

SHOW RULES

The following rules govern the Pakenham Horticultural Society spring and summer flower shows.

*Exhibitors at the shows must be PHS members with the exception of the Fall Fair Flower and Vegetable Show which is open to the public.

*An exhibitor may place only one entry in each class. All entries must have been grown by the exhibitor, except in the Design Class.

*Exhibitors are to use clear containers for specimens and place a clearly written entry tag with each entry.

*If necessary, show committee members will assist exhibitors with information and placing entries in the proper class but are prohibited from making changes of exhibits unless authorized by the Show Chairman or the Judge.

*Entries will be disqualified if the number of blooms or stems in the container are incorrect or the bloom(s) size or height of the exhibit is incorrect.

*Any bud showing colour will be considered as a bloom. Flowers are to be shown with their own foliage, with the exception of the Design Class. No supports, ribbons, or wires may be used with specimens.

*The Flower Show Committee reserves the right to add, delete or divide any classes. The Judge's decision is final.

PRIZES, awarded at the recommendation of the Judge

*In each class 1st Place receives 3 points, 2nd Place receives 2 points and 3rd Place receives 1 point. Cash awards based upon points earned during the Spring, Summer and Fall shows are presented to recipients at the AGM in October.

TIPS FOR DISPLAYING

(Definitions)

***BLOOM**: An individual flower, one to a stem (debudded for exhibition if necessary).

***SPIKE**: An upright stem carrying several flowers which are nearly stemless.

***SPRAY:** A spray is the terminal flowering growth of a herbaceous or woody plant carried on one stem, ideally flowers in bloom, buds showing colours, green buds and leaves.

***STEM OR STALK:** A main plant structure which supports flowers, buds, leaves or fruit.

JUDGE'S SCORING FOR SPECIMENS IS BASED UPON:

***CONDITION:** Including freshness, freedom from blemishes, qualities

***FORM:** Normal or ideal shape of the species

***COLOUR:** Natural colour of the type, quality, intensity, clearness, purity

***SUBSTANCE:** Physical quality of petals and leaves

***TEXTURE:** Surface quality, rough, smooth, velvety, silky, etc.

***SIZE:** According to variety

***STEM & FOLIAGE:** Straight, clean, healthy

***UNIFORMITY:** Applies to entries with more than one bloom, uniform in size, shape, colour and growth or ripeness.

TIPS TO PRE-CONDITION PLANT MATERIAL

*For plant material to look its best and last longer, cut the material the night before or in the early morning and immediately submerge to its neck in warm water. Leave for a few hours, if possible in a dark, cool room, then recut the stems and place in fresh water.

*For most flowers, cut the stems at a slant, about 1 ½" from the base. For woody or fibrous stems, make deep vertical cuts at the base or mash with a mallet so the stem can absorb maximum water.

*Milky sap stems, such as poppies and euphorbia, should have their base seared by flame to seal or immerse the ends in half inch of boiling water for about a minute.

*Hollow stemmed flowers, such as amaryllis or lupin, should be held upside down, their stem filled with water and the base plugged with cotton or tissue.

*Roses need to be conditioned each time they are removed from water and stems should be cut under water to prevent air from blocking the stems.

*Spring bulbs or corms should be conditioned separately in cold water, with small slits or in holes at the base of each flower to prevent closing prematurely. Daffodils/narcissus should be

conditioned alone as their sap can be toxic to other bulbs and plants. After conditioning they can be used together with other flowers in design arrangements.

*Delicate stemmed flowers, such as violets, can be revived by completely submerging them in water for a couple of hours.

*Spraying your flowers with a water mister will refresh most plant material (not to be used on orchids).

*Before using your plant material as specimens or designs, check for dirt, debris, bugs, etc. and cut off any leaves or thorns that would be below water to prevent them from fouling of the water.

JUDGING ASSESSMENT FOR FLORAL DESIGN

DESIGN: 35 pts. The organization of the elements and principles of design (balance, rhythm, proportion, scale, contrast and dominance).

CONFORMANCE: 25 pts. Interpretation of the theme and/or title and compliance with schedule requirements.

CREATIVITY: 20 pts. An original concept in the choice of components and/or principles in the organization of design elements, within the limitations of the principles of design.

DISTINCTION AND CONDITION: 20pts. Marked superiority in all respects and physical state of plant material at the time of judging.