

CLASSIFICATION OF EXHIBITORS

All exhibitors will be classified by their home society and will remain in that exhibitor classification for the current season regardless of winnings. Following are the classifications of exhibitors to be used by the home members of this society.

JUNIOR DIVISION: Any exhibitor age 16 or younger. Juniors do not need to have and maintain a separate garden but should actively participate in the growing and showing of dahlias. Junior will show in the Junior Section.

JUNIOR NOVICE DIVISION: Exhibitors under the age of 17 who have and maintain their own garden can choose to participate in the Junior Novice Division. They may elect to be a Junior Novice at the beginning of a show season and must remain in that division throughout that show season. The first show season after their 17th birthday, they must move up to the Novice Division. Junior Novices will show in the Novice Section and therefore will use pink tags for their exhibits.

NOVICE DIVISION: Exhibitors entering dahlias in this division are inexperienced in the showing of dahlias. They may remain in this division for up to ten (10) dahlia shows regardless of winnings. They will end the show season in the same exhibitor category as they started, instead of moving up in mid-season.

AMATEUR DIVISION: This division is for advanced exhibitors who show dahlias for fun and experience. Those entering in this division are encouraged to remain until they consistently win trophies and special awards for three consecutive show seasons.

OPEN DIVISION: Experienced exhibitors, who have been consistent winners of trophies and special awards during prior show seasons, are required to enter in this division. Exhibitors who have not consistently won trophies and special awards during the immediate past three show seasons are encouraged to return to the Amateur Division.

NOTE: *Persons showing blooms grown in the same garden must enter in the same division.*

FEDERATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **EXHIBITORS:** Each exhibitor without Federation show numbers must register before making entries and will be given an exhibitor's number. There is no entry fee.
2. **NUMBER OF ENTRIES:** There will be no limit on the number of entries an exhibitor may enter in any class unless otherwise specified.
3. **CLASSIFIED DAHLIAS:** Dahlias will be exhibited as classified in the most recent issue of the ADS *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* or the Federation's supplemental listing in the most recent ADS *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* or the current year's *Federation Dahlia Annual & Combined Show Schedule*. The Federation supplement will take precedence in cases of conflict. A minor fault will be assessed for undersized or oversized blooms.

4. **UNCLASSIFIED DAHLIAS:** Dahlias not listed in the classification books will be shown in the appropriate size, type, and color class. Size categories are:

Giant (AA) Dahlias	over 10"
Large (A) Dahlias	over 8" to 10"
Medium (B) Dahlias	over 6" to 8"
Small (BB) Dahlias	over 4" to 6"
Miniature Dahlias	4" and under
Ball Dahlias	over 3½"
Miniature Ball Dahlias	over 2" to 3½"
Pompon Dahlias	2" and under
Micro Dahlias	2" and under (not including pompon & MS)

Exhibitors unsure of proper classification should have the entry tag marked by the CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE or ANY SENIOR JUDGE. An entry cannot be disqualified for incorrect classification if it is so marked.

5. **SUPPORTING STEMS:** The use of any material above the top of the container to support dahlias will disqualify the entry.
6. **SHOWING RULES:** Except in the arrangement and seedling sections, all blooms shown in competition can be entered with either a name or number and must be grown by the exhibitor. Blooms must be shown disbudded and with at least two leaves that complement the bloom.
7. **ENTRY TAGS:** Entry tags supplied by the show committee must be completely filled out (including true name of dahlia) by the exhibitor and attached to each entry. Exhibitors will use the following color code:

Novice — Pink Tags; Amateur — Yellow Tags; Open — White Tags

8. **JUDGING INSTRUCTIONS:** The Chairman of Judges shall instruct each judge as to the classes he shall judge. The judges will follow the standard system of judging as defined by the American Dahlia Society (refer to the Guide to Judging Dahlias, a Manual of the American Dahlia Society) unless other provisions are stated in this schedule. No person shall judge any class in which he has a special interest but shall step aside until judging of such class is complete.
9. **DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES:** The decisions of the judges are considered final; however, the Chairman of Judges may call for the re-judging of any class. This can be done within two hours following the conclusion of judging and only if a signed complaint has been registered with the Chairman of Judges.
10. **FILLER:** Each exhibitor will be responsible for the filler used in his containers.
11. **RIBBON PRIZES:** The ribbons will be blue for first and red for second except in Seedling Sections. *(The judges may give no award or only a second award if no entry merits a first per current judging standards.)* Only blue-ribbon winners will be eligible for further awards. Best-of-Type and Section Champion ribbons will be awarded where designated.
12. **BEST DAHLIA IN SHOW:** The Best Dahlia in the Show will be selected from the best single entry in all sections except undisseminated, baskets and arrangements. Best triple entry in show will be selected from the best triple entry (of same variety) in all sections except ADS Bench, baskets and arrangements.

13. **MULTIPLE-BLOOM ENTRIES:** All blooms in any multiple-bloom entry such as triple entries or five-bloom entries (arrangements not included) must be one variety unless otherwise stated.
14. **BASKETS:** No minimum number of blooms is required in any entry, unless otherwise specified, but the number of blooms must be in proportion to the size of the basket. The blooms in a basket are not required to have a set of leaves; other greens are allowed. One or more varieties are allowed in all classes. A balance of blooms is desirable, with a minimum of at least 3 blooms of each type or size in a mixed basket. Baskets are required to have a handle.
15. **SEEDLINGS:** Seedlings and undisseminated dahlias entered in the Seedling Sections shall be judged on their individual merits and not in competition with each other. The judges shall award a SEEDLING OF MERIT ribbon to each worthy entry in Undisseminated Dahlias. American Dahlia Society rosettes will be awarded in ADS Seedling Bench. Once a seedling is entered in ADS competition at any dahlia show, it is no longer eligible to compete in undisseminated dahlias. There is a ¼-inch tolerance for size on mignon single and micro dahlias.
16. **REMOVAL OF ENTRIES:** No exhibit or any part of an exhibit may be removed at any time during the show; however, the show committee reserves the right to remove any exhibit which is inferior in condition, detracts from the general quality of the show, or is exhibited in a leaking container.
17. **RESPONSIBILITY:** The club shall not be responsible for loss or damage to the exhibits or the exhibitor's personal property; however, the utmost care will be exercised for same.
18. **ADDITIONAL RULES:** The Show Chairman may make additions or changes in the rules which are deemed necessary for the proper conduct of the show. Any rules so made shall be as binding as though they were a published part of these rules.

HORTICULTURAL SECTIONS

Novice — Pink Tags; Amateur — Yellow Tags; Open — White Tags

Novice, Amateur, and Open Divisions will use the following show schedule.

In horticultural sections, each division will be judged separately. For triple entry, place a T in front of the section.

SECTION	ABBREVIATION	CLASS NUMBER
GIANT	G	0001 to 0515
LARGE	L	1001 to 1515
MEDIUM	MED	2001 to 2515
SMALL	SM	3001 to 3515
MINIATURE	MIN	4001 to 4515
BALL	BA	6001 to 6515
MINIATURE BALL	MB	6101 to 6115
POMPON	POM	6201 to 6215
STELLAR	ST	7001 to 7015
WATERLILY	WL	7301 to 7315
NOVELTY – DOUBLE	NX	7601 to 7615
PEONY	PE	8001 to 8015
ANEMONE	AN	8201 to 8215
NOVELTY – OPEN	NO	8601 to 8615
COLLARETTE	CO	9001 to 9015
ORCHID	O	9201 to 9215
ORCHETTE	OT	9401 to 9415
SINGLE	S	9601 to 9615
MIGNON SINGLE	MS	9701 to 9715
MICRO PEONY	MPE	8101 to 8115
MICRO COLLARETTE	MCO	9101 to 9115
ALL OTHER MICROS	MC	See Current CHD

NOTE: CLASS NUMBER IS THE SAME AS THE ADS CLASSIFICATION NUMBER

FIVE-BLOOM ENTRIES
(OPEN TO ALL) — Use White Tags

Giant (G) Dahlias
Large (L) Dahlias
Medium (MED) Dahlias
Small (SM) Dahlias
Miniature (MIN) Dahlias
Ball (BA) Dahlias
Miniature Ball (MB) Dahlias
Pompon (POM) Dahlias
Stellar (ST) Dahlias
Waterlily (WL) Dahlias
Novelty Fully Double (NX) Dahlias
Peony (PE) Dahlias
Anemone (AN) Dahlias
Novelty Open Centered (NO) Dahlias
Collarette (CO) Dahlias
Orchid (O) Dahlias
Orchette (OT) Dahlias
Single (S) Dahlias
Mignon Single (MS) Dahlias
Micro (MC) Dahlias

UNDISSEMINATED DAHLIAS (Use 1-10 Scoresheet)
SINGLE ENTRY (OPEN TO ALL) — Use White Tags

Giant (G) Dahlias
Large (L) Dahlias
Medium (MED) Dahlias
Small (SM) Dahlias
Miniature (MIN) Dahlias
Ball (BA) Dahlias
Miniature Ball (MB) Dahlias
Pompon (POM) Dahlias
Stellar (ST) Dahlias
Waterlily (WL) Dahlias
Novelty Fully Double (NX) Dahlias
Peony (PE) Dahlias
Anemone (AN) Dahlias
Novelty Open-Centered (NO) Dahlias
Collarette (CO) Dahlias
Orchid (O) Dahlias
Orchette (OT) Dahlias
Single (S) Dahlias
Mignon Single (MS) Dahlias
Micro (MC) Dahlias

**ADS SEEDLING BENCH EVALUATION
TRIPLE ENTRY (OPEN TO ALL) — Use White Tags**

This class is offered in cooperation with the American Dahlia Society. Open to all exhibitors. Show officials and exhibitors must read and adhere to all rules for entries and judging as printed in the ADS *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias*. For mignon single and micro dahlias, there will be a ¼” tolerance on size, as long as they have the overall look of a mignon single or micro dahlia.

BASKETS

Novice — Pink Tags; Amateur — Yellow Tags; Open — White Tags

A novice is someone who has shown baskets in 10 shows or fewer; exhibitors continue as an amateur until they have won a total of 10 best-in-show awards, at which time they move up to open.

(One or more varieties — All Classes)

Giant (G) Dahlias
Large (L) Dahlias
Medium (MED) Dahlias
Small (SM) Dahlias
Miniature (MIN) Dahlias
Ball (BA) Dahlias
Miniature Ball (MB) Dahlias
Pompon (POM) Dahlias
Stellar (ST) Dahlias
Waterlily (WL) Dahlias
Novelty Fully Double (NX) Dahlias
Peony (PE) Dahlias
Anemone (AN) Dahlias
Novelty Open-Centered (NO) Dahlias
Collarette (CO) Dahlias
Orchid (O) Dahlias
Orchette (OT) Dahlias
Single (S) Dahlias
Mignon Single (MS) Dahlias
Micro (MC) Dahlias
Mixed Dahlias

A balance of blooms is desirable, with a minimum of at least 3 blooms of each type or size in a mixed basket.

1. Foliage must be natural.
2. Staging material must be concealed.
3. Basket must have handle.
4. Exhibitor must grow the blooms (#6 Showing Rules)

ARRANGEMENTS

Novice — Pink Tags; Amateur — Yellow Tags; Advanced Amateur— White Tags

A novice is someone who has shown arrangements in 10 shows or fewer; an exhibitor continues as an amateur until s/he is winning consistently in the Arrangement Section; they will then advance to Advanced Amateur.

Rules governing entries in the Arrangement/Floral Art Section are:

1. Check each society's rules for registering ahead of time.
2. Use the appropriate color tag for Novice, Amateur, or Advanced Amateur.
3. Plant material need not be grown by the exhibitor, but all exhibits must be arranged by the exhibitor.
4. Any flower, foliage, and accessories including dried, treated, or painted material may be used. Artificial flowers and/or foliage may not be used.
5. All arrangements must feature dahlias as the predominant flower.
6. Dahlias must have good color and substance and be free of insect and mechanical damage.
7. Designs should be finished on all sides.

A glossary of terms and line descriptions are online at www.nwdahlia.org

JUNIOR SECTION

Use white tags – write JUNIOR on the top of tag.

Open to exhibitors 16 years and under. Any worthy entry will receive either a blue or red ribbon. The best of each class will win a Best of Type ribbon. The best entry from all classes will go to the head table as Best Junior Entry and will be considered for best in show.

On white entry tags:

- ➔ For section - indicate JR
- ➔ For class - use abbreviations below

Single Bloom Giant or LargeAny color or form Class G/L
Single Bloom MediumAny color or form Class MED
Single Bloom SmallAny color or form Class SM
Single Bloom Miniature.....Any color or form Class MIN

Single Bloom Ball or Min. BallAny color Class BA/MB
Single Bloom PomponAny color Class POM
Single Bloom WaterlilyAny color Class WL
Single Bloom StellarAny color Class ST

Single Bloom Novelty Open or Double.....Any color Class NO/NX
Single Bloom Peony or Anemone.....Any color Class PE/AN
Single Bloom Collarette.....Any color Class CO
Single Bloom Orchid or OrchetteAny colorClass O/OT
Single Bloom Single or Mignon Single.....Any colorClass S/MS

Triple Bloom Fully Double.....Same variety..... Class 3-FD
Triple Bloom Open Center.....Same variety..... Class 3-OC

Basket of DahliasColor Variation Allowed..... Class BASKET

Enter micro dahlias in their regular classes

Junior Section Judging Instructions

- Organize the entries by class.
- Award a blue ribbon to every worthy entry. Note: virtually every entry will be worthy and will receive a blue ribbon. There will be multiple blue ribbons in each class; there may be a few red ribbons.
- Award a best-of-type or section champion ribbon (whatever is allocated by show officials) to the best entry in each class.
- Choose the best entry from among the class winners; this will be the Best Junior Dahlia in Show.

The overall effect will be a sea of blue ribbons, perhaps a few reds, and when necessary, a few no awards.

The purpose of this section is to encourage junior exhibitors.