Hints to Exhibitors

Read the **Entry Details** carefully. If they specify a number, size or weight, make sure that your entry complies. Make your exhibit **look attractive**: If two equally good items are exhibited, the more attractively displayed one may take the prize. Where the rules call for several items in a single entry, try to match them for size and appearance.

Leave stems on fruit exhibits.

Soft fruits should be displayed on a plain white plate (which we can supply).

Roots: Wash and trim roots of onions, leeks (etc), but do not remove them entirely.

Onions should have their tops trimmed and tied. Raffia looks best, but string will do.

Shallots should be displayed on a bed of sharp sand in a container, and be topped, trimmed & tied.

Tomatoes: The calyx (the little green stalk bit), must not be removed.

Tomato trusses: The tomatoes in the truss can be a mix of ripe and unripe.

Courgettes & cucumbers can be displayed with or without attached flowers.

Sweetcorn should be stripped back to show the cob.

Take a ruler and measure your **Floral Art exhibit** to ensure that it fits within the stated measurements, in both height and area.

Try not to let the 'mechanics' be visible in any Floral Art exhibit.

In **Cookery classes**, judges will consider taste, texture and overall appearance. Always use the size of tin specified in the recipe. Tins are measured at the base.

Before turning **cakes** out of tins, place a clean tea towel over the wire rack to prevent it from leaving imprints on the cake.

Preserves: Use clear glass j**ars** with no trade marks. Label with both the type of preserve and the full date when made. Details of **tops** required are shown with the individual Show classes.

Flowers in vaseS can be kept upright and in position with chicken wire or crunched-up newspaper around the top of the vase.

If possible, **cut your flowers** two days before the Show, and stand stems in deep water. Gladioli stems should be one-third tight bud, one-third just out and one-third fully out.

A **rose** which is perfect for showing too early can be cut and kept in a fridge till Show Day.

If you are uncertain, always ask someone for assistance in setting up your exhibit.

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