

## **MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS SHOW SCHEDULE, RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Mid-America Show Schedule has been developed by members of the Show Schedule Committee of the Mid-America Orchid Congress. It is reviewed and revised every five years. The schedule should be used at orchid shows hosted by member societies of the Congress, and it must be used at shows held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Congress.

The host society may expand or reduce the Show Schedule class numbers by adding sub-classes in classes where many entries are expected (e.g., 25A, 25B). Classes may be eliminated where no entries are expected. However, the numerical order of the classes **must** remain the same.

### **THE SHOW**

#### **1. General information**

The **Tennessee Capital Orchid Show** will be presented by **The Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee** at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, 700 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, Tennessee 37067 on Saturday, October 30, 2009 from 9 AM until 8 PM and Sunday, November 1, 2009 from 9 AM until 5:00 PM. Plant sales will also be available on Friday, October 29, 2009 from 10 AM until 5 PM as well as Saturday and Sunday during the posted show hours above.

#### **2. Requests for exhibition**

Requests for exhibition space should be sent no later than Thursday, October 1, 2009 to Steve Burger, 9651 Fredonia Road, Manchester, TN 37355, (931-394-2713, [gandsgh@blomand.net](mailto:gandsgh@blomand.net)). Reasonable effort will be made to provide the amount of space requested, but should space be less than expected, the Show Committee reserves the right to limit space allocated to the exhibitor.

#### **3. Exhibit set-up and takedown**

Exhibitors may set-up exhibits from 6 AM to 8 PM on Friday, October 30, 2009. Entries will be accepted until 7 PM. Subsequent entries will be exhibited but not judged. All exhibits must be left in place until 5:00 PM, Sunday, November 1, 2009.

#### **4. Shipped in materials**

All shipments of plants, cut flowers or exhibit materials to be displayed at the show, must be received no later than 10 AM, Friday, October 30, 2009. Shipment should be made to Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, 700 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, Tennessee

37067. Please contact the hotel directly to make your shipping arrangement. In the event the exhibitor cannot be present, the Show Committee will display the material to its best advantage. If return of the material is requested, it will be returned at the exhibitor's expense. All exhibits not claimed by the exhibitor, or the disposal of which is not specified, will be distributed by the Show Committee.

5. Show judging will begin promptly at **8 AM, Saturday, October 31, 2009.**

## **JUDGING PROCEDURES**

### **1. General information**

An American Orchid Society (A.O.S.) sanctioned show must comply with the current rules of the American Orchid Society **Handbook on Judging and Exhibition** and any interim rules issued by the A.O.S. **Judging Committee**. At the show, there must be three or more judges accredited by the American Orchid Society (A.O.S.). The decisions of these judges will be final. The American Orchid Society system of judging will be used in all events.

All judges and clerks are expected to familiarize themselves with the show rules.

All plants and flowers will be considered for recognition based on present quality, without regard to previous awards. To maintain highly competitive standards, no trophies or other recognition will be awarded if, in the judges' opinion, the flower, plant or exhibit does not warrant such recognition. Judges may subdivide or add additional classes or awards at their discretion.

### **2. A.O.S. awards**

This show has been approved for A.O.S. judging. All flowers, whether entered for ribbon judging or not, will be considered for A.O.S. awards unless otherwise marked by the exhibitor. If the flowers have previously been exhibited at an A.O.S.-approved function, they are considered to have been screened and, therefore, are not eligible for further consideration. They should be marked, "Not for A.O.S. judging". This will not disqualify the flower from consideration in the proper ribbon or trophy class. Submission of plants or cut flowers for judging shall obligate the exhibitor to accept any award granted and to pay any fees connected with such an award except where he has clearly indicated before the judging that his entry is not to be A.O.S. judged.

**3. Ribbon judging**

First, second and third place ribbons may be awarded to the best three (3) entries in each class other than a trophy class. All plants and cut flowers must be correctly entered in the appropriate class, or reclassified by a judge, to be eligible for ribbon judging. Exhibitors will enter their plants using standard Mid-America show tags or equivalent computer-generated tags. After completing the registration of the material, the copy goes on the plant while the original remains at the entry desk. Entry tags should show plant parentage, clonal name, if assigned, and previous awards, if any, to the clone. (See section: **PROCEDURE FOR ENTRY OF PLANTS AND EXHIBITS.**) An official copy of the correct entry classes to enter your plants is available at the entry desk. Where a plant could conceivably fit into more than one class, the exhibitor shall enter it into the first applicable class listed. A mericlone is considered a vegetative division of the original plant and must be treated as such. If a plant is a mericlone, it should be so designated and the clonal name given. Species classes will include natural hybrids. Criteria employed in ribbon class definitions refer to characteristics prevailing for mature plants grown according to normal horticultural practices.

**4. Trophy eligibility**

All trophies are open to all exhibitors in this show, if the exhibit is entered properly and show rules are complied with, unless otherwise specified in this schedule.

**5. Plant and flower trophies**

In order to be eligible for any special trophies, plants and exhibits must be entered for ribbon judging. No separate entry is required.

**6. Exhibit trophies**

Each exhibit may be entered in **ONE** class only. All exhibits must be entered on standard Mid-America entry tags or computerized equivalent. The copy goes on the exhibit and the original to the entry registration desk. All exhibits are eligible for the A.O.S. Show Trophy and will be judged in accordance with the criteria in the current **A.O.S. Handbook on Judging and Exhibition.**

## SHOW CLERKS

There are two types of **registration clerks** and each has a different responsibility:

1. **Classification registration clerk**  
Reviews entries and compares them to show schedule classifications, and checks to see that all information is provided on the entry tag. Note: The exhibitor is ultimately responsible for the correct classification of an entry.
2. **Entry registration clerk**  
Located at the entry registration desk, receives plant/exhibit entries from exhibitors, adds the proper entry number, and adds it to the other entries in the same class. These responsibilities are often shared by two or more people.

In addition, three types of **show (ribbon) judging clerks** assist the judges during the judging process:

1. **Head Clerk**  
Responsible for the efficient performance of the judging process. This also includes recording the decisions of the judges, making a record of the awards given, and leading the judges to the next class to consider. When personnel are available, this person should be assisted by two additional clerks.
2. **Ribbon clerk**  
Responsible for maintaining the ribbon supply, adding class, entry number and date to each ribbon awarded, obtaining the signatures of the judges, and placing the ribbons in accordance with the awards granted.
3. **Spotter**  
Assists in locating exhibits and plants plus any other duties that may be assigned.

During the show judging, clerks are not to participate in the process unless asked to do so. Most often, only judges are to be involved in the deliberations concerning an entry considered for competitive awards. In all cases, clerks are to assist the judges to effect efficiency during the judging process. Further, deliberations, when verbally expressed, must not be repeated nor discussed with others.

## SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS

All exhibitors are expected to familiarize themselves with the show schedule and exhibition guidelines.

1. Each exhibitor agrees upon entry to abide by the rules and regulations of the show. All questions regarding the interpretation of these rules shall be referred to the Judging Chairman for a decision.
2. **Each exhibitor is limited to three entries per class**, with the exception of classes 98 and 99, which are not restricted.
3. Each plant should be entered in ONE class only, except Specimen Plants, which may be entered into more than one class.
4. Improperly entered plants/exhibits may be either reclassified or disqualified at the discretion of the judges.
5. In order to sell orchid plants and related materials at the show, an exhibitor must place an exhibit of at least 25 square feet **floor display** in the show. It must conform to the quality of the show in accordance with the Show Committee.
6. Foliage plants, moss etc. may compliment exhibits, but no artificial or dyed moss or foliage of any kind will be permitted with the exception of artificial grass used as a floor covering. Plants in flower or cut flowers other than orchids will not be permitted in an exhibit. Newly imported and un-established plants are discouraged in exhibits. No dyed flowers will be permitted. No water, fountains or streams will be permitted in the exhibits.
7. Neither the host society nor show sponsor is responsible for loss or damage to any plants, blooms, corsages, containers or other property of exhibitors. However, every precaution will be exercised for their safety.
8. Any lighting used for effect is the responsibility of the exhibitor. It must be coordinated with the Staging Committee.
9. All plants or cut flowers exhibited must be properly labeled. Plant ownership should not be visible prior to judging.
10. No cut flowers will be permitted in flowering plant exhibits, and no flowering plants will be permitted in cut flower exhibits.

## ORCHID CLASSIFICATION

1. Entries not in accordance with the schedule may be disqualified.
2. In general, plants should be entered in the first applicable class. If in doubt, see the Mid-America Classification Schedule available at the plant registration desk.
3. A meristem plant or cut flower may **NOT** be entered as a seedling blooming for the first time.
4. For purposes of this schedule, the word "hybrid" means a cross made with the genus listed, unless preceded by the word "intergeneric", in which case, two or more different genera are used in the cross.
5. For the purpose of this show, an amateur is defined as any person who has not sold more than a total of five hundred plants and/or flowers in the last year.
6. Color Definitions:
  - a. In general, **blush colors** and **two-toned** flowers should be entered in the "**Other Colors**" classifications with the exception of Phalaenopsis, which has a dedicated blush class.
  - b. Color in **Paphiopedilum** hybrids is based on the dominant flower color.
  - c. **Harlequin Phalaenopsis** are to be classified by base color in the Phalaenopsis hybrids and Doritaenopsis color classes designated "with markings" .

## PROCEDURE FOR ENTRY OF PLANTS AND EXHIBITS

**This show will feature electronic plant registration. No MAOC entry tags will be used. Please follow these instructions:**

1. A separate entry must be made for each plant, cut flower and exhibit.
2. Societies and individuals participating in the show will be sent instructions for electronic pre-registration at least ten days prior to the show (October 20, 2009).
3. Obtain an entry form from Jeff Delmas, the Plant Registration Chairman, via

email at: [maoc@delmasfamily.net](mailto:maoc@delmasfamily.net). He will also provide you with additional information about plant registration and send you your Exhibit Number and Exhibitor Number at that time.

4. Save the Plant Registration document from the Plant Registration Chairman in either Microsoft Word or Microsoft Excel or a plain text (.txt) file.
5. Complete the entry of your plants on the document using the Mid-America Entry Schedule herein. If you have more than one person exhibiting in your display (i.e. society display), please designate each person with a letter after the Exhibitor number (i.e. Exhibit 10 has 3 plant contributors. Exhibitor one is designated 10A, exhibitor two is designated 10B, etc.). Be sure to log in their names at the Plant Registration Desk.
6. When completed, save the document. Attach it in a return email to the Plant Registration Chairman ([maoc@delmasfamily.net](mailto:maoc@delmasfamily.net)). Please submit your entries before Friday, October 30, 2009 at 6 PM. Registration closes at 7 PM.
7. **Remember, it is your responsibility to classify your entries correctly. Incorrect entries may be disqualified.**
8. When you arrive at the show, your Entry Tags will be available at the Plant Registration Desk. If you are unable to submit your entries electronically, please bring a USB flash drive or similar to the show with your plant entry information on the drive. Please allow sufficient time for processing of your entries.
9. Please note that the Entry Tags are for ribbon competition only and are to be removed following ribbon judging. Please prepare separate plant identification labels for the plants in your display.