

INTERNATIONAL WILDFOWL CARVERS ASSOCIATION



2014 IWCA

RULES

SHOWS

PROGRAMS

DIRECTORS

CHAMPIONSHIPS

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A Message from the President

Greeting to all IWCA Members,

It is hard to believe that a year has gone by since I became President of this great organization. We have made some real strides this year, improving communications with affiliate member clubs, along with experiencing better involvement. An encouraging sign.

There have been significant changes made in the IWCA Style Decoy rules, with the hope of attracting more competitors to this popular division.

In 2014 there will be renewed focus on stressing complete compliance to the IWCA rules as written, by the affiliate shows and those judging declared IWCA divisions and classes at their events. Adherence to the rules in the judging process will insure continuity in the results from one show to the next.

Remember, the IWCA is your organization and we need input from you as individual members and affiliate members to keep this organization vibrant. Let me hear from you if you have any new ideas. We are always in need of volunteers to help with the organizational duties of the IWCA. If you can help out, we'd like to hear from you!

I wish you all a happy and successful year and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Heck Rice - President

2014 IWCA ANNUAL BOARD MEETING MARCH 7th, 2014 ~ 8:00AM

**HOLIDAY INN - Cleveland-Strongsville (Arpt)
15471 Royalton Rd, Strongsville, OH 44136**

The 2014 IWCA Annual Board Meeting will be held in Strongsville, Ohio on March 7th at 8:00AM in conjunction with the Ohio Decoy Collectors and Carvers Show.

IWCA Affiliate Show Reps are encouraged to attend. Individual members are encouraged to contact their appropriate Representative with ideas and concerns regarding IWCA business. Your Representative will bring your concern to the board.

Our President, Heck Rice may also be contacted:

**P.O. Box 115
Hanover, VA 23069
804-537-5033**

yellowdogdecoys@myway.com

History of IWCA

International Wildfowl Carvers Association, better known as IWCA, is the outgrowth of a group of carvers from all parts of the country who met in 1986 to find a way to establish competition rules and procedures that would be uniformly fair for all carvers.

The organization was officially formed in 1988 with a mission to promote development of wildlife art and the uniquely American art of the decoy. In 1999, the rules were expanded to include fish carving. In 2001, canvas decoy rules were added and in 2002, working decoy rules were adopted. In 2007 an IWCA Style Shorebird Championship was added and in 2009, the first IWCA Young Guns Championship was held.

The goals of the IWCA continue to be:

- ◆ **Maintenance of uniform standards, procedures and records.**
- ◆ **Support of carving competitions for wildfowl and fish.**
- ◆ **Development of educational programs related to wildfowl and fish art.**

For the better part of a quarter century the IWCA has been a defining force in the wildfowl carving world. With the goal of a dynamic set of IWCA Guidelines & Rules reached, the IWCA continues its dedication to the promotion of wildfowl carving through its various affiliate shows and sponsored events.

The IWCA also focuses on introducing new carvers to decoy and wildfowl carving, with an accent on youth, through its educational programs and grants.

Through the use of technology and the Internet, the IWCA is employing a new approach in management and communications to reduce operational costs and more effectively network with its membership.

IWCA on the Web! <http://IWCA.com>

Check out the IWCA website showcasing our IWCA Affiliate Member Shows , show results, and show photos! The website is also filled with useful news and carving information. Much of what we post on the site comes from our affiliate member events and individual carvers.

The IWCA website includes features like these, just to name a few...

- ◆ **Photo Gallery** shares photos of carvings at various shows.
- ◆ **Gallery of Carvers** shares photos of carvings submitted by carvers.
- ◆ **How-To articles** on carving techniques and materials submitted by carvers.
- ◆ **Contest Rules** contains the latest version of all rules for various divisions along with judging guidelines.
- ◆ **Reference Gallery** contains photos of various species in a variety of poses.
- ◆ **Links** to other sites for carving supplies, other shows, and publications.

Find the latest IWCA Show Results and IWCA News on the website. Be sure and submit your news, articles and your own carvings for display in the Gallery of Carvers and the Photo Gallery today!



<http://Facebook.com/IWCA>

IWCA MISSION STATEMENT

The International Wildfowl Carvers Association is a 501 (c) (3) non profit charitable organization that promotes wildfowl and fish art including the art of traditional wildfowl carving.

IWCA GOALS

IWCA seeks to complete its mission through the following goals:

- ◆ Support of carving competitions for wildfowl and fish.
- ◆ Development of educational programs related to wildfowl and fish art.
- ◆ Development of uniform standards, procedures and records keeping for carving competitions for wildfowl and fish.

IWCA MEMBERSHIP

1. Club membership \$250.00 annually.
2. Sponsor membership \$100.00 annually.
3. Individuals \$15.00 annually, \$60.00 for 5 years, and \$120.00 Life.

Participants in all IWCA competition divisions must be current members. Dues are payable as of January 1st of each year to:

IWCA
2603 Silverwood Way
Paso Robles, CA 93446

The IWCA's Governing Body The Board of Directors

The IWCA is run by and for carver members and shows. Each show provides one board member with one vote. In addition, members at large are selected to represent special interests such as Novice/ Intermediate and Open carvers, Hunting and Working Decoy carvers, Fish and Fish Decoy carvers. Representatives from commercial ventures related to wildfowl and fish carving may also be invited to serve on the board.

An Annual Board Meeting is held to review rules, programs, carver concerns and other business. During this meeting, officers are elected.

Proposals and suggestions for change, new programs, or concerns, should be directed to Heck Rice at yellowdogdecoys@myway.com. Membership updates and membership questions should be directed to Darlene Westbrook at darwestbrock@gmail.com.

IWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Chairman of the Board:

Bob Sutton **562-431-4003**

6442 E. El Paseo Street
Long Beach, CA 90815
bobsutton@verizon.net

President:

Heck Rice **804-537-5033**

P.O. Box 115
Hanover, VA 23069
yellowdogdecoys@myway.com

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darwestbrock@gmail.com

IWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chesapeake Challenge:

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Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show:

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Core Sound Waterfowl Museum:

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Core Sound Decoy Carvers Guild:

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East Carolina Wildlife Arts Festival:

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Ohio Decoy Collectors & Carvers Show:

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15711 SR 339
Waterford, OH 45786
<mailto:nialwh@roadrunner.com>

Oregon Waterfowl Festival:

Jerry Harris **503-884-7905**
648 SE Cypress Ave
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grich912@aol.com

Rappahannock River Decoy Carvers & Collectors Guild:

Chuck Robinson **804-261-3708**
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St. Clair Flats Decoy Carving Show:

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Hunting/Working Decoy Representative:

Nial Wheeler 740-984-4526

15711 SR 339
Waterford, OH 45786
nialwh@roadrunner.com

2014 IWCA AFFILIATE MEMBER SHOWS

East Carolina Wildlife Art Festival

February 7-9, 2014 Washington, North Carolina
Contact: Joann Sullivan/John Elliott 252-975-3328
E-mail: jsullivan55@suddenlink.net

<http://ECWGuild.com>

California Open Wildlife Art Festival

February 14-16, 2014 San Diego, California
Contact: Del Herbert 619-421-1034
E-mail: delsdcoys@hotmail.com

<http://PSWA.net>

Ohio Decoy Collectors and Carvers Show

March 7-9, 2014 Strongsville, Ohio
Contact: Carole & Richard Kmetz 419-798-127

<http://ODCCA.net>

Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show

March 15, 2014 White Stone, Virginia
Contact: Heck Rice 804 537-5033
E-mail: yellowdogdecoys@myway.com

<http://RRWS.org>

World Fish Carving Championship

May 5-9, 2015 (every other year) Springfield, Illinois
Contact: Ann Stewart 800 783-7266

<http://Taxidermy.net/wtc>

Oregon Waterfowl Festival Decoy Carving Contest

June 27-29, 2014 St. Helens, Oregon
Contact: Jerry Harris 503-884-7905
E-Mail: grich912@aol.com

<http://OregonWaterfowlFestival.com>

St. Clair Flats Decoy Carving Show

August 9, 2014 Casco Township, Michigan
Contact: Lou Tisch 586-790-2678
E-Mail: duckguylsb@juno.com

<http://SCFWA.net>

Columbia Flyway Wildfowl Show

September 13-14, 2014 Vancouver, Washington
Contact: Don Baiar 360-892-6738
E-Mail: dbaiar@comcast.net

<http://ColumbiaFlywayWildlifeShow.com>

Chesapeake Challenge

October 11, 2014 Ward Museum Salisbury, Maryland
Contact: Rich Smoker 410-742-4988 ext. 106 or 114
E-Mail: rwsmoker@msn.com

<http://WardMuseum.org>

Core Sound Decoy Festival

December 8-9, 2014 Harkers Island, North Carolina
Contact: Dan Nicholson 252 241-6302
E-Mail: dnicholson@21newsomball.com

<http://DecoyGuild.com>

2014 IWCA CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

IWCA STYLE DECOY CHAMPIONSHIP

The IWCA Style Decoy Championship will return in 2015.

Qualification period for the 2015 IWCA Style Decoy Championship begins: July 15, 2013

There is no qualification required for the IWCA Style Shorebird Decoy, the IWCA Working Decoy, or or the IWCA Canvas Decoy Championship Competitions.

Members of all carving levels may enter.

2014 IWCA STYLE SHOREBIRD DECOY CHAMPIONSHIP

Date: March 8, 2014

Location: [Ohio Decoy Carvers & Collectors Show](#)

Strongsville, Ohio

1st Best of Show - \$200

2nd Best of Show - \$100

3rd Best of Show - \$50

Contact: Nial Wheeler

740-984-4526

E-Mail: nialwh@roadrunner.com

Mail-in entries will be accepted.

2014 IWCA WORKING DECOY CHAMPIONSHIP

Date: June 28, 2014

Location: [Oregon Waterfowl Festival](#) St. Helens, Oregon

1st Best of Show - \$200

2nd Best of Show - \$100

3rd Best of Show - \$50

Contact: Jerry Harris

503-884-7905

E-Mail: mailto:grich912@aol.com

Mail-in entries will be accepted.

2014 IWCA CANVAS DECOY CHAMPIONSHIP

Date: March 15, 2014

Location: [Rappahannock River Waterfowl Festival](#)

White Stone, Virginia

1st Best of Show - \$200

2nd Best of Show - \$100

3rd Best of Show - \$50

Contact: Chuck Robinson

804-261-3708

E-Mail: CWRAppraisals@aol.com

Mail-in entries will be accepted.

2014 IWCA YOUNG GUNS CHAMPIONSHIP

Date: December 8, 2014

Location: [Core Sound Decoy Festival](#) Harkers Island, North Carolina

Contact: Dan Nicholson 252-241-6302

E-Mail: dnicholson@c21newsomball.com

- ◆ Open to all carvers 17 years old and under.
- ◆ **Three age Groups: 11 and under, 12-14, and 15-17**
- ◆ Entries must be carved and painted by the entrant. Entries may be made of wood, cork, or stretched canvas.
- ◆ Decoy Categories will be judged for simplicity, durability and practicality. No fragile parts. Simple painting schemes encouraged. Decoys will be floated and must self-right except in the 11 and under group.
- ◆ Bench Category will be judged as Decorative Non-floating including waterfowl, songbirds, shorebirds, birds of prey, game birds and fish. Habitat is not required.
- ◆ Judges may not judge the carving of a student or relative.

Mail-in entries will be accepted.

IWCA NOVICE & INTERMEDIATE DECORATIVE CARVER OF THE YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Results are based on points accrued at IWCA Shows from January 2013 through December 2013.
2. Novice and Intermediate Decorative Carver of the Year contests include all IWCA decorative divisions including fish.
3. Awards will be given for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place carvers with the highest cumulative points for entries in IWCA sanctioned shows.
4. The highest number of points an entry wins in each show will be recorded.

Points will be awarded as follows:

Best of Show 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (40, 35, 30 points)

Category 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (20, 15, 10 points)

5. Carver must be a paid IWCA member at the time of entry to be awarded points.
6. The IWCA decorative rules will apply when judging.
7. The official show results from each IWCA show will be used to compile the points awarded.

The 2014 IWCA Decorative Carver of the Year Awards Presentation will be hosted on February 14th, 2014 at the [PSWA California Open Wildlife Art Show](#) in San Diego, California.



YOUTH INSTRUCTOR GRANTS

Individual member donations have allowed the IWCA to provide Youth Instructor Grants each year. These grants are intended to help underwrite the cost of providing carving and painting instruction to our youth. Successful applicants will receive up to \$200.

Applications are available by contacting Heck Rice by e-mail at yellowdogdecoys@myway.com or by phone at 804 537-5033.

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

The IWCA provides up to three free seminars or helps underwrite the costs of free seminars up to \$200 each year. Seminars cover a variety of subjects such as the carving of wood, cork and other materials, painting simple working decoys to techniques for advanced decorative carvings. Well-known carvers who compete regularly throughout the U.S. and Canada conduct all seminars.

If you or an organization to which you belong are interested in having the IWCA provide a seminar or underwrite a portion of the costs, contact Heck Rice by e-mail at yellowdogdecoys@myway.com or by phone at 804 537-5033.



IWCA SPONSORS, DONORS, SUPPORTERS

The IWCA is grateful to its Sponsors, Donors, and Supporters for enabling the fulfillment of our mission in 2014.

Sponsors (\$200 or More)

Bob O'Neill
Garrett Secord
Pacific Southwest Wildlife Art (PSWA)

Donors (\$100 -\$199)

Bob Hembree
Thomas Lenweaver
Robert J. Lund

Supporters (Up to \$100)

John Andrykovich	Kody Hansen
Bob Berman	George Kahl
Bruce Bauer	Evelyn McDowell
Larry Fell	Charles Ray
Dieter Goltz	Joe Satake
Andrew Hansen	Earl (Bud) Shell

YOUNG GUNS DONORS

Gary Joe Bryan \$200
Garret Secord \$100
Bob Sutton \$100
Kathy Webster \$25

THANK YOU!

IWCA ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR CLUB

In 2011, the IWCA established the "One Thousand Dollar Club", for those members who might consider contributing in a bigger way.

The IWCA is very much in need of funds so it may continue offering the programs which have become so popular amongst carvers over the decades. The "One Thousand Dollar Club" is a way to support the art form you have enjoyed and benefited from over the years.

This is how it works. You can make a one-time donation of \$1,000, or you can make a commitment to reach the goal of \$1000 in contributions within a given number of years within your own timetable. Whether it is a one-time contribution or an incremental donation over time, the IWCA is so grateful to receive it!

For those who have already been making yearly donations, you will start with a credit amount toward your goal of \$1000. If you would like to join the club, we will look up your donations and credit the donation amount toward your "One Thousand Dollar Club" contribution.

For example, if you have contributed \$400 over the past four years, the balance required for you to become a One Thousand Dollar Club Contributor would be an additional \$600, which can be spread out over time to make it easier for you to participate.

Like many other non-profit (all volunteer) groups, we continue to exist only through your interest and generosity. Remember, we are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, and your contribution is not only appreciated, it is also tax deductible.

Fulfilled \$1000 Club Members

Judy Caldwell

Keith Levoir

Bob O'Neill

Pacific Southwest Wildlife Art (PSWA)

Neal Stoneback

2013 Contributing \$1000 Club Members

Gary Joe Bryan

Thomas Lenweaver

Wildfowl Carving MAGAZINE

The Ultimate Resource for Wildfowl Carvers!

Decoys, songbirds, raptors—WILDFOWL CARVING MAGAZINE covers them all. Don't miss the opportunity to subscribe to the first and only magazine devoted exclusively to bird carving.

Here's just a sampling of the information you'll get in every issue:

- The latest techniques from the world's top carvers
- In-depth reference material
- Exclusive patterns
- Detailed painting instructions



Published four times a year, WILDFOWL CARVING MAGAZINE is the leading resource for artists in the field of wildfowl carving. Each information-packed issue provides you with start-to-finish projects, detailed photographs, and informative articles on topics that wildfowl carvers need to know. Because we always strive to push wildfowl carving to new heights, we just keep getting better.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR IWCA MEMBERS:

Get a new subscription for only \$29.95 (regular price \$37.95).*

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<http://www.wildfowl-carving.com>

INTERNATIONAL WILDFOWL CARVERS ASSOCIATION

GUIDELINES AND RULES

FOR WILDFOWL AND FISH DIVISIONS

Approved November 30,2013

IWCA will conduct a review of competition rules every two years.

(2015 is the next rule review year.)

Section 1. IWCA COMPETITION LEVELS

1. **Junior** - Carvers 17 years of age or under.

1.2. **Novice** - Carvers who have not won two Best of Shows in the Novice level in any participating IWCA Competition.

1.3. **Intermediate** - Carvers who have won two Best of Shows in the Novice level in any participating IWCA Competition.

1.4. A carver who has previously won two Best of Shows in the Intermediate level in any participating IWCA Competition may not enter at the Intermediate level after the end of that calendar year.

1.5. **Amateur** - For shows electing to combine the novice and intermediate levels, the term amateur level may be used.

1.6. **Open** - Carvers who have won two Best of Shows in the Intermediate level at any participating IWCA Show or Competition.

1.6.1. "Open" may also refer to a division "open" to carvers of all levels. Typically, these divisions have no Novice or Intermediate levels and are not subject to advancement rules.

Section 2. ADVANCEMENT RULES

2.1. A carver who wins two Best of Shows in the Novice level at any participating IWCA Show or competition will be advanced to the Intermediate level at the end of that calendar year. Two Best of Shows only applies when there are 10 or more entries in the division.

2.2. A carver who wins two Best of Shows in the Intermediate level at any participating IWCA Show or Competition will be advanced to the Open level at the end of that calendar year.

2.3. A carver can elect at any time to move up in level. Once a carver has voluntarily advanced to the next level of competition, that carver may not re-enter at the former lower level.

2.4. IWCA will review a challenged carver's level and may revise the assigned level as a result of that review.

2.5. A carver's level is the same for birds and fish.

2.6. For Decoy Carvers (non-decorative): Decoy carvers that have attained the Open level in decorative carving or won two best of shows as an open level decoy carver, may not drop down a level when competing in the decoy divisions (IWCA Style, Working, Canvas, Shorebirds). However, a decoy carver who has not attained decorative open class or is an open decoy carver, may elect to enter at the Novice, Intermediate, Novice/intermediate, or Amateur divisions. Once two best of shows have been won, the carver must advance to the next level.

2.7. A carver may submit a request to IWCA asking to be set back one level, if the carver feels he/she has been advanced to a level in which he/she feels he/she is not qualified to compete. The IWCA determination will be final.

Section 3. IWCA CATEGORIES AND SPECIES

3.1. General Guidelines

- 3.1.1. If there are three or more entries of the same species in the miscellaneous category, or in any category, where they are not specified as a class, a separate class will be opened to judge these entries.
- 3.1.2. Each show will retain the right to establish species classes under the categories.
- 3.1.3. Ribbons will be awarded in all advertised classes.

3.2. IWCA Categories

- 3.2.1. **Puddle or Marsh Duck**—Includes all species of mallard, black duck, pintail, widgeon, gadwall, teal, wood duck, and shoveler.
- 3.2.2. **Diving Ducks**—Includes all species of canvasback, redhead, scaup, ringneck, golden-eye, bufflehead, ruddy duck (summer or winter), and hooded merganser.
- 3.2.3. **Sea Ducks**—Includes all species of smew, long-tailed duck (previously old squaw), scoter, eider, harlequin, red-breasted merganser, and common merganser.
- 3.2.4. **Geese and Swans**—Includes all species of geese, including brant and swans.
- 3.2.5. **Confidence**—Includes all species of gulls, loons (summer or winter), coots, gallinules, and all others.
- 3.2.6. **Songbirds (Decorative)**—Blackbirds, buntings, chickadees, creepers, crows, cuckoos, dippers, finches, flycatchers, gnatcatchers, goatsuckers, grosbeaks, hummingbirds, jays, kingfishers, kinglets, larks, nuthatches, orioles, parrots, pipits, shrikes, sparrows, starlings, swallows, swifts, tanagers, thrashers, thrushes, titmice, vireos, warblers, waxwings, woodpeckers, wrens.
- 3.2.7. **Shorebirds and Wading Birds (Decorative and Decoy)**—Avocets, cranes, curlews, dowitchers, dunlins, flamingos, godwits, herons, ibises, knots, limpkins, oystercatchers, plovers, rails, sandpipers, snipe, stilts, storks, tumstones, whimbrels, willets, yellowlegs.
- 3.2.8. **Seabirds (Decorative)**—Auks, boobies, cormorants, frigates, grebes, gulls, jaegers, pelicans, petrels, puffins, shearwater, skimmers, terns, tropicbirds.
- 3.2.9. **Upland Game Birds (Decorative)**—Doves, grouse, pheasants, pigeons, quail, turkeys, woodcock.
- 3.2.10. **Birds of Prey (Decorative)**—Eagles, falcons, hawks, owls, vultures.
- 3.2.11. **Saltwater Fish**—Classes may include up to four types of saltwater fish.
 - 3.2.11.1. **Tropical Reef Fish**: Includes wrasses, butterflyfish, angels, damselfish, squirrel fish, groupers, eels, and other primarily reef-dwelling species.
 - 3.2.11.2. **Offshore Game Fish**: Includes bluefish, dolphin, mahi mahi, mackerels, tunas, dories, jacks, and bullfish.
 - 3.2.11.3. **Coastal Game Fish**: Includes striped bass, bonefish, tarpon, permit, redfish, sea trout, weakfish, snook, and bonita.
 - 3.2.11.4. **Miscellaneous saltwater fish**: Includes all sharks, rays, flounder, halibut, billed fish, seahorse, etc.
- 3.2.12. **Freshwater Fish**
 - 3.2.12.1. **Game Fish**: All bass, pike, muskie, walleye.
 - 3.2.12.2. **Panfish**: Sunfish, crappie, perch, bluegill.
 - 3.2.12.3. **Trout/Salmon/Char**: Brown, rainbow, brook, cutthroat, golden, grayling, chars, and all salmon species.

3.2.12.4. **Miscellaneous Freshwater Fish:** Includes all other freshwater fish not classified elsewhere including such species as gar, sturgeon, carp, catfish, paddlefish, shad, etc.

Section 4. IWCA JUDGING CRITERIA

4.1. The following criteria will be used for all levels of competition and, unless specifically restricted elsewhere, in all divisions. All four criteria are important because they overlap and build on each other. In order for a piece to reach its fullest potential, it must succeed in all four areas simultaneously.

4.2. Craftsmanship refers to the technical skills involved in bird carving: sculpting, painting, and finishing techniques. The execution of craftsmanship will be looked for in the subject, any habitat, accessories, and the base itself, if there should be one. Good craftsmanship should be consistent throughout the entire piece.

4.3. Accuracy involves the correctness of a piece from a scientific perspective. Size, shape, color, pattern, location, number, are the concepts important here. Anything accompanying the subject must be given the same scrutiny. Accuracy involves the natural history of the whole piece, all of its components, and the appropriateness of those components together.

4.4. Essence of the Species involves capturing the "jizz" or "gestalt" of a species. It involves a thorough knowledge of one's subject and the ability to capture an attitude in wood. Capturing the essence of your subject and giving it the spark that brings it alive.

4.5. Artistry of a piece refers to its design and composition. This is where presentation, innovation, and creativity all come into play. There should be beauty in the concept apart from the beauty of the bird itself. Line, form, content, color, mass, and movement should all be working together to create an integrated whole.

Section 5. IWCA CARVER CODE OF ETHICS

5.1. A carver is responsible for knowing and understanding all rules of the contests entered.

5.2. A carver is responsible for registration of his/her carvings at the appropriate level of competition (Open, Intermediate, Novice) and must move from level to level as the rules dictate. If a carver deliberately violates this advancement rule, he/she will be declared ineligible to enter any IWCA-affiliated show for a period of one year.

5.3. A carver shall address any questions or problems to the Show Chairman and/or the IWCA Show Representative.

5.4. A carver shall not communicate with the judges at any time during the judging process.

5.5. A carver shall not display or have a carving critiqued by a judge prior to being evaluated by that judge in competition.

5.6. If a carver solicits a judge to critique his carvings after they have been judged, he will accept the judge's comments and criticisms courteously.

5.7. Carvings should be the sole work of the contestant.

5.8. Classroom entries are allowed at the Novice level only.

5.9. Machine-duplicated bodies (blanks) are not allowed.

5.10. Cast parts are allowed at the Junior, Novice, and Intermediate levels only.

5.11. Carvers should not enter carvings to be judged by instructors or taxidermists from whose work the carving was created.

5.12. Carvings can be entered in any one show or competition one time only.

Section 6. IWCA JUDGES CODE OF ETHICS

6.1. A judge must have a copy of, have read and understand, and judge by the published rules of each IWCA Show.

6.2. Judges will examine all entries hands-on before making their selections.

- 6.3. A Judge will not communicate with anyone other than fellow Judges, Assigned Clerks, Show Chairman, and/or IWCA Representative while in judging area.
- 6.4. A judge is not allowed to enter a carving in the level he or she is judging.
- 6.5. Judges will not allow personal feelings or personal contact with the carvers to influence their decision during the judging procedure.
- 6.6. Judges will be fair and objective.
- 6.7. Judges will not judge a relative's carvings or students' carvings which he or she has hands-on work experience or given instruction.
- 6.8. Taxidermists cannot judge carvings done from the taxidermist's mounts.

Section 7. IWCA BEST OF SHOW JUDGING PROCEDURE (ALL DIVISIONS)

- 7.1. Judges select Best in Category from the first place carving in each species within that category (Marsh, Diver, etc.) When the judges select Best in Category, it will be removed and replaced with the second place carving from the same species, if there is a second.
- 7.2. Judges will then select Second in Category from the group of remaining first place (species) carvings and this second place (species) carving. If the second place (species) carving is selected as Second in Category, it should be removed to the winners' area and replaced with the third place winner from that same species.
- 7.3. Judges then select Third in Category from the remaining first place carvings (species) and this third place (species) carving.
- 7.4. A simple method of judging for the Best of Category is to always replace the carving selected with the next place winner from the same species.
- 7.5. Once the judging is completed by categories (Marsh, Diver, etc.), judges consider the first place carving from each category. They will pick Best of Show from one of these carvings and move it to the winners' area.
- 7.6. They will replace it with the second place carving from that category, and so on. Again, remember to always replace the carving selected with the next place carving from that same category.
- 7.7. It is the responsibility of the Show Chairman or the IWCA Representative to make sure a judge/chairman meeting is held to familiarize the judges with the rules.
- 7.8. It is recommended that the show competitions make reference material available for judging of all divisions. The use of smart phones, iPads and tablets to access reference materials is acceptable.

Section 8. IWCA GENERAL GUIDELINES (ALL DIVISIONS)

- 8.1. **All entrants must be current members of IWCA.**
- 8.2. A carving may not be entered in the same show twice.
- 8.3. IWCA Judging Procedures and Code of Ethics will be in effect.
- 8.4. Unless a show competition includes novice, intermediate, or amateur, the competition is open to all carving levels.
- 8.5. IWCA advancement Rules apply if show competition includes novice, intermediate, or amateur levels.

Section 9. IWCA STYLE DECOY DIVISION

- 9.1. Decoys must be made of wood, cork, or stretched canvas.
- 9.2. Machine duplicated decoys will not be allowed.
- 9.3. Texturing will be allowed by rasping, chip carving, combing, scratching, and stippling.
- 9.4. No wood burning except as a cutting tool.

- 9.5. Stoning or carving (no burning) will be allowed on the crest, tuft, or hood of any species of waterfowl with a crest, tuft, or hood as long as it remains sturdy and functional.
- 9.6. Undercut areas, wingtips, tails, and necks must not be fragile.
- 9.7. Feather groups may be simply carved (back, side pockets, rump, and breast).
- 9.8. Only primaries, tertials, (scapulars on long-tails and eiders only) and tail feathers may be individually carved.
- 9.9. Carving under the bill is allowed.
- 9.10. Inserts may be used to strengthen weak areas such as bills, tails, and crests. Open bills are allowed.
- 9.11. Feather splits may be carved.
- 9.12. Decoys must have an anchor line attachment. Keels and weights are not required. Weight of decoy will be considered in the judging.
- 9.13. Decoys will be placed in the tank with their bottoms up, pushed down to just submerged, and then released. Decoy must self-right. Test may be performed two (2) times only. Swans and geese need not self-right.
- 9.14. There will be no restrictions on painting of IWCA Style Division decoys. The carver is free to create expressive poses to capture the many attitudes of the waterfowl.
- 9.15. A decoy that checks, splits, takes on water, and/or has paint deterioration at any time prior to the completion of all decoy judging will be disqualified and forfeit any awards said decoy was awarded. All decoys in the disqualified decoy's species and category would be reordered, so as to move up one place, i.e., second becomes first, third becomes second. There will not be a third place decoy ordered up since the species would have to be re-ordered as well as the whole category re-judged.
- 9.16. There are no restrictions as to the number or gender of the entries.
- 9.17. Decoys must have no visible markings that will identify the carver and/or painter. All such marks must be covered with tape.
- 9.18. Judging for essence of species, anatomy, coloration, attitude on the water, flotation, and how well the decoy projects must be evaluated from a minimum of eight feet.
- 9.19. Ribbons will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place decoys. Honorable Mention will be awarded at the judges' discretion.

Section 10. IWCA WORKING DECOY DIVISION

- 10.1. Decoys must be made by the carver and may be made of any carving material or stretched canvas.
- 10.2. Decoys will be judged for simplicity, durability, and practicality.
- 10.3. If an entry deteriorates prior to the completion of all judging, it will be disqualified.
- 10.4. No detailed bills, carved nostrils or nails are allowed.
- 10.5. Slight mandible separation is permitted.
- 10.6. No fragile parts.
- 10.7. Primaries may be undercut as long as they are not fragile.
- 10.8. Painting schemes must be simplistic.
- 10.9. Combing, stippling, brushing, ragging, scratching, blending, and use of burnt cork are allowed.
- 10.10. No feather splits or definitions other than outlining may be used.
- 10.11. No wood burning or stoning.
- 10.12. Texturing by means of paint or paste is allowed.
- 10.13. Decoys must have a facility for an anchor line.

10.14. Decoys will be placed in the tank with their bottoms up. When the decoy is released, it must self-right with the exception that geese and swans must self-right from their side. Final judging will be at a minimum distance of 20 feet with pre-qualification prior to the birds being placed in the water. The same judges will do both final and pre-qualification judging.

10.15. These rules may apply to singles, pairs, and rigs.

10.16. Working decoys will be judged in hand (at the tank) for sturdy construction, durability, practicality of keel and ballast weights, anchor line attachments, self-righting, and flotation. Decoys that do not pass minimum structural and/or flotation requirements will be disqualified at this time.

10.17. The judges may return to the tank from the 20-foot distance but must make their final decisions from 20 feet or more.

Section 11. IWCA CANVAS DECOY DIVISION

11.1. Entries must be durable in construction and able to hold up under hunting conditions.

11.2. Decoys must self-right from any position.

11.3. Any decoy that deteriorates prior to completion of the judging of the competition will be disqualified.

11.4. Provision for anchor line attachment is required.

11.5. Painting will be simple in style. Combing, stippling, brushing, ragging, scratching, or blending is allowed.

11.6. Texturing by means of paint or paste is allowed.

11.7. Eyes are optional.

11.8. No restrictions on the bill.

11.9. No fragile parts allowed.

11.10. The body, excluding the bottom, must be completely covered with canvas or other material. The tail on Pintails and Long-tailed Ducks only may be left uncovered.

11.11. The body must be constructed of canvas over wire frame or canvas over wood slat frame. No Styrofoam bodies.

11.12. Workmanship is a major factor in this division, e.g., tight material covering with as few seams as possible.

11.13. Decoys will be judged in hand for workmanship and durability. Final judging will be from a minimum distance of 15 feet for essence of species and how well they float and project.

11.14. Categories for judging will be as follows: Puddle ducks, diving ducks, sea ducks, geese, and confidence. Species level will be at the discretion of individual shows.

Section 12. IWCA STYLE SHOREBIRD DECOY DIVISION

12.1. Decoys must be made of wood or cork. Bills can be made of any material.

12.2. Decoys are to be carved life-size and must be full-bodied.

12.3. No silhouette decoys will be allowed.

12.4. Texturing, inserts, fragile parts, and individually carved feathers will not be permitted, except for bills, where fragility will not be considered in judging. Feather groups may be simply carved (cape, scapulars, tertials, and primaries.)

12.5. Decoys must be mounted on a detachable dowel and base for display. Base and dowel (leg) are not considered when judging.

12.6. Realistic painting is expected.

12.7. Final judging for projection and likeness to species will be evaluated from a minimum distance of eight feet.

12.8. IWCA Style Shorebird Categories

- 12.8.1. Curlews, godwits, and whimbrels
- 12.8.2. Willets and yellowlegs (both)
- 12.8.3. All plovers
- 12.8.4. All sandpipers including dunlins
- 12.8.5. Turnstones, knots, and dowitchers
- 12.8.6. Avocets and stilts
- 12.8.7. Other shorebirds
- 12.8.8. Wading birds

12.9. If there are three or more entries in a category that are the same species, a separate species class may be opened if the show so desires.

Section 13. DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE FLOATING DIVISION

- 13.1. Subject must be made of wood.
- 13.2. The entry will be judged in the tank from the water line up using the live bird as a model.
- 13.3. They must float with life-like attitude, but do not have to self-right.

Section 14. DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE NON-FLOATING DIVISION

- 14.1. Subject must be made of wood.
- 14.2. Must be full-bodied except when part of an environmental composition.
- 14.3. Feet and legs must be hand carved or constructed by the carver in Open level only.

Section 15. DECORATIVE MINIATURE DIVISION

- 15.1. Subject must be made of wood.
- 15.2. Maximum subject length of eight inches from the tip of the bill to the tip of the tail.
- 15.3. The carving's length cannot exceed eight inches measured from the tip of the bill to the end of the tail.
- 15.4. Entries must be full-bodied except when part of an environmental composition.

Section 16. DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE FISH DIVISION

- 16.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 16.2. The entry will be judged using the live fish as a model.
- 16.3. Any fish that may be too large to carve may be carved at a reduced scale. For example, a 12-foot, 600-pound marlin or a 6-foot, 80-pound Chinook salmon would be carved at an appropriate reduced scale so that the minimum size is 18 inches with no maximum size. The reduced scale carvings compete as life-size and reflect the mature anatomy of the life-sized fish.
- 16.4. All carvings must support the total wood carving concept with exceptions to rules 16.7 and 16.17. Those entries composed solely of wood, or those that contain as little non-wood materials in the habitat and fish carving, will have an advantage over those entries that contain authorized substitute materials listed below.
- 16.5. No resin or plastic water is acceptable because of the toxic nature of the materials involved.
- 16.6. The use of resins, silicones, or plastics in any form is limited to the construction of artificial teeth, eye sculpturing, joint construction, and inserting fins and tail only.
- 16.7. Allowable items include: artificial eyes, fishing line, fish hooks, and metal for strength and support.

16.8. Items not allowed include: plastic, silk, or manufactured plants; cast objects such as rocks, wood, bugs, plants, fins, and gills; real rocks, sand, or manufactured lures. Gravel made with wood/plumber's putty is allowed up through the intermediate level.

16.9. Commercial blanks and rough-outs are allowed in the novice and junior levels only.

16.10. Judges will place strong emphasis in their evaluations when all elements are carved of wood, however, the following is allowed: (a) In the novice level, found, real driftwood may be used. (b) In the intermediate level, re-worked found, real driftwood may be used. (c) In the open level, all facsimile of driftwood can be carved from dimensional or non dimensional wood.

16.11. All components used to create the habitat for decorative entries must be made by the carver from wood (or metal where allowed when required for strength and support.)

16.12. Carved habitat may be coated with paint or paint additives for texturing.

16.13. Any carving found to contain non-approved materials will not be eligible for ribbons or awards.

16.14. Any method used to emboss, burn, engrave, or carve scales in wood is permitted.

16.15. Glass cases or domes must be removed for judging.

16.16. The carving must contain the carver's name and date marked on the carving. (The name will be covered with tape at registration.)

16.17. The fish carving entry consist of three elements. The base, habitat and the fish. The habitat and fish shall be carved from dimensional or non dimensional wood. The base element can be manufactured or carved from any material. i.e. Stone, metal or Plexiglas. Where the base and habitat are one in the same the rules for habitat apply. This rule applies to all classes/categories and sub categories of fish carving entries.

Section 17. DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE WALL-MOUNT FISH DIVISION

17.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.

17.2. Must be judged mounted on wall.

17.3. Must have attachments for hanging.

Section 18. DECORATIVE MINIATURE FISH DIVISION

18.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.

18.2. Entries must be one-half life-size or less with a maximum subject length of eight (8) inches.

18.3. Entries must be full-bodied carvings.

18.4. The live fish will be used as a model for judging.

18.5. Unlimited painting and texturing will be allowed.

Section 19. NATURAL FINISH INTERPRETIVE FISH DIVISION

19.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.

19.2. These entries reflect the carver's concept of movement, design, and composition. Ideally, the entry will be carved out of one piece of wood. Entry can be a carving that represents a fish, regardless of how realistic or imaginative it is. As long as at least one fish is used in the entry, other animals may also be incorporated.

19.3. Only transparent stains and clear finishes may be used.

19.4. No opaque paints will be allowed with the exception of eyes, where opaque paints may be used in place of glass eyes.

19.5. The wood grain must be visible through the finish.

19.6. Carved eyes are preferred, however, glass eyes will be allowed in novice and intermediate levels only.

19.7. Natural finish fish carvings are to be composed as to enhance the natural beauty of the wood being used.

19.8. The carver will be allowed to decide which category best suits the piece.

19.9. Bases may be painted or stained.

Section 20. NATURAL FINISH REALISTIC FISH DIVISION

20.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.

20.2. These entries are natural finish carvings that closely resemble recognizable fish and contain more details. The entries can be single or multiple carvings, and composed in an artistic setting. The carver may use separate pieces of wood for fins, grass, etc., but all finishes must be natural.

20.3. Only transparent stains and clear finishes may be used.

20.4. No opaque paints will be allowed with the exception of eyes, where opaque paints may be used in place of glass eyes.

20.5. The wood grain must be visible through the finish.

20.6. Carved eyes are preferred, however, glass eyes will be allowed in novice and intermediate levels only.

20.7. Natural finish fish carvings are to be composed as to enhance the natural beauty of the wood being used.

20.8. The carver will be allowed to decide which category best suits the piece.

20.9. Bases may be painted or stained.

Section 21. FISH SPEARING DECOY DIVISION

21.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.

21.2. Fish decoys are fishing lures designed to be jigged through a hole in the ice to lure fish within range of a spear.

21.3. All carvings must be made of wood, carved and painted by the carver entering them, and may not be entered in the same show more than once.

21.4. All decoys will be judged in the water. Line-ties are required. Fins, line-ties, eyes, and ballast may be of wood or other material appropriate to the task.

21.5. Decoys must be of sturdy construction and have durable paint or finish. Those that split, check, lose paint or show other faults in construction while judging will be disqualified.

21.6. No castings, kits, or machine duplicated carvings in whole or in part will be allowed.

21.7. Maximum size is 24 inches.

21.8. The judges and the show committee will reclassify any entry that is considered to be entered in the wrong class or division.

21.9. If there are not three or more entries in a class, the entries may be consolidated with other classes within the same division for judging. If a class has ten or more entries, it may be divided by species or size for judging.

21.10. A junior class will be established in each division for carvers 17 years of age or younger at the time of registration.

21.11. Any carver who willfully or knowingly cheats may be banned from IWCA competition for up to one year.

21.12. Although fish spearing competitions are normally conducted at an Open level only, the show may offer additional competition levels.

21.13. A show may open additional classes within a division or add other divisions to fit local or regional interests.

NOTES