



Judging Guidelines

- Each variety entered in the competition is judged on its own merits on four distinct areas. Three of the areas being judged are worth up to 10 points each, one of the areas is worth up to 20 points. Therefore, a maximum of 50 points can be earned for each entry.
- The four areas being judged for each entry are:
 - Color and commercial appeal (10 points)
 - Stem & foliage (10 points)
 - Bloom - form, consistency, free from defect or disease (10 points)
 - Overall quality/presentation (20 points)
- Judging will be conducted by three different sets of judges. Each set of judges will consist of a grower, retailer and wholesaler.
The categories for judging purposes are: Breeder Entries; Cut Rose; Cut Garden Rose; Cut Spray Rose; Cut Dianthus; Cut Chrysanthemum; Cut Bulb Flower; Cut Alstroemeria; Cut Gerbera; Other Cut Flower; Decorative (Cut) Foliage & Berries; Potted Flowering Plant; Potted Foliage Plant; Bedding Plant
- The score for each entry will be determined by averaging the total scores of the three judges in each judged group. There is no predetermined number of red or blue ribbons that may be awarded.

Blue ribbons are awarded to entries that score in the top 15%.
Only scores of 44.5 and up will qualify for blue ribbons.

Red ribbons are awarded to entries that score in the next 30%.

Entries receiving a score of 35 or below will not be awarded ribbons

- **Best in Class** will be awarded to the highest scoring entry in each of the 14 entry categories. In case of a tie, the judges will determine the “Best in Class” from among the tied entries. SAF reserves the right to not issue Best in Class Ribbons when there are less than 3 entries in a class.
- **Best in Show** will be judged from the 13 Best in Class award winners (Breeder category is not eligible). All nine judges will be involved in selecting the Best in Show entry. In case of a tie, the judges will determine the “Best in Show” from among the tied Best in Class entries.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Judging will take place from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2026. No admittance in the competition room will be allowed after 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Scoring and ribbon placement will occur Tuesday evening.

General admittance to the competition room will begin on Wednesday, August 19 following the Kick-Off Breakfast. At that time, all ribbons will be on display, as well as the handout of ribbon winners.