

Connecticut Dahlia Society

www.ctdahlia.org

66th Annual Dahlia Show



CHALLENGE BLOOM * Best Waterlily

Saturday, August 23, 2025

Open to the Public 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Pond House at Elizabeth Park, West Hartford, CT

Connecticut Dahlia Society Officers

President	Kevin Wasilewski kevinwas@live.com
Vice President	Jesse Peterson _jessepj@comcast.net
Secretary	Barbara LaRochelle andrebarbara@comcast.net
Treasurer	Sal Corio srcorio@hotmail.com
Editor	Marilyn Lonergan marilon7@hotmail.com

Show Committee

Chairman	Jesse Peterson
Secretary	Sonia Marrero
Judges	Kevin Wasilewski
Clerks	Jesse/Kevin
Classification	Kevin Wasilewski
Court of Honor	Jesse Peterson
Photography	Marilyn Lonergan

General Show Rules

1. There will be no show set up on Friday, August 22nd. Show will be open at 7:00 am on Saturday, August 23rd for entries.
2. Judging will start at 11:00 am. Only judges, clerks and necessary show officials will be allowed on the exhibition floor during the judging. Awards will be made at 2:00 pm on the patio.
3. All exhibitors must register in the **Exhibitors Registry**. The show is open to all exhibitors and no entry fee is charged.
4. Exhibitors will be allowed to make **unlimited entries, of the same variety in a class, except where noted**. Each entry must be exhibited under the name of the grower.
5. **Only the use of show containers provided by the CDS is permitted in the specimen bloom classes. Basket containers are to be supplied by exhibitor.**
6. **All dahlias specimen bloom classes must possess at least one set of leaves.**
7. The same dahlia variety is required in all 3 bloom classes and the three blooms must be staged in a single container.
8. Artificial support above the top of the container, wires within the stalk or added unattached foliage is not permitted.
9. The name of the exhibitor or any indication of their identity must not be visible during the judging process. Entry tags must remain closed until all judging is completed for the tri-color section winners and higher awards are selected. **Only NADC entry tags are to be used.**
10. All blooms staged in CDS containers become the property of the CDS. Entries cannot be removed from the show before the close.
11. Entries must be correctly labeled with the cultivar name. Incorrectly labeled named entries will be disqualified. Unnamed seedlings must have the growers ID number.
12. Exhibitors entering cultivars not listed in the ADS 1997-2022 Composite Listing or later Classification Handbooks must complete the form "**Senior Judge Classification Recommendation for Unclassified Varieties.**" This form must be submitted to the Judge's Chairman. See *ADS Website, Judging - Member Info Page*.
13. Judges will award blue ribbons only if an entry is worthy of consideration for a Tri-Color award. Second and third place awards may be given in the absence of a blue-ribbon winner.

General Show Rules

14. **All judge's decisions are final.**
15. **ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation.** See the rules for this section on the ADS Website, Seedling Bench – Members Info Page.
16. A Novice grower is defined as an exhibitor who has never won a tri-color award in any ADS affiliated dahlia show.
17. The CDS is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits or personal property, but will exercise the utmost care to protect exhibits. Baskets and vases should be labeled with the exhibitor's name and address for proper return.
18. The CDS Show Committee reserves the right to make additional rules or changes to the schedule if necessary and the right to remove from the show tables before or after judging, any entry it considers to be in poor condition.
19. Any problems with the judging are to be brought to the attention of the Chairman of the Judges.

General Show Rules

Special Sections - Entries Must be identified on Show Tag
Challenge Bloom- Best Waterlily (Limit of 1 Entry per Exhibitor) 2025 New Introductions - 1 AA/A/B, 1 BB or smaller Novice - 1 AA/A, 1 B/BB, 1 Min or smaller, Best WL Connecticut State Origination - 1 Bloom (AA/A), (B/BB), 1 All other forms (You can find a complete list of CT originations on our website, www.ctdahlia.org) Baskets Floating Waterlily Floral Bouquet – Dahlias must predominate Best Undisseminated Seedling - 1st, 2nd or 3rd year ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation

Basket Sections	
AA, A, B	5 Blooms
BB, BALL, MB, ST, WL	7 Blooms
Miniature, Pom, Novelty (NX)	9 Blooms
Open-centered	9 Blooms
Mignon Single	13 Blooms
Best Basket in Show	Best of all tri-color winners
Mixed colors of the same formation and extra foliage permitted Dahlia foliage required with additional dahlia and non-dahlia foliage enhancement permitted. Label basket bottom for return.	

Court of Honor

(Bold type = major award)

Best Bloom in Show - The Marge Schnerr Memorial Award
(Selected from Blooms on the Court of Honor)

King of the Show – Best Single AA

Queen of the Show – Best Single A

Prince of the Show – Best Single B

Princess of the Show, Best Single BB

Duchess of the Show, Best Single Miniature

Best AA – 1 Bloom FD, ID, SC, (C/IC/LC)

Best 3 AA – (FD/ID)

Best 3 AA – (SC/C/IC/LC)

Best A - 1 Bloom FD, ID, SC, (C/IC/LC)

Best 3 A - 3 Blooms, (FD/ID)

Best 3 A - 3 Blooms, (SC/ C/IC/LC)

Best B - 1 Bloom FD, ID, SC, (C/IC), LC

Best 3 B - 3 Blooms (FD/ ID) (SC/C/IC), LC

Best BB - 1 Bloom FD, ID, SC, (C/IC), LC

Best 3 BB - (FD/ID), (SC/C/IC), LC

Best Miniature - 1 Bloom FD, ID, SC, (C/IC/ LC)

Best Miniature - 3 Blooms (FD/ID), (SC/ C/IC/ LC)

Best Ball – 1 Bloom - 1 and 3 Blooms

Best Miniature Ball – 1 and 3 Blooms

Best Pompon – 1 and 3 Blooms

Best Stellar – 1 and 3 Blooms

Best Waterlily – 1 and 3 Blooms

Best Novelty Fully Double, Peony, Anemone, Novelty Open,
Collarette, Orchid, Orchette, Single, Mignon Single–1and 3 Blooms

Best Micro – 1 and 3

Best Dahlia Baskets – 13 Sections

Best Basket in Show from the tri-color winners

Floral Bouquet

Court of Honor

Best Floating Waterlily Dahlia

Best 2025 Introductions 1 Bloom (AA/A/B) and (1BB or Smaller)

Connecticut Originations – 1 Bloom AA/A, B/BB, any other form

Largest in Show – diameter x depth from any section

Novice Section – 1 Bloom (AA/A), (B/BB), (Miniature or smaller)

Novice Special Award - Best Waterlily

Best Undisseminated Seedling – ADS Bronze Medal Certificate

ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation – Seedling Achievement Ribbon

Challenge Bloom - Best Waterlily