

# PASSING AND AWARDS Q&A

**QUESTION 1:** Was it a problem that the foliage was submerged in water?

ANSWER: That is indeed a problem but one that can be easily fixed by the exhibitor after the passer points it out to them.

**QUESTION 2:** Are we saying that technically, if a plant is a non-native invasive plant at the show location, but it's not an invasive in the state where the exhibitor is from, then it's ok to enter it in the show? I agree it's better to list it "for exhibit only" as an educational exhibit, but what is our policy on non-native invasives? I had thought that if it was a non native invasive at the show location, that it should not be included in the class... again only listed "for exhibit only"

ANSWER: I stand corrected. Rule 6 in the Flower Show template does indeed say that so the flower show committee/passing committee would be within its rights to say the entry could not be exhibited. I would recommend in Hort having a separate staging area for For Exhibit Only items--a wonderful teaching tool. And, as we said, write down exactly WHY the entry can not be judged.

**QUESTION 3:** I have never heard that a passer cannot pass an entry that is going in the same class as the passer entered???

ANSWER: This rule is stated in each division in the Passing section of Book 4 of the Flower Show & Judging Guide, pages 6-14.

**QUESTION 4:** What if an exhibit has been passed but shouldn't have been?

ANSWER: In Book 4 of the Flower Show & Judging Guide, under Judging Overview, General Judging Information, page 20, this question is answered. Please read this carefully for exceptions to the rule and strategies for judging.

**QUESTION 5:** Is it ok to send a hort entry with another person who is submitting entries to the flower show?

ANSWER: Yes indeed and this often happens at zone shows. Passers at zone shows should anticipate this and plan to be extra nice and helpful with meeting delegates bringing their fellow club members' entries.

**QUESTION 6:** What makes a novice?

ANSWER: There is an excellent definition of Novice in the Book 5 Glossary of Terms. It states: Novice: [G] a novice is an individual exhibitor who has not won a first place ribbon or a GCA Special Award in the division entered at a GCA Flower Show, GCA Major Flower Show, or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show. An exhibitor winning a first place ribbon in a GCA Flower Show is still considered a novice in a GCA Major Flower Show, or in a Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show, or in another division of any flower show. In addition, an exhibitor who has won a first place ribbon or Special Award in a GCA Major Flower Show or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show is no longer a novice in any level of GCA Flower Shows in the division won. Only individual novice exhibitors are eligible to receive the GCA Novice Awards or the Sandra Baylor Novice Floral Design Award. A novice exhibitor will be identified on the entry card, following the initial judging.

**QUESTION 7:** What is the date of the latest updated "Book4" FS Handbook?

ANSWER: Schedules are approved in advance. Passers need to know what edition is applicable to their show. 2022 Edition.

**QUESTION 8:** Judges on the awards panel cannot exhibit? Period?

ANSWER: I would say that would probably be for the best. Having had to put many awards panels together I can attest that it is difficult to figure out who can be on what panel not knowing award eligibilities. Having said that, the awards panels might be arranged to have propagation and education awards (and Best in Show) judged by one panel in which case a judge exhibiting cuts or an exhibit that was not eligible for prop or ed awards could conceivably exhibit. As you can see, this would require a great deal of behind the scenes work to make sure all was right before the show. A judge can certainly exhibit in a different division than the one she is judging. Or if the show is big enough, judge the exhibits but not serve on an awards panel. This happens at Major Shows frequently. Also, remember, practically speaking, it is more expensive for clubs to host more judges for separate awards panels. We know that those in the judging program are asked to exhibit and it is certainly easier for judges to do so at shows they are already going to be judging but you can see it causes a lot of work to pull this off. Why not consider passing at a show and exhibiting or just making the effort to exhibit at other shows you are not judging. Again, we know this is not always possible for zones with clubs a plane ride away.

**QUESTION 9:** I was on an Awards panel a few years back when one of the judges had an exhibit up for an award. I assume she should have excused herself from the panel, but did not!

ANSWER: This topic was handled in the Judging Workshop. Please be sure to visit the Judging Workshop page to view this and other videos from presenters.

**QUESTION 10:** What do you mean by "supplemental" classes in flower shows?

ANSWER: The definition of Supplemental Classes is found the Book 5 Glossary of Terms, page 33.

**QUESTION 11:** If a Hort. Judge is also on a Special Awards panel, this is likely to diminish the number of entries. What are your thoughts on that for clubs who are new to putting on flower shows?

ANSWER: Answer in #9. Ask passers to exhibit. Judges: run workshops for clubs to help CLUB MEMBERS exhibit!!!

### ***Photography - Day 3***

**QUESTION 1:** Is the invasive species list or link to it on the GCA website?

ANSWER: A link is always found in the flower show schedule and it easily found by doing a simple Google search by anyone at the flower show, exhibitor or passer with an internet connection.

**QUESTION 2:** In photography we have often seen monochrome entries that are really not monochromes. They are passed and need to be judged, if they happen to be excellent but not conforming. Should the lack of conformity be ignored?

ANSWER: No. If an entry is passed that is not really a monochrome then the judging panel should take off 20% for conformance.

**QUESTION 3:** How do you judge a photograph that has been passed but does not meet the specifics of the

schedule? i.e. "photography must contain water" and the photo does not have any recognizable water in the image.

ANSWER: If an entry is passed that is not really a monochrome then the judging panel should take off 20% for conformance.

**QUESTION 4:** If a photo is passed is it true that it must be judged, even if an error was made in passing

ANSWER: Yes, but take off for conformance

**QUESTION 5:** If your club does not have a very knowledgeable photo chairman or a member in the photo judging program available to pass entries, then can the club ask for help from Zone Flower Show Chair or Zone Judging Rep.?

ANSWER: Yes, the Judging Rep can recommend a photography judge to help with passing.

**QUESTION 6:** Typically the passer in photographer is not supposed to enter. Is this still true?

ANSWER: The passer may enter but may not pass the class which they have entered.

**QUESTION 7:** Photography: if something is passed as monochrome and then told in judging that it was not monochrome - how can this be judged?

ANSWER: See #2

**QUESTION 8:** Where can I get the Flower Show and Judging guide book? Thank you

ANSWER: On the GCA website under publications/Flower Show and Judging Guide. Here is the link.

**QUESTION 9:** How do GCA judges explain "in layman's terms" the difference between a macro photograph and a close-up? And, is there a strict judging differentiation between the two when a show calls for a close-up or macro?

ANSWER: These definitions may be found in the Flower Show and Judging Guide Book 5. Close-up: [P] a photo taken close to the subject or with a long focal-length lens to permit a close and detailed view of the object. The object fills most of the frame. Macro: [P] a macro photograph is one in which the size of the subject on the negative or image sensor is life-size or greater.