

MSBA FALL CONFERENCE & HONEY EXPO

Honey Show Rules

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ARRIVAL TIME: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 TH , 2025

LOCATION: ADAMS POINTE CONFERENCE CENTER, BLUE SPRINGS, MO

RELEASE TIME: ALL ENTRIES WILL REMAIN IN THE SHOW AREA FOR PUBLIC VIEWING AFTER THE JUDGING. ALL ENTRIES WILL REMAIN ON DISPLAY UNTIL 5 P.M. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 TH , 2025, AFTER WHICH EXHIBITORS MAY PICK UP THEIR ENTRIES. ENTRIES MUST BE PICKED UP BY 5:45 P.M. ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 TH , 2025.

JUDGES: TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

SECRETARY: TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

ELIGIBILITY AND GENERAL RULES

1. THE HONEY SHOW IS OPEN TO ANYONE WHO IS BOTH A CURRENT MSBA MEMBER AND A REGISTERED ATTENDEE OF THE 2025 MSBA FALL CONFERENCE.

2. (I) EXHIBITS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON. *(II) THE HONEY SHOW IS NOT OPEN TO INDIVIDUALS SERVING AS JUDGES, STEWARDS, OR SHOW SECRETARIES, NOR TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS SERVING AS JUDGES, STEWARDS, OR SHOW SECRETARIES. "IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER" IS DEFINED AS INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE SPOUSES, SIBLINGS, PARENTS, CHILDREN, GRANDPARENTS, GRANDCHILDREN, AUNTS, UNCLES, NIECES, NEPHEWS, FIRST COUSINS, PARENTS OF COMMON CHILDREN, STEP-PARENTS, STEP-CHILDREN, OR ANY INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN THE SAME RESIDENCE.

TURN-IN / SUBMISSION PERIOD(S) & DEADLINE

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED OCTOBER 17, 2025 FROM 5 P.M. TILL 7 P.M. AND OCTOBER 18, 2025 FROM 7 A.M. TILL 8 A.M. NEXT TO REGISTRATION AT ADAMS POINTE CONFERENCE CENTER, BLUE SPRINGS, MO. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE.

EXHIBITOR DECLARATIONS & AFFIRMATIONS

1 EACH EXHIBITOR MUST SIGN AN AFFIDAVIT STATING THAT EACH EXHIBIT HE OR SHE SUBMITS WAS PRODUCED BY THE EXHIBITOR IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RULES SET FORTH HEREIN.

2. EACH EXHIBITOR MUST AFFIRM THE INCLUSION OF ANY IMAGE, LIKENESS, OR WORK OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OTHER THAN THE EXHIBITOR, PORTRAYED IN OR MADE PART OF ANY EXHIBIT, WAS DONE SO WITH THE PRIOR, INFORMED CONSENT OF SAID INDIVIDUAL, AND THAT EACH EXHIBIT IS SUBMITTED WITH THE FULL CONSENT OF ALL PARTIES.

3. UNLESS SPECIFICALLY OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR UNDER AN INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY'S RULES, ALL HONEY, BEESWAX, PROPOLIS, POLLEN, OR ROYAL JELLY EXHIBITED, OR MADE PART OF ANY EXHIBIT, MUST BE PRODUCED BY THE EXHIBITOR FROM HONEYBEES OWNED AND KEPT BY THE EXHIBITOR.

4 ALL BEESWAX ITEMS, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY ALLOWED HEREIN, MUST BE PREPARED FROM PURE, UNADULTERATED BEESWAX, HARVESTED FROM YOUR BEES. THE BEESWAX MUST BE FREE FROM ANY ADDITIVES OR ENHANCEMENTS. THE USE OF SYNTHETIC, ARTIFICIAL, OR ADULTERATED BEESWAX OR DRAWN HONEYCOMB IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. EXHIBITS FOUND TO BE CONTAINING ANY OF THE ABOVE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

DOUBLE ENTRIES PROHIBITED

1. EACH EXHIBITOR MAY MAKE ONLY ONE EXHIBIT PER CATEGORY. MORE THAN ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM A FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MAY SUBMIT EXHIBITS ACROSS DIFFERENT CATEGORIES; HOWEVER, FAMILY MEMBERS AND INDIVIDUALS FROM COMMON HOUSEHOLDS MAY NOT SUBMIT MULTIPLE EXHIBITS IN THE SAME CATEGORY.

2. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF EXTRACTED HONEY, IN INSTANCES WHERE THE EXHIBIT MAY QUALIFY FOR CONSIDERATION IN MULTIPLE CATEGORIES, THE EXHIBITOR SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE WHICH CATEGORY TO ENTER THEIR EXHIBIT; THE EXHIBITORS SELECTION WILL NOT BE OVERTURNED BY THE JUDGE(S); AND, SAID EXHIBIT WILL BE JUDGED BASED ON THE CRITERIA SET FORTH IN THE CATEGORY SELECTED BY THE EXHIBITOR. THE JUDGE SHALL HAVE DISCRETION TO MAKE THE FINAL DETERMINATION AS TO PROPER COLOR DESIGNATION IN REGARD TO ALL EXHIBITS OF EXTRACTED HONEY.

3. DOUBLE ENTRIES ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. A "DOUBLE ENTRY" IS WHEN AN EXHIBITOR HAS MORE THAN ONE EXHIBIT PLACED IN A SINGLE EXHIBITION CATEGORY. AS USED IN THIS RULE, THE TERM "DOUBLE" IS NOT LIMITED TO TWO, BUT ALSO ENCOMPASSES ANY NUMBER GREATER THAN ONE. THE SHOW SECRETARY SHALL NOT KNOWINGLY ACCEPT ANY SUBSEQUENT EXHIBIT WHICH WOULD CREATE A DOUBLE ENTRY.

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WHENEVER A DOUBLE ENTRY IS CREATED BY THE DECISION OF A JUDGE IN RECATEGORIZING AN EXHIBIT PURSUANT TO THE RULES HEREIN, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE SHALL APPLY: PRIOR TO THE JUDGING OF ANY OTHER EXHIBITS IN THE AFFECTED CATEGORY, THE EXHIBITS CONSTITUTING THE DOUBLE ENTRY SHALL BE IDENTIFIED AND EXAMINED BY THE HEAD JUDGE; THE HEAD JUDGE SHALL MAKE A DETERMINATION AS TO WHICH OF THE EXHIBITS CONSTITUTING THE DOUBLE ENTRY IS THE BEST UNDER THE CRITERIA LISTED FOR THE AFFECTED CATEGORY; THE BEST EXHIBIT OF THOSE COMPRISING THE DOUBLE ENTRY WILL BE RETURNED TO THE SHOW BENCH, AND THE OTHER(S) WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. WHENEVER A DOUBLE ENTRY RESULTS IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF ONE OR MORE EXHIBITS, AND AFTER THE RESULTS ARE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED OR POSTED, IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HEAD JUDGE TO PERSONALLY INFORM THE AFFECTED EXHIBITOR OF THE DETERMINATION OF THE DOUBLE ENTRY AND SUBSEQUENT DISQUALIFICATION OF THE EXHIBIT(S).

SECURITY

1. EXHIBITS MUST NOT BE MARKED OR IDENTIFIABLE IN ANY WAY, EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED HEREIN. AN EXAMPLE OF IDENTIFYING MARKS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ARE LABELS, SIGNATURES, SIGNS, ADVERTISING, OR ANYTHING THAT WOULD IDENTIFY THE EXHIBITOR TO THE JUDGE. CERTAIN CATEGORIES WILL ALLOW IDENTIFYING MARKS IF THEY ARE COMPLETELY COVERED SO THAT THEY ARE NOT VISIBLE. PLEASE SEE CATEGORY RULES FOR WHERE THIS EXCEPTION IS ALLOWED. EXHIBITS FOUND TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THIS RULE WILL BE SEVERELY PENALIZED.
2. THE SHOW SECRETARY WILL PROVIDE EACH EXHIBITOR IDENTIFYING LABELS TO BE AFFIXED TO EACH EXHIBIT AS PROVIDED IN THE RULES FOR EACH EXHIBITION CATEGORY. THE EXHIBITOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PLACING THE ID LABELS ON EACH EXHIBIT AS DIRECTED FOR EACH EXHIBITION CATEGORY, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED HEREIN.
3. ONCE EXHIBITS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED INTO THE COMPETITION BY THE SHOW SECRETARY, THEY MAY NOT BE ALTERED IN ANY WAY.
4. AFTER SUBMITTING ENTRIES TO THE SHOW SECRETARY, EXHIBITORS MAY NOT ENTER THE AREA WHERE THE EXHIBITS HAVE BEEN PLACED. THE SECRETARY, STEWARDS OR JUDGES ARE THE ONLY PERSONS WHO MAY ENTER THE HONEY JUDGING AREA.
5. JUDGES WILL ENTER THE HONEY SHOW AREA AFTER THE CLOSE OF EXHIBITOR ACCEPTANCE. THIS IS TO ENSURE AS CLOSE TO A BLIND JUDGING AS POSSIBLE.

FOOD SAFETY

1. ALL FOOD EXHIBITS MUST BE PREPARED UNDER SANITARY CONDITIONS AND FOLLOW FOOD SAFETY GUIDELINES. ALL FOOD EXHIBITS MUST BE SEALED AND SHELF-STABLE, OR OTHERWISE PREPARED AND PACKAGED IN SUCH A WAY TO BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND SPOILAGE. ANY ENTRY THAT APPEARS TO BE UNSAFE OR UNPALATABLE WILL NOT BE JUDGED AND WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
2. ANY FOOD OR BEVERAGE ITEM MADE WITH ANY PERISHABLE INGREDIENT(S) OR COMPONENTS, OR ANY EXHIBIT THAT CALLS FOR OR REQUIRES REFRIGERATION FOR PROPER STORAGE OR HOLDING, ARE PROHIBITED.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. ALL EXHIBITS SUBMITTED IN CATEGORIES CONTAINING THE DESIGNATION "EXTRACTED HONEY" ARE TO BE PRESENTED IN ONE-POUND, GLASS (NO PLASTIC), "QUEEN-LINE" OR "CLASSIC" STYLE JARS; ANY EXHIBITS SUBMITTED IN ANY OTHER STYLE OF JAR OR CONTAINER WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE SHOW SECRETARY.
2. IN REGARD TO THE REQUIREMENT OF UNIFORMITY, ITEMS WITHIN OR COMPRISING ANY SINGLE EXHIBIT SHOULD BE ALIKE AND MATCHING IN EVERY WAY: JARS, CONTAINERS, CLOSURES, CONTENTS, COMPOSITION, ORIENTATION, PLACEMENT, PRESENTATION, ETC., SHOULD BE IDENTICAL ACROSS ALL INDIVIDUAL ITEMS COMPRISING ANY SINGLE EXHIBIT. FOR ALL EXHIBITS WHICH REQUIRE, OR GIVE THE EXHIBITOR THE OPTION OF USING, ANY DISPLAY CASE, DISH, BASE, FRAME, STAND, OR ANY OTHER EXHIBITION AIDE, THE SAME SHOULD BE PRESENTED IN THE SAME CLEAN, NEAT, AND UNIFORM MANNER SO AS TO COMPLEMENT AND ADD MERIT TO THE ACCOMPANYING EXHIBIT.
3. ALL WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS REFER TO THE NET CONTENTS OF THE EXHIBIT. FOR INSTANCE, A 16-OUNCE JAR OF HONEY SHOULD CONTAIN 16 OUNCES OF HONEY. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE THE WEIGHT OF THE CONTAINER, THE LID, THE LABEL, OR ANY OTHER PACKAGING.

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4. FOR ALL EXHIBITS WHICH CALL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A WHITE DESCRIPTIVE CARD OR INDEX CARD WITH THE EXHIBIT, ANY SIZE CARD OR SHEET OF PAPER FROM 3"X5" TO 8.5"X11" WILL BE ACCEPTED. ADDITIONALLY, THE EXHIBITOR MAY SUBMIT MULTIPLE CARDS FOR ANY EXHIBIT AS THE EXHIBITOR SEES FIT. SHOULD THE EXHIBITOR WISH TO SUBMIT MULTIPLE CARDS, THEY SHOULD BE SECURED TOGETHER BY STAPLE OR PAPER CLIPS.
5. ALLOWANCES WILL BE MADE FOR MINOR DAMAGE TO CAPPINGS IN ENTRIES IN THE COMB HONEY CATEGORIES, WHERE SUCH MINOR DAMAGE IS CLEARLY THE RESULT OF PREVIOUS JUDGING IN ANOTHER SHOW.
6. COPYRIGHT OF ANY SUBMITTED RECIPE, ARTWORK, LITERARY WORK, OR OTHER MEDIA REMAINS WITH THE EXHIBITOR, BUT THE HOST ORGANIZATION HAS THE UNRESTRICTED RIGHT TO PUBLISH IMAGES OF SUBMITTED RECIPES, ARTWORK, LITERARY WORK, OR OTHER MEDIA IN ITS NEWSLETTER, ON ITS WEBSITE, AND VIA ITS SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS, PLUS UNRESTRICTED RIGHTS TO USE THE SAME IN ANY RELATED MATERIAL FOR PR PURPOSES.
7. WHERE THE SUBMISSION OF A "RECIPE" IS REQUIRED, THAT TERM INCLUDES THE COMPLETE LIST OF INGREDIENTS, QUANTITIES THEREOF, AND THE PROCEDURE USED TO COMBINE AND PREPARE THE EXHIBIT.
8. THE PRESIDING JUDGE MAY, BASED ON THE NUMBER OF EXHIBITS SUBMITTED COMBINE ONE OR MORE CATEGORIES INTO A SINGLE CATEGORY, OR DIVIDE A SINGLE CATEGORY INTO ONE OR MORE SUBCATEGORIES.
9. RETURN/DISPOSITION OF EXHIBITS- (A) EXHIBITORS WHO WISH TO RETRIEVE THEIR EXHIBITS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HONEY SHOW MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PICK THEIR EXHIBITS UP AT THE SPECIFIED RELEASE TIME. IF AN EXHIBITOR WISHES TO HAVE THEIR EXHIBIT(S) RELEASED TO A THIRD PARTY OR PROXY, THEY MUST INDICATE SO IN WRITING. (B) EXHIBITS AND OTHER ITEMS NOT RETRIEVED BY THE DEADLINE POSTED FOR PICK-UP, SHALL BE DEEMED ABANDONED, AND SHALL BE DONATED TO THE HONEY SHOW COMMITTEE FOR FUTURE USE OR DISPOSAL. THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION, NOR THE HONEY SHOW COMMITTEE, IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ITEMS LEFT AFTER THE PICK-UP DEADLINE.
10. THE BEESWAX USED IN ALL ENTRIES CONTAINING BEESWAX SHOULD BE OF A VIBRANT, NATURAL BEESWAX COLOR, AND SHOULD HAVE A PLEASANT, NATURAL BEESWAX AROMA. THE PREFERRED COLORS OF BEESWAX RANGE FROM WHITE INTO ALL NATURAL SHADES OF THE COLOR PALATE YELLOW. WAX OF OTHER COLOR PALETTES, ESPECIALLY THOSE INCLUDING SHADES OF GRAY OR BROWN, SHALL BE DEEMED FAULTED, AND SHALL BE PENALIZED BY THE JUDGE(S) ACCORDING TO THE DEGREE OF SEVERITY OF SAID FAULT. THE PREFERRED AROMA OF BEESWAX SHOULD INCLUDE HONEY AND/OR FLORAL NOTES. OTHER AROMAS, ESPECIALLY THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH CARAMELIZATION, SMOKE, BURNT SUGAR, CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION/ADULTERATION, OR OTHER AROMAS UNCHARACTERISTIC OF THAT OF COMMONLY FOUND IN NATURAL BEESWAX, SHALL BE CONSIDERED FAULTED, AND SHALL BE PENALIZED BY THE JUDGE(S) ACCORDING TO THE DEGREE OF SEVERITY OF SAID FAULT.
11. THE HONEY SHOW COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY EXHIBIT SUBMITTED IF IT IS OBJECTIONABLE IN ANY WAY. FOR THESE PURPOSES, THE DEFINITION OF "OBJECTIONABLE" INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO: REPRESENTATIONS OF NUDITY, GRAPHIC VIOLENCE, PROFANITY, OBSCENITY, OR ANY DEPICTIONS OF A SEXUALLY EXPLICIT NATURE. DECISIONS OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE ON THIS ISSUE WILL BE FINAL.
12. THE USE OF AI TO CREATE OR ENHANCE AN ENTRY IN ANY CATEGORY IS PROHIBITED. AN EXAMPLE OF ENTRIES NOT ALLOWED, BUT NOT LIMITED TO ARE ...AI GENERATED POETRY, AI GENERATED PHOTOGRAPHS, AI ELECTRONIC MEDIA, AI ARTWORK AND 3D PRINTING. IT IS OUR INTENT TO SHOWCASE BEEKEEPERS' TALENTS, CREATIVITY, AND ORIGINALITY IN THE CULTURE OF BEEKEEPING.

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AWARDS

1. IT IS THE INTENTION THAT RIBBONS WILL BE GIVEN IN ALL CATEGORIES EVEN IF THERE IS ONLY ONE ENTRY IN THE CATEGORY. ENTRY INTO A CATEGORY DOES NOT GUARANTEE AN AWARD. IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AN AWARD THAT ENTRY MUST BE WORTHY OF PLACEMENT. A JUDGE MAY, IN HIS OR HER SOLE DISCRETION, MAKE OR WITHHOLD THE AWARD OF ANY GIVEN PRIZE(S) OR PLACEMENT(S) IN ANY CATEGORY OVER WHICH SAID JUDGE OFFICIATES. THE DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES ARE FINAL. EXHIBITORS FOUND WILLFULLY CHEATING, OR PURPOSEFULLY ALTERING OR DISFIGURING AN ENTRY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING THE VALIDITY OF JUDGING WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE CONTEST, AS WELL AS FROM ANY FUTURE HONEY SHOWS SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION/CONFERENCE FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN THREE (3) YEARS.

RIBBONS

1. RIBBONS WILL BE AWARDED TO ALL FIRST THROUGH THIRD PLACE WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY, AND TO BEST IN SHOW WINNERS.

APPEALS

1. AFTER THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS: ANY EXHIBITOR MAY MEET WITH THE CATEGORY JUDGE TO DISCUSS THEIR ENTRY AND ASK QUESTIONS. AN EXHIBITOR MAY APPEAL THE BENCH JUDGE'S RULING CONCERNING THEIR OWN EXHIBIT IN INSTANCES WHERE THE EXHIBITOR BELIEVES THE BENCH JUDGE MISINTERPRETED OR MISAPPLIED A RULE IN REGARD TO THE JUDGING OF THEIR EXHIBIT. THE PRESIDING JUDGE, AFTER HEARING BOTH SIDES AND EXAMINING THE RULES AND THE EXHIBIT AT ISSUE MAY, AS HE OR SHE DEEMS APPROPRIATE, UPHOLD, REVERSE, OR AMEND THE DECISION,

AWARD(S), AND/OR OFFICIAL RECORD IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO AFFECT THE MOST JUST RESULT AVAILABLE. THE DECISION OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE IS FINAL.



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