



Minnesota Peony Society

CLASSIFICATION CHAIR

The Classification Chair is responsible for checking all exhibitor cut flower entries at the flower show. Their job is to ensure that the entered peony is in the correct class. This person will work closely with the Staging Chair and runners to get the entries sorted on the show floor by correct class.

Requirements

A person or persons well versed in peony classification is/are needed for this job. A classification expert from amongst knowledgeable and experienced members should be obtained.

Duties

It is the responsibility of the entrant to correctly fill out the entry tag with the correct Division and Class. The show schedule lists the rules and classes and is to be followed accordingly. When there are questions to class such as double vs semidouble or color, the Classification Chair will have the final say. Once entries are placed and have been checked by Classification, the judges cannot move the entry.

Entry Tags

Entrants should be encouraged, in every way possible, to fill out their entry tags correctly. Even though everything possible has been done to have all the entries properly classified, there will still be some mistakes.

Placing Entries

As entries are brought out to the show floor, the Classification Chair checks the entered class number and if an error is found the flower is brought back to the exhibitor for correction. The Classification Chair may also get permission from the entrant to change class number without returning it to the entrant. There must be an agreement that if the Classification Chair is wrong then they are not responsible. Before judging starts, the Classification Chair and committee should re-check the entire show floor for correct placement and entries. The Classification Chairman must see that all the peonies are placed in the correct division and the right class.

Classifying Entries

The Classification Chair needs the American Peony Society Registry and all of its supplements. All registration books should be available for reference. It is very helpful to have the APS alphabetical listing for a quick reference location of the registered peonies. With the help of computers and computer listings it is now easier for the Classification Committee members to place the peonies. In a large class, the Classification Chair may subdivide the class into subclasses. A subclass should contain ten or more entries if possible and should be divided with

like varieties in each sub-division. Flowers of the same variety should be judged against one another.

The Classification Chair should be present during the judging to answer any questions that may arise, and to move entries if necessary. He/she should not take part in judging.

Two things should be emphasized.

1. Classification is so complex that every effort should be made to help exhibitors label and classify their peonies properly.
2. If entries are still placed in the wrong class, the Committee should move them to the right class unless the class where the peony is to be moved was judged already. Every effort should be made by the Classification Committee and the Judges to see that the peony is properly classified and judged. The Exhibition Chair has the final say in any disputes over classification.