

DEEP SOUTH DISTRICT AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

GUIDELINES FOR DISTRICT MEETINGS & ROSE SHOWS

(revised 3/1/2025)

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The guidelines listed below are designed solely to help the host society and participants stage a well-planned, successful Convention and Rose Show or Spring Fling with a minimum of errors and/or misunderstandings. Consistency is our main objective in establishing these guidelines. They represent a step toward improving and maintaining the high standards of the Deep South District without any unexpected burden or hardship on any member or Affiliated Society in the District. Our goal is to enjoy being together at our District meetings and have fun.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOST SOCIETY

1. The following committee members are suggested to organize a District Convention and Rose Show: Convention/Meeting Chair, Registration Chair, Rose Show Chair, Registration Chair, Finance Chair, Tour Chair, Hospitality Chair, Raffle Chair and Program Chair. The same committee is needed for a Spring Fling except for the Rose Show Chair. The Convention/Meeting Chair is responsible for organizing the event and will act as coordinator for all activities during the Convention/Spring Fling. They will keep the District Director well informed of all the planning steps in preparation for the event.
2. Conventions/Spring Flings should be held on an appropriate weekend at an appropriate facility subject to the approval of the District Director. When possible, sites should be rotated throughout the District. Convention sites should be scheduled for a time of year when most sections of the District can participate in the Rose Show.
3. The host society has the choice of scheduling a supper or hors d'oeuvre social or having attendees do dinner on their own on Friday night. Regardless, a Hospitality Room/area should be open Friday and Saturday nights after dinner at Conventions and Spring Flings for attendees to mingle and get acquainted.
4. The District Rose Show will be held on Saturday morning. Every effort should be made to have all the judging completed by approximately 12:15 PM. If refrigeration is made available for exhibitors, checking on the refrigeration during the night may be necessary to prevent the roses from freezing.
5. The Annual District Business Meeting will be scheduled for the Spring Fling on Saturday afternoon. This change was made to better enable members to attend the rose show instead of running the Business Meeting and Rose Show at the same time.
6. Programs on rose culture and other relevant topics will be presented Saturday morning and afternoon at the Convention and Spring Fling.

7. Compensation for speakers who are DSD members or from the local area should be only a compensatory (free) room if there are enough to do this. Speakers who are not DSD members or are from out of the District get the comp. rooms first in addition to free registration and banquet. Travel expenses can be paid for those who request it. Honorariums are usually not given unless there is a demand for their particular program. Travel expenses and honorariums must be approved by the District Director prior to the event.
8. If a District Judges meeting is scheduled during the District Convention, it must not conflict with the time show entries are being made, nor when the show is being judged.
9. A Consulting Rosarian School shall be held on Sunday morning of the Spring Fling on even-numbered years.
10. An Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday night of the District Convention and Spring Fling. The program should be well planned and not exceedingly long. Either a featured speaker or entertainment may be scheduled but not both. National and District Challenge Trophies and Awards, Top Show Awards, the Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Award, the Outstanding Judge Award, and the ARS Silver Honor Medal will be awarded at the Convention banquet by the District Director and the District Awards Chair (or their designated alternates). Master Rosarians, Emeritus CRs, the Anita Smith Award, and ARS Bronze Medal recipients will be presented at the Spring Fling. Provision should be made for photographs for possible district and national publication.
11. Tours of public and private gardens and local areas of interest may be arranged for Sunday morning at the District Convention and Rose Show.
12. The above schedule of events may be altered as necessary if the Convention is held in conjunction with a National American Rose Society Convention.
13. A registration fee is mandatory for all who attend the Annual District Convention and Spring Fling. Neither the District, nor the host society can waive the registration on one member of a family. Registration and reservation forms will be sent out in an issue of the Deep South District Bulletin and posted on the District Website at least sixty days prior to the convention. Local societies will make every effort to see that non-subscribers have access to forms.
14. The proposed District Convention Program and Rose Show Schedule must be submitted to the District Director for approval at least sixty days prior to the planned printing date.
15. If a host society cannot fully financially support the set-up costs of the District Convention or Spring Fling, the Deep South District will provide \$500 of seed money to underwrite the program. If a profit on the event is made the funds advanced must be returned within 60 days. If a loss occurs on the event, then no return will be expected. However, good planning should eliminate event losses.

16. The host society must file a complete financial statement of District Convention Income and Disbursements with the District Treasurer, ARS Executive Director, and the District Director, not later than thirty days following the event. If this is not possible, notice should be sent to each party as to when this statement can be expected. A host society must make every effort to show a profit at each Annual District Meeting/Event and 25% of the net profits after expenses must be turned over to the District Treasury. Income will consist of anything that generates overall event profit including raffle and silent auction monies. Any losses incurred at a District Meeting are the responsibility of the host society and not the District. If a District Meeting is held concurrently with an ARS Convention, ARS Guidelines will prevail.
17. The host society should negotiate a complimentary suite for the District Director at the meeting facility for both the District Convention and Spring Fling.
18. If there are proposals to be voted on at the Spring Fling the District Secretary will correspond with all Affiliated Societies at least sixty days prior to the meeting and request nomination of Delegates and Alternates to the Annual Business Meeting. The District Director will notify the Secretary prior to the deadline if voting will take place.
19. The host society, if it so desires, may request a donation from each Affiliated Society for the purchase of Awards for the District Rose Show. This should be done at least ninety days before the Show Schedule goes to the printer. The DSD Board must approve any new awards for the District and these will be communicated to the host society at least ninety days before schedule printing.

DISTRICT SHOW RESPONSIBILITIES AND RULES

1. The Show Chair will organize appropriate Show committees and will be responsible for the Show schedule, which must be submitted to the District Horticulture and Arrangements Judges Chairs at least sixty days before the printing date.
2. The ARS Guidelines for Staging a Rose Show and ARS Guidelines for Judging Roses will be in effect.
3. Rules for Exhibitors are as follows:
 - a. Roses for competition must have been grown in an outdoor private garden and not in a greenhouse. Only one exhibitor or team of exhibitors may exhibit from the same garden. Only one entry may be made in Named Challenge Classes. In Specimen classes and regular Collection Classes, as many entries as desired may be made and duplications of the same varieties are now permitted as of the 2024 Judging Rules changes. Novice exhibitors who have never won an ARS Blue Ribbon may enter the Novice Class as well as other Classes provided entry requirements of those other classes are satisfied.

- b. Deep South District trophies are restricted to ARS members residing in the Deep South District or to members of Affiliated Societies residing in the District. Not all American Rose Society National Trophies are available each year but rotate from district to district as approved by the executive committee of the ARS. These trophies are Restricted to ARS members. Most society challenge trophies restricted to local society members may be offered for competition. Otherwise, all classes and awards are open to all exhibitors.
 - c. The schedule should be very clear for each class, whether the entries are to be one-bloom-per-stem or multiple bloom sprays with two or more blooms. The term "single bloom" should not be used. When referring to roses with 4-8 petals, use the term "single type." In the open bloom classes, the term "fully open" should be used and the schedule should state, "Stamens must be showing."
 - d. The Queen, King, and Princess of Show will be selected from the Specimen Class for one-bloom-per-stem Hybrid Teas and Grandifloras.
 - e. The Queen, King, and Princess of Minifloras will be selected from the Specimen Class for one-bloom-per-stem miniflora roses.
 - f. The Queen, King, and Princess of Miniatures will be selected from the Specimen Class for one-bloom-per-stem miniature roses.
 - g. ARS Certificates for Horticulture and Arrangements will be obtained for the following:
 - i. Blue Ribbon winner of various types of roses, e.g., Best Hybrid Tea Spray, Best Grandiflora Spray, Best Floribunda Spray, Best Polyantha Spray, Best Miniature Spray, Best Fully Open Hybrid Tea, Best Climber, Best Modern Shrub, etc.
 - ii. The Dowager Queen Award will be presented to the best blue-ribbon entry of an Old Garden Rose variety introduced prior to 1867. The Victorian Award will be presented to the best blue-ribbon entry of an Old Garden Rose variety introduced in 1867 and after. Any additional certificates introduced by the ARS should be included. (See Guidelines for Operating Rose Shows Under ARS Standards)
 - iii. Sweepstakes Awards may be made at the discretion of the host society.
 - h. Rules for exhibitors in Arrangement classes will be found in the latest version of the ARS Guidelines for Judging Rose Arrangements.
4. There are several named Challenge Classes, Trophies, and Awards:
- a. Most ARS National Trophy classes are available for rotation in District show schedules. The District Director will notify the Show Chair when these trophy classes are to be offered. The ARS determines the rules for these trophy classes.

The Rose Show Chair will obtain the wording for the schedule from the Executive Director of the ARS.

- b. **Deep South District Trophies and Awards.** The following awards are restricted to ARS members who are members of the Deep South District or to members of affiliated societies residing in the District.
- i. **The American Rose Society J. Horace McFarland Deep South District Trophy.** Five Hybrid Tea specimens, one-bloom-per-stem, of five different varieties, in separate containers with separate entry tags, properly named.
 - ii. **The Deep South Bulletin Trophy.** Three Floribunda sprays, same or different varieties. Separate containers, separate entry tags.
 - iii. **The Deep South District Double English Box Trophy.** Twelve Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora and/or Floribunda specimens of one or more varieties, exhibition stage. No foliage or single type blooms (4 – 8 petals) permitted. One entry tag.
 - iv. **The American Rose Society Ralph S. Moore Deep South District Trophy.** Seven Miniatures, one-bloom-per-stem, exhibition stage. Each a different variety. Separate containers, separate entry tags.
 - v. **The Katy Lampkin Award.** The entries for this award will consist of Two Floribunda Sprays, each with two or more blooms, same variety, in separate containers with separate entry tags, properly named.
 - vi. **The Director's Miniflora Rose Trophy.** Five Minifloras, one-bloom per-stem, different varieties, exhibition stage, exhibited in separate containers with separate entry tags.
 - vii. **The Eleanor Ramage Trophy.** Three (3) OGR and/or shrub roses, same or different varieties. May be sprays or one-bloom-per-stem, displayed in one container. Varieties listed on one entry tag.
 - viii. **Mary Maud Sharpe Challenge.** Two arrangements (one Standard and one Miniature). The Miniature should be a "copy" of the Standard. Staging should not exceed 24" in width or 30" in depth. The Miniature arrangement, not to exceed 10" in height, width or depth should be a "copy" of the Standard. The two arrangements should relate to each other and be visually unified. The Miniature design is limited to roses classified as Miniature or Miniflora. Exhibitor may choose style of design, which must be written on the entry tag.
 - ix. **District Director's Miniflora Challenge.** An arrangement using fresh Miniflora roses. Arrangement may not exceed 12 inches in height, width or depth. Staging may not exceed 14 inches in height, width or depth. Exhibitor may choose the style of design, which must be written on the entry tag.
- c. The National Horticulture and National Arrangement Classes along with all Deep South District Challenge Classes will be cash awards. The amounts of these cash awards will be determined by the current serving District Director and paid for by the Deep South District treasury.

5. The following rules will be applicable to ARS District Trophies and Deep South District Challenge Trophies, in addition to rules already presented.
 - a. A panel of at least five Accredited Judges pre-assigned by The Show Chair of Judges must judge ARS Horticulture District Challenge Trophies and Deep South District Horticulture Challenge Trophies. A panel of at least three Accredited Arrangement Judges pre-assigned by The Show Chair of Judges must judge the District Arrangement awards. Judges in Horticulture Challenge Classes may discuss the entries among themselves but each Judge will cast a written secret ballot, however judges in Arrangement Challenge Classes may not discuss the entries prior to the balloting. The Show Chair of Judges will, prior to the judging, assign a number to each entry in these classes. The numbers, rather than variety names, will be used for judging and will be removed after judging these classes is completed. If there is a tie, an arbiter team of Accredited Judges will be assigned. All persons, regardless of office, having an entry in a challenge class are disqualified from any part in the judging and tallying of these classes, unless this judge steps back when their class is being judged.
 - b. The District Awards Chair will be charged with getting the plaques engraved for District trophies having winners for any given year.
 - c. The host society should permit out-of-town DSD Challenge Class trophy winners to take trophy pictures with them when leaving for home. This may be after the awards banquet. Check out should be with the Awards Chair. Each winner of these trophies will agree to return the trophy pictures in plenty of time for the next year's show.
 - d. Staging of Challenge Classes will be at the discretion of the exhibitor and will have no restrictions or limitations as to the relative placement of the individual specimens comprising the entry in each class. The exhibit should not exceed 24" in any horizontal direction. The Classification Committee will provide a separate table to receive entries for these Challenge Classes. The exhibitor stages their entry, accompanied by a member of the Placement Committee. Once placed, the entry must not be moved except by the exhibitor, provided the exhibitor is still available. The host society should provide adequate space for the proper staging of challenge classes so a move should not be necessary. Provisions must be made so the judges may view the blooms from above. The staging of these exhibits is very critical. Members of the Placement Committee must not touch a Challenge Class exhibit.
 - e. The District Trophy Committee will review requirements for the Deep South District Trophies and Show Awards at least once every five years. Any change in entry requirements or any other proposed new trophies or show awards must be approved at an Annual District Business Meeting by a majority of delegates present.

- f. The Show Chair will assign doorkeepers to prevent anyone without official show business from entering the Show Room until the judging is completed.
 - g. There will be no advance information about show winners until the show has been declared officially judged by the Show Chair and the Show Room is open to the public.
 - h. Participation in the Show implies acceptance of the rules on the part of the exhibitor. Exhibitors should participate in a cooperative manner. They are not allowed into the Show Room before judging except to place entries in Challenge Classes and they are not allowed in the Show Room unless they have official show committee assignments. If any exhibitor persists in remaining, all judging will be suspended until cooperation is evident. Exhibitors should automatically agree to conform to the rules and spirit of the show.
6. Guidelines for the Show Chair of Judges:
- a. Accredited and Apprentice ARS Judges throughout the District may apply to judge the show. Distinguished ARS Judges from outside the District may also participate. However, preference may be given to those judges from areas in the District where roses are not in bloom at the time of the show.
 - b. Each judge who is selected to judge in the Show must be notified at least four weeks prior to the Show. Initial judging assignments should be made at this time, if possible. Judges do not receive compensation for judging a District show.
 - c. The Court of Honor will be selected by secret ballot of Accredited Judges
 - d. Judging teams may consist of two or three Accredited Judges, or of two Accredited Judges and one Apprentice Judge. If two-person judging teams are used, an arbiter judge must be available. A team may not consist of one Accredited Judge and one Apprentice Judge.
7. Guidelines for Judges of a District Show:
- a. The show should have available complete reference material which includes the latest editions of the **ARS Guidelines for Judging Roses, Modern Roses, Official List of Approved Exhibition Names for Exhibitors & Judges**, the **Handbook for Selecting Roses, Modern Roses** on-line, and Recent Registrations on the ARS website.
 - b. If a judge must leave the Show Room for any reason, he/she is honor bound not to divulge the winner of any award in the show until the Show has been completely and officially opened by the Chair of the Show.

- c. If there is any question about compliance with the show rules, the Show Chair and the Show Chair of Judges must be consulted. The Show Chair and the Show Chair of Judges should review the DSD Challenge Class entries for compliance BEFORE judging.

GUIDELINES FOR THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

1. The District Director must be promptly available for consultation with the Host Society and be sure that the Host Society has a copy of these Guidelines for District Meetings and Rose Shows.
2. The District Director will submit any proposed amendments to the Bylaws, Guidelines or any other known new business to the Affiliated Societies at least sixty days prior to the Annual Business Meeting in order for the societies to discuss these matters and to instruct their delegates accordingly.
3. The District Director must approve the proposed Convention Program and Show Schedule in accordance with the approved rules and guidelines.
4. The District Director will appoint a Nominating Committee for new District officers at least three months prior to the Spring Fling Business Meeting.
5. The District Director or, in his/her absence, the next ranking District officer will preside at the Annual Business Meeting.
6. The District Director will appoint a committee of at least three members to review all entry requirements for all Deep South District Challenge Trophies at least every five years. The District Director and the District Chair of Judges will be ex-officio members of this committee.
7. The District Director and spouse will be accorded a seat of honor at the head table at the Awards Banquet. He/she or the designated alternate will present ARS National and Deep South District Trophies and Show Awards. (It is suggested that the District Director or Awards Chair present ARS District Awards, the District Chair of Judges will present the Deep South District Trophies, and the Host Society Show Chair may choose to present the top Show Awards.)
8. The District Director, the National Awards Chair for the DSD, and the Chair of Consulting Rosarians will determine the Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Award and present it during the Spring Fling Banquet.
9. The District Director, the National Awards Chair for the DSD, the District Chair of Horticulture Judges, and the District Chair of Arrangement Judges will determine the Outstanding Judge(s) Award(s) and present it during the District Convention Awards Banquet.

AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDELINES

1. Amendments and changes to these Guidelines may be made by a majority vote of a quorum of Delegates voting at an Annual Business Meeting of the Deep South District, provided the proposed amendments and changes have been submitted to each of the Affiliated Societies of the District at least sixty days prior to the meeting.
2. The District Director will appoint a committee of three members, representative of the District, to review these Guidelines and recommend changes. The District Director will be an ex-officio member of this committee. The committee names will be published in the Deep South District Bulletin and Correspondence concerning amendments or changes to the Guidelines should be directed to the chairperson.

Originally written and edited by: W. Henry Hunt, Marvous E. Mostellar and Katherine L. Mostellar. adopted at the Annual District Meeting, Tampa, FL, 1981.

Revised by: Sara Coleman, Kay Harrell, Jim Harrell, Phil Paul, James Small, Ex-officio: Ralph L. Stream, District Director. Revisions adopted by Delegates E-vote 2016.

Revision of definition of profit was voted on and approved at the Annual District Meeting January 20, 2018.

Revisions by Jean Stream, Ralph Stream, Sara Coleman, and Ex-officio: Cindy Dale, District Director, adopted unanimously by DSD Delegates at the 2023 Annual District Meeting.

Revisions by Joanne Maxheimer, Jean Stream, Ralph Stream, and Ex-officio: Karen Prevatt, District Director, adopted by DSD Delegates at the March 1, 2025, Annual District Meeting.