

## **NIAGARA REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL FAIR GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Each exhibitor must have a current Membership for the Niagara Regional Agricultural Society (NRAS). Membership fees: Senior (19 and older) **\$10.00\***  
and Junior (18 and under) **\$5.00**

Membership fees are not refundable. Junior Exhibitor may exhibit in any class above their age but **cannot** exhibit in classes below their age.

2. By showing Membership card, each Senior Membership is allowed one (1) free admission **once** during the NRE and each Junior Membership is allowed one (1) free admission **each** day of the NRE.
3. The prize money cheques will be mailed late June and must be cashed before July 31<sup>th</sup>. In the event of an error in the cheque, a second cheque will be issued.
4. The sum of \$10.00 shall be retained from every Senior exhibitor obtaining the sum of \$10.00 or over in prize money to cover \$10 membership for the following year.
5. All individuals and organizations are to use the online entry (via the website: [www.niagaraex.com](http://www.niagaraex.com)) or ensure that the form is mailed to the office by **May 23, 2025** for your printed tags to be mailed to you. Organizations please make your entry in the name of your organization and use your permanent mailing address. If postal code does not appear on the entry form, prize money will not be mailed.
6. All exhibits must be the bonafide property of the exhibitor. Any person showing anything for competition not his/her own shall forfeit prize money.
7. It shall be the duty of the judges to only award such premiums as they consider the exhibit is entitled. They may withhold the prize from any exhibit improperly classed or not worthy of a prize.
8. All exhibits receiving a premium must have an entry tag attached and, unless otherwise exempted, must remain until the close of the show. Prize money will be forfeited if this rule is violated.
9. All exhibits shall be at risk of the exhibitor.
10. Exhibits may be picked up **\*Sunday between 4:30 and 5:30 pm or Monday 10 am to noon by showing their Membership card. Exhibits not picked up will become property of NRAS.**
11. All protest must be made in writing, must state plainly the cause of complaint or appeal, and must be delivered to the Secretary on the day of cause of protest accompanied by \$1.00 which will be forfeited to the Society if the protest is not sustained.
12. Prizes will be awarded as shown in the Judge's Book and no alteration can be made. Exhibits not entered on the entry form cannot be awarded prize money.
13. Specific regulations applying to each class of exhibit are given under each show. Please refer to index.
14. Any exhibitor or attendant, who is guilty of creating a disturbance, whether by openly criticizing the judge or using obscene language to any judge or officer, shall therefore forfeit the right to any premium and may be suspended by the Society from exhibiting.
15. Prize list is subject to correction of typographical errors and/or omissions. In the case of a disagreement, the ruling of the committee chair shall be final.
16. In the event of rain or inclement weather so affecting the gate receipts as to leave the holding of the Fair a financial loss after the Government Rain Insurance has been taken into account, the Society reserves the right to pay all premiums, awards of purses at a rate on the dollar sufficient to make good the loss.
17. Section 19 (2) of the Agricultural Societies Act preventing certain performances, huckstering or trafficking in merchandise etc., within three hundred yards of the fairgrounds on the days of Exhibition shall be enforced.

18. If **not three exhibitors** in livestock classes, the Fair Board will only **pay half the prize money**.
19. Exhibitor Book correct at time of printing
20. While the Directors of the Society will take every possible precaution under the circumstances to secure the safety of life and property at the Exhibition, the Society declares that it is strictly understood that exhibitors and others attend at their own risk. Should any article be accidentally injured, burned, lost or stolen, the Directors will give all assistance in their power for recovery, but they will not recognize any claim for payment of the value or portion thereof, and the Society will not be responsible for anyone being injured in any way on the grounds.
21. Information in this booklet was accurate at the time of printing. Any last-minute changes, corrections or clarifications are at the discretion of the Niagara Regional Agricultural Society and take precedence. Please note not all sponsors have been confirmed
22. **NOTICE:** Any information collected by the Niagara Regional Agricultural Society regarding members, exhibitors, commercial exhibitors, sponsors, directors and any other persons related directly to the business of the Niagara Regional Agricultural Society and the Niagara Regional Agricultural Fair will be solely used for the purposes of promotion of the Niagara Regional Agricultural Society and the Niagara Regional Agricultural Fair, and for the maintenance of their files and data base. Any member, exhibitor, commercial exhibitor, sponsor or director realizes that when they agree to take part in the Niagara Regional Agricultural Society and the Niagara Regional Agricultural Fair, that their names may be published for these reasons only. None of this information whatsoever will be sold or transferred to any outside party for any reason.

\*In October 2024, NRAS had to update their Constitution and By-laws to align with ONCA and OMAFRA guidelines; in the process Exhibitor Memberships (\$5) were changed to Senior Memberships (\$10) giving previous Exhibitors a vote at Annual and Special Meetings.

## HORTICULTURE

Chairperson: Lisa DeYoung

### RULES

1. Entries accepted between **5:30 and 8 pm Thursday** of Fair Week. No entries accepted after this time. All entries must be recorded on the entry to receive any prize money awarded. Make a copy for your records.
2. Exhibits may be removed after the Fair, **Sunday between 4:30 – 5:30 pm** as well as Monday if arrangements have been made. Prize money will be forfeited for prior removal of exhibits.
3. The committee will not be responsible for any exhibits. Exhibitors are requested to put their name address and phone number on the bottom of each container. Please be aware that entries are out in the open and may be subject to a wind tunnel effect – please make sure vases are weighted down.
4. ALL individuals and organizations are to use the online entry (via the website: [www.niagaraex.com](http://www.niagaraex.com)) or ensure that the form is to the office by **May 23<sup>rd</sup>** in order for your tags to be prepared. Organizations please make your entry in the name of your organization and use your permanent mailing address. (If postal code does not appear on the entry form, prize money will not be mailed.)
5. Exhibitors may place only one (1) entry in a given class.
6. Potted plants and cut specimens must have been in the entrant's care at least three(3) months except for Class D, Special Exhibits. These will be watered by the Committee.  
All Cut Specimens and Collections must have been grown by the entrant. Cut specimens will benefit greatly by having a long drink of water ahead of their preparation. Please check the definitions for clarifications.
7. Unobtrusive wedging is permitted.
8. In the Design division, flowers may come from any source.
9. The standards for judging will be in accordance with "Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticulture and Floral Design, 2019 Edition".
10. No commercial entries allowed.
11. No general public is permitted in the area of the show during the judging on the Friday morning.



**DEFINITIONS**

**Annual** – A plant that completes its life cycle from seed to seed within one growing year. The seeds germinate to produce a plant with flowering shoots which die completely after seed production.

**Bloom** - Individual flower, one to a stem, specimen blooms should be disbudded.

**Bud** - Undeveloped growing point which may become a shoot, leaf or flower.

**Cactus** – Any member of the family Cactaceae: fleshy plants on which the leaves are replaced by scales or sharp spines.

**Collection** - A specified number of cut flowers, potted plants, branches, fruits, vegetables and/or nuts, exhibited for cultural perfection.

**Container** - Any receptacle for plant material. In the design classes, it is an integral part of the design

**Cultivar** – Forms of plants originated and maintained only in cultivation which when reproduced retain their distinguishing features.

**Exhibit** - An entry placed in a show either for competition or display. Once an entry has been placed it becomes an exhibit.

**Herbaceous** – Non-woody plants that die to the ground at the end of the growing season. Annuals, biennials and perennials are herbaceous.

**Labelled** – Items in the container/pot must be identified.

**Perennial (Herbaceous)** – A plant that lives for more than two years. The stem dies to the ground each fall. Note: Shrubs are woody perennials.

**Spike** - An upright stem carrying several flowers which are nearly stem less, e.g. gladiolus.

**Spray** - A spray is the terminal flowering growth of an herbaceous or woody plant carried on one stem. Ideally it would show all forms, e.g. flowers in bloom, buds showing colour, green buds and leaves.

**Stem or Stalk** - A main plant structure which supports flowers, buds, leaves or fruit.

**Uniformity** - All specimens in an exhibit should be as nearly alike as possible in size, form and colour. (All specimens should be at the same stage of development.)

All definitions are taken from “Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticulture and Floral Design” 2019 Edition



Design



Planter



Potted Plant



Bouquet

**A GRAND CHAMPION ENTRY IN HORTICULTURAL  
DIVISION FROM CLASSES 41- 44 (SECTIONS A – D)**

*Rosette + \$25 awarded*

**Section A to D (Classes 41 to 44) awards: 1st - \$10 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$7 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$5**

**Section A (Class 41) CUT SPECIMENS**

**A Champion cut specimens will be chosen from this section - \$ 15 award**

1. Columbine – 1 stem
2. Dianthus – 1 stem
3. Rose – 1 fully open bloom in a suitable container (no foliage)
4. Flowering branch, maximum 1 m (3'3")
5. Heuchera (Coral Bells) – 3 leaves, same cultivar
6. Hosta – small leaf, length up to 6"(15 cm), 3 leaves, different cultivars, named if possible
7. Hosta – medium leaf, length between 6" – 11" (15 – 28 cm), 3 leaves, different cultivars, named if possible
8. Hosta – large leaf, 11" (28 cm) and over, 1 leaf, named if possible
9. Iris – 1 stalk
10. Allium – 1 stem
11. Peony – 1 bloom
12. Any Bulb/Tuber/Corm not listed – 1 spike, stem or spray, labeled
13. Any Perennial not listed – 1 spike, stem or spray, labeled

**Champion Cut Specimen (\$15)**

**Section B (Class 42) COLLECTIONS**

**A Champion Collection will be chosen from this section - \$15 award**

1. Flowering Bulbs/Tubers/Corms – Max 10 stems of 3 – 5 different cultivars in suitable container, labeled
2. Herbaceous Foliage – Max 10 specimens of 3 – 5 different cultivars in suitable container, labeled
3. Herbaceous Perennials – Max 10 stems of 3 – 5 different cultivars in suitable container, labeled
4. Ornamental Grasses (Foliage) – 3 types, 2 stems each, Max 61 cm (24")
5. Perennial Herbs – Max 10 stems of 3 - 5 different cultivars in suitable container, labeled

**Champion Collections (\$15)**

### **Section C (Class 43) INDOOR POTTED PLANTS**

#### **A Champion potted plant will be chosen from this section - \$ 15 award**

*Section 1 to 7, pot size not to exceed 30cm (12") One plant per pot.*

1. African violet, single crown
2. Begonia, grown for foliage, e.g. Rex Begonia
3. Cactus (see definitions)
4. Succulent (see definitions)
5. Geranium grown for bloom
6. Any other blooming potted plant, not listed, labeled
7. Any other potted plant grown for foliage, not listed, labeled

#### **Champion Potted Plant (\$15)**

### **Section D (Class 44) SPECIAL EXHIBITS**

#### **A Champion special exhibit will be chosen from this section - \$15 award**

*Please Note: container not to exceed 20" (50.8 cm)*

1. Outdoor planter designed for a sunny location. Min. 3 cultivars
2. Outdoor planter designed for a shady location. Min. 3 cultivars

#### **Champion Special Exhibit (\$15)**

Grand Champion from Classes 41 – 44 (Section A – D) \$25 and a Rosette

### **Class 45 DESIGN DIVISION**

**Theme: "Changes in the Wind"**

#### **A Champion will be chosen for this Section - \$30 award**

**Please note:** Design not to exceed 11" (28 cm) deep (has to sit on 11" shelf).

Accessories permitted

**A Design** – a combination of fresh and/or treated dried plant materials and/or organic objects arranged to create an artistic unit. The designer uses the elements of design: space, line, form, colour, texture and pattern in the accepted principles of art: balance, rhythm, proportion, scale, contrast and dominance to interpret the theme and create a design of harmony and distinction.

**Each Class 1<sup>st</sup> \$10, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$7, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$5**

1. Edible Design – A Design featuring flowers, fruits and vegetables.
2. Changes – A Design using something in a new way
3. Coffee in the Morning – A Design in a coffee cup
4. New Beginnings – A small Design (5 ½ - 10 ") (14-27cm)

#### **Champion (\$30)**

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### CLASS 46

#### **RULES**

- Photos entered must have been taken by the entrant and not exhibited at the NRE before.
- All photos are colour prints unless otherwise stated.
- All photos are to be 5" x 7" (12.7 cm x 17.78 cm) matted (can be on a piece of Bristol board). Total size 7" x 9" (17.78 cm x 22.6 cm).
- Photo must have a name on back of the matting and an attached entry tag.
- **One (1)** photo per class per entrant.
- Photo must remain for the duration of the NRE.
- Photos are judged for composition, lighting, originality, visual effects and artistic merit.
- Entries may be removed **Sunday 4:30 – 5:30 pm** or Monday by special arrangement.

**New rule:** All photos will have no faces of people or children at all!

If photos come in with a face or a child, they will be disqualified and the photo not shown.

The reason for this rule, is that we cannot control who takes pictures and post these pictures. You may have the permission of your subject for the photo, but someone could take a picture of your picture and post them. We would like to protect everyone's right to privacy.

**A Champion will be chosen from this Section - \$15**

**Each Class 1<sup>st</sup> \$10, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$7, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$5**

1. Fun at the Fair
2. Farm Scene – Black & White
3. Pollination
4. Birds
5. Macro
6. Reflections
7. Old Motorized Vehicles – Black and White
8. Flowers
9. Pond Life
10. Shadows
11. Bridges
12. Bubbles
13. Purrfect – Picture of a cat
14. Ruff – Picture of a dog
15. Oil and water

**Champion (\$15)**