

SWR Get-Together
FROM THE GROUND UP
May 21, 22, and 23, 2015
Sheraton Houston Brookhollow
3000 North Loop West Frwy 77092 713-688-0100

Revised 2/16/15

Show Rules

Please Read These Rules Completely Before Entering a Plant for Judging.

Competition is open to all. There is no exhibitor's fee.

1. The Show Chair shall have complete charge of all exhibits from the opening to the closing of the show. No entries may be removed before the end of the show without permission of the Show Chair.
2. No unauthorized persons will be allowed in the show area prior to the opening.

Entries

3. Entries shall be made on Thursday, May 21, 2015, from 4:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Completion of entry forms is the responsibility of the exhibitor. There will be help available should the exhibitor have trouble completing the Entry Form or choosing the Division and Class in which to place their entry or entries.
4. All plant entries must be mature plants. For show purposes, they must be of adequate size and development to make a suitable representation of their potential for the purposes of judging and for the viewing public.
5. All entries in competitive classes must have been grown by the exhibitor and in the possession of the exhibitor for at least three (3) months prior to the show.
6. No artificial plant material will be allowed in any class or division.
7. An exhibitor may enter more than one plant in any division or class, providing that each plant is of a different variety. Plants in hanging containers may be entered in any begonia division (hangers must be removed), or entered in Division L - Hanging Container or Division M - Novice. Decorative containers are permitted only in Division O – Novel Grown.
8. **NO DECORATIVE or BLACK /WHITE NURSERY POTS ARE ALLOWED.** Containers and plants must be clean and neat. All labels must be removed or pushed down into soil out of sight. The Show Classification and Entries Chair shall have the right to exclude, refuse, or remove any diseased, infected or unsightly exhibit. Consideration will be given to obvious signs of travel damage. No grooming will be allowed in the show room. Touch-up grooming due to travel damage must be done outside the show room prior to entering.
9. All entries must be checked with the Classification and Entries Committee at the time of registration, and entered according to the published schedule, or be disqualified. Additional classes

may be added at the discretion of the Show Chair and/or the Classification and Entries Chair, whose decisions are final.

10. Classification and Entries Committee will provide assistance in determining plant identity, division, and class if requested.

11. All plants shall be placed by or under the direction of the Placement Chairperson. *Begonias The Complete Reference Guide* by Ed and Mildred Thompson shall be used whenever possible as the entry reference.

Judging

12. The Judging Chairperson shall assume complete charge at the start of the judging, and no one will be allowed to interfere with the judges.

13. No exhibitor or judge may change the class of any entry without consent of the Show Classification and Entries Chairperson

14. Entry tags must remain sealed until the Judging Chairperson declares all judging complete.

15. Plants will be judged by their appearance above the soil line and not by parentage or cultural needs alone.

16. Judges shall make awards according to merit only. If the entry is without merit judges shall make no award regardless of the number of entries in a division.

17. Judges may only use the point scoring system as approved by the American Begonia Society. Judges are to follow ABS judging procedure as prescribed by the Judging Chair.

Awards

18. Each class will be judged for first (blue ribbon), second (red ribbon), third (white ribbon) on merit only. All blue ribbon winners in a division will be judged for division trophies.

19. Only entries receiving first place in their class may be considered for division trophies.

20. All begonias must receive 93 points to be eligible for division trophies. Entries must receive 95 points or more to be eligible for cultural awards.

21. A Sweepstakes Trophy will be awarded to the exhibitor with the most blue ribbons in all begonia divisions.

22. The Showing is Sharing Trophy is awarded to the exhibitor with the most total entries.

23. The People's Choice Award is awarded to the plant and exhibitor receiving the most votes from the public and convention attendees. This award will be presented at the Banquet.

24. Best in Show is awarded to the plant and exhibitor scoring the highest number of points by all ABS Judges judging the show.

25. Class Commendation Ribbons will be awarded to all entries in a Class deemed of exceptional quality by the judges.

26. Only divisions A through R (except P) and V are eligible to compete for the Best in Show award.

27. Judges' decisions are final. If the Judging Chairperson determines that according to common judging practices, a gross injustice has occurred, the Judging Chairperson shall select a new team of judges to review the exhibit.

Special Divisions

28. Division I - 88 through 100: Contained atmosphere begonias must be planted in a medium in the terrarium and not in separate pots; this rule will also apply in all Contained Atmosphere classes in other divisions as well.
29. Division W is judged horticulturally and Division WW is to be judged for photographic content and artistic merit. Label each photo with the name of the plant and the name of the exhibitor on the back.
30. Divisions Z and ZZ -Arts and Crafts: Entries will be judged for the artistic merit and quality of work. Entries must feature begonias and be the original work of the exhibitor. Artwork must be matted, framed, or presented in a suitable display form.
31. Only an exhibitor entering an ABS Show for the first time may enter Division M – Novice Grown..
32. In Division V and VV New Introductions. Entries must be mature plants and are not eligible for entry in any other division. They may not have been in competition in any prior show, and are not eligible if released for other than testing. The hybridizer need not have grown the plant; the grower may enter the plant with the hybridizer's permission. If not in bloom, a description of the plants bloom and time of bloom, if known, must accompany the entry.
33. Division Q. Traveling Begonias is open to anyone outside a 250 mile radius of the show. Plants must be in pots no larger than 4 inches. Exhibitors may enter as many classes in this division as they wish as long as each is a different variety.
34. A Commercial Grower for the purposes of this show is defined as a company that has one or more employees assisting in the growing of plants and in whose name a plant is entered. An employee of such a company may enter as an individual where he or she has grown the entry without regular assistance of an employee (i.e., having assistance with watering, etc. during an absence or illness is not prohibited).
35. ABS will exercise due caution in safeguarding exhibits, but will not be responsible for loss or damage to the property of the exhibitor. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of their own entries. The Show will close Saturday, May 23rd after the banquet. Show plants can be removed on Saturday after the banquet or by 12 NOON May 24, 2015

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