GUIDELINES

Hopefully these simple guidelines will help you select and prepare your exhibit. If you need further help we have available an excellent handbook produced by the Royal Horticultural Society, or any of the Committee members will be able to help you.

FLOWERS

- Flowers should appear fresh
- Care should be taken to support the flower spike or bloom vertically in the vase using paper, moss, etc.
- Don't crush flowers together
- Points are deducted if:
  1. flowers are not fully opened or are beginning to fade
  2. foliage is diseased
  3. petals are eaten, diseased or damaged
  4. flowers have been badly dressed (in other words, they look untidy)
  5. there is any soil, compost or other debris on the leaves, stem or blooms

A special note for Gladioli: the ideal flower spike has one third in full bloom, one third with buds in colour and one third with green buds.

VEGETABLES

- Try to exhibit uniform sized and shaped vegetables, for example: three straight and similarly sized carrots.
- Use as near blemish free and fresh as possible.
- Clean using a sponge and water, try to avoid any damage.
- A few specifics:
  1. Beets and Carrots should have about 3 inches of stalk; they look tidier if you tie the stalk together.
  2. Onions should preferably be ripe, again tie the top to tidy up.
  3. Tomatoes should have a 1-inch stalk left on.
  4. Rhubarb should be pulled, not cut and left with no more than 3 inches of leaf stalk.

FRUIT

- Fresh as you can get.
- Apples should have stalks left attached.