

**CENTRAL ARIZONA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
(CACSS)
ANNUAL SHOW RULES & GUIDELINES**

A) Announcement of Show

Dates, times, location, scheduling and all other information for shows will be announced to club members via emails, at club meetings, on the website, and in the Central Spine newsletter no later than two months prior to each show.

B) Exhibitor Classifications

1. Valid CACSS membership (Lifetime, Family, Single) is required to be an Exhibitor. Family and Single memberships must be renewed or obtained by February 28 of the show year. Lifetime memberships are exempt from paying dues. Also, the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society members are eligible to enter in this Show.
2. Competitive and Noncompetitive Exhibitors will register and receive an Exhibitor Number and blank entry cards prior to the show from the Show Chair or her/his designee. The Exhibitor Number will be entered on all entry cards.
3. Competitive Exhibitors will register as Junior, Novice, Intermediate, or Advanced/Master. Exhibitor Classification is based on cumulative blue (first place) ribbons won in previous competitions that are recorded on the [Blue Ribbon Winners](#), [Active Members spreadsheet](#) on the website. The Junior classification is based on age only, not the cumulative number of blue ribbons.
 - a. Junior (green entry cards): to age 18 regardless of number of blue ribbons previously won
 - b. Novice (yellow entry cards): 0-5 blue ribbons
 - c. Intermediate (blue entry cards) 6-24
 - d. Advanced/Master combined (tan entry cards): 25 or more
4. Any exhibitor who wishes to enter the show in a higher exhibitor classification than determined by current rules may do so with the understanding that all plants they enter will be included in that same classification, and they may not revert to their previous exhibitor classification in future competitions.

Judging Scale

1. The following criteria will be used:
 - a. Condition of plant – 50%
 - b. Difficulty of culture – 25%

- c. Size and degree of maturity – 25%
- d. Staging and presentation will be evaluated as a tie breaker among possible first place winners.

D) **General Show Rules and Guidelines**

The Plant List, Categories and Divisions document provides the information necessary to properly categorize the plant and complete the entry card. This document is on the CACSS website (centralarizonacactus.org)

1. Plants entered in the Show shall have been in the possession and care of the Exhibitor for a minimum of 6 months.
2. Neither the CACSS nor the Desert Botanical Garden assumes responsibility for loss, damage, or unclaimed entries.
3. ALL PLANTS entered in the Show shall be free of pests and/or disease. Before entry plants will be screened and denied admission into the Show area. Also, any diseased or infected plants will be removed from the Show area at the discretion of the Show Committee representatives.
4. The decisions of the Judges and Show Committee are final.
5. Plants must be horticulturally propagated. No field-collected plants, whether salvaged legally or illegally, will be admitted.
6. No plant illegal to possess in Arizona or that might be mistaken for such a plant will be admitted, for example any plant in the genus *Lophophora*. Field-collected plants as well as those illegal to possess under federal, state, or local law are not accepted for entry and subject to removal.
7. Each entry (plant or item) must be accompanied by an exhibitor entry card. CARDS MUST BE FILLED OUT PRIOR TO ACCEPTANCE INTO THE SHOW. Entry cards are available at monthly meetings **before** the show month. Fill out all required information ABOVE and BELOW the dotted line without folding the card. If unable to get cards at meetings, reach out to the Show Chair via the centralarizonacactus@gmail.com email address for alternative arrangements.
8. All plant entries must have a white plastic or metal label with the plant botanical name clearly legible inserted in the soil at the back of the pot facing forward. This identifies the orientation of the plant when placed on display.
9. Plants free of debris such as leaves, spent flowers, cobwebs, etc. present an aesthetically pleasing and professional appearance both for judging and public display. Please attend to this prior to entering plants in the show. **ABSOLUTELY NO CLEANING IN DORRANCE HALL.**

10. Exhibitors shall refrain from watering plants just prior to the show. Any plants dripping water on the show tables may be removed from the show at the discretion of the Show Committee.
11. Measurements in inches as indicated in the show categories refer to the inside diameter of the pot. For odd shaped pots, size is determined by adding the length and width together and dividing by two.
12. Plant stands may only be used in the Bonsai class or with plants that cascade below the edge of the pot.
13. Note that Plant Category Sections I and II are for SINGLE PLANTS ONLY. For example, if you have a pot with 3 nice *Astrophytum ornatum* regardless of their size, that entry does not belong in Section I Class A Division 6 (*Astrophytum*). Rather it belongs in Section IV, Class B, Division 1 (Dish Gardens and Planters- Multiple Plants-Cacti).
14. Do not bring in plants and arrangements that you cannot lift yourself. Heavy and bulky items upon arrival will be placed in a designated area of the showroom along with the completed entry card plus a full-sized sheet of paper (8.5" X 11") with either a photo copy of the entry card or a handwritten note with the plant/item name, exhibitor number, section number and division number.

On Submission Day, plants are moved multiple times as new entries are received. Your completed sheet of paper will serve as a placeholder for your plant until its final display position is identified, so the plant itself needs to be moved just once.

15. It is the Show Committee's responsibility for final placement of all entries.
16. Limit your entries to 25 per exhibitor. If more than 25 entries are received at intake, all plants will be rejected until the exhibitor reduces the number of entries to no more than 25. NO EXCEPTIONS.
17. Members wishing to display plants not to be judged may do so. The Show Chair shall be notified of non-judged entries at least one week prior to show set up to allow for the appropriate space to be provided. Non-judged entries shall comply with other applicable rules and guidelines, including completion of the appropriate entry cards.
18. Exhibitors, visitors, and any personnel not directly involved in the judging are not permitted on the show floor during judging. Only the show lead team, judges and judging assistant volunteers are permitted in the showroom during judging. Authorized photographers will enter after the judging is complete.
19. Plants shall be removed from the show no later than an hour after the show closes.