

HORTICULTURE

CUT FLOWERS

All flowers and foliage must be homegrown by the exhibitor unless stated in the schedule.

Judges are looking for:

- Cultural perfection – grown to the full extent of their capability in flowers and foliage
- Form – shape – true characteristics – freshness – strong stem
- Foliage – must be clean – no marks – no pests – no spider webs – no cuts – no tears
- Condition – freshness – firmness – no pests – stamen and pollen – no cuts – no tears
- Colour – evenness – brightness (not dull/faded)
- Size – balanced – over and undersize
- Texture – firmness – thickness of tissue of flower
- Uniformity – evenness of colour – size – shape – staging – condition
- Staging – not too crowded in the container – attractive – clean – proportioned to size – flowers facing the judges
- Container (where judging is specified by the schedule) – proportion, harmonious, not dominate and clean.

Presentation

- All stems ends must be below the water level in the container
- Stems must be strong, length, upright.
- No leaves attached to the stems in the water and just above the top of the container
- The top of the container must be seen to see how many stems are in the container.
- Examples of aids to use include foam, cotton wool and tissues – however the aid must be below the top of the container
- Example of aids NOT to use is wire or stakes, unless stated in the schedule
- Make sure your end product/s are facing the judges so they can give you the best opportunity to win BEST IN SHOW. Standing upright – straight – facing the front.
- Place your entry in the correct **class section**. Stewards will help to find the right section for correct judging

Six Pansies

- staged separately – using aids to help to stand the flower upright eg doilies or card collar
- facing the judges

Pansies on a saucer

- in wet sand
- evenly displayed
- must be done by the child

Species NOT to be entered as a cut flower, can only be entered in specified classes according to schedule:

- Proteas
- Fuchsias
- Rhododendrons
- Azaleas
- Vireyas Camellias

YES can be shown as a **cut flower**:

- Marguerites Daisy
- Clematis
- Hydrangea
- Lavender
- Plectathus
- Salvia

Can be entered as a **flowering shrub or tree**:

- Salvia
- Hydrangea
- Fuchsias
- Azaleas
- Rhododendrons
- Vireyas Camellias
- Proteas

Containers

- The schedule states that you must bring your container/s – it is best to find the one that is suitable in size, height and width to suit your entry.
- You can use wine bottles, old coffee jars or jam jars; glass preferred; clear bottles are best as the judges can view what is in the bottle. Op shops have a variety to choose from.

When to pick your flowers

Picking your flowers or making your display. Either pick the night before and or stand flowers in water to the top of the flower head. OR pick on the morning of the show.

Allow for the weather in case it rains then pick the night before if this is what is needed.

How to transport your flowers

- Organise a container e.g. foam/cardboard box upside down and cut holes for your container. This design helps flowers from falling over during transport.
- Place exhibits in containers carefully and place in your car where delicate flowers do not touch anything else.

Or use

- A wooden handmade holder for travelling. This also helps with damage control of your displays. Ask your local men's shed to make some. It can resemble the old plastic milk bottle holders. E.g. holding 6 bottles.

What to bring with you to the show

If you have saved timed and entered online, bring your printed exhibit cards or allow some extra time when arriving at the show to ask the stewards to print them for you.

If you haven't entered online, bring your entry form

- Have the form filled out with your details and your exhibit details
- Have money ready to pay for entries

For exhibits

- Extra stems for exhibits
- Scissors and secateurs
- Containers
- Watering can/bottles
- Water is available at the show



POT PLANTS

Pot plants to be self-grown or owned by the exhibitor for at least 3 months.

Judges are looking for:

- Cultural perfection – grown to the full extent of their capability in flowers and foliage
 - Form – shape – true characteristics – freshness – strong stem
 - Foliage – must be clean – no marks – no pests – no spider webs – no cuts – no tears
 - Condition – freshness – firmness – no pests – stamen and pollen – no cuts – no tears
 - Colour – evenness – brightness (not dull/faded)
 - Size – balanced – over and undersize
 - Texture – firmness – thickness of tissue of flower
 - Uniformity – evenness of colour – size – shape – staging – condition
 - Staging – not too crowded in the container – attractive – clean – proportioned to size – flowers facing the judges
 - Container (where judging is specified by the schedule) – proportion, harmonious, not dominate and clean.
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- Clean, pest and weed free
 - Flowers should be in abundance for pots in flower.
 - There should be one plant per container, unless stated in the schedule. The plant should be centred.
 - The Container is not always judged but comes into the equation making sure it is clean, mould free, not chipped or cracked and it does not take away from the plant. Plant should be in proportion to the container. Aids are permissible if it is part of their growth habit.

BONSAI

Pot plants to be self-grown or owned by the exhibitor for at least 12 months.

Judges are looking for:

- Visual Impact – health, shaping, cleanliness, condition and suitability of container and stand
- Trunk proportion – thick at the bottom tapering to apex,
- Roots (if exposed) – hugging soil and supporting tree
- Branches – should balance and be consistent – first branch within 1/3 of height of tree from soil, thickest and longest – two lower branches to angle toward front of tree in open arms – staggered in groups of three, becoming closer as they spiral towards the apex – no branches crossing when viewing from top – No branches directly in front of the trunk in bottom 2/3 of tree – horizontal or 8-12° below horizontal – no leaves or needles on underside of branches – sense of depth from front – small leaves or needles – no wire visible – trunk cut off at rear
- Soil and Ground Cover – cleanliness, free from weeds
- Container – size, shape and colour to compliment the tree but not dominate
 - Deciduous trees – coloured, glazed containers
 - Evergreen trees – unglazed containers
- Display Stand – must blend in with overall effect

FORAL ART

Fresh flowers must be used except where otherwise stated.

Flowers in this section need not be grown by the exhibitor.

Accessories and aids allowed.

Where a container is specified, the exhibitor must supply this.

Teachers in the class of work exhibited or persons who do similar work that is sold etc. are not eligible to compete in the floral art section.

Judged are looking for:

- Character and form of the design – conforms to the specifications and conveys the style or theme
- Balanced – height, width and depth
- Dominance – one stronger more dominate effect (line direction, form, colour, texture, etc.)
- Contrast – variations in texture, colour, forms, lines
- Rhythm – line direction, transition, gradation and repetition of forms, lines, spaces, patterns and colours
- Proportion – areas and amounts of colour, form, space, texture of one area to the other and a while
- Scale – size relationship of individual components to each other and the size of design
- Unity and Harmony – all components and combinations appear harmonious as a unit

JUNIOR CLASSES

Children are encouraged to enter as the judges are not so harsh.

Must be the child's work.

