

II. HOSTA SHOWS

II-A. Show Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of a hosta show is EDUCATION. The show is an excellent opportunity to introduce the viewing public to the genus *Hosta* and to expand its knowledge of the full scope of the genus. Hosta shows also provide an opportunity to solicit new members for local societies as well as for The American Hosta Society.

The show provides an opportunity to further educate the AHS membership about hostas while providing hands-on training for those members who work in the show. It is also a training ground for both exhibitors and judges. In order to provide the best educational opportunities, and to make the show a less stressful and more pleasant experience, the responsibility and workload of a show is best shared by as many members of the host society as possible. The show should be a pleasing experience for all involved in order to encourage future show participation.

II-B. Show Planning and Management

Well run shows are the result of early planning and careful management. The host society should appoint a Show Chair at least a year in advance of the show if possible. The Show Chair **must be an AHS Master or Senior Judge** (see II-C-1) and should have good organizational and leadership abilities as well as extensive show experience. The Show Chair should complete the following activities as soon as possible:

1. Setting the show date.
2. Securing the show location.
3. Appointing Committee Chairs.
4. Securing AHS Hosta Shows Chair assistance for AHS show accreditation.
5. Preparing a show budget.
6. Establishing a show planning time line chart. The time line chart may be completed first and may include the previous five items.

II-B-1. Setting the Show Date

The most important consideration in setting a show date is the selection of a date that corresponds with the time period when hostas are at peak performance levels in the geographic area of the show. This is the period when most hostas have just reached leaf maturity in terms of both size and color. There is generally a period of approximately one month in any given area when hostas look their best.

Other considerations should include availability of the show location as well as dates of other potential nearby shows. Shows being conducted in close proximity to each other, especially in the same region, should be coordinated as much as possible with the other host organization(s) and the AHS Hosta Shows Chair to avoid the possibility of having multiple shows on the same dates. This is desirable in order to minimize conflicts, allow greater participation, and reduce the potential problem of securing sufficient judges when multiple shows are conducted at the same time.

II-B-2. Securing the Show Location

Selecting an appropriate show location is one of the most important aspects of insuring a successful show. Suitable show sites are often in great demand and are often booked as much as a year in advance. This should be one of the first activities completed by the Show Chair.

The show site should be a location that can be open to the public and easily accessible by both the show participants and the general public. This may include shopping malls, hotels, large building lobbies, botanical gardens, local business meeting areas, church or local government building meeting rooms, or any other space that meets the locally established requirements for the show.

The show location should be large enough to include the necessary space for all the planned exhibitions, sufficient space for a preparation area for exhibitors, a staging area for classification, space for a head table for top award winners (may be the same space used earlier for exhibit preparation or classification), and an area for tabulation activities. It is also desirable to have storage space for bottles, boxes, and other show paraphernalia. The preparation, classification, and tabulation may be in separate rooms. It is preferable that all exhibitions and the head table be located in one large room if possible. In determining the space requirements for the show, it is important to provide sufficient aisle space for judging and for viewing the exhibits without undue crowding. The show location should also contain an easily accessible water source for filling the bottles for the exhibits.

Proper lighting and temperature control are absolute musts for a show location. The show place should have bright lighting and diffused natural light from windows or skylights if possible. The lighting should be such that true colors are reflected and not distorted or dulled. Proper temperature control is important to maintain the freshness of the exhibits. Specimens last much longer in a uniformly cool and controlled atmosphere.

If a plant sale or other funding efforts are part of the show, space and props will also need to be secured for these activities. The Show Chair should NOT be responsible for such activities since his or her responsibilities are already substantial. However the Show Chair should work with the person in charge of plant sales to provide the facilities needed.

II-B-3. Appointing Committee Chairs

The Show Chair is responsible for building an organization of committee chairs as necessary to properly conduct the show and **must be an AHS Master or Senior Judge in good standing** (unless waived by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair) as must the Judges Chair (both confirmed current members of the AHS). It is also strongly encouraged that the Show Co-Chair, Classification Chair, Schedule Chair, and Placement Chair also be current members of The American Hosta Society.

Recommended committee chairs are listed below. Other committee chairs may be appointed, as the Show Chair deems necessary:

Show Co-Chair
 Awards Chair
 Classification Chair
 Clerks Chair
 Design Chair (if offering the Artistic Design Division)
 Hospitality and Membership Chair
 Judges Chair
 Placement Chair
 Publicity Chair
 Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Chair
 Schedule Chair
 Staging and Dismantling Chair
 Tabulation Chair

The specific duties of the Show Chair and the various committee chairs are detailed in this Judges Handbook, Section II-C (pages II-6 through II-14).

II-B-4. Securing AHS Hosta Shows Chair Assistance for AHS Show Accreditation

The Show Chair should contact the AHS Hosta Shows Chair early in the planning process (but no later than three months prior to the planned show date) to advise the AHS Hosta Shows Chair of the show being planned and to request the forms needed to secure AHS accreditation of the show. The AHS Hosta Shows Chair is also available to advise the Show Chair regarding any aspect of the show about which the Show Chair may have questions. The Show Chair may also order show entry tags from the AHS Hosta Shows Chair as well as secure sources for award ribbons and rosettes. See Section II-D - Show Accreditation Procedures for detailed information on show accreditation.

II-B-5. Preparing a Show Budget

One of the primary responsibilities of the Show Chair is preparing a budget and securing funding from the host society for the show. Hosta Shows, even small ones, can become costly if expenditures are not carefully planned and managed. At the beginning of the budgeting process, many expenditures may not be well known. For this reason, the initial budget should contain a substantial pad for unknowns and the budget should be revisited often throughout the show planning process. Listed below are some of the expenditures that may need to be considered in building a budget:

Show Location Rental

Table Rental

Insurance

Exhibition Containers

(Usually a one-time charge. Containers can be reused for future shows)

Leaf Prep Supplies (like cotton balls, paper towels, etc.)

Carts and Portable Watering System Rental (if a water source is not readily available)

Show Schedule Preparation and Printing

Classification List Printing

Show Entry Tags

Show Ribbons and Show Prizes

Judges' Appreciation Gifts and other Judges' Costs

(Please note that judges should not expect gifts of substantial value nor should judges demand travel and lodging compensation. The host society and the Show Chair decide what the value of judges' gifts should be and also decide if any additional compensation for travel and lodging is to be offered based on the society's ability to fund such costs)

Judges' Luncheon and/or Coffees

Table Coverings or Cleaning of Permanent Table Coverings after use

Show Educational Materials

After Show Dismantling and Janitorial Services

Miscellaneous Expenses – Postage, Clerks' Materials, Copying, etc.

II-B-6. Establishing a Show Planning Time Line Chart

The Show Chair should, as part of the planning process, create a Time Line Chart of show activities that need to be accomplished before, during, and after the show. This chart will act as a reminder of things needing to be done and also will become a schedule to assist the Show Chair. The Time Line Chart should be a dynamic document that is updated as necessary.

A sample Time Line Chart is shown below:

Time Line of Activities – Hosta Show – June 15, 2025

- July-December, 2024 Set show date.
 Secure show location and sign contract.
 Secure committee chairs.
 Conduct organizational meeting(s) with committee chairs.
 Develop show budget and secure approval of budget.
 Contact AHS Hosta Shows Chair to start accreditation process.
 Request Show Packet from AHS Hosta Shows Chair.
- January, 2025 Secure current list of judges from AHS Judges Records Chair
 Send invitations to judges with return card or RSVP instructions. The
 AHS recommends that ALL AHS Judges be invited to serve.
 Conduct show committee meeting.
 Write Show Schedule and submit to AHS Hosta Shows Chair along
 with initial show paperwork.
 Secure show insurance.
- February, 2025 Make corrections to Show Schedule as recommended by AHS
 Hosta Shows Chair. Secure approval of corrected Show Schedule
 and show accreditation.
 Print Show Schedule.
 Assure that all committee chairs have committee workers secured.
 Conduct inventory of show supplies.
 Order ribbons, rosettes, and show entry tags as needed.
 Check status of budget and make changes as necessary.
- March, 2025 Provide copies of Show Schedule to membership.
 Send copies of Show Schedule, maps, other instructions to judges who
 have agreed to judge. Contact AHS Hosta Shows Chair for
 assistance if enough judges have not been secured.
 Check show supplies again and secure needed supplies.
 Purchase show awards and judges gifts.
 Check planning progress with each committee chair.
 Check budget status.
- April, 2025 Arrange judges luncheon and/or judges coffee.
 Download updated Hosta Show Classification List of Recognized
 Species and Registered Cultivars from the AHS Website and
 make copies as needed.
 Conduct show committee meeting.
 Check budget status.
 Secure NGC Flower Show Judges if offering Artistic Design Division.

May, 2025	<p>Conduct show education. Review schedule with membership at society meeting. Explain show rules.</p> <p>Secure entrants for Artistic Design Division.</p> <p>Finalize show layout and provide to committee chairs.</p> <p>Confirm all judges.</p> <p>Final Budget Check.</p>
Meeting Prior to Show	<p>Provide final directions. Assure each committee is ready.</p> <p>Explain show forms.</p>
Day Before the Show	<p>Move containers and all supplies to show location.</p> <p>Complete show set-up.</p> <p>Make final check for supplies, awards, and paperwork.</p> <p>Begin accepting entries.</p>
Show Day – June 15, 2025	<p>Assure all judges available.</p> <p>Check final plans for judges' coffee and/or luncheon.</p> <p>Check all show activities to assure completion on time.</p> <p>Conduct final walk through of show area after show dismantling.</p> <p>Assure show supplies and paperwork are secured.</p>
Post Show Activities	<p>Send Final Show Report to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair within one month.</p> <p>Provide show results to local society officers.</p> <p>Inventory and secure all remaining supplies.</p> <p>Arrange delivery of all show awards.</p> <p>Send thank you notes to judges and committee members.</p> <p>Close books on show and prepare final budget report.</p>

This Time Line Chart is just one example and may not include all local needs.

II-C. Show Chair and Committee Chair Duties

II-C-1. Show Chair

The Show Chair is responsible for, and must be in touch with, every aspect of the show. The Show Chair plans the show, secures the location, secures the funding, and sees to all aspects of the show – before, during, and after. The Show Chair must be a current AHS Master or Senior Judge in good standing (subject to availability). Exceptions must be pre-approved by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair after the local candidate demonstrates a thorough knowledge of the AHS standard show schedule and procedures.

After the date and location of the show are determined, the Show Chair should prepare a tentative Show Schedule. The chair then is responsible for contacting the AHS Hosta Shows Chair, providing the tentative show information and schedule necessary to start the process of receiving AHS accreditation of the show. The AHS Hosta Shows Chair should be contacted no later than three months prior to the date of the show and preferably much earlier. The AHS Hosta Shows Chair is available to the Show Chair to provide any assistance needed during and throughout the entire planning process.

The AHS Hosta Shows Chair provides all required report forms to the Show Chair upon accreditation by AHS. Upon completion of the show, the Show Chair must send the final report to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair including the show results. The Show Chair should keep a copy of the Final Show Report and the Exhibitor Tally Sheets for one year, but remember that the decision of the judges is final at the end of the show. The AHS Hosta Shows Chair must receive the final report no later than one month after the show date.

In order to properly manage the show, the Show Chair may appoint committees and delegate responsibilities for certain aspects of the show. Recommended committees are listed in Section II-B-3 (page II-3) of this Handbook. The duties of the various chairs, as set forth in this section of the Handbook, may be split or combined as the Show Chair sees fit in order to build an effective show management team.

II-C-2. Show Co-Chair

The Co-Chair should be a current member of AHS. The Co-Chair's job is to work with the Show Chair and provide any assistance the Show Chair may need, and to act as a backup to the Show Chair should he/she not be able to fulfill the duties of the Show Chair during the show planning and presentation process. It is strongly recommended to have a Show Co-Chair. Many societies expect the current Show Co-Chair to assume the duties of Show Chair for the following year's show, thus providing a training period and process for securing the upcoming Show Chair.

II-C-3. Awards Chair

The Awards Chair is responsible for securing all ribbons, rosettes, trophies or other prizes specified in the Show Schedule. On the day of the show, the Awards Chair assures that all awards are on premise and available for the show. He/she also works with the Tabulation Chair in recording all awards. Finally, the Awards Chair is responsible for providing the awards to the winners. Should some awards not be presented at the show, the Awards Chair should collect them at the conclusion of the show and assure they are presented to the winners in a timely fashion.

II-C-4. Classification Chair and Committee

The Classification Chair should ideally be a member of AHS. The Classification Chair and Classification Committee members must be knowledgeable in hosta horticulture and classification, and must be completely familiar with the Show Schedule.

Prior to the show, the Classification Chair must secure **current** copies of the AHS Hosta Show Classification List for use in classifying registered cultivars and species entries in the show. Copies of the List should also be provided in the exhibit preparation area for use by exhibitors in preparing their entry cards. This will reduce the number of classification errors reaching the classification table. The Classification Chair may also bring other hosta reference materials such as books and handbooks to the show that he/she deems appropriate to aid in classification.

Prior to the start of the show, the Classification Chair should ensure that sufficient space and tables for three distinct areas – entries awaiting classification, entries being classified, and entries already classified awaiting placement.

The Classification Chair should have copies of the AHS Table of Leaf Sizes and rulers available for measuring leaves and verifying the proper size classification of unregistered seedlings and sports in Division I, Sections VI-X. All seedling and sport entries should be measured for proper classification prior to placement.

The Classification Chair should check every entry tag to ensure all information is provided, including information on the lower portion of the tag that will be hidden during the judging process and later collected for tabulation (also referred to as the stub). If a tag is incomplete, it should be returned to the exhibitor to be corrected, **or** committee members may correct the information if the exhibitor is not available.

The Classification Chair must approve the classification information for all show entries to assure adherence to AHS and local show rules. Special emphasis should be placed on insuring that only registered cultivars and species are entered in the sections and divisions limited to registered cultivars and species. Classification errors should be corrected on the entry card prior to approval of the entry for placement in the show. **To signify approval, the Classification Chair should place a check mark on the upper left hand corner of each entry tag.** Entries that are found to contain incorrect cultivar names, or that do not meet the entry requirements for the show, should be referred back to the exhibitor, if available, or referred to the Show Chair for handling. Such entries may, at the discretion of the Show Chair, either be entered in Division V – Non-Competitive Exhibits or disqualified. Entries accidentally and significantly damaged to the point of being unattractive prior to or during classification and placement may also be disqualified. Entries that have obviously been altered to change the natural appearance (use of magic marker or paint to hide blemishes, use of appliquéés to hide holes, use of leaf shine products, etc.) should be disqualified for entry in the show. The Classification Chair should also reject any leaf showing evidence of nematodes or disease.

Upon approval of an entry for placement, the Classification Chair should fold and secure the bottom portion of the tag to hide the exhibitor's name and move the entry to the Placement Table for placement in the show.

The Classification Chair should remain available on the show floor during the judging process should any classification errors be discovered and need correction prior to judging. Only the Classification Chair or Show Chair may change an entry's classification after an entry is placed in the show. The Classification Chair should also final check the classification data on all entries designated as section or division winners prior to the completion of judging to insure that there are no incorrectly classified major award winners.

II-C-5. Clerks Chair and Committee

The Clerks Chair is responsible for securing sufficient numbers of clerks for the show. Normally, there should be two clerks assigned for each judging panel. Unassigned roving clerks may also be used as runners to provide support for the assigned clerks.

It is also the Clerks Chair's responsibility to assure that all clerical supplies needed for the show are available on the show date. This includes pencils, hole punchers, staplers, paper clips, supplies trays and other supplies deemed necessary.

Prior to the start of show judging, the Clerks Chair should assemble the Clerks and provide detailed instructions including expected clerk conduct during judging, panel assignments, handling requests by judges for moving improperly placed entries, punching the awards on the entry tags, applying ribbons to entry tags, moving entries at judges' request for judging purposes, etc. Clerks should also be instructed to be extremely careful when handling entries in order to minimize any chance of damaging the entry.

II-C-5-a. Specific Instructions for Clerks

Clerks do not ask questions nor talk unnecessarily during the judging process but should answer any questions directed to them by the judges.

Clerks provide assistance as requested by the judges for referring classification mistakes to the Classification Chair, for moving entries, and for seeking assistance from other Show Committee members as needed.

Clerks should never repeat any of the conversations of the judges.

Once assigned to a judges panel, the clerk should remain with the panel at all times unless otherwise instructed.

Clerks are also responsible for keeping the immediate judging area clear of all people not involved in the judging process, including the public, if the show is open during the judging process. In dealing with the public, clerks need to remain courteous at all times but must be firm in keeping the area clear.

Clerks should stand aside while each class is being judged. For classes with large numbers of entries, it is acceptable to begin punching the checked awards at the bottom of the tag and attaching the ribbons to the entry tags, if this can be done without interfering with the judging process. At the conclusion of the judging of each class or section, the clerk should check all entries to assure they have been judged and marked appropriately. Each judged entry should either have a ribbon award indicated on the lower portion of the entry tag or should, in absence of an award being made, have a check mark placed by the judges in the upper right hand corner of the tag. Any entry not having one or the other indication that it has been judged should be immediately pointed out to the judges Panel Leader.

After each class has been judged, and the Best of Class has been selected and noted in writing on the bottom portion of the tag (stub), all the award designations should be punched at the bottom of the entry tag. The awarded ribbon(s) should then be attached to the entry tag, and all stubs removed from all entries, except the Best of Class entry, and delivered to the Tabulation Chair. All stubs should be thoroughly checked to verify that the required information is complete. The Best of Class entry should then be placed at the front of the class for further consideration by the judges for the Best of Section award. All other entries that may have been moved during the judging process should be returned to their proper places in their class.

Once the judges have selected the Best of Section winner, the clerk will record the award on the stub and move that entry to the head table. At that time, the rest of the stubs on the remaining Best of Class winners may be removed and delivered to the Tabulation Chair. The stubs on entries that go to the head table should be removed only after the final judging for the Best of Show and Best Seedling or Sport has been completed. The Clerks Chair should appoint one panel of clerks to remove all remaining stubs and ensure that all awards given have been correctly noted on each stub, keeping in mind that the Best of Show and the Best Seedling or Sport should each have four ribbons and four awards clearly punched on the entry card and stub.

At the conclusion of judging, the Clerks Chair should walk the show and verify that all stubs have been removed and delivered to the Tabulation Chair. Clerks should return all unused materials to the Clerks Chair at this point.

II-C-6. Design Chair

The Design Chair is responsible for all aspects of Division VI – Artistic Design. This includes coordinating with the Show Chair to select the theme of the division, determining the show space requirements, developing the design schedule and classes, securing National Garden Club (NGC) Flower Show Judges and exhibitors for the division, securing props for the division as required by the design schedule, and securing judges gifts. It is also the responsibility of the Design Chair to obtain NGC accreditation, if the exhibitors and judges are to receive NGC credit for their participation. On the day of the show, the Design Chair will coordinate all activities related to placement and judging of the Artistic Design Division.

For shows that do not offer Division VI, it is still desirable to have design displays on the show floor. The Show Chair may appoint a Design Chair to arrange for and coordinate such displays. In this case, the Show Chair will redefine the specific duties of the Design Chair to meet his/her objectives for the show.

II-C-7. Hospitality and Membership Chair and Committee

The Hospitality and Membership Chair assembles a committee responsible for attending to the public during the show. This includes providing manned information areas with hosta related educational materials that can be distributed to the public. A hosta show is an ideal place to recruit new society members so membership material for both the local society and The American Hosta Society should be on hand. Information booths or tables should be located in very prominent areas on the show floor and should be manned at all times while the show is open to the public.

II-C-8. Judges Chair

The Judges Chair must be a current AHS Master or Senior Show Judge. The Judges Chair is responsible for all aspects of judging the show with the exception of Division VI - Artistic Design (if offered). This includes securing the judges for the show, providing a list of the judges to the Show Chair, securing judges' appreciation gifts, assigning judges to panels, verifying that the judges are eligible to judge, selecting panel leaders, and providing judging assignments and instructions to the panels.

The Judges Chair should obtain the current list of AHS accredited Show Judges from the Judges Records Chair. The AHS recommends that all judges, regardless of level, be invited to judge in the show. Should more judges accept invitations than can be accommodated, some judges may be assigned other show duties (with their prior consent) and still receive credit for serving. For National Convention shows, judges indicate their desire to serve in advance by indicating their availability on the convention registration form.

At least one month prior to the show, the Judges Chair should verify attendance of all judges. The Chair should also provide judges with directions to the show location, the time judges are expected to be at the show location, and a copy of the Show Schedule. Immediately prior to the beginning of the judging process, the Judges Chair should meet with the judges and provide instructions regarding the show. The Judges Chair should also be on the show floor at all times to handle any questions or problems that may arise during the judging process.

The Judges Chair will coordinate the final judging at the head table to select the Best Seedling or Sport and the Best of Show. This includes providing the judges the necessary point scoring forms and tabulating the results of the head table judging. The Judges Chair should ensure that all entries that receive division awards are verified to be entered by AHS members before Best of Show and Best Seedling or Sport balloting. If an entrant is found not to be an AHS member, the Judges Chair will immediately refer it to the Show Chair for handling. If the exhibitor does not choose to become a member of the AHS, the Show Chair may direct the Judges Chair to re-judge any section that may be affected prior to final balloting to determine the overall winning entries.

II-C-9. Placement Chair and Committee

The Placement Chair should be a member of AHS. The Placement Committee sees that each entry is placed in the correct class/section/division on the correct exhibition table. It is also the committee's responsibility to adjust space allocated to classes and sections as necessary during the placement process to optimize the overall quality of the show display. Early in the show planning process, the Placement Chair should assist the Show Chair and Staging Chair in planning the layout of the show.

Prior to the start of placement, the Placement Chair should provide instruction to the committee with emphasis placed on the need to be alert for classification errors. All committee members should be completely familiar with the planned layout of the show divisions, sections, and classes.

The Placement Chair and committee should **check and recheck the entries** in each class to ensure they have been placed in the proper class. Additional care should be taken to ensure that entries of the same cultivar are placed together. Any entry that appears to be classified incorrectly should be referred back to the Classification Committee immediately for classification recheck prior to the beginning of judging. As entries are placed in the show, the Placement Chair should constantly inspect the divisions, sections, and classes and direct any necessary adjustments of allocated space for each. At the conclusion of placement, the Placement Chair should perform a final inspection of the entire show for any remaining possible classification errors and make any last minute adjustments of the displays.

With the exception of entries in the Division IV - Educational Displays, Division V - Non Competitive Exhibits, and Division VI - Artistic Design, only members of the Placement Committee may place entries in the show after the entry has been classified.

II-C-10. Publicity Chair

The Publicity Chair is responsible for publicizing the show to the general public. This includes developing and distributing flyers, generating newspaper coverage, and providing show information to other horticultural organizations.

II-C-11. Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Chair

This Chair works with the Show Chair in the planning process to assure that a proper entry preparation area is provided. The Chair also assures that the area is set up to allow exhibitors to efficiently prepare entries and that all supplies are in the preparation area when it is opened. This includes the containers and water, entry tags, pens and pencils, rubber bands to attach tags to the bottles, knives and scissors for cutting stems, cotton balls or other materials for staging the entry in the container, and paper towels for cleanup. Brooms and mops should also be available to keep the floor area clean and safe. The Chair should also insure that at least one copy of the current AHS Hosta Show Classification List is available for exhibitors to use to verify classification data for registered cultivars and species.

The Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Chair and committee should assure that all exhibitors sign the Exhibitor Registration Form (page II-37) providing all necessary information and obtain their Exhibitor Numbers. The committee should encourage any exhibitors who are not currently members of The American Hosta Society to become members prior to the show to ensure that awards can be made to section or higher winners. The committee should be willing to provide instruction, as necessary, on proper completion of the entry tags including the importance of providing AHS membership information, proper classification information, exhibitor number, and completion of the bottom portion of the tag. Committee members may also provide instruction on proper staging of leaves in containers for best display and tips on leaf preparation.

The Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Chair and committee are responsible for being sure each exhibitor fills out and hands in a completed Individual Tally Sheet (page II-38) which is then returned to the Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Chair to be handed in to the Tabulation Chair along with the Exhibitor Registration Form.

II-C-12. Schedule Chair

The Schedule Chair should be a member of the AHS. The Schedule Chair is responsible for writing and providing the Show Schedule to the Show Chair to obtain AHS approval, then printing and distributing it to exhibitors and other committee members in a timely manner. For National Conventions, the schedule must be made available to all members via inclusion in an AHS publication, or on the AHS Convention website.

The Schedule Chair is responsible for ensuring that all AHS rules regarding shows are included and that it adheres to the AHS standard Hosta Show Schedule. The Schedule should be completed early in the show planning process and submitted to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair for approval prior to being printed and distributed. In order to accomplish this, the Schedule Chair must work closely with the Show Chair and other committee chairs in developing the data that must be included in the schedule.

II-C-13. Staging and Dismantling Chair and Committee

The Staging and Dismantling Chair is responsible for staging the show and providing tables, covers, bottles, class dividers, class/section/division cards, and all other props needed for the show. This includes the exhibit preparation area, the classification area, the tabulation area, and the head table.

Working with the Show Chair and other committee members, the Chair should develop a layout for the show using experiences gained from previous shows and estimates for numbers of entries in this show to allocate space for the various divisions and sections of the show. Sufficient space should be allocated to cover miscalculations of expected entry numbers.

The Staging and Dismantling Chair will ensure that all props are delivered to the show location and set up as planned prior to the time set for accepting entries. The committee will work with other show committees before and during the show to adjust props as necessary to optimize the success of the show.

At the conclusion of the show, the committee will completely dismantle the show. The Chair is responsible for insuring that all rental property is returned, that all society property is returned to storage, that the show area is cleaned, and that all trash is removed.

II-C-14. Tabulation Chair and Committee

The Tabulation Chair and committee are responsible for recording the results of the show and providing to them to the Show Chair in a timely manner.

After the show entry phase is complete, the Tabulation Chair will secure the Exhibitor Registration Form (page II-37) and all Individual Tally Sheets (page II-38) from the Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Chair. The Tabulation Committee will receive all bottom stubs of the entry cards from the Clerks Committee as the judging is completed in each class, section and division. The Tabulation Chair should verify that all stubs have been provided to his/her committee before completing tabulation and releasing results.

Award data from each entry stub is then recorded on the Individual Tally Sheets for each exhibitor. If a stub is found to be incomplete, the stub should be returned to the Clerks Committee to determine the missing information, if possible.

At the conclusion of tabulation, the Tabulation Chair will record the winners of all awards specified by the Show Schedule and will return the results, the completed Individual Tally Sheets, the stubs, and the Exhibitor Registration Form to the Awards Chair. Both chairs should then verify the accuracy of all the major awards data before turning over the results and other items to the Show Chair.

II-D. Show Accreditation Procedures

In planning a show, the Show Chair is responsible for completing the necessary forms required by The American Hosta Society and providing the necessary information to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair.

To begin the process of securing AHS show accreditation, the Show Chair should prepare a tentative Show Schedule and complete a Hosta Show Registration Form (Form II-I-a, Hosta Shows II-36). These items should then be sent to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair at least three months prior to the show date. It is recommended that this be done much earlier, if possible, up to six months prior to the show date. Since some of the data may not be available at the beginning of the process, such as the judges' names, the registration process may be ongoing and require several revisions and resends of the Registration Form over the months leading up to the Show.

The AHS Hosta Shows Chair will check the tentative Schedule for accuracy and adherence to AHS hosta show guidelines, show the necessary corrections, and return it along with a packet of show forms and information to the Show Chair. The Show Chair should then make the necessary corrections to the Schedule, if any, and return it to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair for approval. The Show Schedule should not be printed until the Hosta Shows Chair has provided final approval. Once this is done, the Hosta Shows Chair will signal tentative accreditation status. A show is not considered AHS accredited until all requirements are met including the submission of the Final Report.

At any time before, during, and after the show, the AHS Hosta Shows Chair is available to provide assistance and answer questions. The Show Chair should always feel free to call for that assistance.

The packet that the Hosta Shows Chair sends to the Show Chair will include Exhibitor Registration Forms, Individual Tally Sheets, Final Show Report Form, Best of Show and Best Sport or Seedling ballots, and other information necessary such as recent changes in AHS requirements and ribbon ordering information and suggestions.

At the conclusion of the show, the Show Chair should gather the results of the show and prepare the Final Show Report (Hosta Shows II-39 through II-41). The Final Show Report must be submitted to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair no later than one month after the show date in order for the show to remain accredited. If the Show Chair encounters any problem in meeting the one-month deadline, he/she should immediately advise the AHS Hosta Shows Chair. The Hosta Shows Chair may grant additional time if warranted.

AHS Hosta Show Forms are included in this section of the Handbook (pages II-36 through II-43) and may be reproduced as needed.

II-E. AHS Requirements for Conducting an Accredited Show

The following requirements must be satisfied for conducting a hosta show accredited by The American Hosta Society:

1. The Show Chair and the Judges Chair must be accredited AHS Master or Senior Judges and current members of the American Hosta Society (unless waived by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair).
2. The AHS encourages individuals serving as Show Co-Chair, Classification Chair, Schedule Chair, and Placement Chair to be members of The American Hosta Society.
3. At least three (3) months prior to the show date, the completed Hosta Show Registration Form along with a tentative copy of the Show Schedule must be provided to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair. The Hosta Show Registration Form may be copied from the sample in this section of the Handbook (page II-36).
4. Anyone who wishes to exhibit may do so, however, **section and higher awards are limited to AHS members**. Any exhibitor who is not an AHS member and wins a section or higher award will be asked to become an AHS member. If the winner refuses membership, the Show Chair may either present the award to the next qualified entry or leave the award vacant. AHS members are eligible for all awards offered at any AHS accredited show and winners may not be restricted to local society members only.
5. Panels of at least three but no more than four AHS Show Judges shall do all horticulture judging. Each panel shall be the final authority for each section it judges. Each panel must have a Master Judge (unless this requirement is waived by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair for lack of available Master Judges only).
6. The Artistic Division will be judged by National Garden Club Flower Show Judges. (Try to use those who are also AHS members before asking non-members).
7. All decisions of the judges are final.
8. The name of **The American Hosta Society** is to be used on all publicity and schedules.
9. Divisions I, II, III, IV, V, and VI are required for National Convention Shows.

Division VI – Artistic Design is optional for a local show, but is strongly encouraged.

Division VII may be offered at National Convention shows and general local shows provided the Show Committee specifies the theme for the division in the Show Schedule along with proposed rules, awards, and point scales for judging the division; and provided the AHS Hosta Shows Chair approves the rules, awards, and point scales for judging the division.

With approval of the AHS Hosta Shows Chair, Division VII may stand alone at AHS accredited specialty shows (such as First Look) as the only offered division provided the theme of the division and associated rules, awards, and point scales for judging are specified in the Show Schedule.

10. Judges must be provided a current Show Schedule at least one month in advance of show time.

11. During judging, the Show Chair, Show Co-Chair, Classification Chair, Judges Chair, Judges, Clerks Chair and Clerks are the only people permitted in the immediate judging areas. The public may be allowed in other areas of the show at the discretion of the Show Chair.
12. All entries designated as registered cultivars and species shall either be listed in the current year's AHS Hosta Show Classification List or shall have had registration data recorded in an official publication of The American Hosta Society by the date of the show in order to be considered registered for show purposes.
13. AHS show awards in Division I - Sections I through V, Section XI and Division II – Container Grown Hostas shall be restricted to registered hostas and recognized species.
14. There will be no prohibition against repeat winners of AHS National Convention Hosta Show Awards.
15. Awards will be presented to the exhibitor during the show or at a time specified by the Show Schedule.
16. Show awards as specified in Section II-F-4 (page II-22) of this Handbook must be offered in an accredited show. The show committee may, at its discretion, provide additional awards if desired. All awards, ribbons and rosettes specified by the Show Schedule will be furnished by the host society responsible for the show. AHS National Convention Show Awards will be provided by AHS or sponsors approved by AHS.
17. A Sweepstakes Award is given to the exhibitor who has the largest number of horticulture division blue ribbons. The host society may specify their own tiebreaker rules in their Show Schedule.
18. The American Hosta Society uses the AHS approved system for judging and for determining awards as specified in this Handbook. The AHS point scoring procedures specified in the Handbook will be used in breaking a tie and for determining the major award winners.
 - **First Place** entries must score **90 or higher** to receive a blue ribbon. To be awarded **Best of Class or better**, the entries must score **95 or higher**.
 - **Second Place** entries must score **85 or higher** to receive a red ribbon.
 - **Third Place** entries must score **80 or higher** to receive a yellow ribbon.
 - **Fourth Place** entries must score **75 or higher** to receive a white ribbon.
19. **For Division I** - Horticulture, provided entries score the minimum points needed, each sub-class is allowed the awarding of only one blue, one red, one yellow, and one white ribbon. In Division I, Sections I-V and Section XI, each registered cultivar or species constitutes a separate name sub-class. Each unregistered seedling or sport entry in Sections VI-X is a separate sub-class and is eligible for any ribbon. For Section XII, each unregistered named cultivar constitutes a separate name sub-class and exhibits are organized alphabetically.
For Divisions II, III, and IV, each entry is eligible to receive the ribbon it deserves based on the point score it earns (blue, red yellow or white). Entries scoring 95 or higher will go on to vie for the Grand Award for that Division.
For Division VI, each class is allowed the awarding of only one blue, one red, one yellow, and one white ribbon as long as it receives the minimum required point score.

20. **For Division I – Horticulture** (Cut leaf), an exhibitor may enter more than one horticulture specimen in a single class, provided each entry is of a different named variety/cultivar. Only one (1) leaf is to be entered per exhibit in Sections I through V, XI and XII; two (2) leaves must be entered in Sections VI through X. All horticulture specimens exhibited in the AHS accredited show must be grown by the exhibitor. Bloom stalks are not permitted. All leaves entered should be representative of the plant as a whole and should be taken from plants approaching maturity. Persons placing entries in Section XI – Youth Exhibits must be 18 years of age or younger as of the date of the show.
21. **Division II – Container Grown Hostas**, entries must have been grown by the exhibitor and must be established in the containers in which they are grown. **Only registered cultivars or hosta species may be exhibited in this division and only one mature hosta plant, which may consist of multiple divisions of that single plant, may be grown in each container.** The container must be clean, but otherwise has no bearing on overall judging of the entry. The plant should be centered in the container. Inner containers or container liners are allowed but must not be visible. Only one type of ground cover material is allowed per exhibit. Ground covers may be any natural non-living material such as bark chips or stones, or an indigenous moss of one variety only.
22. In **Division III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect**, self-contained trough or container gardens of any size are entered as an arrangement. Multiple varieties of hostas and other plant material may be used. Hostas must be a strong focal point of the entry. No artificial plant material is allowed. Plants and container must be clean. Accessories are permitted. Individual plants need not be identified. However, if the exhibitor would like to identify the material, an identification ledger card to the side of the exhibit is acceptable.
23. In **Division IV – Educational Displays**, the displays must pertain to hostas.
24. Entries in **Division V – Non-Competitive Exhibits** are not judged. An exhibit in this division may be a single cut leaf, a hosta bloom scape, a container grown plant, or any other hosta-related display deemed to be of interest to the show observers. However, the plant material must be hosta predominant, the exhibit must be tastefully presented, and the material must be in good condition. The Show Chair may bar placement of any exhibit that does not meet these requirements.
25. In **Division VI – Artistic Design**, hostas must be the predominant foliage. No artificial, silk or painted material is permitted. An exhibitor can have only one entry per class. All design entries must be solely prepared by the exhibitor.
26. In **Division VII – Specialty Division**, a category of local interest (such as scape/bloom entries) or specialty show items (such as unique seedlings grown in containers) identified by the Show Committee with specific rules and point scales can be approved by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair as part of any hosta show or as a single division, stand-alone show.
27. The final show report must be submitted to the AHS Hosta Shows Chair within the month after the convention or show.
28. No responsibility shall be incurred by any person, group, or organization for any accidents, damages, injuries of any kind, thefts, omissions or commissions of any kind during an accredited hosta show of The American Hosta Society.
29. When awards are published, the name of the hosta, the originator (if known), and the exhibitor (recipient of the award) are to be listed.

II-F. The Hosta Show Schedule

The Show Schedule is the Law of the Show. It should be carefully read and followed by all of the committees and the exhibitors.

II-F-1. Show Schedule Contents

Below is a list of the items that should be clearly outlined in a Show Schedule. The first consideration in developing a Show Schedule is to be as specific as possible. AHS Requirements for Conducting an Accredited Show (page II-16) must be incorporated into the Show Schedule.

1. The host society
2. The show committee
3. The show date
4. The exact location of the show
5. The exact hours that entries will be accepted
6. Who may enter, including specific requirements for restricted Divisions or Sections (i.e. Youth exhibitors must be 18 years of age or less on the show date.)
7. Rules for entry (See AHS Requirements for Conducting an Accredited Show, page II-16)
8. The time judging will begin
9. Who may be in the show area during judging
10. The times the show will be open to the public
11. The date and time exhibits may/must be removed
12. The date and time awards may be removed
13. The divisions offered in the show
14. Any division specific rules (i.e. the specifics of Division VI – Artistic Design, including design rules, may be included in a separate design schedule. If there is a separate schedule for Division VI, the show schedule should reference it.)
15. Standards by which the show is judged including the AHS Point Scales for Judging
16. List of awards offered and award requirements
17. Statement that only AHS members may win Section, and higher awards.
18. A statement that the judges' decisions will be final
19. A statement that the show is accredited by AHS

II-F-2. Interpretation of the Rules

In spite of the most careful wording of the Show Schedule, some questions of interpretation or misunderstanding may arise. The Show Chair is the final authority on interpretation of the schedule and show rules. With questions regarding classification, the Classification Chair is the final authority. With questions regarding show judging, the decision of the judges is final, even if an error is made.

II-F-3. The American Hosta Society Standard Show Schedule Divisions

The following divisions, sections, and classes have been approved for use at all accredited American Hosta Society Shows:

DIVISION I – HORTICULTURE (Cut leaf)

Section I – Giant-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species

Section II – Large-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species

Section III – Medium-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species

Section IV – Small-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species

Section V – Miniature-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species

Section VI – Giant-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports

Section VII – Large-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports

Section VIII – Medium-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports

Section IX – Small-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports

Section X – Miniature-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports

Section XI – Youth Exhibits of Registered Cultivars and Species

Displayed in Alphabetical Order

Section XII – Unregistered Named Hosta Cultivars

Displayed in Alphabetical Order

Entries in Sections I – V (Registered Cultivars and Species), Section XI (Youth Exhibits), and Section XII (Unregistered Named Cultivars) shall consist of one leaf.

Entries in Sections VI through X (Unregistered Seedlings and Sports) shall consist of two leaves. Sports shall be indicated on the entry tag as “Sport of (Name of Cultivar)”. Seedlings shall be indicated on the entry tag as “Seedling (Hybridizer's Identifying Number)”.

The following **Color Classes** are to be used within Sections I - X of Division I:

Class 1 – Green (All Shades)

Class 2 – Blue (All Shades)

Class 3 – Yellow (All Shades)

Class 4 – White Margined

a. Yellow, White, or Chartreuse Center

b. Green to Blue Center

Class 5 – Yellow Margined

a. Yellow, White, or Chartreuse Center

b. Green to Blue Center

Class 6 – Green or Blue Margined

a. Yellow, White, or Chartreuse Center

b. Green to Blue Center (distinct from margin color)

Class 7 – Streaked or Mottled

Class 8 – Others (including early season variants)

DIVISION II – CONTAINER GROWN HOSTAS

DIVISION III – TROUGH/CONTAINER GARDENS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT

DIVISION IV – EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS

DIVISION V – NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

DIVISION VI – ARTISTIC DESIGN

DIVISION VII – SPECIALTY DIVISION

Entries of Local Interest (such as scape/bloom entries) and Specialty Show Items (such as seedlings grown in containers) with specific pre-approved rules and point scales

Divisions I – VI are required for a National Convention Hosta Show.

Divisions I - V are required for accredited local shows, unless waived by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair.

Division VI – Artistic Design is optional for a local show but is strongly encouraged.

Division VII may be offered at National Convention Hosta Shows and general local shows provided the Show Committee specifies the theme for the division in its Show Schedule along with proposed Rules, Awards, Point Scales for Judging **and** provided the AHS Hosta Shows Chair approves the Rules, Awards, and Point Scales.

With approval by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair, Division VII may be offered as a stand-alone AHS accredited Specialty Show, such as First Look, provided the theme and associated Rules, Awards, and Point Scales for Judging are specified in the Show Schedule.

II-F-4. Standard Awards for Shows

The following awards are to be offered at all local and National Convention Hosta Shows:

Best of Show – Awarded to the best species or registered cultivar entry in Division I – Horticulture and is selected from the section winners in Sections I-V and Section XI. (Please note that entries in Section XII – Unregistered Named Cultivars are not eligible to receive this award.) *Suggested award is a large triple streamer blue and white rosette ribbon.*

Best Seedling or Sport Award – Awarded to the best seedling or sport entry in Division I – Horticulture and is selected from the section winners in Sections VI-X. *Suggested award is a large triple streamer green and white rosette ribbon.*

Best Artistic Design Award – Awarded to the best entry in Division VI – Artistic Design if the division is offered in the show. This award should be chosen from the Best of Class winners in the division. *Suggested award is a large triple streamer pink and white rosette ribbon.*

Sweepstakes Award – Awarded to the exhibitor who wins the largest number of blue ribbons in Division I – Horticulture. *Suggested award is a certificate or a medium triple streamer blue rosette ribbon.*

Grand Awards – Awarded to the best entries in Division II – Container Grown Hostas, Division III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged For Effect, Division IV – Educational Displays, and Division VII – Specialty Division (if offered). Award winners must have scored at least 95 points. *Suggested awards are medium triple streamer purple rosette ribbons.*

Section Awards – Awarded to the Best of Section winners in divisions containing sections. All section awards must have scored at least 95 points. *Suggested awards are large single streamer purple ribbons.*

Class Awards – Awarded to Best of Class winners in divisions containing classes. All class award winners must have scored **at least 95 points**. *Suggested awards are single streamer green ribbons.*

The following ribbon awards are awarded in accordance with rules set forth by AHS:

First Place Blue Ribbons – Entries must score **90 or more** points to receive this award.

Second Place Red Ribbons – Entries must score **85 or more** points to receive this award.

Third Place Yellow Ribbons – Entries must score **80 or more** points to receive this award.

Fourth Place White Ribbons - Entries must score **75 or more** points to receive this award.

II-F-5. Sample Show Schedule

The following sample Show Schedule contains the basic information required for an AHS accredited show. The format shown is just one of many formats that may be used and host societies are encouraged to develop formats that work best for their shows. An editable version of a sample Show Schedule (in Word format) can be obtained from the AHS Hosta Shows Chair.

The important point to remember is to follow all the rules specified in Section II-E of the Handbook and to include all the information required as specified in Section II-F-1.

The
(Host) Hosta Society
Proudly Presents

A
HOSTA
FANTASY

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL HOSTA SHOW

at
(Location and Address of Show)

(Day/Date of Show)

SHOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

This Hosta Show is Accredited by
THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

GENERAL SHOW RULES

1. Anyone who wishes to exhibit may do so. However, section and higher awards are limited to AHS members. Any exhibitor who is not an AHS member and wins a section or higher award will be asked to become an AHS member. If the winner refuses membership, the Show Chair may either present the award to the next qualified entry or leave the award vacant.
2. Entries will be received from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Friday (Date) and from 7:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. on Saturday, (Date). Entries received after 9:30 A.M. will be placed in a non-competitive exhibit area without exception. Judging will begin at 10:00 A.M. All entries must remain in place until 4:30 P.M.
Entries, tags, ribbons, and awards may be claimed from 4:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Entries remaining after 5:00 P.M. will be disposed of by the Staging Committee.
3. Entry tags must be properly completed by the exhibitor. Incorrect entry tag information will be corrected by the Classification Committee and entries may be disqualified at the discretion of the Classification Committee.
4. During the time of judging, only the Show Chair, Show Co-Chair, Classification Chair, Judges Chair, Judges, Clerks Chair and Clerks are permitted in the immediate judging areas.
5. Divisions I-Horticulture, II-Container Grown Hostas, III-Trough/Container Gardens Arranged For Effect and IV-Educational Displays will be judged by panels of three to four American Hosta Society show judges including at least one master judge per panel. The American Hosta Society Point Scoring System will be used to break a tie in judging major awards. Each panel of judges will be the final authority of each class/section it judges.
6. Division VI-Artistic Design will be judged by National Garden Club Flower Show Judges following the rules set forth in the Handbook for Flower Shows by the National Garden Clubs, Inc.
7. All decisions of the judges are final.
8. Care will be taken, but no responsibility shall be incurred by any person, group, or organization for any accidents, damages, injuries, thefts, omissions or commissions of any kind or nature from this show.
9. All entries designated as registered cultivars and species shall either be listed in the current year's AHS Hosta Show Classification List or shall have had registration data recorded in an official publication of The American Hosta Society by the date of the show in order to be considered registered for show purposes.
10. **For Division I**, provided entries score the minimum points, each sub-class is allowed the awarding of only one blue, one red, one yellow, and one white ribbon. In Division I, Sections I-V and Section XI, each exhibit or group of exhibits of a registered cultivar or species constitutes a separate name sub-class. Each seedling or sport entry in Sections VI-X is a separate sub-class and is eligible for the ribbon it earns. For Section XII, each unregistered named cultivar constitutes a separate name sub-class, displayed alphabetically. **For Divisions II, III and IV**, each entry is eligible to receive the ribbon it deserves based on the point score it earns.

11. **Division I – Horticulture (Cut leaf) Rules**

Containers will be provided by the (host) Hosta Society.

Bloom scapes are not permitted in this division.

Sections I – V (Registered Cultivars and Species), XI (Youth Exhibits) and XII (Unregistered Named Cultivars) require **ONE** leaf per entry. Sections VI – X require **TWO** leaves per entry. Sports shall be indicated on the entry tag as "Sport of (Name of Cultivar)". Seedlings shall be indicated on the entry tag as "Seedling (Hybridizer's Identification Number)".

An exhibitor may enter more than one horticultural specimen in a single class provided each entry is of a different cultivar/variety. **Multiple entries of the same cultivar are not permitted.** All entries must have been grown by the exhibitor.

Persons placing entries in Section XI-Youth Exhibits must be 18 years of age or younger as of the date of the show.

All leaves entered should be representative of the plant as a whole and should be taken from plants approaching maturity.

Sections I through XII - Each exhibitor is limited to a total of 20 cut leaf entries.

12. Division II – Container Grown Hostas Rules

Container-grown hostas must have been grown by the exhibitor and must be established in the containers in which they are grown. **Only registered cultivars or hosta species may be exhibited in this division and only one mature hosta plant, which may consist of multiple divisions of that single plant, may be grown in each container.** Container and plant must be clean. The plant should be centered in the container. Inner containers or container liners are allowed but must not be visible. Only one type of ground cover material is allowed per exhibit. Ground covers may be any natural non-living material such as bark chips or stones, or an indigenous moss of one variety only.

13. Division III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect Rules

Self-contained trough or container gardens of any size may be entered for judging as an arrangement.

Multiple varieties of hosta and other plant material may be used. **Hostas must be a strong focal point of the entry.** No artificial plant material is allowed. Plants and container must be clean. Accessories are permitted.

Individual plants need not be identified. However, if the exhibitor would like to identify the material, an identification ledger card to the side of the exhibit is acceptable.

14. Division IV – Educational Displays Rules

Educational displays must pertain to hostas.

15. Division V – Non-Competitive Exhibits Rules

Entries in this division are not judged. The exhibit may be a single cut leaf, a hosta bloom scape, a container grown plant, or any other display deemed to be of interest to the show observers. However, the plant material must be hosta predominant, the exhibit must be tastefully presented, and the material must be in good condition. The Show Chair may refuse placement of any exhibit that does not meet these requirements.

16. Division VI – Artistic Design Rules

Hosta leaves must be the predominant foliage in the design. Some dried and/or treated plant materials and hosta blooms are permitted. No artificial flowers, fruit, or foliage may be used. Contrived flowers made from hosta leaves are permitted.

An exhibitor may enter one entry per class. Plant material need not be grown by the exhibitor but the design work must be the work of the exhibitor.

Staging for all classes will be skirted tables that are 30” deep by 30” wide and covered with white tablecloths. Back-ground is beige-colored walls. Overlays and accessories are permitted but should not exceed dimensions set in the class rules. The Artistic Design committee reserves the right to move an entry to improve spacing if the exhibitor is unavailable to do so.

Pre-registration is required. Exhibitors are requested to register their entries in advance with (name, address, e-mail address, telephone number of the Design Chair). The Design Chair will provide additional class definitions, rules and requirements, and exhibition instructions upon registration.

In each class, the designer is asked to interpret the class title.

Sample Show Schedule, Page 4 of 8

17. Division VII – Specialty Division

Optional Division - Rules and Regulations approved by the AHS Hosta Shows Chair would appear here if a Division VII was to be included in the show.

SHOW DIVISIONS

DIVISION I – HORTICULTURE (Cut leaf)

Section I	Giant-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section II	Large-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section III	Medium-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section IV	Small-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section V	Miniature-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section VI	Giant-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports
Section VII	Large-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports
Section VIII	Medium-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports
Section IX	Small-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports
Section X	Miniature-Leaved Unregistered Seedlings and Sports
Section XI	Youth Exhibits of Registered Cultivars and Species Displayed in Alphabetical Order
Section XII	Unregistered Named Hosta Cultivars Displayed in Alphabetical Order

Entries in Sections I-X are to be displayed using the following Color Classes:

- Class 1 – Green (All Shades)
- Class 2 – Blue (All Shades)
- Class 3 – Yellow (All Shades)
- Class 4 – White Margined
 - a. Yellow, White, or Chartreuse Center
 - b. Green to Blue Center
- Class 5 – Yellow Margined
 - a. Yellow, White, or Chartreuse Center
 - b. Green to Blue Center
- Class 6 – Green or Blue Margined
 - a. Yellow, White, or Chartreuse Center
 - b. Green to Blue Center (distinct from margin color)
- Class 7 – Streaked or Mottled
- Class 8 – Others (including early season variants)

DIVISION II – CONTAINER GROWN HOSTAS

DIVISION III – TROUGH/CONTAINER GARDENS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT

DIVISION IV – EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS

DIVISION V – NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

DIVISION VI – ARTISTIC DESIGN

<i>Class I</i>	<i>Cinderella's Ball</i>
<i>Class II</i>	<i>The Crane Princess</i>
<i>Class III</i>	<i>Wizard of Oz</i>
<i>Class IV</i>	<i>Thumbelina</i>
<i>Class V</i>	<i>Peter Pan</i>

Pre-registration is required for exhibition in this division. Contact the Design Chair for additional class definitions and requirements, and exhibition instructions.

DIVISION VII – SPECIALTY DIVISION

SHOW AWARDS

Best of Show - Horticulture – Awarded to the best species or registered cultivar entry in Division I – Horticulture and is selected from the section winners in Sections I-V and Section XI. (Please note that entries in Section XII – Unregistered Named Cultivars are not eligible to receive this award.)

Best Seedling or Sport Award – Awarded to the best seedling or sport entry in Division I – Horticulture and is selected from the section winners in Sections VI-X.

Best Artistic Design Award – Awarded to the best entry in Division VI-Artistic Design. This award is chosen from the Best of Class winners in the division.

Sweepstakes Award – Awarded to the exhibitor who wins the largest number of blue ribbons in Division I – Horticulture. (In case of a tie, red ribbons, then yellow ribbons, will be counted to break the tie).

Grand Awards – Awarded to the best entries in Division II – Container Grown Hostas, Division III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect, and Division IV – Educational Displays. In order to win, entries must have scored 95 points.

Section Awards – Awarded to the Best of Section winners in divisions containing sections. All section award winners must have scored at least 95 points.

Class Awards – Awarded to Best of Class winners in divisions containing classes. All class award winners must have scored at least 95 points.

The following ribbon awards are awarded in accordance with rules set forth by AHS:

First Place Blue Ribbons – Entries must score 90 or more points to receive this award.

Second Place Red Ribbons – Entries must score 85 or more points to receive this award.

Third Place Yellow Ribbons – Entries must score 80 or more points to receive this award.

Fourth Place White Ribbons - Entries must score 75 or more points to receive this award.

THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

POINT SCALES for Judging Hosta Show Exhibits

REGISTERED CULTIVARS AND SPECIES

DIVISION I, Sections I – V and Section XI

Form and Size	30
Color and Pattern	30
Texture and Substance	20
Condition and Grooming	20
TOTAL POINTS	100

UNREGISTERED NAMED HOSTA CULTIVARS

DIVISION I, Section XII

Form and Size	30
Color and Pattern	30
Texture and Substance	20
Condition and Grooming	20
TOTAL POINTS	100

UNREGISTERED SEEDLINGS AND SPORTS

DIVISION I, Sections VI – X

Distinction	40
Form and Size	15
Color and Pattern	15
Texture and Substance	15
Condition and Grooming	15
TOTAL POINTS	100

CONTAINER GROWN HOSTAS

DIVISION II

Form and Size	25
Color and Pattern	25
Texture and Substance	25
Condition and Grooming	25
TOTAL POINTS	100

TROUGH/CONTAINER GARDENS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT

DIVISION III

Variety	20
Condition	30
Arrangement	30
Container - Relative to Arrangement	20
TOTAL POINTS	100

EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS

DIVISION IV

Educational Value	60
Theme, Originality, Effectiveness	
Staging	40
Arrangement, Attractiveness, Neatness, Materials Used in Exhibit	
TOTAL POINTS	100

NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

DIVISION V

*Not Judged – No Scale of Points***ARTISTIC DESIGN**

DIVISION VI

Conformance	14
Design	48
Selection of Components	8
Organization of Components	8
Expression	8
Distinction	14
TOTAL POINTS	100

SPECIALTY DIVISION

DIVISION VII

Theme and point scales determined by show committee and approved by AHS Show Chair.

SHOW COMMITTEE

Show Chair (Names of Chairs)
 Show Co-Chair
 Classification Chair
 Clerks Chair
 Design Chair
 Hospitality and Membership Chair
 Judges Chair
 Placement Chair
 Publicity Chair
 Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Chair
 Schedule Chair
 Staging and Dismantling Chair
 Tabulation Chair

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

Membership in The American Hosta Society offers participation in all national activities including a National Convention; two printed issues and one online edition of The Hosta Journal, many interesting and informative articles, and dozens of color pictures. Dues are \$30 individual and \$34 family membership per year (U.S.). Membership is on a calendar year basis. Send inquiries regarding membership to:

(Name) – AHS Membership Secretary
 (Address of Membership Secretary)
 AHS Website – www.hosta.org

REGION (Region Number and Name) HOSTA SOCIETY

Members of The American Hosta Society in (Name States) constituting Region (Number) of the American Hosta Society are automatically members of the (Region Name) Hosta Society. It distributes an annual newsletter and it offers an annual meeting which includes judges clinics, educational seminars, and plant sales. For additional information, please contact:

(Regional Director's Name) – Region (Number) Director
 (Regional Directors contact information)

(Host) HOSTA SOCIETY

The (Host) Hosta Society is affiliated with The American Hosta Society. It publishes four newsletters each year and meets four times a year at places announced in the newsletter. It sponsors this Hosta Show and garden tours each year. All memberships are on a calendar year basis. Individual dues are \$15 per person per year. Commercial memberships and advertising are also available. Send inquiries regarding membership to:

(Name) – Membership Secretary
 (Membership Secretary's contact information)

II-G. PREPARATION OF HOSTA LEAVES FOR SHOW

II-G-1. Knowing which Leaves to Select

First of all, study the Show Schedule and the AHS Approved Point Scales for Judging Hosta Show Exhibits (III-E-1, page III-10). The Point Scales provide the attributes that the judges will be using to evaluate a leaf or any other exhibit. By being familiar with the Point Scales, the exhibitor is better prepared to select exhibits that will score well in the show. The schedule will provide specific rules that may apply to any given division. If a leaf or other exhibit does not meet the requirements of the division or if the exhibit has significant flaws based on the point scale attributes, then it is best not to select that particular specimen.

II-G-2. Cutting and Grooming Entries

All cut leaf specimens should be cut in early morning or late afternoon to avoid unnecessary stress. Evaluate the leaves as best as can be done prior to cutting and select the most outstanding leaf. Leaves may be selected several days prior to the show. The petiole should be cut as long as possible. Clippers or a sharp knife should be used to cut the petiole on a slant. This helps for rapid moisture intake. After cutting, hold the leaf up to the light to further inspect for major holes, damage or other large flaws that may have been missed prior to cutting. If significant flaws are found, select another leaf.

Cut specimens should be placed in cool water in a dark, cool, draft-free place for several hours or overnight.

Specimen cleanliness is the first attribute that the judges notice. Take care to properly clean the leaves on all exhibits prior to the show. An entry should not have dirt or other debris, insects, or spider webs anywhere on the leaf surface or petiole. Pay particular attention to the point where the leaf meets the petiole as trash often becomes lodged there. Carefully wash the leaf in water, but do not scrub. A very mild detergent solution may be used to help dislodge dirt from the leaf surface. If detergent is used, be sure to rinse the leaf after washing to remove detergent residue. Use cotton balls for light washing and Q-tips or tiny soft brushes to clean the valleys and creases. Be very careful not to damage the delicate blue coating or bloom on the leaf when cleaning blue leaves.

After drying, inspect the leaves once more. Any remaining dirt may be removed with a Q-tip or soft brush.

NEVER alter leaves in any way that changes the natural appearance. This includes the use of leaf shine products, magic marker or paint to hide blemishes, appliques to hide holes, or toothpicks or tape to repair broken leaves. Such alterations, if discovered by the show committee or judges, will result in disqualification of the entry.

II-G-3. Entering Specimens

The exhibitors should arrive in ample time to stage their entries. All needed supplies should be brought by the exhibitors and not expected to be borrowed from others. It is also wise to bring extra plant material in case of damage in transit. Upon arrival at the preparation area, all exhibitors should immediately sign the Exhibitor Registration Form and secure an Exhibitor Number. It is also important to obtain an Individual Tally Sheet to fill out and return to the Registration-Exhibitor Assistance Committee upon completion.

Each leaf should be placed in an appropriate sized container. Containers are usually provided. Read the Show Schedule to make sure the containers are supplied by the Show Committee. The Show Committee supplies containers at the AHS National Convention.

Take time to stage the leaf in the container for best presentation. This includes selection of the best petiole length and the best leaf angle. Most leaves will show at their best when displayed as straight and tall as possible. Cotton, or other stabilizing material supplied by the Show Committee may be used to pose the leaf and keep it from flopping around in the container. Be sure that the cut end of the petiole in Division I entries is below the level of water in the container to keep the exhibit fresh and at its best through the show.

Once the entry is ready, the exhibitor should prepare and attach the entry tag to the exhibit. To save time and frustration, it is wise to start preparing entry tags prior to the show. Entry tags, including the bottom portion (stub), should be properly and fully completed. It is very important for tabulation purposes that both the top portion and the bottom stub contain all the necessary information including the exhibitor number, exhibitor name, and the name of the cultivar. Do not fold the bottom stub prior to placing the entry on the classification table. The Classification Committee members will fold the tag after all entry tag information has been checked.

One of the most often seen errors on entry tags is the improper selection of Division, Section, and Class information. To prevent this error, first study the Show Schedule carefully, and then verify the entry's registration information in the current AHS Show Classification List. This list is available on the AHS website and copies should be available in the show preparation area. The list provides the show classification data, including the proper section and color class as well as leaf length and width for all registered cultivars and species. If in doubt, don't guess. Ask for assistance from a Registration Committee member or other show officials. If a named hosta is not listed in the Classification List, it is most likely not a registered cultivar and must be exhibited in Division I – Section XII Unregistered Named Cultivars.

After preparing and entering leaves and handing in the completed Individual Tally Sheet, please clean up your preparation area and remove any personal items and trash so that the area will be ready for use by other exhibitors.

II-H. TABLE OF LEAF SIZES
Used in AHS Hosta Shows
Sanctioned by The American Hosta Society

The following table of hosta leaf sizes, established by The American Hosta Society in 1987 and amended in 2004, was developed for the purpose of standardizing leaf sizes for hosta shows sanctioned by the Society.

The Leaf Section in which a hosta is to be displayed is determined by the total square inches of the leaf as measured by multiplying the **length** of the leaf, from leaf tip to intersection with the petiole, by the **width** of the leaf at its widest point.

For Registered Cultivars and Species, the Leaf Section as well as the Color Class, if applicable, is based on the registered data for the particular cultivar and can be easily determined by referring to The **AHS Hosta Show Classification List** which provides classification data for all registered cultivars and species. This List is updated annually to include newly registered cultivars. It may be obtained from the AHS Classification Chair or may be viewed or downloaded directly from The AHS website, www.hosta.org.

For Unregistered Seedlings and Sports, use this table to determine the appropriate section for an entry in Division I – Horticulture.

<u>Leaf Section</u>	<u>Square Inches</u>
VI Giant Leaved	120 or greater
VII Large Leaved	64 to < 120
VIII Medium Leaved	30 to < 64
IX Small Leaved	6 to < 30
X Miniature Leaved	< 6

II-I. HOSTA SHOW FORMS

The American Hosta Society Hosta Show Registration Form

II-I-a.

This report is due at least three months before the show time and before the final printing of the show schedule. Send one copy to the Hosta Shows Chair of the American Hosta Society, and keep one copy for your files.

Name of Show _____ Date of Show _____

Show Location _____
Place City & State

Show Chair _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail _____

Co-Chair _____

Horticulture Judges _____

Artistic Judges _____

*** Attach copy of tentative Show Schedule**

Date Submitted: _____ Date Approved: _____

II-I-b.

AHS HOSTA SHOW

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION FORM

*American Hosta Society Member?
Yes or No*

Exhibitor Number	Name	Address	AHS ↓
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

II-I-c.

AHS HOSTA SHOW

INDIVIDUAL TALLY SHEET

Name: _____ Exhibitor Number: _____ Date: _____

	Div	Variety	1st Blue	2nd Red	3rd Yellow	4th White	BOC Green	BOS Purple	Special Award
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
17									
18									
19									
20									
21									
22									
23									
24									
25									

Please list cultivars alphabetically by Division if possible

TOTALS

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Special Awards: Circle those that apply	
Best of Show (Division I, Section I-V & XI)	Best Seedling/Sport (Division I, Sections VI-X)
Best Container Grown (Division II)	Best Container/Trough (Division III)
Best Educational Display (Division IV)	Sweepstakes Award

II-I-d.**AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY****Final Show Report for Accredited Hosta Shows - Page 1 of 3**

(Please Type or Print All Information Legibly)

Name of Show _____

Name of Host Society _____

Show Date _____

Show Location _____

Show Chair _____

Show Co-Chair _____

Classification Chair _____

Schedule Chair _____

Placement Chair _____

Judges Chair _____

Number of Exhibitors _____ Approximate Number of Show Attendance _____

Total Number of Entries: _____

Division I – Horticulture _____

Section I _____

Section II _____

Section III _____

Section IV _____

Section V _____

Section VI _____

Section VII _____

Section VIII _____

Section IX _____

Section X _____

Section XI _____

Section XII _____

Division II – Container Grown Hostas _____

Division III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged For Effect _____

Division IV - Educational Displays _____

Division V – Non-Competitive Exhibits _____

Division VI – Artistic Design _____

Division VII – Specialty Division _____

II-I-d.

**Final Show Report – Page 2 of 3
Final List of All Judges**

Hosta Show Judges for Divisions I, II, III, VI, V and VII

Name	Address (City and State)
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Attach Separate Sheet to List Additional Judges)

Artistic Design Judges for Division VI

Name	Address (City and State)
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Attach Separate Sheet to List Additional Judges)

II-I-d.

**Final Show Report – Page 3 of 3
Hosta Show Awards Presented**

DIVISION I – Horticulture

<u>Hosta Name or Seedling ID</u>	<u>Exhibitor</u>
Best of Show _____	_____
Best Seedling or Sport _____	_____
Sweepstakes _____	_____
Section I _____	_____
Section II _____	_____
Section III _____	_____
Section IV _____	_____
Section V _____	_____
Section VI _____	_____
Section VII _____	_____
Section VIII _____	_____
Section IX _____	_____
Section X _____	_____
Section XI _____	_____
Section XII _____	_____

DIVISION II – Container Grown Hostas

Grand Award _____

DIVISION III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect

Grand Award _____

DIVISION IV – Educational Exhibits

Grand Award _____

DIVISION V – Non-Competitive Exhibits (No Award – this division is not judged)

DIVISION VI – Artistic Design

Best Artistic Design Award _____

DIVISION VII – Specialty Division Theme _____

Grand Award _____

Date Submitted: _____ Date Approved: _____

II-I-e. BEST OF SHOW BALLOT

Indicate points DEDUCTED from each entry in each section. Total points deducted from any entry should not exceed five. Then total the points deducted at the bottom of the page for each entry.

	Section I Giant Leaf	Section II Large Leaf	Section III Medium Leaf	Section IV Small Leaf	Section V Miniature Leaf	Section XI Youth Entries
FORM and SIZE 30 Points						
COLOR and PATTERN 30 Points						
TEXTURE and SUBSTANCE 20 Points						
CONDITION and GROOMING 20 Points						
TOTAL POINTS DEDUCTED <i>(Maximum 5 points per entry)</i>						

II-I-f. BEST SEEDLING OR SPORT BALLOT

Indicate points DEDUCTED from each entry in each section. Total points deducted from any entry should not exceed five. Then total the points deducted at the bottom of the page for each entry

	Section VI Giant Leaf	Section VII Large Leaf	Section VIII Medium Leaf	Section IX Small Leaf	Section X Miniature Leaf
DISTINCTION 40 Points					
FORM and SIZE 15 Points					
COLOR and PATTERN 15 Points					
TEXTURE and SUBSTANCE 15 Points					
CONDITION and GOOMING 15 Points					
TOTAL POINTS DEDUCTED <i>(Maximum 5 points per entry)</i>					