

NGC Flower Show Achievement Awards - Procedure

An NGC Flower Show Achievement Award is the recognition given to an NGC member organization for its sponsorship of a superior flower show. NGC Flower Show Achievement Awards are listed in *The National Gardener* (www.gardenclub.org) in odd-numbered years with changes noted in even-numbered years. NGC member or affiliate clubs wishing to apply for these awards must contact their State Awards Chairman or designated representative, such as State Flower Show Awards Chairman, State Evaluations Chairman, State NGC Awards Chairman, or IA Awards Chairman, for forms and procedure.

NGC Flower Show Awards are non-competitive. Books of Evidence are NOT compared to or judged against one another; like an exhibit at a Flower Show, Books of Evidence are judged on their own merit. If the Flower Show scores 95 or more points, it will be honored with an NGC Flower Show Achievement Award.

Award year is January 1 through December 31.

A. General Procedure for Club/s

1. State or IA country designated chairman must be notified of the club/s' or organization/s' intent to apply for an NGC Flower Show Achievement Award six (6) weeks in advance allowing time for evaluating judges to be selected by an impartial state chairman or designate from the list of invited judges. **Selection of evaluators is never made by the flower show sponsor/s.**
 - a. Two (2) weeks prior to the show, designated state or IA country chairman sends NGC Flower Show Achievement Award Application Form and Show Data Form, along with the names of the evaluating panel/s to the show sponsoring organization.
 - b. The sponsoring organization provides copies of the appropriate *NGC Flower Show Evaluation Point Scoring Form* to members of the evaluating panel/s, as well as self-addressed stamped envelopes for returning the evaluation form to the designated state or IA country chairman.
2. Letter of intent must include the name of the sponsoring organization, address for mailings, show date/s, location and theme, and names and addresses of judges judging the show.
3. Each flower show is eligible for only one (1) NGC Flower Show Achievement Award. Exception: An Adult NGC member club whose flower show includes a Youth Section eligible for a Youth Achievement Award may apply for an Adult Achievement Award and a Youth Achievement Award. If a club sponsors more than one (1) Standard Flower Show per calendar year, each show is eligible for an award.
4. Upon completion of judging, show committee must provide the evaluating panel with show data including the number of club members or clubs involved, percentage of club/organization participation, and the number of exhibits in each Division.
5. If the show has qualified for Flower Show Achievement Award consideration, the show sponsors must prepare and submit a Book of Evidence, in a manner designated by the NGC Awards Committee and found on the NGC Website, with statistics, schedule, description, pictures and evidence of publicity to the state designated chairman or IA chairman before the state or IA country deadline.
6. Each state evaluates the Books of Evidence submitted. **Any and all Books of Evidence scoring 95 points or more at the state level may be submitted to the designated NGC Flower Show**

Achievement Awards chairman by the January 15 deadline. *This means a state or IA country may submit unlimited number of Books of Evidence for a particular Flower Show Achievement Award. As stated above, all awards are non-competitive, and this allows NGC to recognize all top quality flower shows.* IA show sponsors submit their Books of Evidence to the IA Awards Chairman.

7. All Book of Evidence evaluations will be returned if the sponsoring organization provides self-addressed stamped envelope or mailer. Return mailers may be included in the submitted Book of Evidence. Judges' evaluations will not be returned, but summarized with the final evaluations.

B. Procedure to be Followed by Evaluating Judges

1. Evaluators are responsible for upholding NGC's high standards, scoring wisely, responsibly and objectively.
2. Only the selected evaluating judges must submit an evaluation form to the designated State Chairman. However, all other judges are free to evaluate the show, but their evaluations are NOT submitted to the state.
3. An evaluator's initial responsibility prior to the show date is to study the *Flower Show Evaluation Point Scoring Form* and to carefully review the flower show schedule for conformance to the *Handbook for Flower Shows*.
4. The day of the show:
 - a. Upon completion of judging assignments, the judge must consider all aspects of the show according to the *Flower Show Evaluation Point Scoring Form*. (Form 30, 31, 32)
 - b. For a complete and fair evaluation, evaluators may confer with other judges not serving on the evaluating panel, especially in areas not judged by the evaluator.
 - c. The score of the three (3) evaluating judges must average 95 or more points for the show to be considered for an NGC Flower Show Achievement Award.
 - d. Evaluating panel must confer on observations and arrive at an approximate overall average score for the show **before** leaving the show site, though evaluator's individual scores may vary.
 - e. The Panel must inform the General Show Chairman if the show scores a minimum of 95 points. Actual scores are not given to the show committee at any time. If the show fails to score an average of 95 points, a brief explanation of the deductions should be given to the General Show Chairman.
 - f. Each panel member shall complete an evaluation form **within one week** of the Flower Show including written descriptive and specific comments, sign the form and return the form to the appropriate state or IA country designated chairman. Evaluations are to be kept in strict confidence and not freely discussed with others or shown to club members.

C. Compilation of the Book of Evidence – Information on preparing a Book of Evidence for a Flower Show Achievement Award, including format and deadlines, can be found on the NGC Website.

D. Determination of Final Score for the Flower Show – Flower Shows must score 95 points or more at the national level in order to be recognized. The Book of Evidence counts for 25 points, with the local judges' average evaluation pro-rated for the other 75 points. The actual point system can be found on the NGC Website.