

# San Diego Shell Club

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The Annual

## WEST COAST SHELL SHOW

sponsored by

The San Diego Shell Club

Casa del Prado

1650 El Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park  
San Diego, California 92101

***The Show is open to the Public and admission is FREE!***

Saturday, August 26, 2023, 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 27, 2023, 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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The San Diego Shell Club is pleased to announce that the West Coast Shell Show will be held on August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 2023. We anticipate a large number of exhibitors this year and hope that you will join us. Exhibit space is limited and will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, meaning that registrants who submit completed registration forms will be given priority in the order they are received and will be assigned space accordingly. Consequently, we recommend completing and submitting the registration form attached as soon as possible. The deadline for submission of your registration form is July 10<sup>th</sup>. The room will be open to exhibitors and dealers at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> for set up. The event will be open to the public beginning Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m.

We are also expecting many visitors, so if you are not planning on exhibiting, we would encourage you to come, support our members that are exhibiting and volunteer some of your time in assisting where needed. When you arrive just ask the Committee Chairperson, David Waller, how you can help. Lunch and refreshments will be furnished for the judges, dealers, exhibitors, and volunteers for a nominal fee to help reimburse the Club for these expenses.

For any additional information, please contact David Waller at [dwall@dbwipmg.com](mailto:dwall@dbwipmg.com).

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# West Coast Shell Show Rules

The San Diego Shell Club has established uniform rules and clearly defined categories to encourage more exhibit entries, increase competition (particularly in the areas of shell collecting), and expand and enhance the overall quality and quantity of exhibits by giving all exhibitors an opportunity to compete at many different levels. We have also established a clear, systematic basis for judging and will continue our work in making the West Coast Shell Show a must-attend event for dealers and collectors alike.

## **Please read entire entry packet carefully!**

### **I. GENERAL RULES**

1. Entries are open to anyone who submits an exhibitor's registration form (see attached) by **July 10, 2023** on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no entry fee.
2. Set-up for exhibitors will begin at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, August 25, 2023 and on Saturday August 26, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **All exhibits that are in competition for trophies or ribbons must be in place by Friday, August 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**
3. No exhibits, or portion of an exhibit, may be removed before 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 27, 2023 except for security reasons. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
4. **Judging will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 25, 2023.** The exhibit hall will be closed during judging. Any exhibitor who directly approaches the judges or speaks to the judges during the judging risks having their exhibit disqualified.
5. The West Coast Shell Show is open to the public on Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
6. Only exhibits entered for competition will be eligible for awards and trophies. However, non-competitive exhibits are also welcome. **All exhibits must be titled, and titles must be listed on your registration form.**
7. Exhibitors may enter as many exhibits as desired but may enter only one exhibit in a category. A grouping of items will be considered as one entry and will be judged as such.
8. The age and grade level of all Student exhibitors must be provided on their exhibits.
9. If upright backing or screens are used, the reverse side must be pleasing to the eye and must not detract in any way from the display on the opposite side of the table.
10. Information boards, narratives, or images shall not exceed 36" in height unless approved by West Coast Shell Show Chairperson. References used in identifications and for other scientific information may be placed in the cases or at the end of the

exhibit (please include in overall length). We suggest including information which helps explain or make the exhibit more interesting to the public.

11. The West Coast Shell Show Entry Committee, consisting of the West Coast Shell Show Chairperson, the judges, and the President of San Diego Shell Club, reserves the right to refuse entry and/or to change the category of an exhibit if, in their opinion, it is better suited for a category other than the category in which it was entered.
12. **No exhibit shall exceed 16 feet in length unless approved** by the West Coast Shell Show Chairperson. Exhibitors should obtain prior approval for length exceptions as early as possible to ensure space availability.
13. No rule may be waived by any officer of the Club or by any member of the West Coast Shell Entry Committee.
14. Neither the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation nor the San Diego Shell Club will be responsible for damages, theft, or loss to any exhibit. However, every effort will be made to safeguard exhibits.
15. **The decision of the judges is final.**
16. Any unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of any exhibitor as determined by the West Coast Shell Show Entry Committee will result in immediate expulsion from the present show and prohibition by the San Diego Shell Club Board of Directors from entering the West Coast Shell Show for a minimum of one year.
17. All exhibits must be the property of the exhibitor. **Borrowed shells, photographs, and/or sea art items may be included in "Any Manner" exhibits only if the owner is identified.**
18. All scientific/specimen shell exhibits must be displayed in cases constructed of wood or other material of equal stability. They must be covered with glass, Plexiglass, or other attractive transparent material. Plastic wrap will not be allowed. Exhibitor's name shall not appear on any exhibit until after judging.
19. **All specimens must be labeled with full scientific name** (genus, species or subspecies, author, date) and locality where collected. A diagrammatic chart may be used for labeling.
  - a. Label example:

*Oliva sayana* Ravenel, 1834  
Lettered Olive  
Gasparilla Island, FL  
Low tide at night, 1994
  - b. Genus and species: Latin or Latinized names, underlined and/or *italicized*. Genus name must be capitalized and species name must be in lower case.
  - c. Leave space between genus and species name as shown above.

- d. Author and date: The person who first described and named the species and the year of authorship.
- e. Popular names may also be used but are not required.
- f. Author and date should be placed in parenthesis if the species has been reclassified into a genus different from the one in which the author placed it originally.

## II. JUDGING CRITERIA

All exhibits at the West Coast Shell Show will be judged in accordance with the recommended standards for judging as outlined below.

### A. MULTIPLE SHELL EXHIBITS - (100 total points)

Grading Categories	Maximum Points/ Point Breakdown
a. Aesthetics	<b>25 points total</b>
1. Aesthetics	20 points
2. Organization	5 points
b. Specimens	<b>25 points total</b>
1. Quality of Specimens	15 points
2. Comprehensiveness	10 points
c. Labels and Text	<b>25 points total</b>
d. Educational Value	<b>25 points total</b>
1. Clarity	10 points
2. Scientific Accuracy	10 points
3. Originality	5 points

### B. SINGLE SHELL EXHIBITS (100 total points)

Grading Categories	Maximum Points/ Point Breakdown
Specimen	<b>80 points total</b>
Display	<b>20 points total</b>

## III. SCIENTIFIC EXHIBIT COMPETATIVE CATEGORIES

C-1: **STUDENT** - Grades K through 6 - Any Manner

C-2: **STUDENT** - Grades 7 through 12 - Any Manner

C-3: **ONE REGION** - Any Manner

C-4: **SUPERFAMILY/FAMILY FROM ONE REGION** - Any Manner

- C-5: **ONE FAMILY** - Major Families - Any Manner - Judged on completeness of family representation. This category shall include the following popular shell families: Muricidae; Conidae; Cypraeidae; Volutidae; Strombidae; and Pectinidae.
- C-6: **ONE FAMILY** - Minor Families - Any Manner- Judged on completeness of family representation. This category includes all families not listed in C-5 above.
- C-7: **ONE GENUS** - Any Manner - Some families are considered to have only one genus, such as Haliotidae. These must be shown in C-5. If desired, sub-genera may be exhibited in this category.
- C-8: **ONE SPECIES** - Any Manner - The purpose of this category is to present a complete representation of the species rather than a large quantity of shells.
- C-9: **SINGLE SHELL WORLDWIDE** - Self-collected
- C-10: **SINGLE SHELL WORLDWIDE** - Any Manner
- C-11: **EDUCATIONAL** - The objective of this category is to teach or inform the viewer about the Phylum Mollusca. The exhibit could cover morphology, range locality, ecology, etc. It may include models, photographs, illustrations, growth series, etc. For example, it may include stories of shells in art, architecture, commerce, literature, or items found in archaeological digs. The exhibit must include substantially more educational information than scientific/specimen shell labeling.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

**STUDENT:** from Grade K through Grade 12.

**SELF-COLLECTED:** means personally collected by the exhibitor while walking on the beach, snorkeling, scuba diving, etc. **NOTE:** A star ☆ must be placed, uniformly, on the label for each self-collected shell (unless in self-collected category) to be eligible for any self-collected award.

#### **IV. NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT CATAGORY**

- NC-1: “Just for fun” exhibits. Any exhibit entered strictly to enhance the overall quality of the show. These exhibits do not qualify for any show ribbons or trophies.

#### **V. ARTISTIC CLASS - SEA ART & SHELL CRAFT**

- AC-1: Any shell or sea life theme featured on items made by the exhibitor. For example: drawings, paintings, photographs, sculptures, “Sailor’s Valentines”, shell boxes, mugs, ceramics, jewelry, glassware and the like.

#### **VI. AWARDS**

1. **THE WEST COAST SHELL SHOW AWARD** – This trophy has been created by Lisa Lindahl in granite and bronze. A one-of-a-kind award presented to an exhibit that, in the opinion of the Judges, is exceptional in all respects, esthetically pleasing,

inspires interest in shells and shell collecting, contains the highest quality specimen shells, and demonstrates significant educational value. Because the criteria required to receive this award is so high, it may not be awarded every year. The exhibit must be truly exceptional to receive this award.

2. **FESTIVUS TROPHY** - A trophy presented to the exhibit that, in the opinion of the Judges, represents the most aesthetically pleasing (*i.e.*, “beautiful”) exhibit.
3. **CONCHOLOGIST OF AMERICA AWARD** - A plaque presented by the COA to the scientific exhibit that shows overall excellence and best furthers interest in shells and shell collecting. It may be given only to a blue-ribbon winning exhibit that has not been awarded another major award in the present show. Dealers are not eligible for this award unless the exhibit is of self-collected shells.
4. **SHELL OF SHOW - Self Collected** - A trophy awarded to a shell chosen from any exhibit entered in any category of those shell specimens so identified by a star in other than self-collected categories. To be awarded for rarity and condition of specimen.
5. **SHELL OF SHOW - Any Manner** - A trophy awarded to a shell chosen from any exhibit, including self-collected, in any category. To be awarded for rarity and condition of specimen.
6. **DR. WES FARMER TROPHY FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE** - a trophy presented to the exhibit that, in the opinion of the Judges, displays outstanding educational value. Ribbons for first, and second place will also be awarded.
7. **BEST STUDENT EXHIBITOR - SCIENTIFIC (K - 6 and 7 - 12 are separately judged categories)** Ribbons for first and second place will be awarded.
8. **EXHIBITOR’S CHOICE AWARD - SCIENTIFIC (As voted by the exhibitors)** Ribbons for first and second place will be awarded. Each exhibitor gets three votes. Votes may be distributed among several exhibits or placed for a single exhibit. Winners are chosen based upon the total number of votes received.

**AWARDS:** There are seven categories with ribbons for First Place - Blue and Second Place - Red, five trophies and one Special Merit ribbon - Yellow. All awards are given at the Judges’ discretion. If in the opinion of the Judges, and at their sole discretion, there are insufficient exhibits by participants in the show to qualify for an award, then such trophy or ribbons will not be awarded.