

**2025 Texas State Woodcarving Championship
Hill Country Youth Event Center
Kerrville, Texas
April 5 – 11, 2025**

2025 Texas Championship Show Rules

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NOTE: Carving Competition Entry Registration is Friday April 4, 2025, from 1 PM to 5 PM. Three registration lines will accept competition entrees from all competition levels simultaneously. Registration will continue Saturday April 5 from 7 AM to 9 AM. No entries will be accepted after 9 AM. Show Judging begins Saturday at 9:15 AM. Competition Packets with appropriate forms can be accessed on the TWG Website or may be picked up Friday prior to carving registration at the Hill Country Youth Event Center.

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Section A – Show Rules

1. Getting your event badge is the first step before you proceed to make State Championship competition entrees. An event badge indicates you have paid the event registration fee and your annual Guild membership dues. State Championship competition entrees are made from a show table. Two types of tables are available for entrants (Individual Exhibitor Table or Woodcarving Club Table).

Individual Exhibitors Tables

- a. Purchased for \$30.00 each.
- b. Two carvers may share a table.
- c. No entry fee for carvings.
- d. Limited to two carvings per category.
- e. No limit on the number of categories entered.

Club Tables

- a. One club table will be available for FREE.
- b. Additional tables may be purchased for \$30.00 each.
- c. Only current club members are eligible for carving entry under club table.
- d. Limit of two carvings per category per club member.
- e. \$5.00 entry fee for each carving entered.

Table Regulations

- a. Tables may be set up Friday, April 5, 2025, as soon as the Exhibition Hall is arranged for Show. See Website for the Event Schedule pertaining to Show Exhibitors and registration.
- b. Carvers with a display table at a Guild show may sell finished carvings, original patterns, handmade tools and supplies not available from commercial vendors. Tools and supplies may not cover more than one-fourth of the table space. Carvers wishing to sell merchandise purchased for resale need to apply to the President as a Commercial Vendor.
- c. No add on tables will be allowed.
- d. Tables must be covered on all four sides by the exhibitor.

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- e. Tables and/or exhibits are not to be dismantled before the closing time posted in the Event Schedule, unless dismissed earlier by Show Chairman (**NO EXCEPTIONS**).

2. Competitive entries into the Texas State Woodcarving Championship must be delivered in person. Mail-in entries are not permitted. *Each carver must complete an entry form for each carving entry. Entry forms are included with Show Packet forms displayed on the TWG Website. Extra forms may be obtained from Show Registration Desk.*

3. All carvings entering into competition, **must be wood (including base)**; no reproductions or castings allowed. Non-Wood Embellishments may be approved by the Show Chairman. Entries must be carved and finished by the person entering the carving. *Some members may be unable to attend the show but would still like to register their carvings in the competition. The Guild will allow those carvings to be entered by another Guild Member who is willing to bring their carving in for the competition. The absent member is still required to pay Membership dues and the event registration fee. In addition, every entry will have a \$5.00 entry fee. The Member bringing absent Member's carvings in to register must pick up the badge of the absent Member at the registration table before entering the competition. The badge must be presented at the competition registration table and the name on the badge must match the name on the entry form for the carving to be registered. Please contact Show Chair for more information-Robert Rangel 210-669-3181*

4. All entries must have been carved within the last two (2) years.

5. A carving that has won First Place at any previous TWG show may not be entered again.

6. It is the responsibility of the carver to determine and enter the appropriate level of competition and category. The Rules and Category Committee can be called on to assist if carver needs help.

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7. Prior to judging, the Show Chairman, Show Committee and/or Judge(s) may move an entry to another category, if determined to be more appropriate.
8. Categories may be added, combined, sub-divided, and/or deleted at the Show Committee's discretion dependent upon the number of entries. After judging begins, no entries may be moved to another category.
9. Once carvings are entered into competition, they will remain in the judging area and their category may not be changed by the entrant, only the Show Chair and Judges can change them as needed, after judging, carvings will be staged and displayed by the staff for viewing by the public. When the show closes on Sunday, the carvings may be picked up by Exhibitors.
10. The Show Chairman, Show Committee, TWG Officers, or the Board of Directors may request that a carving be removed if it is found to be objectionable (in any manner ... e.g., presentation, wording, bad taste, erotic, etc.). This applies to carving entries and items on exhibit tables.
11. **Judges for 2025 Competition are Pat Moore & George Vaughn. Their Bios are located on TWG Website. All Judges decisions are final.**
12. The Show Chairman, TWG, its Officers, Board of Directors, Hill Country Youth Event Center or its employees are not responsible for any loss, damage or injury to any carving or person occurring during TWG's Texas State Championship Show.
13. Submission of a Competition Entry Form is an agreement to the Show Rules.
14. The Judge will consider the following in determining the Show and Category Finalists:
 - a. Creativity: Originality, true to life if applicable, proportions, anatomy, perspective.

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- b. Workmanship: Carving techniques, difficulty of carving, variety of techniques applied such as burning, detailing, and painting. If carving consists of more than one piece, assembly perfection will also be considered.
 - c. Detail: Feathers, hair, folds in clothing, skin wrinkles, etc.
 - d. Quality of Finish: Sanding, polishing, painting, etc.
 - e. Final Representation: Impact of carving, selection of base and its detail, habitat if any, decorative value, harmony of the carving as a whole are elements to be considered.
15. Judging of Youth and Junior Carvers: Any carving is eligible (e.g., class projects, rough outs, soap, etc.). The age of the carver and originality will be considered by the judges.
16. Best Exhibit Table and Best Club Table: The Judge(s) will consider the following items when determining the Best Tables:
- a. Presentation (overall look of display);
 - b. Neatness and organization of arrangement (too many or too few items, gaudy, unnecessary distractions, e.g., junkie, pleasing, catches the attention and focus of the viewer);
 - c. Theme (theme or purpose of display);
 - d. Originality and Imagination,
 - e. Additionally, Club Tables should demonstrate Club's community involvement and initiatives in promotion of woodcarving, display of all skill levels of carving as well as different categories of carvings.

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17. People's Choice Award – determined by the voting results of show attendees:
- a. Only one carving from each exhibitor's space is permitted, carvings from the competition tables are not allowed;
 - b. A solo cup will be placed in front of each carving entered;
 - c. Each person present in the Exhibit Hall will be eligible to vote and will be given a marble to be use in the voting process;
 - d. Voters will select their favorite carving by placing marble in solo cup;
 - e. People's Choice Award is determined by the carving with most votes (marbles).

Section B - Levels of Competition

Note: An entrant may compete in any level more advanced than the one required. For example: An intermediate carver may compete in Open Level. If entrant decides to compete in a higher level, they may not compete in a lower level. However, if entrant is required to compete in Open Level, participation in the Intermediate Level or Novice Level is not permitted.

Youth: Defined as carvers 12 years or younger. Categories will be determined based on carvings entered.

Junior: Defined as carvers between the ages of 13 and 17. Categories will be determined based on carvings entered.

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The following Levels are for carvers over the age of 17:

NOVICE: Defined as a carver who has been carving less than two (2) years. Class projects and rough outs are permitted. However, originality will be considered by the judges.

INTERMEDIATE: Defined as a carver who is not a novice and has not won five (5) First Place awards in this competition level. Also, a carver cannot enter this level of competition if previously he/she has won Best of Intermediate. “Instructor Assisted” pieces, as defined in Section E of this document, in this competition level, are permitted only in category 280. Rough outs are permitted, and originality will be considered by the judge(s).

OPEN: Anyone may enter this level of competition and all entries must be carved from a block of wood, how they remove the wood to complete the carving is up to the carver. If instructor assisted carvings or carvings from roughouts are found in a category other than their appropriate categories, the carving will be returned to the carver and entry fees will be forfeited. Instructor Assisted pieces, as defined in Section E of this document, are permitted only in category 375 and are not eligible for Best of Categories or Merit awards. Carvings from ROUGH OUTS are permitted only in category 380.

Section C - Categories

Novice

- 100 – Caricature, human & animal
- 105 – Realistic, animals
- 110 – Realistic, human
- 115 – Birds
- 120 – Aquatic
- 125 – Relief
- 130 – Chip Carving
- 135 – Pyrography
- 140 – Santa & Mythical
- 145 – Plants & Flowers
- 150 – Canes & Walking Sticks

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155 – Other

Intermediate

200 – Caricature, human & animal

205 – Realistic, animals

210 – Realistic, human

215 – Birds

220 – Aquatic

225 – Relief

230 – Chip Carving

235 – Ornamental (**carved boxes etc.**)

240 – Santa & Mythical

245 – Religious

245 – Ornaments

250 – Miniature

255 – Pyrography

260 – Plants and Flowers

265 – Canes & Walking Sticks

270 – Woodturning that is carved

275 – Other

280 – Instructor Assisted Online or In Person (Not eligible for Best of Categories or Merit awards)

295 – Found Wood (including bark)

OPEN

300 – Caricature, human & animal

305 – Realistic, animals

310 – Realistic, human

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- 315 – Birds
- 320 – Aquatic
- 325 – Relief
- 330 – Chip Carving
- 335 – Ornamental (**carved boxes etc.**)
- 340 – Santa
- 342 – Mythical
- 345 – Religious
- 347 – Ornaments
- 350 – Miniature
- 355 – Pyrography
- 360 – Plants and Flowers
- 365 – Canes & Walking Sticks
- 370 – Woodturning that is carved
- 375 – Instructor Assisted Online or In Person (Not eligible for Best of Categories or Merit awards)
- 380 – Rough-out
- 385 – Stylized
- 390 – Doll
- 395 – Found Wood (including bark)
- 400 – Gourds
- 405 – Other

Section D - Carving Category Awards

Youth – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Ribbons/Pins

Junior – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Ribbons/Pins

Novice – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Ribbons/Pins, Reed Hubbell Merit Award & Best of Novice – Plaques

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Intermediate – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Ribbons/Pins, Two Merit Awards & Best of Intermediate – Plaques

(Intermediate Merit Awards in honor of Paula Devereaux, Buddy Cabe)

Open – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Ribbons/Pins, Three Merit Awards - Plaques

(Open Merit Awards in honor of Bill Bryant and Jack Price)

Best of Novice – Plaque & \$100

Best of Intermediate – Plaque & \$200

Best of Show Runner-up – Plaque & \$300

Les Visor Grand Champion Award (Best of Show) - Plaque & \$400

People's Choice Award – Plaque & \$50

Best Exhibit Table – Traveling Plaque, Plaque

Best Club Table – Traveling Plaque

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Section E – Definitions and Terms

Aquatic – Amphibious and mammals indigenous to water habitat

Caricature – A distortion or exaggeration of distinguishing features

Instructor Assisted – Defined as “any Seminar or class project” worked on or completed in said Seminar or class. All projects worked on in a seminar are classified as instructor assisted even if an instructor did no carving on the project.

Miniature – Any style, any subject. Carving and habitat (or base) must all fit completely inside a 2-inch cube.

Ornamental – To include clocks, mantels, furniture, musical instruments, moldings, plaques, gun stocks, carousel animals/horses, jewelry, whittled pieces (no power tools or sanding allowed on whittled pieces)

Other – any carving that will not fit in the listed categories

Realistic - Work details closely resemble the proportions of the real object being portrayed

Relief – Carvings executed in a manner to decorate a flat surface to give an illusion of depth

Use of Non-Wood Embellishments– Carving must be wood (base material must also be wood). However, embellishments other than wood may be approved by the Show Chairman.