

Tips for Exhibiting Roses

30 Days Before the Show:

- Check the Show classes and identify the roses you wish to enter.
- Select blooms with a sturdy and straight stem.
- Cut off all forming buds between the side of the stem and the leaf.
- Support with a bamboo stake and ties.
- Spray as necessary to remove aphids and spider mites.
- Around the base apply organics and fertilizer.
- Water at the roots as normal.
- Undertake daily inspection to spot anything untoward.

7 Days Before the Show:

- Cover your selected blooms with a bag at night and remove the following morning.
- Identify correct name and show class, then label.

2 or 3 Days Before the Show:

- Cut selected roses with the longest stem possible.
- Treat as indicated in the advice for cutting roses.
- Place the roses in a bucket with wire mesh cover to separate blooms.
- Place in a cool, covered, shaded location, protected from pets and wildlife.

Gather a Toolkit for the Show:

- Soft cloth to polish the leaves.
- Q-Tips to shape the bloom.
- Secateurs to trim as necessary.
- Artist's paintbrush to remove any debris from petals or leaves.
- The Show Schedule and Rules, also a copy of your submitted Entry Form.

Morning of the Show:

- Allow plenty of time.
- Transport with the utmost care.
- Take spare blooms in case of mishap.
- Use the vases provided in the preparation area and pack with moss.
- Stage single flowers (Show classes 2 to 6, 9 and 39) centre of the vase.
- Three (Show classes 1,7, 11, 38, 40 to 42) in an equilateral triangle.
- In a mixed vase (Show classes 8 and 10): stage alternate colours; avoid the use of too many of the same colour; and identical colours in the same row or column.
- Match blooms in class for size and development.
- Top up with water and take into main hall.
- Locate on show bench (do not touch other exhibits).
- Give final adjustment to bloom arrangement.
- Wipe the vase clean and dry.
- Correctly label.

Whenever in doubt consult with a Show Steward.