

**Rules**  
for the  
**MONTHLY**  
**COMPETITION**



**BONSAI**  
CENTRAL COAST

## **MONTHLY COMPETITION RULES**

All club members are encouraged to participate in the monthly bench competition which consists of a ***progressive level*** competition and several ***special categories***.

### **PROGRESSIVE LEVEL COMPETITION**

The ***progressive levels*** through which an individual may progress over the years are (in sequential order):

**Novice, Intermediate and Advanced.**

A club member may commence exhibiting at a level of their choice. They must choose one level in which to be voted on & it is at this level that they will accumulate the year's total. A tree winning a level in a particular month may not be shown in that level again that year. However, the tree may be displayed in the same year at a higher level.

The Annual winner of either the Novice or Intermediate level will progress to the next highest level the following year (unless the Committee decide otherwise).

Advanced level winners continue to enter and compete in the Advanced level in future years.

### **SPECIAL CATEGORIES**

Separate to the ***progressive levels*** discussed above, the monthly competition includes several special categories:

**Mini, Kindergarten, Style, Suiseki and Kusamono**

A club member may make one entry per month in any / all of the special categories as they are totally independent of the ***progressive level*** competition.

### **CONDITIONS OF EACH LEVEL & CATEGORY**

**Wire:** All sections may have wire on branches.

Kindergarten, Novice and Intermediate may have wire on the trunk.

Advanced, Style & Mini must not have wire on the trunk.

**Ownership & Care:** Exhibited material in all sections (other than Kindergarten) may be the complete work of the exhibitor or may have been purchased in a completed form. Material that has been purchased in a completed form must have been in the exhibitor's care and possession for a minimum period of twelve (12) months before entering the competition.

**Pots:** Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Style and Mini categories must be displayed in a bonsai pot. Kindergarten must be displayed in a “training pot” (ie not a bonsai pot).

**Display Tables:** Exhibitors may elect to use a display table for any category or level. Exhibits in Advanced, Mini & Style categories will preferably include a display table.

**Soe (or Display stone):** Exhibitors may elect to incorporate a Soe for any category or level. Exhibits in Advanced & Style categories will preferably include a Soe.

**Height:** There are no height restrictions in any level or category other than the Mini category. A Mini must not exceed 20cm from the rim of the pot to the upper tip of the tree.

**Suiseki:** Suiseki must be shown in either a Suiban (shallow tray with no drainage holes) or on a Diaza (timber base carved to exactly fit the stone). Suiseki should be the predominant element & the container or surroundings should not detract from the stone. This section alternates with Kusamono throughout the year.

**Kusamono:** Should conform to the seasons. Can be single or mixed plants, in or out of a pot. Plants to be only grasses (including small bamboos, weeds, mosses, small ferns & small herbaceous plants. No trees or woody plants. Maximum height 350mm from rim of pot or display plate etc. Max size of pot / display plate etc. – 125mm wide / deep. Can be displayed with scroll, figurine or Suiseki which should be subservient to Kusamono. This section alternates with Suiseki throughout the year.

## **DISPLAYING TREES**

Exhibitors are limited to showing one tree in a level, one tree per category, and / or one (1) Suiseki or Kusamono per month. Enter your name, & details of the exhibited material in the book provided for each category or section.

## **VOTING**

The winner of each monthly category and level is decided by member voting. Members make one vote per category / level using a specific coloured token which matches the token colour on the sign name for that particular section.

## **POINT SCORE**

Points are credited each month and aggregated over the ten (10) months of the competition. The highest total points scored in each category and level will be declared the winner. First, second & third position may be awarded a trophy or certificate provided:

- (a) there was sufficient competition in that section; and
- (b) the winner has exhibited enough times during the year.

Both (a) and (b) are at the discretion of the committee.

**Scoring:** One point will be awarded for each exhibit in a category or level with a further three points for first (1<sup>st</sup>), two points for second (2<sup>nd</sup>), and one point for third (3<sup>rd</sup>)

## **CONTACTS**

Should you need help or advice on club matters at any time, please contact one of the following:

|                        |              |              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>President:</b>      | Steve Reeve  | 0417 017 447 |
| <b>Vice President:</b> | Andy Cannell | 0427 900 237 |
| <b>Secretary:</b>      | Denise Allen | 0434 940 580 |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>      | Liz Hoese    | 0402 270 728 |



**BONSAI SOCIETY**  
of the Central Coast Inc.