



39th Annual Show & Competition

April 25, 26, 27, 2025

SHOW RULES

1. The competition is open to NAWCA Members and Non-members. No one is restricted from joining NAWCA. Club members received a reduced registration fee for the annual show (entry fees are listed on the entry form).
2. No fee or membership is necessary for Juvenile Level registration.
3. Entries shall be the work of the artist and carved within the last one (1) year. Competitors can enter as many carvings as they wish. All entries must be placed in one Class Level per Category. Class Levels are: **Youth, Novice, Intermediate or Open.**
4. Competitors will decide the Class Level in which they wish to compete. There will be a panel of a minimum of two people to assist the entrant on the Class Level and Category that their carving should compete at. The NAWCA Show Committee will have the final decision in which Level and Category a carving will compete.
5. The NAWCA Show Committee may combine Categories at their discretion if there are insufficient entries to provide competition. The Show committee is made up as per the Show Chair's discretion.
6. The carving should be made of wood. Other materials can be used to enhance their carving.
7. Both Hand and power tool carving is permitted. However, carving from a duplicating machine is not. Parts cast from real specimens are not permitted.
8. Not eligible to compete: Carvings that have already won a ribbon at a previous NAWCA Annual Competition.
9. Show rules and entry forms will be available prior to the Show at <http://nawca.ca/annual-show-competition/>. Entry forms will also be available on registration night.
10. Carving Registration will be **Friday, April 25, 2025 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.** ALL Entries must be received during the Friday Registration. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED on the Saturday.

11. Carvings arriving late will not be able to compete. However, arrangements will be made to showcase your carving(s) on the display tables, and they will still be eligible to compete in a future year.
12. Every Category in each Class Level will receive a First, Second, Third and at least one Honourary Place Ribbon as determined by the judges, although some categories may be deleted if they are combined with a different category (see rule 5 above).
13. The NAWCA agrees to take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety of the carvings. It must be understood that carvers are required to assume all risk of damage or loss. Should an item be accidentally damaged, lost or stolen, NAWCA will render all assistance in their power to help recover the item but will not recognize any claim for payment of the value of the item.
14. All entries must remain on display for the duration of the show and must not be removed until 3 p.m. on the Sunday of the Show. All entries must be picked up between **3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on April 27, 2025**. Pick up will not be facilitated past **5 p.m. on April 27, 2025**.
15. Should any questions arise that are not provided for in these rules, the decision of the NAWCA Show Committee will be final.

COMPETITION CLASSES

YOUTH (JUVENILE) CLASS:

Anyone of school age (17 and younger). No charge for entries. No limit on number of entries submitted. Carvings may be all placed together in one large category, or simplified categories may be created at the start of the show depending on the number and diversity of entries in this Class.

NOVICE CLASS:

Carvers are encouraged to enter this level if they have minimal experience in the category they are carving. If a novice receives a first, second or third or 'Best of' in that particular category, he/she must advance to one of the next two levels of his/her choice (once advanced, he/she cannot return to novice).

INTERMEDIATE:

Open to Carvers who have advanced to this level or if the carver feels that he/she is qualified to be in this category by their experience. The pre-screening panel will assist in determining which Class and Category entries should be placed.

The Carver may remain in the intermediate class as long as the carver does not feel qualified to move to the open class.

OPEN:

All carvers may enter this division, although the carvings are expected to be of **a high caliber** as they are a presentation to the public of the "Best of" work woodcarvers have to offer. **Carvers who are experienced and confident in their abilities and the quality of their work are encouraged to compete in OPEN.**

NOTE

Carvers can enter their carving in either Novice, Intermediate or Open as long as the carvings are not in the same category. For example: If one carving is in the Bird category and another is a Relief, they may be placed in two different classes.

This is to encourage Carvers to try their skills at different carving projects.

CARVING CATEGORIES

The categories below are in each Class Level except Juvenile.

1. **Birds, Butterflies, Bees and Insects:** Three dimensional carving of Birds, Bees, Butterflies and Insects in a realistic form carved from wood and/or bark. All sizes will be in the same category.
2. **Bark Carving:** Wood spirit faces, fairy houses, etc. Items that is whimsical in nature.
3. **Bark Carving – Other:** These includes houses, animals, faces and figures in the round, or any other theme other than whimsical houses and faces.
4. **Canes and Walking Sticks:** These include any carved stick designed for walking support and/or decoration.
5. **Caricature:** This includes human, animal, etc. in the round or relief with an exaggeration of certain features for a comic effect.
6. **Chip Carving:** An intricate design produced by removing geometric chips from a planar surface.

7. **Human (Faces, Busts and/or Body):** A three dimensional carving of the human face and/or body in a realistic form from natural resources such as wood and/or bark of the artist's choice.
8. **Folk/Native Art:** An artistic work with a decorative design, bright bold colors, flattened perspective, and strong forms in simple arrangements. This covers all types of native-style art or Folk Art. Examples: figures, old store signs, masks, totems, et al.
9. **Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles:** Any carving that is mainly of fish, amphibians or reptiles (either real or mythical - i.e. dinosaurs). Miniatures and full size will be judged together.
10. **Mammals:** A three dimension realistic carving of warm-blooded animals such as dogs, foxes, coyotes, whales, elephants, horses from wood or bark.
11. **Miniature:** Entry can be a caricature, animal, fish, mammal, human, reptile, bird, flower, nature, etc., carved, etched or pyrography from wood or bark. For example: Carving fits into a 2" x 2" box or.
12. **Miscellaneous:** This class is to include all carvings that do not fit any other Class. For example – toys and furniture.
13. **Nature:** A three dimensional carving that is true nature in a realistic form. Nature would be a combination of animals, plants, scenery, etc.
14. **Pyrography Art:** The art of decorating wood or other materials with burn marks.
15. **Relief:** Is a sculptural form in which figures are carved in a flat panel of wood. The figures project only slightly from the background rather than standing freely. A relief carving cannot be viewed from the back.
16. **Spoons and Chains:** This Class is for Welsh style love spoons and chains.
17. **Stylized:** Artistic impression (any subject) using pleasing and flowing lines. Details are usually hinted through the form rather than explicitly carved or painted in.
18. **Decorations:** Decorations of any kind. Those that celebrate different nationalities or cultures (i.e. Christmas from around the World, Easter, Birthday, etc.). This will include wood carving and pyrography.

Judging Criteria Guidelines and Interpretation

Judging will be done by three (3) appointed people who are considered experts in their own particular field. Each carving will be judged in each of the following skill criteria.

Each Judge will judge each piece individually. The final result will be decided by consensus of all the Judges' opinions of the piece.

The Judges will consider the following criteria in formulating the First, Second and Third Place winners plus Honourable Mention (if awarded), in all Categories of the 4 Levels, or in such Categories and Levels for which there are competitors. Judging in Juvenile,

Youth, Novice and Intermediate Classes will be primarily judged on craftsmanship and finish, although design and originality may influence the ranking of an award winner.

For Open Class, only well-crafted and finished items will be considered for awards, and design, originality and presentation will be the primary criteria for ranking within the awards.

1. Design and Composition:

The Design and Composition of the piece should capture the essence of the subject matter through skilled disposition, structure and arrangement of its elements. Accuracy in form, proportion, perspective and balance should be considered.

2. Craftsmanship:

Craftsmanship refers to the technical skills required to execute the carving, resulting in an easily recognizable subject. Difficulty of carving, including technical woodworking skills such as tight laminations, joinery and fitted appendages would apply here. This

3. Surface Finish:

There should be an appropriate finishing of the surface including the choice and application of colour in painted items and the smoothing, varnishing, waxing and overall finish of natural wood items.

4. Originality and Final Presentation:

The Originality and Final Presentation should be an individual expression of the subject matter resulting in a unique, unusual and/or exceptional piece. Continuity of presentation in all of the four criteria should be considered.

Distribution of Awards

Categories within the Juvenile/Youth Class: Carvings will be awarded with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Ribbon. All others will receive an Honourable Mention ribbon.

Categories within the Novice, Intermediate and Open Classes:

Ribbons will be awarded to First, Second, Third and Honourary Mention in each Category within each Class.

1st Place – Red Ribbon

2nd Place – Blue Ribbon

3rd Place – White Ribbon

Honourary Mention – Green Ribbon

Best of Class

Rosette Ribbons will be presented to the best of each show Class:

Best of Youth

Best of Novice,

Best of Intermediate

Best of Open

Winner of these awards will also receive prizing from a show sponsor.

BEST OF SHOW (First, Second, Third):

The Judge's will select the Best of Show winners **from all the 1st Place Winners from each Class and Category.**

The Best of Show, Second Best of Show, and Third Best of Show winners will receive a Rosette Ribbon and prizing from the show sponsors.

Peoples' Choice - Selected from the public voting. Winner of this award will receive a Rosette Ribbon and prizing from the show sponsors.

Carvers' Choice - Selected by the show entrants only. Winner of this award will receive a Rosette Ribbon and prizing from the show sponsors.

President's Choice – Selected by the NAWCA President. Winner of this award will receive a Rosette Ribbon.

The actual value of prizes will be determined by the show committee, and will depend upon the number and value prizes provided by the sponsors for this year.

If enough Sponsorship is received, additional cash equivalent awards may be presented as door prizes which all show entrants will be eligible for.