

# **Rappahannock Decoy Carvers and Collectors Guild Competition Rules for 2023 Decoy Contest**

**Revised 10.26.2022**

## **General Rules Overall:**

- Entries may be entered in one class in the competition per year and not in that same class in subsequent competitions.
- The Competition Chairman will be the final authority for questions concerning any rules.

## **General Rules for Floating Division Decoys:**

- Entry must self-right from any position. The decoy will be placed in tank on its back to self-right. Only two attempts will be made for it to self-right. Youth Division entries and Swans do not have to self-right. Geese and Brant will be placed in tank on their sides.
- Each entry must have an anchor attachment.
- No machined turned decoys, or molded bodies or heads will be allowed in any Division.
- All entries must be a North American species.
- All entries must be painted in colors that represent winter plumage.
- No Flocking allowed on decoy surface.
- No hybrid species allowed.
- No "Tip-up", "Butt-up" decoys allowed.
- Judges at their discretion may, or may not, examine each decoy by holding or touching it with their hands.
- Final judging will be done 20 ft. from tank.
- Only species listed on the registration form will be judged in each Division, other species will be placed in Bench Class.

## **DIVISION RULES**

### **Rappahannock Gunning Decoy Division:**

#### **Carving Rules;**

- Wood and cork only
- No side pockets
- Primaries may be raised and undercut as long as they are not fragile.
- Lower mandible may be carved.
- No open bills.
- No detailed bills, nostrils or nails are allowed.

#### **Painting Rules;**

- No air brushing allowed.
- Major feather groups paint schemes must be simplistic.

- No feather splits or definitions other than outlining may be used.
- Stippling may be used to prevent hard lines.
- Tick marks may be painted on heads.
- Nail and nostril may be painted.
- Vermiculation may only be done with a fan brush, by tapping only.

### **Chesapeake Bay Style Decoy Division:**

#### **Carving Rules;**

- Decoys must be made of wood, cork, carved foam, or stretched canvas.
- Undercut areas, wingtips, tails and necks must not be fragile.
- Inserts may be used.
- Feather splits may be carved.
- Detail carving of the bill is allowed.

#### **Painting Rules;**

- No restrictions on painting except as previously noted in General Rules

### **Silhouette Head Buoy Decoy Division:**

#### **Carving Rules;**

- Simple and life-size as buoy will allow.
- Head width 1 inch maximum.
- Edges of head may be slightly rounded.
- No carved head detail.
- No carved eye channel.
- Eyes are optional.

#### **Painting Rules;**

- No air brushing, spray cans, dry brushing, or ragging.
- Major feather groups paint schemes must be simplistic.
- Stippling may be used to prevent hard lines.
- Tick marks may be painted on heads.
- Nail and nostril may be painted.
- Vermiculation may only be done with a fan brush, by tapping only.
- No flocking.

**Buoy Full Head Decoy Division:**

**Carving Rules;**

-No restrictions.

**Painting Rules;**

--No restrictions on painting except as previously noted in General Rules

**Canvas Decoy Division:**

**Carving Rules;**

IWCA rules apply.

**Painting Rules;**

IWCA rules apply, except as previously noted in General Rules

**Youth Floating Decoy Division:**

**Carving rules;**

-Carver must 16 years old or younger

- No restrictions.

-Decoys do not have to self-right but must float evenly on the water without listing.

**Painting Rules;**

--No restrictions on painting except as previously noted in General Rules

**Youth Floating Buoy Decoy Division:**

**Carving Rules;**

-Carver must 16 years old or younger

- Simple and life-size as buoy will allow.

-Head width 1 inch maximum.

-Edges of head may be slightly rounded.

-No carved head detail.

-No carved eye channel.

-Eyes are optional.

-Decoys do not have to self-right but must float evenly on the water without listing.

**Painting Rules;**

--No restrictions on painting except as previously noted in General Rules

**Windmill Point Foam Decoy Division:**

- **This Division is suspended for the 2023 Contest.** Decoys intended for this Division may enter the Chesapeake Bay Style Decoy Division provided the decoy entry complies with the Chesapeake Division rules.

**Youth Non-floating Decoy Division:**

- **This Division is suspended for the 2023 Contest.**

**Gunning Shorebirds Division:**

- **This Division is suspended for the 2023 Contest.** Shorebirds may be entered into the Bench Division, Shorebirds Category.

**Decorative Shorebirds Division:**

- **This Division is suspended for the 2023 Contest.** Shorebirds may be entered into the Bench Division, Shorebirds Category.

**Contemporary Antiques Division:**

- **This Division is suspended for the 2023 Contest.** Decoys may be entered into the Bench Division, Other Category.