trophy, arrangements for transport should be made with the Show Chair.

## VI: PLANT SALES

A. Most shows include a plant sale coordinated by a Plant Sale Committee.

B. Sale proceeds are used to support chapter programs and educational activities.

C. The sale typically opens at 9 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m.

D. Purchases may be made in cash (preferred) or by check.

1. Every effort will be made to protect customer privacy. For instance, address information from checks will not be collected.

E. A method of the chapter's choosing will be used to manage a plant holding area.

1. Plants in the holding area should be paid for and picked up by one hour before the show closes. Show volunteers may be allowed extra time.

2. At that time, plants that are not paid for will be returned to the sales area for resale.

F. A signup sheet will be offered to members of the public whereby they can be informed of shows and events via electronic mail. This list will not be shared or used for other purposes.

## VII: OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. The show may include a variety of related activities that may or may not be judged (see show schedule). This can include photo, educational, or other non-judged commercial or educational displays.

B. Other activities can include demonstrations, mini-lectures, raffles, distribution of written materials, product sales (like for fertilizer or reference books), etc. that support the overall mission.

C. Send suggested changes to these rules and regulations to the Show Chair(s) for consideration.

D. Additional show information can be found on the Southwest Oregon Chapter website: <http://www.sworegon-ars.org/>

## Appendix 1. SHOW AWARDS

Best Deciduous Azalea Classes 1-6  
Best Evergreen Azalea Classes 7-13  
Best Species Azalea Classes 470-550  
Best in SHOW Azalea selected from the above three trophy classes  
Best Species Rhodo. Classes 560-790  
Best Maddenii Rhodo. Classes 740 and some select hybrids (class 80)  
Best Lepidote Rhodo. Classes 44-50  
Best White Elepidote Rhodo. Classes 14-16  
Best Pink/Rose Elepidote Rhodo. Classes 17-23  
Best Red Elepidote Rhodo. Classes 24-28  
Best Lavender/Purple Elepidote Rhodo. Classes 29-33  
Best Cream-Dark Yellow Elepidote Rhodo. Classes 34-37  
Best Coral/Salmon-Dark Orange Elepidote Rhodo. Classes 38-41  
Best Tri-Color (light) pink, red, yellow Class 42  
Best Tri-Color (dark) pink, red, yellow Class 43  
Best Spray (species or hybrid, elepidote or lepidote)  
Best in SHOW Rhododendron\*

Best in Show and Sweepstake winners are shown on a perpetual Chapter trophy.

**SWEEPSTAKES AWARD:** Sweepstakes Exhibitors are awarded points for their ribbons. The Sweepstakes award is given to the individual exhibitor with the most points as described in the rules (see 6.F.).

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**T**hanks go to the Siuslaw Chapter for their work developing the show rules and regulations used to develop this document. They also developed the original classification key. Both documents have been immensely helpful to our show. The Southwestern Oregon Chapter used these products to develop these documents.