

## Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Orchid Show General Show and Exhibition Guidelines and Regulations

The Show Exhibit Hall will be open for exhibit staging and Registration on Thursday. Judging will be held Friday.

### A. General Requirements for All Exhibits

1. All exhibitors are expected to familiarize themselves with the specific guidelines and regulations for individual plant entry and each type of exhibit, (see separate guideline and regulation papers for each exhibit type), asking the Show Chairperson for interpretation when necessary.
2. Diseased or insect infested plants will **not** be accepted for entry.
3. Plants, including first bloom seedlings, owned by commercial growers will **not** be entered for ribbon judging or awards designated for GCOA Hobby Growers.
4. Hobbyist exhibitors or commercial growers who are **not** GCOA members may **only** enter individual plants for AOS Judging.
5. All orchid plants and exhibits entered in the show may be considered for AOS awards, which are a recognized measure of quality the world over and coveted by all orchid growers. Exhibitors are responsible for paying the AOS fees associated with winning these awards. If exhibitors choose **not** to participate in AOS judging, they must clearly mark on the registration tag that their plant is “not for AOS Judging” so that the Head Clerk may inform the Judging Chairperson.
6. AOS Show Trophy and Best in Show Award (T1 & 1A), where no entry is required, are open to any plant displayed at the show.
7. All exhibitors are hereby notified that it may be necessary for the show committee to move plants and exhibits to allow for proper spacing and in accordance with classes. Exhibitors are responsible for creating exhibits that will be portable or moveable.
8. Size, location and guidelines for each Exhibit Class will be determined and enforced by the Show Architect or Show Chairperson. Specific guidelines and regulations for each exhibit class will be available at the monthly member event, or through the Show Chairperson.
9. Group exhibits may be entered. Names of exhibitors comprising the group may be displayed **after** the judging.

10. All plants in exhibits must be correctly and prominently labeled **except** for Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangements. Flowers in Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangement classes will not be eligible for individual plant class ribbons or awards.
11. Plants used in any exhibit class may be borrowed or purchased for an exhibit. If plants are borrowed from a GCOA member, the owner of the plant(s) may enter the plant(s) for GCOA ribbon and award judging in the appropriate Individual Plant class. If an award is received it will belong to the owner of the plant, and not the owner of the exhibit. If plants are newly purchased especially for the exhibit, and **owned for less than six months**, they may **not** be entered for GCOA Hobby awards or ribbon judging, but may be used in the exhibit. This does not apply to Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangements. For Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangements it is the design that is important and the flower may come from any source.
12. Wood, stone, metal, ceramic and glass accessories, and small battery powered lights may be contained within the exhibit. (These are lights powered by dry cell batteries that would typically be found in a watch or hearing aid, or 9 volt, AAA, AA, A, C or D only.)
13. The following materials are **not** permitted in exhibits:
  - Cut flowers (except in Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangements)
  - Flowering plants other than orchids (including moss)
  - Artificial or dyed plant material
  - Water displays
  - Electric lights involving cords or extension cords
14. Exhibits must be titled and the title prominently labeled and displayed. Exhibitor Names are to be displayed by label **only after judging is complete**. Exhibit Title must be submitted on a green registration tag on Thursday, at the Show Exhibit Hall before Registration closes.
15. Precaution will be taken for the safety of plants and accessories, however, GCOA will not be responsible for damage or loss.
16. All plants and exhibits must remain in place for the duration of the Show, at the discretion of the Show Chairperson.

## **B. Individual Plants**

1. All individual plants to be entered for AOS judging and GCOA award and ribbon judging must be registered by completing a green registration tag and filing it with the Registration Clerk. Plant registration must be made at the Show Exhibit Hall on Thursday, before Registration closes. **Absolutely no entries will be accepted after Registration has closed!!** Registered plants are to be placed on the individual plant tables (location P), on Vanda racks (location V) or in exhibit classes 2000, 3000, or 4000, 8000. **Entries must remain in place for the duration of the Show, at the discretion of the Show Chairperson.**

2. Registration for Individual plants will consist of **two parts**:
  - (1) Pre-registration—Present your completed green registration tag to a registrar to obtain assistance verifying the identification and parentage of the entry. This person will assign the appropriate entry class number.
  - (2) Registration—Present the verified green registration tag to the Registration Clerk who will assign the location and instruct you on which table the plant should be placed.
3. All Hobby Grown Plants entered for awards and ribbon judging must have been grown by the exhibitor for a **minimum of six (6) months**.
4. First, Second and Third place ribbons shall be awarded in each class of the Individual Plant entries at the discretion of the judges. Judges have the authority to award or withhold any ribbon or awards. Judges may subdivide classes only with the approval of the Judging Chairman.

**C. Exhibits:**     *(see Exhibit Rules and Regulations for each class)*

**Class 1000. Commercial Table Top Exhibit.** Open to Vendors.

**Class 2000. Hobbyist Table Top Exhibit.** Open to GCOA members only.

**Class 3000. Hobbyist Mini Table Top Exhibit.** Open to GCOA members only.

**Class 4000. Hobbyist Container Exhibit.** Open to GCOA members only.

**Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangements.** Open to GCOA members only.

**Three Classes:**

**Class 5000.** Arrangements with **one single orchid flower** (any genus; an example would be a single Cattleya flower)

**Class 6000.** Arrangements with **multiple orchid flowers from a single plant** (any genus; an example would be a stem of Phalaenopsis or Dendrobium flowers)

**Class 7000.** Arrangements with **multiple orchid flowers from a single genus or multiple genera** (any genus)

**Class 8000. Educational Exhibit.** Open to GCOA members only. Subject to space limitations.

**D. Judging:**

1. Judging will be held on Friday. When the Show opens to the public, if judging is still going on, it will be an educational experience for visitors to the show.
2. In addition to the ribbons, awards and AOS Show Trophy as provided for in the show schedule, all plants and flowers in the Show may be considered by the AOS Judges for AOS awards, which are a recognized measure of quality the world over and coveted by all orchid

growers. Exhibitors are responsible for paying the AOS fees associated with winning these awards. If exhibitors choose **not** to participate in AOS judging, they must clearly mark on the registration tag that their plant is “**not for AOS judging**” so that the Head Clerk may inform the Judging Chairperson.

3. Any plant in flower that has been exhibited previously in another AOS judged show or judging session may **not** be reconsidered for AOS awards on the same inflorescence. (Judging Chairman to be notified)
4. For ribbon awards, judges may subdivide classes at their discretion.
5. Judges have the right to withhold any scheduled trophy, award or ribbon. Duplicate awards may **not** be given.
6. Judges may, by consent of a team, give special awards.
7. Current American Orchid Society scale of points for judging exhibits will be followed, with emphasis on artistic effect:
  - General Arrangement - 35 points
  - Quality of Flowers - 35 points
  - Variety - 20 points
  - Labeling - 10 points
8. Decisions of judges and rulings of the Show Chairperson are final.

## Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Orchid Show Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangements Guidelines and Regulations

### **THERE ARE THREE CATEGORIES OF ORCHID CUT FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS:**

**Class 5000 (F1).** Arrangements with **one single orchid flower** (any genus; an example would be a single Cattleya flower)

**Class 6000 (F2).** Arrangements with **multiple orchid flowers from a single plant** (any genus; an example would be a stem of Phalaenopsis or dendrobium flowers)

**Class 7000 (F3).** Arrangements with **multiple orchid flowers from a single genus or multiple genera** (any genus; these could include mixed genera, mixed colors from the same genus, etc.)

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ORCHID CUT FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS:**

1. Hobbyist Orchid Cut Flower Arrangement Exhibition is open to Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Members only.
2. Cash Awards and ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, Third and Fourth Place in each category (depending on the number of entries).
3. Arrangements should be a maximum of 36" high and 14" wide. These restrictions will be strictly enforced.
4. Fresh cut orchids are the **only** flowers permitted.
5. Wood, stone, metal, ceramic and glass accessories, and small battery powered lights may be contained within the exhibit. (These are lights powered by dry cell batteries that would typically be found in a watch or hearing aid, or 9 volt, AAA, AA, A, C, or D only.) are permitted.
6. Artificial or dyed plant material is **not permitted**.
7. All plant material should be properly conditioned and kept fresh for the duration of the show.
8. Awards are to be determined by the Standard System of Awarding, American Orchid Society.
9. Exhibits must be named, and the title should be displayed on a placard in front of the exhibit. Exhibitor's name should be displayed **only** after judging is completed.
10. Precaution will be taken for the safety of containers and accessories, however, the GCOA will not be responsible for damage or loss.
11. All exhibitors are asked to be familiar with the general show and exhibition rules as published in the GCOA Show Schedule. All general and GCOA rules will apply to all exhibit and plant entries.

### **ORCHID CUT FLOWER ARRANGEMENT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

1. All Orchid Cut Flower Arrangements must be registered by the Registration clerk at the Show Exhibit Hall on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens.  
**Absolutely no entries after Registration has closed.**
2. All entries must remain in place for the duration of the Show, at the discretion of the Show Chairperson .

## Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Orchid Show Hobbyist Container (Class 4000) Guidelines and Regulations

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Hobbyist Container Exhibition is open to Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Members only.
2. Cash awards and ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, Third and Fourth Place (depending upon the number of entries).
3. Exhibitors to furnish their own containers (basket, ceramic dish, box, etc.).
4. Size: 24" wide x 24" long; 36" maximum height. Container and plant material may not extend beyond these 24" x 24" dimensions.
5. Maximum of 7 orchid plants per container.
6. Plants used in Hobby Container exhibits may be borrowed or purchased for the exhibit. If plants are borrowed from a GCOA member, the owner may enter the plant(s) for GCOA ribbon and awards judging in the appropriate Individual Plant class. If an award is received it will belong to the owner of the plant, and not the owner of the exhibit. If plants are newly purchased for the exhibit, **and owned for less than six months**, they may **not** be entered for GCOA Individual Plant awards or ribbons.
7. All Plants must be correctly and prominently labeled within the display.
8. Wood, stone, metal, ceramic and glass accessories, and small battery powered electric lights may be contained within the exhibit are permitted. (Those are lights powered by dry cell batteries that would typically be found in a watch or hearing aid or 9 volt, AAA, AA, A, C, or D only.)
9. The following materials are **not permitted** in container exhibits: No cut flowers or cut plant material; No artificial or dyed plant material; No water displays; No flowering plants other than orchids (including moss); No electric lights involving cords or extension cords.
10. The Exhibit **MUST BE NAMED** with an Exhibit Title. Please submit the Exhibit Title with the Exhibit Entry on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens.
11. Exhibit Title should be displayed on a placard in front of the exhibit. Exhibitor's name may be displayed **only** after judging is completed.
12. All exhibitors are asked to be familiar with the general show and exhibition rules as published in the GCOA Show Schedule. All general and GCOA rules will apply to all exhibit and plant entries.
13. Precaution will be taken for the safety of plants and accessories, however, the GCOA will not be responsible for damage or loss.

### HOBBY CONTAINER EXHIBIT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

1. All Hobbyist Container Exhibits must be registered by the Registration clerk at the Show Exhibit Hall on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens. **Absolutely no entries after Registration has closed.**
2. All entries must remain in place for the duration of the Show, at the discretion of the Show Chairperson.

## Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Orchid Show Hobbyist Mini Table Top (Class 3000) Guidelines and Regulations

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Hobbyist Mini Table Top Exhibition is open to Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Members only.
2. Cash Awards and Ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, Third and Fourth Place (depending upon the number of entries).
3. Exhibitors to furnish their own Mini Table Tops (basket, ceramic dish, etc.) or furnish their own 24' x 24' wood base.
4. Size: 24" wide x 24" long; no maximum height. Mini Table Top and plant material may not extend beyond these dimensions.
5. The entire space of 24" x 24" may be utilized.
6. No maximum or minimum orchid plants per Mini Table Top are required; any number of plants may be used.
7. Plants used in Hobbyist Mini Table Top exhibits may be borrowed or purchased for the exhibit. If plants are borrowed from a GCOA member, the owner of the plant(s) may enter that plant(s) for GCOA ribbon and awards judging in the appropriate Individual Plant class. If an award is received it will belong to the owner of the plant, and not the owner of the exhibit. If plants are newly purchased especially for the exhibit, and **owned for less than six months**, they may **not** be entered for GCOA Individual Plant awards or ribbons, but may be used in the exhibit.
8. All Plants must be correctly and prominently labeled.
9. Wood, stone, metal, ceramic and glass accessories, and small battery powered electric lights may be contained within the exhibit. (These are lights powered by dry cell batteries that would typically be found in a watch or hearing aid, or 9 volt, AAA, AA, A, C, or D only.)
10. The following materials are **not permitted** in Hobbyist Mini Table Top exhibits: No cut flowers or cut plant material; No artificial or dyed plant material; No water displays; No flowering plants other than orchids; No electric lights or other features.
11. The Exhibit **MUST BE NAMED**. Please submit the Exhibit Title with the Exhibit Entry on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens.
12. Exhibit Title should be displayed on a placard in front of the exhibit. Exhibitor's name should be displayed **only** after judging is completed.
13. All exhibitors are asked to be familiar with the general show and exhibition rules as published in the GCOA Show Schedule. All general and GCOA rules will apply to all exhibits and plant entries.
14. Precaution will be taken for the safety of plants and accessories, however, GCOA will not be responsible for damage or loss.

### HOBBY MINI TABLETOP EXHIBIT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

1. All Hobbyist Mini Table Top Exhibits must be registered by the Registration clerk at the Show Exhibit Hall on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens.  
**Absolutely no entries after Registration has closed.**
2. All entries must remain in place for the duration of the show, at the discretion of the Show Chairperson.

## Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Orchid Show

### Commercial & Hobbyist Table Top (Classes 1000 & 2000) Guidelines and Regulations

#### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Table Top Exhibition is open to Vendors and Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Members only.
2. Cash Awards and ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, Third and Fourth Place (depending upon the number of entries).
3. GCOA will furnish Card Table bases and backgrounds. GCOA will furnish 42" x 42" platforms.
4. Size: 42" wide x 42" deep. There are **no** height restrictions.
5. GCOA will furnish sheet moss for **Hobbyist exhibits only**.
6. GCOA will furnish a small quantity of foliage plants for Hobbyist exhibits, and will provide cloth backdrops for all Table Top exhibits.
7. Plants used in **Hobbyist** Card Table exhibits may be borrowed or purchased for the exhibit. If plants are borrowed from a GCOA member, the owner of the plant(s) may enter the plant(s) for GCOA ribbons and awards judging in the appropriate Individual Plant class. If an award is received it will belong to the owner of the plant, and not the owner of the exhibit. If plants are newly purchased especially for the exhibit, and **owned for less than six months**, they may **not** be entered for GCOA ribbons or awards judging, but may be used in the exhibit.
8. All Plants must be correctly and prominently labeled.
9. Wood, stone, metal, ceramic and glass accessories and small battery powered electric lights contained within the exhibit are permitted. (These are lights powered by dry cell batteries that would typically be found in a watch or hearing aid or 9 volt, AAA, AA, A, C, or D only.)
10. The following materials are **not permitted** in Table Top exhibits: No cut flowers or cut plant material; No artificial or dyed plant material; No water displays; No flowering plants other than orchids; No electric lights or other features.
11. The Exhibit must be named. Please submit Exhibit Title with the Exhibit green registration form on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens. Exhibit Title should be displayed on a placard in front of the exhibit. Exhibitors name should be displayed only after judging is completed.
12. All exhibitors are asked to be familiar with the general show and exhibition rules as published in the GCOA Show Schedule. All general and GCOA rules will apply to all exhibit and plant entries.
13. Precaution will be taken for the safety of plants and accessories, however, the GCOA will not be responsible for damage or loss.

#### COMMERCIAL AND HOBBYIST TABLE TOP EXHIBIT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

1. All Exhibits must be registered by the Registration clerk at the Show Exhibit Hall on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens. **Absolutely no entries after Registration has closed.**
2. All entries must remain in place for the duration of the show, at the discretion of the Show Chairperson.



## Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Show Educational Exhibits (Class 8000) Guidelines and Regulations

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Educational Exhibition is open to Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Members only.
2. Cash Awards and ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, Third and Fourth Place (depending on the number of entries).
3. Members must provide their own Card Table.
4. Size: 36" wide x 36" long; no height restriction. Exhibit may not extend beyond these 36" x 36" dimensions.
5. Table skirting will be provided by the GCOA.
6. Plants used in the Educational Exhibit class may be borrowed or purchased for the exhibit. If plants are borrowed from a GCOA member, the owner of the plant(s) may enter the plant(s) for GCOA ribbons and award judging in the appropriate Individual Plant class. If an award is received it will belong to the owner of the plant, and not the owner of the exhibit. If plants are newly purchased especially for the exhibit, and **owned for less than six months**, they may **not** be entered for GCOA ribbons or award judging, but they may be used in the exhibit.
7. All plants must be correctly and prominently labeled within the display.
8. Wood, stone, metal, ceramic and glass accessories, and small battery powered lights may be contained within the exhibit. (These are lights powered by dry cell batteries that would typically be found in a watch or hearing aid, or 9 volt, AAA, AA, A, C, or D **only**.)
9. The following materials are **not permitted** in exhibits: No Flowering plants other than orchids (including moss); No artificial or dyed plant material; No water displays; No electric lights involving cords or extension cords.
10. The exhibit **MUST BE NAMED** with an Exhibit Title. Please submit the Exhibit Title with the Exhibit Entry on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens. Exhibitor's name may be displayed only after judging is completed.
11. GCOA Members who wish to enter Educational Exhibits in the show **must notify the Show Chairperson or Show Architect at least one week in advance of the show** to ensure space will be made available for the exhibit. Educational Exhibitors who have not previously notified the Show Chairman or the Show Architect will **not** be accepted for registration on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the Show.
12. All exhibitors are asked to be familiar with the general show and exhibition rules as published in the GCOA Show Schedule. All general and GCOA rules will apply to all exhibit and plant entries.
13. Precaution will be taken for the safety of plants and accessories, however, the GCOA will not be responsible for damage or loss.

### EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Educational Exhibits must be registered by the Registration clerk at the Show Exhibit Hall on Thursday, Registration Day, the day before the show opens. **Absolutely no entries after Registration has closed.**
2. All entries must remain in place throughout the duration of the show, at the discretion of the Show Chairperson.