

SHOW RULES FOR DISPLAYING YOUR EXHIBITS - as at September 2009

These DBKA Branch and County Honey Show Rules are equivalent to the British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA) Show Rules.

1. **ENTRIES** i) An exhibit must be prepared by the Exhibitor and may be entered in only one class. ii) Exhibitors may enter more than one exhibit in a class but may only accept one award. iii) Joint owners will be regarded as one Exhibitor. The produce of colonies jointly owned may not be exhibited by more than one of the joint owners. iv) Classes may be amalgamated at the discretion of the Show Executive. v) The Show Executive has the power to refuse any entry or exhibit without giving reasons.
2. **DELIVERY, STAGING AND COLLECTION OF EXHIBITS.**
 - i). Exhibitors may only stage exhibits during times permitted by the Show Executive.
 - ii) Exhibits may not be removed before the end of the show or the time stated in the schedule.
 - iii) Competitors are responsible for the delivery and collection of their own exhibits either personally or by a named third party.
 - iv) The containers and packaging of exhibits sent to the show must be easy to open and repack. Lids to be fastened with approved fasteners, not nails.
3. **DISQUALIFICATIONS.** i) An exhibit found to be adulterated will be disqualified. (The colouring of wax in display or similar class is not deemed to be discolouration for the purpose of this rule.) ii) **ALL HONEY AND WAX MUST BE THE NATURAL PRODUCE OF BEES OWNED BY THE EXHIBITOR.** (This rule may be waived for Candle, Foundation, and Confectionery classes at the discretion of the Show Executive.)
4. **LABELS.** i) The labels, as supplied by the Show Secretary, must not be altered in any way. ii) Except where otherwise stated no label, trade mark or other distinguishing mark may be placed on an exhibit. iii) Labels shall be affixed: a) To jars and bottles - so as to leave approx. 2cm between the label and the bottom of the vessel. b) To wax – on the upper surface of the wax displayed, and if applicable, a duplicate on its container c) To sections and comb honey frames – at the top right hand corner of the front vertical face of the case, and a duplicate one on the section or frame within. d) To cakes and confectionery – on a plain white card placed together with the exhibit in the plastic bag provided. e) To cut-comb containers – one on the lid and a duplicate label on the side of the container. f) To Displays, Shop window trade exhibits and all other exhibits – so as to be completely visible. iv. Exhibits in commercial classes should bear a Lot Number and conform to current food labelling regulations.
5. **GIFT CLASSES** Exhibits in Gift Classes become the property of the Show Executive and may be sold before the conclusion of the show. The Exhibitor must provide a label conforming to current food labelling regulations so that it can be affixed after judging before being sold.
6. **EXTRACTED HONEY.** i) Extracted honey must be exhibited in clear 1lb (454g) squat glass jars with lacquered metal or white plastic commercial screw or twist-off lids, all of British Standard pattern and matching except where otherwise stated. ii) Display, Shop window and Special classes are exempt from 6 i). iii) Colour will be judged in accordance with BBKA grading filters (BS 1656). iv) Jars must contain the standard weight specified in the schedule.
7. **SECTIONS.** i) Sections must be enclosed in white section cases or in plain containers with windows. ii) The section must be easily removable from its container. iii) An area of not less than 8cm by 8cm of comb must be visible on at least one side. iv) Lacing, if used, must be white. v) Round sections are to be displayed with clear covers on both sides.
8. **CUT COMB HONEY.** Cut comb honey must be displayed in standard white or clear commercial 8oz / 227g containers with a transparent snap-on lid. The weight must be at least 7 - 9oz / 220 – 225g.

9. **COMB HONEY FOR EXTRACTION.** i) These combs must be displayed in bee-proof protective cases without edging or lacing. ii) The comb must be visible from both sides. iii) The comb must be suitable for extraction (e.g. not granulated) by centrifugal action in a honey extractor or, for ling honey, by the use of a wax press.
10. **WAX.** i) Wax must be exhibited in a transparent plastic bag. It may be polished or unpolished. ii) Wax exhibits must fall within the weights and thicknesses specified in the schedule. iii) Where just one specific weight (e.g. 8oz / 227g) is specified the wax exhibit must be within 10% of that weight. iv) At the judges discretion wax blocks may be broken during judging.
11. **MEAD AND METHEGLIN.** i) Mead must be exhibited in clear colourless (or slightly green tinted) 75cl glass bottles of the no fluted Sauterne type, without lettering or ornament of any kind. Bottles with a punt or flat bottom are equally acceptable. ii) The bottle must be stoppered with a cork with a white or cream coloured plastic flange and be easily movable by hand. No foil or other wrapping to be permitted. iii) The bottle must contain a minimum of 75cl of the mead type specified. iv. The exhibit must be made by the Exhibitor by the process of fermentation only. No alcohol, flavouring or colouring matter may be added, other than herbs to metheglin.
12. **LIVE BEES.** i) Exhibits must contain ample stores to last the bees for the duration of the show and have a supply of water at all times. ii) Observation hives will be judged for educational appeal as well as their contents. iii) Exhibitors should ensure that either they or some other knowledgeable responsible person should be in attendance at all times the public are present. iv) Nucleus hives for competition should be prepared in accordance with BS 1372. That is, there should be a laying queen present with brood in all stages covering at least half the comb area, with an average of 1.25lbs of honey and pollen per comb and sufficient bees to cover all the combs. v) All exhibits of live bees must be healthy and free from notifiable disease.
13. **CAKES.** i) Must be made by the Exhibitor or a member of the immediate family. ii) All cakes to be exhibited in clear unsealed plastic bags on a white paper plate or doily. iii) Exhibitors must conform to any schedule requirements, the recipe and the shape and size of the baking tin to be used. iv) Cakes' may be cut in half by the judge.
14. **AWARDS.** In the event of a tie for a Show Award, Cup or Prize based on points, the award shall go to the Exhibitor who has secured the most first prizes or, failing this, first and second prizes in the Show. If there is still a tie weight will be given to the number of entries in the relevant classes.
15. **PROTESTS.** Any protests must be in writing and lodged with the Show Executive within the time period stated in the schedule. All such protests must be accompanied by the sum of £10. This sum will be refunded if the protest is sustained or considered reasonable by the Show Executive.
16. **POWERS OF THE SHOW EXECUTIVE.** The Show Executive is empowered to i) Increase the number and/or value of prizes or awards in any class should the number and standard of entries warrant their doing so. ii) Withhold prizes or awards in case of insufficient merit or entries. iii) Submit any exhibit for analysis provided there is reasonable cause to do so. iv) Dispose of any damaged exhibit which cannot be reasonably returned to the exhibitor. v) Retain all or a part of an exhibit concerning which a protest has been made until a decision upon such a protest has been taken. vi) Decide any question as to the interpretation of the foregoing rules and the show schedule.
17. **DECISIONS AND LIABILITIES OF THE SHOW EXECUTIVE.** i) The decisions of the Show Executive on any matter whatsoever, under or in relation to the foregoing Rules and the Show Schedule, or on any protest or objection in relation to them, shall be final and conclusive.
18. The Show Executive will not be responsible for loss or damage sustained in any way by exhibitors either to their property or person.