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**DARWELL & DISTRICT**  
— AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY —



82ND ANNUAL

**SUMMER FAIR**

**BENCH SHOW  
PROGRAM**

— YEAR OF THE —

**HORSE**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 15**



**2026**





# YEAR OF THE HORSE FAIR PARADE



**SATURDAY**  
AUGUST 15, 2026

## WE WANT YOU!!!

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR FAIR WITH A  
ROCKIN' PARADE.  
DECORATE YOUR BIKES, RIDE YOUR  
HORSES, BRING YOUR FLOATS...  
WE WANT IT ALL!!

JUDGING STARTS 9:30AM  
PARADE 10:00AM

**LINE UP AT SCHOOL**  
**NO PRE-ENTRY REQUIRED**



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## Benefit

- ✓ Community Involvement
- ✓ Free Entry into Event
- ✓ Free Meal
- ✓ Meet People & Have Fun
- ✓ Thank you gift

Volunteering not only benefits those who give their time and effort but also creates a ripple effect of positive change within communities and organizations.



**COME JOIN US**

Contact : Carla  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Text: 780-868-9066



## COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FOUNDATION

• **THANK YOU!**  
Volunteers



# BENCH SHOW ETIQUETTE

Knowing your responsibilities helps the Bench Show run smoothly and keeps it a positive experience for exhibitors, judges, and volunteers.

## BEFORE THE BENCH SHOW

- ✓ Read the classes carefully and follow all rules and regulations
- ✓ Follow any presentation or display guidelines
- ✓ Make sure entries are clean, neat, and ready for judging
- ✓ Enter the correct category — ask a committee member if unsure
- ✓ Complete entry tags in advance, write clearly, and double-check for errors

## DAY OF THE BENCH SHOW

- ✓ Bring entries on time
- ✓ Give entries to convenors or place them where directed
- ✓ Be organized and write clearly
- ✓ Have entry fees totalled and ready, if applicable
- ✓ Enjoy the experience!

## AFTER THE BENCH SHOW

- ✓ Be open-minded about results and feedback
- ✓ Share questions or suggestions with the Bench Show committee
- ✓ Pick up entries on time
- ✓ Encourage others to participate next year



# BENCH SHOW

Interlake Golden Age Club

## Bench show drop off

**Friday, August 14 (5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)**  
**Saturday, August 15 (8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.)**

Judging for the Bench Show commences  
**SATURDAY at 9:30 a.m. SHARP**

## Entry Fees:

Adults: \$2.00 for first entry + 50¢ for additional entries  
 Junior & Intermediate: 25¢ per entry  
 School Work: Free

**HALL WILL BE OPEN FOR VIEWING AT 12:15 P.M.**  
**EXHIBITS TO BE PICKED UP FROM THE HALL BETWEEN**  
**3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

Prize money for all bench show categories:

1st - \$4.00 2nd - \$3.00 3rd - \$2.00

Prize money will be paid out at the end of the show.

## HORTICULTURE - FLOWERS, VEGETABLES, FRUITS

**Horticulture Only:** Exhibitor may enter up to two exhibits/class; however, each entry MUST be of a different cultivar and MUST be named. Failure to name all multiple entries in the class will disqualify all those multiple entries. Comply exactly with rules regarding the numbers or your exhibit will be disqualified. All plants must have been in the exhibitor's possession at least 60 days prior to the show.

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**WAYFINDER**  
 THE PROPPANT COMPANY

# FLOWERS

Flowers are judged on overall condition, including freshness and suitability of the specimen to its class, with emphasis on uniformity, maturity, and true cultivar characteristics. Presentation is also considered, including correct grooming, proper staging, and adherence to class requirements, with the best exhibits showing balance, good substance, and careful preparation.

101. Arrangement of garden flowers in any container
102. Bouquet of garden flowers, mixed, any foliage
103. Dahlia, 1 stem, 1 bloom only, 1<sup>st</sup> set of 2 leaves
104. Gladiolus, one spike, any colour, with 2 leaves
105. True Lily, 1 stem, single or multiple blooms
106. Marigold, 3 blooms, one cultivar, under 7.5 cm, shallow container
107. Pansy, one cultivar, 3 blooms, in shallow container
108. Petunia, single- 3 blooms, one cultivar, in shallow container
109. Rose, any, one spray, must include leaves and buds
110. Rose, floating in bowl, 1 bloom, no foliage
111. Sunflower, 1 stem (not whole plant), can have multiple blooms
112. Any other annual not listed, labelled, 3 stems, one cultivar
113. Any herbaceous perennial, labelled, 3 stems, one cultivar
114. Succulent Dish Garden. Minimum 3 plants, can include true cacti, dish no larger than 25 cm, accessories permitted.
115. Houseplant, foliage - 1 pot max. 30 cm diameter, named. NEW!

## High Point Flower Trophy – Mary Brent Memorial



## Vegetables

- **Beans** should be uniform, fresh, stringless, and without bulging seeds, 1 cm stem attached.
- **Beets** dark red throughout, free of rings, side roots, splits, or sunburn. Tops trimmed to 1 cm. Round should be 5-7 cm diameter, cylindrical 3-5 cm diameter. Trim root, no shorter than 4 cm.
- **Carrots** should be smooth, straight, clean, and free of side roots or sunburn. Tops trimmed to 1 cm. Small core, tender and sweet.
- **Cabbage** should be medium-sized, firm, true to type. Remove stem and damaged leaves, leave 1-2 wrapper leaves attached.
- **Corn** should be fresh with straight rows of full kernels. 1/3 of husk removed from tip to base.
- **Cucumbers** should be uniform in shape and colour, fresh, firm, not seedy. 1 cm stem attached. Slicing types should be at least 15 cm long. Pickling 5-7 cm long.
- **Lettuce** leaves washed, tender and sweet; roots and small or damaged outer leaves removed, can be shown in water to keep it crisp.
- **Onions** should be firm, uniform, tops and roots trimmed to 1 cm. Jagged skins removed but gently clean & retain outer skin.
- **Peas** (shelling) should have full, even pods, 1 cm stem and calyx attached.
- **Potatoes** should be smooth, medium-sized, with shallow eyes, and free from sunburn. Clean with a soft brush.
- **Tomatoes** should be uniform, smooth, firm, with 1 cm stem attached. Green-ripe preferred in green classes.
- **Zucchini** 15-20 cm length ideal, uniform shape and size, trim stems to 1 cm, thin skin.

## Fruit

- Should be at peak ripeness, clean, blemish-free, stems attached, and attractively arranged. Wipe apples clean.
- Must be named; points are awarded for cultivar names.
- **Rhubarb:** Trim tops to fan shape (2.5 cm), stalks uniform, 45-50 cm long, pull to harvest & trim rough edges, tie together.

For more details on preparing bench show entries, refer to:  
[Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticultural Shows](#),  
available online at: [www.abhorta.ca](http://www.abhorta.ca)

## Helpful Hints for Horticulture Exhibits

The judges are guided in making their decisions by this show schedule.

Judges give preference to entries with cultivars named.

(Cultivar is a horticultural variety e.g. 'Sunny Vee' is a cultivar of corn.)

All exhibits must be clean and free of insects and diseases. Noxious and prohibited noxious weeds are not permitted.

For more information see [abinvasives.ca/invasive-plants/](http://abinvasives.ca/invasive-plants/)

### Flowers

- With the exception of decorative arrangements, the flowers are judged for quality. The artistic arrangement of exhibits in Cut Flower classes does not count.
- Size in the individual blooms is desirable but quality, form, and cleanliness are just as important. Do not sacrifice quality for size.
- Damage to petals will cause the loss of many points.
- Gladioluses should have a straight spike and be cut to have the total stem approximately half the length of the flower head. Florets should be evenly spaced and in balance.
- Roses are considered at their peak just as the second set of petals starts to unfurl. A good length of straight stem with foliage is desirable. The stem should reach the bottom of the container. Side buds must be removed in the Single Rose class.
- Sweet Peas should have long, straight, firm stems. Size, texture, freshness, and number of open florets are important.
- Asters, Dahlias, Marigolds, Zinnias should have full centers (except in single varieties) and be free of wilting petals.
- Short stemmed flowers like pansy, petunia, & marigold are shown in a shallow container, with holes in a lid, arranged so they are not touching each other in the display.
- Snapdragons should have single, straight spikes without side shoots.



**steannegas.com 780.967.2246**

# VEGETABLES & FRUITS

Whenever possible, display on white paper plates

201. Collection of your 4 best vegetables, 1 of each & labelled, any kind, on tray or mat
202. Bean, green, bush or pole, plate of 3 pods
203. Bean, runner, plate of 3 pods
204. Beet, round cultivar, red, plate of 3 roots
205. Beet, cylinder, plate of 3 roots
206. Cabbage, green, 1 head only
207. Carrot, orange, maximum 17 cm long, plate of 3 roots,
208. Corn, sweet table cultivar, 1 ear. See Exhibiting Tips
209. Cucumber, one cultivar, pickling type, plate of 3 fruit
210. Lettuce - leaf type, 1 plant
211. Onion, cooking, plate of 3 bulbs
212. Pea- shelling, plate of 3 pods
213. Pea- snap, plate of 3 pods
214. Potato, white skin cultivar, plate of 3 tubers
215. Potato, russet/netted cultivar, plate of 3 tubers
216. Potato, red or pink skin cultivar, plate of 3 tubers
217. Tomato, red, 1 cultivar (not cherry), ripe, plate of 3 fruit
218. Tomato - red, cherry, ripe, plate of 3 fruit
219. Tomato, 1 cultivar (not cherry or plum), green, plate of 3
220. Unusual vegetable (not commonly grown in Alberta), named
221. Zucchini, plate of 2 fruits
222. Any vegetable not listed, 1 cm stem, named, plate of 3
223. Apple, one cultivar, over 5 cm diameter, 3 fruits
224. Crabapple, one cultivar, under 5 cm diameter, 3 fruits
225. Strawberry, same cultivar, stems attached, plate of 4
226. Raspberry, same cultivar, stems attached, plate of 4
227. Rhubarb, tied, of any one cultivar, 3 stalks
228. Any fruit not listed, named, 1 cm stem, plate of 4



### High Point Vegetables & Fruits Trophy Horticulture Total High Point (i.e. Veg, Flowers & Fruit)

**NEW! Best in Show-Fruit prize \$50**

**Lac Ste. Anne County + AHA sponsors**

(decided by the judge, does not include junior & intermediate classes)

A special thanks to the Alberta Horticultural Association for providing the certified horticulture judges.

# HOME BAKING, CANNING & PICKLING

One entry in each class by any exhibitor.

*All baking to be presented on a white plate.*

*Commercial baking mixes and/ or pastry shells are NOT accepted.*

*All jars of fruits, vegetables, pickles, relishes, jams, and jellies must have an adhesive label, specifying kind and date processed.*

*All must have been put up within the previous 12 months.*

## HOME CANNING / PRESERVES

301. Vegetables, canned any kind, 1 jar only
302. Fruit, canned, any 2 kinds, 1 jar of each
303. Jam, any kind, 1 jar only
304. Jelly, any kind, 1 jar only
305. Dill pickles, 1 jar only
306. Beet pickles, 1 jar only
307. Pickled vegetables, any other kind, 1 kind, 1 jar only
308. Relish, 1 jar only
309. Salsa, 1 jar only
310. Freeze Dried Fruit - one kind, 500ml mason jar NEW!

## Core Judging Criteria

Judges evaluate entries based on a specific "scale of points" that typically includes:

- **Appearance & Color:** The product should maintain a natural, vibrant colour characteristic of the fruit or vegetable. It should be free of artificial colouring unless specified by the class.
- **Uniformity:** Pieces should be uniform in size, shape, and maturity. This ensures even cooking and a professional look.
- **Liquid Clarity:** For canned fruits, vegetables, and pickles, the liquid (syrup, brine, or water) should be clear and free of sediment or "floaters".
- **Texture & Consistency:**
  - **Jams:** Should be thick but spreadable with crushed fruit.
  - **Jellies:** Must be clear, firm enough to hold its shape when turned out, but "quiver" when touched.
  - **Pickles:** Should be crisp and firm, not soft or shrivelled.
- **Pack:** The jar should be well-filled with a proper solid-to-liquid ratio. Over-packing or excessive liquid can lead to point deductions
- **Freeze-dried** fruit must be perfectly brittle and shatter when tested, while maintaining a vibrant, uniform appearance that matches its fresh state. Ensure your entries are presented in clean, mason jar with label & date.

# INTERMEDIATE SECTION

13-18 years old as of the day of the show. Please put your AGE on exhibits and enter in the proper class or they will be disqualified.

Entry fee – 25¢ per entry

Intermediate exhibitors may also enter all general bench show classes.

## BAKING / COOKING

2001. Drop cookies, any kind, plate of 3 named
2002. Brownies not iced, plate of 3
2003. Decorated cupcakes, plate of 3 (judged on decorating)
2004. Muffins, any kind, plate of 3, named
2005. Pie, 2 crust, fruit filling, 1 piece, on small plate, named

## HORTICULTURE

**Note:** Intermediate entries may be taken from the family garden. To prepare your entries refer to **Helpful Hints for Horticulture Exhibits** in this fair book.

2101. Carrots, plate of 3 roots
2102. Peas, plate of 3 pods
2103. Collection of your 5 favourite vegetables, 1 of each on same plate, labelled

## HANDICRAFTS

2201. Mixed Media Art
2202. Sketching, using ink, pencil or charcoal
2203. Painting, any medium
2204. String Art
2205. Crocheted article
2206. Diorama, any theme, in a shoebox or similar box

**PHOTOGRAPHS - Must be taken by exhibitor, 4x6" only and mounted on heavy white paper. All photos to be in colour unless otherwise stated. Each picture must only be entered once, no matter the level (i.e. adult, junior, or intermediate). Photos must not have been shown previously at the Darwell Fair.**

2301. Wildlife photograph
2302. Photograph of a pet
2303. Action shot
2304. Flower photograph, close up
2305. Photograph of individual (child or adult)
2306. Photograph related to agriculture
2307. Funny animal photo
2308. Weather (exceptional or abnormal)
2309. Selfie, no filters

**Intermediate (13-18 yr) High Point Award  
\$25.00 – DDAS Sponsor**

**Overall Bench Show High Point Trophy**  
(Awarded to the exhibitor with the most points across all sections)

# JUNIOR SECTION

12 years of age and under, as of the day of the show. Please put your AGE on show tags. Exhibits will be disqualified if entered in the wrong class.

## Entry fee – 25¢ per entry

Junior exhibitors may also enter all general bench show classes.

*All entries should be made from scratch, no box mixes.*

### BAKING / COOKING

1601. Decorated cupcakes, birthday theme, plate of 3 (judged on decorating)

1602. Drop cookies, any kind, baked, plate of 3, named

### HORTICULTURE

**Note:** Junior entries may be taken from the family garden. To prepare your entries refer to **Helpful Hints for Horticulture Exhibits** in this fair book.

1701. Carrots, plate of 3 roots

1702. Peas, plate of 3 pods

1703. Collection of your 5 favourite vegetables, 1 of each on same plate, labelled

1704. Any fruit, 1 variety, plate of 3, named

### HANDICRAFTS

1801. Hand crafted novelty item, any medium

1802. Beading

1803. Card making, any occasion

1804. Sculpture ( playdough, polymer clay, plasticine, etc.)

1805. Any piece of woodwork (e.g. birdhouse, ornament)

1806. Piece of art, black and white, using ink, pencil, or charcoal

1807. Painting, any medium

1808. Sketching, any subject

1809. Colouring Page done in crayon (pencil or wax)

1810. Any building block construction – your own design (e.g. Lego, Meccano)

1811. Diorama, any theme, in shoebox or similar box

1812. String Art

**PHOTOGRAPHS - Must be taken by exhibitor, 4x6" only and mounted on heavy white paper. All photos to be in colour unless otherwise stated. Each picture must only be entered once, no matter the level (i.e. adult, junior, or intermediate). Photos must not have been shown previously at the Darwell Fair.**

1901. Photograph of a pet

1902. Flower photograph, close up

1903. Photograph of individual

1904. Photograph of child or children

1905. Scenic photograph

1906. Selfie, no filters

**Junior (12 & under) High Point Award  
\$25.00 – DDAS sponsor**

# BAKING

401. Pie, 2 crust, fruit filling – one piece, on small plate, named

402. Cookies, sugar type, rolled, plate of 3

403. Cookies, rolled, any kind, plate of 3, named

404. Cookies, drop, any kind, plate of 3, named

405. Gourmet Stuffed & Decorated Cookie – 1 oversized, premium cookie featuring a filling (stuffed) and artistic toppings. Must be named on the entry tag (e.g. 'Salted Caramel Lava'). **NEW!**

406. Single layer cake, iced (e.g. carrot, chocolate), one piece

407. Brownies, plate of 3, not iced

408. Hand-made bread, white, 1 loaf

409. Hand-made bread, brown, 1 loaf

410. Hand-made Sourdough Bread-no yeast, levain only, 1 loaf **NEW!**

411. Bun or Rolls, plate of 3

412. Cinnamon rolls, not iced, plate of 1

413. Butter tarts, plate of 3

414. Biscuit or Scone, sweet or savory, one kind, plate of 3, named

415. Muffins, any kind, plate of 3, named

416. Candy-homemade varieties, includes fudge, plate of 3, named

### FARM PRODUCTS

501. Honey, 1 jar, approx. 500 ml, unpasteurized

502. Chicken eggs, 1 dozen, all one colour

503. Chicken eggs, 1 dozen, rainbow (multicoloured) **New!**

## Exhibitor Quick Tips

- Uniformity is Key: For classes requiring a "plate of 3," all items must be identical in size, shape, and bake.
- Gourmet Standards: Class 405 (Gourmet Cookies) will be judged on structural integrity (no raw centers); neat, intentional decorations; and taste combinations.
- The Perfect Bake: Breads (408-410) should sound hollow when tapped on the bottom. Muffins (415) should have rounded, pebbly tops—no "peaks" or "tunnels."
- Sourdough (410): Loaves are judged on "crumb" and a distinct, crisp crust.
- Egg Display (502-503): Do not wash eggs; wipe with a dry cloth to preserve the "bloom." Ensure all 12 eggs are uniform in size and shape.
- Presentation: Place entries on sturdy white paper plates inside clear, sealable bags for freshness and food safety according to Alberta Health Services guidelines.



# HANDIWORK & HANDICRAFTS

Only one entry per person per class or all entries will be disqualified.  
All exhibits must be work of the exhibitor and have been completed during the past 12 months.

## SEWING & CROCHETING

- 601. Any sewn item
- 602. Any crocheted item

## QUILTS & QUILTING

- 701. Quilted blanket – machine or hand quilted
- 702. Quilted item – machine or hand quilted (not blanket)

## HOBBIES, ARTS & PHOTOGRAPHY

- 801. Piece of art done in oils, acrylic, or pastels
- 802. Piece of art in watercolours
- 803. Piece of art in pencil (coloured or not)
- 804. Piece of art, mixed medium
- 805. Greeting card, handmade
- 806. Scrapbook, 1 page, any theme, handmade
- 807. Photobook, computer generated, scrapbooking style NEW!

## PHOTOGRAPHS

**Must be taken by exhibitor, 4x6" only and mounted on heavy white paper.** All photos to be in colour unless otherwise stated. Each picture must only be entered once, no matter the level (i.e. adult, junior, or intermediate). Photos must not have been shown previously at the Darwell Fair.

- 901. Photograph of baby or toddler
- 902. Photograph of child or children
- 903. Photograph of adult / senior
- 904. Photograph of group/family
- 905. Funny animal photograph
- 906. Action shot
- 907. Agriculture related photograph
- 908. Scenic photograph, taken anywhere in world
- 909. Photograph of domestic animal
- 910. Photograph of wild animal (including birds and insects)
- 911. Flower photograph, close up
- 912. Close up of any other subject
- 913. Photograph – sunrise or sunset
- 914. Weather (exceptional or abnormal)
- 915. Black & White or sepia photo, of any class listed above

# SCHOOL WORK

All work must be done by the exhibitor in the most recent school year.  
Exhibit will be disqualified if not entered in the proper grade.  
No entry fee.

## PRE-SCHOOL

- 1001. Art – Painting
- 1002. Art – Colouring page from book
- 1003. Any type of craft

## GRADE ONE

- 1101. Printing
- 1102. Art – Painting
- 1103. Art – Drawing
- 1104. Any type of craft

## GRADE TWO

- 1201. One space printing
- 1202. Art – Painting
- 1203. Art – Drawing
- 1204. Any type of craft

## GRADE THREE

- 1301. Printing
- 1302. Art – Painting
- 1303. Art – Drawing
- 1304. Any type of craft

## GRADE FOUR

- 1401. Printing
- 1402. Art – Painting
- 1403. Art – Drawing
- 1404. Any type of craft

## GRADE FIVE

- 1501. Short story- typed
- 1502. Art – Painting
- 1503. Art – Drawing
- 1504. Any type of craft





