

Little Rose Show

At the November 5th meeting, we will have a Little Rose Show. Everyone is encouraged to bring a few roses to enter in the show as we will award prizes for the winning rose in each category as well as an overall Best Horticulture winner.

Entries can be made from 6-7 p.m., and the Rose Society of Tucson will provide the vases for the exhibits, additional water and entry tags. You just need to pick a nice bloom with a long stem. Do not remove the leaves. Always keep them hydrated in a vase with water.

If you are entering more than one or two roses, please come as early as possible so you have time to prep your roses.

The show categories are as follows. This year I have expanded the categories a bit to give everyone more options.

Class 1: Hybrid Teas/Grandifloras

- A. Single bloom, exhibition stage
- B. Fully Open

Class 2: Floribundas

- A. Single bloom, best exhibition stage
- B. Spray

Class 3: Minifloras

- A. Single bloom, exhibition stage
- B. Spray

Class 4: Miniatures

- A. Single bloom, exhibition stage
- B. Spray

Class 5: Others

- A. Climber, single bloom or spray
- B. Shrubs which includes David Austins, single bloom or spray
- C. Old garden roses

Two of our local ARS horticulture judges will go through the categories and talk about the exhibits in terms of things you can do to make the entry better and how to groom the roses. They will make the awards and choose the overall winner. Prizes will be given.

This is a great time to learn how to enter roses in a show and improve your rose exhibiting skills. We will use the ARS rules as our guidelines and you can read the judging manual online at https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/b152c0_5fdb702134fe490fb29a60598cca2808.pdf if you wish.

Don't let this intimidate you about bringing your roses. This is supposed to be a fun, practice show. At any show, you will note that roses are not perfect. There are always problems and issues due to bug infestations, weather conditions and so forth. Just bring the nicest blooms you have and put them in. There will be a few people available to help guide you through entering if you've never done it before.

A tip: Only read the section of the judging manual that applies to you. For example if you are only bringing hybrid teas, just read that section, with the thought that you are getting general guidelines for what a rose exhibit should look like.

We hope to see everyone at this meeting. We always see varieties that we normally don't see which is always fun. You might go home with a few new roses on your wish list.

Les Hayt also will give his talk about what to do in the garden this month.

The meeting will be held at the Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N. Alvernon Way.

— *Diane Pavlovich*
Vice President