SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The West Shore Orchid Society Orchid Show will be held at Strongsville Recreation center, Strongsville, Ohio April 26-27, 2025.

2. Participation in the Show by commercial vendor, society, or individual is by WSOS invitation. The West Shore Orchid Society has the right to refuse entry by any commercial vendor, society, or individual without regard to age, sex, race, or national origin.

3.. 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 Show Chairperson for a decision.

4. Reasonable effort will be made to provide the amount of space requested. Should available space be less than expected, the Show Committee reserves the right to limit space allocated to any exhibitor.

5. Exhibitors may set up exhibits from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, April 25. (after 8:00 p.m.there will be a $225.00/ hr charge) Registration of entries will be accepted from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. Subsequent entries will be exhibited but not judged.

6. The Show will be open to the general public on Saturday, April 26, from the conclusion of judging (approximately noon) to 4.50 p.m. (the sales area will open at 9:00 a.m.) and on Sunday, April 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

7. All exhibits, including art and orchids in use, must be left in place until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 27. Any plants, which are part of an exhibit, shall not be removed before the Show is closed.

8. Exhibitors may attach their professional card to their art work after judging. A 10% commission is to be remitted to the W S O S for any artwork sold as a result of being displayed at the show.

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EXHIBITION GUIDELINES

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 plant should be entered in ONE class only, except Specimen Plants.

3. Improperly entered plants/exhibits may be either reclassified or disqualified at the discretion of the judges.

4. In order to sell orchid plants and related materials at the show, an exhibitor must place an exhibit of at least 25 square feet in the show. It must conform to the quality of the show in accordance with the Show Committee.

5. 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. Water is permitted but limited to 5 Gals.

6. 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.

7. Any lighting used for effect is the responsibility of the exhibitor. It must be coordinated with the Staging Committee.

8. All plants or cut flowers exhibited must be properly labeled. Plant ownership should not be visible prior to judging.

9. 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 July, 2020 Mid-America Classification Schedule.. Note: There is no class 112

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 Definition:

a. In general, **blush colors** and **two-toned** flowers should be entered in the **"Other Colors"** classifications except for Phalaenopsis, which has a dedicated blush class.

b. Color in **Paphiopedilum** hybrids is based on the dominant flower color.

**PROCEDURE FOR ENTRY OF PLANTS AND EXHIBITS**

1. A separate entry must be made for each plant, cut flower and exhibit.

2. Online registration will be open from 12 PM Sunday April 19th until Thursday night April 24th.  In person registration will start at noon on Friday until 5 PM. You can go to the westshoreorchidsociety.org website and scroll down the show info and there is a registration link at the bottom of the page.  It sends you to the Greater Cleveland website.  Click on Registration and West Shore will come up on the drop down.  Click that and then continue on to get an exhibitor number and register your orchids.

3. Check show schedule (Use the 2020 MAOC show Schedule) for the correct class**. It is your responsibility to classify your entries correctly. Incorrect entries may be disqualified. Note: There will be no Class 112 as the judging team determined this to be unjudgeable.**

4. Under NAME, indicate the name of the plant, flower, or exhibit. If the orchid name is unknown, write down Hybrid and then give it a name of your choice as hybrid ‘Yellow Spots’ or hybrid ‘Blueberry’ . The judges do no want to see ‘Noid’ on plants when they are trying to find an orchid in a display to judge.

**JUDGING PROCEDURES**

**1. General information**

An American Orchid Society (AOS) 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 AOS **Judging Committee**. At the show, there must be three or more judges accredited by the American Orchid Society (AOS). 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. AOS awards**

This show has been approved for AOS judging. All flowers, whether entered for ribbon judging or not, will be considered for AOS awards unless otherwise marked by the exhibitor. If the flowers have previously been exhibited at an AOS-approved function, they are considered to have been screened and therefore, are not eligible for further consideration. They should be marked, "Not for AOS 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 AOS 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 AOS Show Trophy and will be judged in accordance to the criteria in the current **AOS 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.

Two 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.

2. **Ribbon Clerk Team (Five or Six Clerks)**

Responsible for adding class, entry number and plant name to each ribbon awarded, and placing the ribbons in accordance with the awards granted.

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.