



2012 NCTA Convention & Trade Show Aug. 8-11, 2012 Sacramento, California

National Wreath Contest Details Bring Your Best to California!

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2012

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Wreath Contest Set-up
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Wreath Contest Judging

Friday, Aug. 10, 2012

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Take-down of Wreath Contest
5:30 p.m. Awards Banquet

For additional schedule and program details, visit www.christmastree.org/convention2012.cfm.

Important Reminders:

- The National Wreath Contest will take place at the Sacramento Convention Center. Check-in for the wreath contest will begin at 7 a.m. and all wreaths must be in place by 9 a.m.
- If you will be bringing your wreath in early, a refrigerated truck will be available beginning at 5:00 p.m. Monday (Aug. 6). For access to the truck, you will need to call the designated cell phone number, which will be provided to you in advance or will be posted at the hotel check-in.
- You must be on-site during the designated time to check in and set up your wreath. If you will not be available, you will need to designate and contact someone to do this on your behalf – please let NCTA know in advance if someone will be handling your wreath for you.
- Easels for all wreaths will be provided by the contest sponsor.
- Please read and review the attached Rules and Guidelines for the contest.
- Questions? Contact NCTA at 636/449-5070.

Good luck!

NATIONAL WREATH CONTEST RULES

PURPOSE OF CONTEST:

- To establish an opportunity for NCTA to encourage and promote the use of Real Christmas Tree evergreens.

RULES AND JUDGING GUIDELINES

These rules and guidelines establish the procedure to be followed in selecting the national champion wreaths.

General

- Wreaths are to be made of Real Christmas Tree evergreens (no princess pine), grown within the state of the contest entrant. No colorant may be applied. Wreaths may be single or double faced. They will be judged either hanging on a wall or on an easel. All wreaths must be made on a 12-inch diameter ring only.
- Both decorated and undecorated wreaths can be made of mixed evergreens. On decorated wreaths, natural or artificial decorations may be used. Decorated wreaths must have a bow.
- The wreath contest will be held at a site convenient to the convention site.

Contest Procedures

- At least 14 days prior to the contest, each entrant will provide a signed two-part "qualification statement" to the NCTA office. Part one should state that the entrant is eligible to enter the contest as a representative of his or her state/regional association and be signed by the state/regional association executive director, executive secretary or president. (If there is no state association, entrant may sign this statement.) Part two should state that the entrant is a member in good standing of NCTA and be signed by the entrant. Eligibility will be cross-checked with NCTA membership records before winners are selected.
- Securely tied to each wreath will be a blank envelope sealed, containing a card with wreath maker's name, address and telephone number. The card should also contain the name and location of the grower of the evergreen materials if it is different than the entrant's.

Eligibility of Entrants

- Each national Christmas Tree Association (NCTA) affiliated state/regional association is eligible to enter two wreaths per class in the NCTA Wreath Contest. In no case shall one person, family or farm enter more than two wreaths, one decorated and one undecorated.
- The state/regional association can determine their representative either by contest or by appointment. To be eligible, the state/regional association must certify their representatives to the NCTA Office. Entrants must be United States residents.
- States that do not have a state/regional association and want to enter the contest may make early application to the NCTA office of the current year's contest 30 days before the contest. Each of these states will be limited to two wreaths per class, the same as the states/regions with affiliated associations. The NCTA office will notify the applicants of their acceptance.
- The contestant entering the wreath must be a member in good standing of the NCTA. Beginning with the contest held in 2009, winners and their immediate families are not eligible to participate in the contest at the Annual Convention immediately following the one in which they won, but are eligible to participate after that.

Judging

- The champion winners from the preceding convention will be asked to serve as judges of contest wreaths. In addition, a third qualified judge will be selected from other than the host state/region. If a champion winner declines, another qualified judge from a non-host state/region will be selected. Each judge will prepare a score sheet on each contest wreath. Score sheets will not be provided to an entrant.
- No contestant shall have entry to the judging area to view competitive wreaths prior to submitting their entry to the wreath contest chairperson.
- Wreaths are to be ready for judging by the appointed time the first day of the convention. (See entry form for times.) NCTA will provide directions to or details regarding the location of the contest area at Convention, as well as person(s) to contact and phone number(s) for those bringing wreaths early.
- Scoring: See current guidelines for judging.
- Ribbons will be placed on winning entries the same day of the judging, soon after the judges scoresheets are compiled.
- Decisions of the Judges are final.

Awards and Recognition

- After the judging, an “Avenue of National Christmas Wreaths” will be maintained throughout the convention at a convenient location in the Convention Center. Non-winning wreaths may be used for other functions at the convention, such as decorating. The name of the entrant and state/regional association will be prominently displayed on each wreath after the winners are announced.
- At least two hours before the conclusion of the trade show, wreaths will be released to the persons that entered them. At the end of the trade show, remaining wreaths will be considered unclaimed and will be discarded.
- Winners will be selected by judges in each of two classes: (A) Undecorated (B) Decorated.
- Awards in each class will be blue - first, red - second and white - third. The Grand Champion ribbon will be presented to the undecorated wreath scoring the highest total points and the decorated wreath scoring the highest total points in its classification. Award ribbons will be placed on wreaths the day of the judging. The two top winners will be presented a plaque.

Interpretation of Rules and Guidelines

- Interpretation of rules and guidelines for the wreath contest will be the responsibility of the Wreath Contest Chairperson and the Convention Chairperson.

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