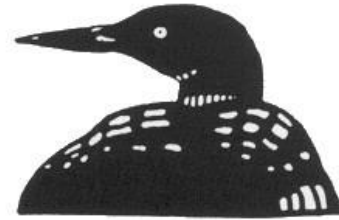


# Guidelines and Rules 2026



Hummingbirds by Robert Heath  
Winner of 2025 Prairie Canada purchase award  
and PCCA feature raffle sculpture for 2026



**38<sup>th</sup> Annual**

## **PRAIRIE CANADA CARVING SHOW and COMPETITION**

May 8 – 10, 2026

**Pembina Curling Club  
1341 Pembina Highway  
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

**Prairie Canada Carvers Association  
is supported by the Manitoba Arts Council**



## Schedule of Events – Pembina Curling Club, 1341 Pembina Hwy, Winnipeg

Thursday, May 7	Saturday, May 9	Sunday, May 10
<p>Set-up</p> <p><b>Friday, May 8</b></p> <p>4:00 – 7:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pre-registered carvings drop-off</li> </ul>	<p>7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drop-off for <b>out of city carvers, carvings must be pre-registered</b></li> </ul> <p>8:00 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshops begin</li> <li>- Details available March</li> </ul> <p>9:00 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Admission \$7.00</li> <li>- Competition and vendor areas open</li> <li>- Children's butterfly construction</li> <li>- Garage Sale opens</li> </ul> <p>12:00 noon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Judging begins</li> </ul> <p>5:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carvers reception by advance reservation only</li> <li>- Major awards presented.</li> <li>- Fundraising activities</li> <li>- Details TBA</li> </ul>	<p>9:00 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Admission \$7.00</li> <li>- Competition and vendor areas open</li> </ul> <p>10:00 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sunday seminars begin</li> <li>- Details TBA</li> </ul> <p>2:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Auction of Cocktail carvings &amp; donations</li> <li>- Presentation of Special Awards</li> <li>- Raffle Draws</li> </ul> <p>4:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Show concludes</li> <li>- pick-up carvings</li> </ul> <hr/>

**Workshops will be finalized in March. Details for each workshop will arrive by email and will be posted at [www.prairiecanadacarvers.ca](http://www.prairiecanadacarvers.ca)**

**Please note: if winning artists wish to donate their ribbons back to the show for re-use next year, please leave them at the front desk when you check out on Sunday.**

## **GENERAL COMPETITION RULES**

1. Prairie Canada recognizes that carvers may incorporate a number of techniques or interpretations in any one sculpture. The Rules committee, in conjunction with the judges, reserves the right to place a carving in a category that best fits the techniques displayed.
2. All entries must be the sole work of the entrant including painting/finishing. 3D printed, ready to paint carvings and fiberglass or composite reproductions are not permitted. Any work completed by more than one individual must be entered in Miscellaneous - Category (Q3)
3. All wildlife entries must be a species with breeding populations in North America, **(See Divisions G, H, I and J rules for exceptions)** and conform to North American standards. For Birds, sizes listed in Birds of North America: A Guide to Field Identification (Golden Field Guides) will be used as a standard.
4. Carvings must have never been previously entered in a Prairie Canada Carving Championship.
5. Each entry must be individually self-supporting (no multiple entries on a stand). Carvings deemed to be too heavy (over 11 kg or 24 lbs.) for workers or tables must be placed by the competitor on the floor where space permits. Prior advisement of very large carvings is requested.
6. Carvings must be constructed in such a fashion that there are **no loose pieces**. Unstable or loose carvings will not be accepted for entry.
7. All bird, fish, reptile and amphibian categories are life-size unless otherwise stipulated.
8. Where habitat is required it will be judged as complimentary to the overall presentation. Habitat must be made by the entrant **except for Novice** entries. Non-wood materials and natural **bases** may be used in all levels.
9. Traditional carvings (Section 3) must be entirely made of wood, bone, stone or antler, including attachments, unless exemptions are noted in either the Category criteria or the General Competition Rules. Divisions G to I are to be carved "in the round".
10. Carvings that do not meet criteria for any specific category will be entered into Division Q.
11. Material other than wood may be used to construct Wildfowl feet but these must be handmade by the entrant except at the novice level where cast feet are permitted
12. Glass eyes are acceptable in Section 1 – Waterfowl and Section 2 – Wildfowl  
Glass eyes are acceptable in Section 4, Fish, except in Division W, Natural finish fish.  
Glass eyes are **not acceptable** in Section 3 – Traditional
  - *Except* Division H, Category 1, 3 and 4 where glass eyes are acceptable
13. Carvers are welcome to place business-size cards with all competition carvings after judging is completed.
14. Competition pieces that are **for sale** must be identified on the registration form.
  - Carvers wishing to sell competition pieces must be available at the show from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.
  - All pieces must remain on display until the end of the show - 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.
  - The regular competition fee is paid at time of registration.
  - Prairie Canada will not participate in the sale but will assist in identifying sellers
  - Carvings will only be released upon authorization from the competitor.

## **SALE TABLE**

Prairie Canada will have a “Carvings for Sale” table where carvers can drop off carvings which they wish to sell. Each carving must be recorded at the sale table, along with the sale price and carver’s information. Carvings must be dropped off Friday, April 11 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Out of Town carvers may bring for sale carvings before 9:00 Saturday. **There will be maximum of 5 carvings per person.**

Carvers must plan to take a shift at the Sale Table to supervise the carvings. While there is no registration fee applied to Carvings for Sale, carvers with successful sales are invited to make a cash or carving donation to Prairie Canada in order to support the Show.

## **SPECIAL AWARDS**

### **People’s Choice Award -**

People’s Choice Award is judged by the public. Each person attending the show (carvers and spectators) will be given a ballot and may vote for their favorite piece. The winning carver will receive a \$200.00 cash award and a trophy donated by **Les Gens de Bois Woodcarving Club Inc.**

### **Carvers’ Choice Award -**

The Carvers’ Choice Award is judged only by carvers engaged in the competition. Each carver will receive a ballot and vote for their favorite piece. The winning carver will receive \$200 cash donated by **Adanac Carvers Association.**

### **Don Phalen Memorial Award -**

This award of \$200 is made to a Novice carver for the Best Working Decoy under the guidelines of Divisions B, C or D. There is no entry fee. No special registration is needed. Selection is made from registered entries. This award is sponsored by **The Carving Guild at FortWhyte.**

### **Prairie Canada Junior’s Awards -**

This award offers a \$100 first prize for the best carving by a Junior carver. Second place will receive \$50 and third place receives \$25. There is no entry fee. Entries are to be registered in Division “N”. This award is sponsored by **Cliff Zarecki.**

## **SKILL LEVEL DEFINITIONS**

Carvers who have never competed at any competition must choose a skill level at which they will compete. The competition includes 3 skill levels: **Novice, Intermediate** and **Open.**

**Novice:** Beginning carvers are encouraged to enter at this level.

Novice and Intermediate level carvers may move to the next level of competition at any time but are **required** to advance to the next level as noted below. Once an artist had chosen a level, they must continue to compete at that level or above. Prairie Canada maintains a database to track this info.

**Intermediate:** Carvers who have won 4 Show Awards at the Novice level (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Best of Show) at any competition.

**Open:** Carvers who have won 4 Show Awards at the Intermediate level (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Best of Show) at any competition.

## **AWARDS AND JUDGING PROCEDURE**

**Section 1** Waterfowl - (Divisions A to D) and **Section 2** Wildfowl - (Divisions E and F), **Section 3** –Traditional (Divisions G to L, Q) and **Section 4** - Fish (Division W, X, Y) will be judged separately using the same procedure. Separate Best of Show rosettes will be awarded for each of the four Division groupings above. Carvings in each Section will be judged and given recognition according to the skill level (Novice, Intermediate, Open). One skill level will not be judged against another.

The competition will be judged in two stages and awarded as follows:

Stage 1	Best of Category (BOC) – Ribbons for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Stage 2	Best of Show (BOS) – Larger Rosettes for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup>

Best of Category (BOC) -Carvings are first judged and ranked within their category, and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons are awarded.

Best of Show (BOS) - The 1<sup>st</sup> place Best of Show winner is selected from all the 1<sup>st</sup> BOC winners in that Section.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> place Best of Show is now selected from the remaining group of 1<sup>st</sup> BOC winners **plus** the 2<sup>nd</sup> place carving from the same Category as the 1<sup>st</sup> place Best of Show.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> place Best of Show is now selected from the remaining group of 1<sup>st</sup> BOC winners **plus** the next ranking piece from the 2<sup>nd</sup> place Best of Show.

***\*Note:** This selection procedure in Best of Show allows an outstanding 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place carving to be judged against a 1<sup>st</sup> place carving in another Category, which makes the judging equitable.*

### **Section 5 – Division M**

Within the Cocktail Division 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons will be awarded for each of the “Waterfowl”, “Wildfowl”, “Traditional”, and “Fish”. A Best of Show will be selected. from the four 1<sup>st</sup> place winners, and presented with a rosette and \$100.

### **Section 6 – Division N, and P**

Categories in each of these Divisions will be judged separately and will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons. They are not eligible to advance any further.

### **Section 6 – Division O – Purchase Competitions**

This is open to carvers of all skill levels but will not be judged by level. The 1<sup>st</sup> place carving in each Category becomes the property of the Award sponsors as described.

### **Section 7 – These Divisions will not be judged.**

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

The judging criteria are based on **craftsmanship, accuracy, essence of the species or subject, originality** and **artistry**. Judges may request that an entry be moved to a more suitable Category. Judges may choose not to issue an award in a Category. Judges may create an additional Category if deemed necessary.

The Judges' decisions are final and are not subject to review. However, individual carvers are invited to have a personal critique with those Judges attending on Sunday.

Judges are not allowed to compete in the section of the competition for which they are judging. E.g. If judging wildfowl, they could only enter the waterfowl, traditional or fish section. Judges are invited to enter the cocktail carving competition.

Sponsors of the purchase awards are invited to participate in the judging of their respective awards.

## **COMPETITION FEES**

		<b><u>FEES</u></b>
<b><u>Section 1-4</u> – Waterfowl &amp; Wildfowl, Traditional, Fish</b>	<b>Divisions A – L, W,X, Y</b>	
1 <sup>ST</sup> Carving		\$15.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> carvings		\$ 8.00
Additional carvings		FREE
<b><u>Section 5</u> – Cocktail Carvings</b>	<b>Division M</b>	No fee
<b><u>Section 6</u> – Special Competitions</b>	<b>Division N (Juniors)</b>	No fee
<b><u>Section 6</u> – Purchase Awards Fees</b>	<b>Division O</b>	<b><u>FEES</u></b>
Category 1	Prairie Canada Award	No fee
Category 2	Jim Richardson Antique Bluebill Decoy Award	\$20.00
Category 3	Richard Whittom Duck Head Award	\$15.00
Category 4	Carrie Braden Single Feather Award	\$15.00
Category 5	AAE Tech Services Brook Trout Award	\$20.00
Category 6	Winnipeg Building & Decorating Rainbow Trout Award	\$20.00
Category 7	DKB Dental Corp. Belted Kingfisher Award	\$20.00
<b><u>Section 7</u> – 50/50 Auction and donated carvings</b>	<b>Division T and U</b>	
All Carvings		No fee

## **SECTION 1 – WATERFOWL**

### **Decorative Water Birds**

- Full detailing, texturing and painting to the best of the carver's ability is the standard
- Entries with more than one bird on a base will be considered as one entry.
- Live bird likeness will be typical for judging

#### **Division A Decorative Water birds – life size, floating**

Category 1	Puddle Ducks
Category 2	Diving Ducks
Category 3	Geese and Swans, Confidence, Shorebirds

- Birds must float with life-like attitude but do not have to self-right.

#### **Division AA Decorative Water birds – non-floating (ducks, geese, swans, & shorebirds)**

Category 1	Water bird – life size, flat bottomed,
Category 2	Water bird – mid-sized (one-half size to life size), flat-bottomed,
Category 3	Water bird with habitat – life size
Category 4	Water bird with habitat – miniature (one-half size or less to maximum of 8” (including bills, wings and tails))
Category 5	Water bird with habitat – mid size (too large for category 4 and not life size)

### **Decoys**

- Decoys must be made of wood, cork or stretched canvas.
- Construction must be sturdy and suitable for use as hunting decoys.
- Decoys that are floated must have facility for an anchor line attachment and must self-right when submerged bottom up and released. Geese and swans will be self-righted from the side.
- Paint and tack eyes are as acceptable as glass eyes.
- Judging of decoys will be done from a distance. With construction judging will be done in hand.
- Painting and finishing must be durable. Any carving that loses paint, checks or cracks will be disqualified.

#### **Division B Traditional Gunning Life-size Decoy**

Category 1	Puddle Ducks – floating
Category 2	Diving Ducks – floating
Category 3	Geese and Swans, Confidence, and Shorebirds – floating
Category 4	Ducks, Geese and Swans, Confidence, and Shorebirds – non-floating

- Painting and finishing must be simple and easily repaired. Finishes such as combing and stippling are acceptable.

#### **Division BB Vintage Style Life-sized Decoy – non-floating**

Category 1	Pristine: Ducks, geese, swans, grebes, coots - flat bottom decoy style, with or without keel
Category 2	Pristine: All other birds – mounted on a simple base
Category 3	Worn: Ducks, geese, swans, grebes, coots - flat bottom decoy style, with or without keel
Category 4	Worn: All other birds – mounted on a simple base

- Vintage decoys will mimic the style, characteristics and charm of classic decoys,
- Correct anatomy will not be the standard in this Division.
- Use of alternate materials is permitted

**Division C Contemporary Gunning Life-size Decoy – floated**

Category 1	Puddle Ducks
Category 2	Diving Ducks
Category 3	Geese and Swans, Confidence, Shorebirds

- Detailed painting of individual feathers or feather groups is the norm.
- Feather splits and mandible separation are acceptable

**Division D Contemporary Life-size Decoy – non-floated**

Category 1	Puddle Ducks, Diving Ducks
Category 2	Shorebirds

- Wood burning and texturing in any form are not permitted. There are no restrictions on painting. Decorative painting detail is encouraged.
- Feather splits and mandible separation are acceptable

## **SECTION 2 – WILDFOWL**

### **Decorative Wild Birds**

- Full detailing, texturing and painting to the best of the carver's ability is the standard
- Entries with more than one bird on a base will be considered as one entry.
- Live bird likeness will be typical for judging

**Division E Decorative Life-size Non-Floating Wild bird**

Category 1	N/A
Category 2	<b>Songbirds "2" (see listing below) with habitat – full bodied</b>
Category 3	<b>Songbirds "3" (see listing below) with habitat – full bodied</b>
Category 4	Upland Game, or Birds of Prey each in a <b>habitat setting – full bodied</b>
Category 5	Wild bird Heads - head & neck portion, mounted on a base.
Category 6	Wading birds, Sea birds
Category 7	Mid-size carvings between ½ and life-size or entries too large to qualify as miniatures.

**Division F Decorative Miniature Wild bird - one-half size or less, and must fit inside an 8" cube**

Category 1	NA
Category 2	<b>Songbirds "2" with habitat (see listing below)</b>
Category 3	<b>Songbirds "3" with habitat (see listing below)</b>
Category 4	Upland Game, or Birds of Prey each in a <b>habitat setting</b>
Category 5	Wading birds, Sea birds

## GROUPING OF BIRD SPECIES – used to help place birds in correct Categories

### WATERFOWL – Section 1

Puddle Ducks	Black Duck, Gadwall, Mallard, Pintail, Shoveler, Teal, Widgeon, Whistling Ducks, Wood Duck,
Diving Ducks	Bufflehead, Canvasback, Eiders, Goldeneye, Harlequin, Long-Tailed Duck, Merganser, Redhead, Ring-Necked, Ruddy, Scaup, Scoter
Geese & Swans	Brant, Canada, Emperor Geese, Greater White-Fronted, Ross, Snow, Swans
Confidence birds	Coots, Crows, Doves, Grebes, Gulls, Herons, Loons, Swans, Terns,
Shorebirds	Avocet, Curlew, Dowitchers, Godwits, Knots, Oystercatchers, Plover, Sandpipers, Stilt, Turnstone, Whimbrel, Willet, Yellow-legs

### WILDFOWL – Section 2

Perching birds “2”	<b>Small birds</b> including: Bluebirds, Buntings, Chickadees, Crossbills, Dipper, Finches, Flycatchers-small, Gnatcatchers, Goldfinches, Honeycreepers, Hummingbirds, Juncos, Larks, Nuthatches, Phoebes, Pipits, Siskin, Sparrows, Swallows, Swifts, Tanagers, Titmice, Verdin, Vireos, Wagtails, Warblers, Wrens, Wrentits
Perching birds “3”	<b>Large birds</b> including: Anis, Blackbirds, Bobolink, Cactus Wren, Cardinals, Crows, Cuckoos, Goatsuckers, Grackles, Grosbeaks, Jays, Kingbirds, Kingfishers, Kotingas, Flycatchers-large, Magpies, Meadowlark, Mockingbirds, Orioles, Parrots, Ravens, Roadrunners, Robins, Shrikes, Starlings, Thrashers, Thrushes, Towhees, Trogons, Woodpeckers
Upland Game	Doves, Grouse, Partridge, Pheasants, Pigeons, Ptarmigan, Quail, Turkeys,
Birds of Prey	Caracaras, Eagles, Falcons, Hawks, Kites, Ospreys, Owls, Vultures
Wading birds	Bitterns, Cranes, Egrets, Herons, Spoonbills, Storks, Woodcocks,
Seabirds	Auks, Boobies, Coots, Cormorants, Frigates, Gannets, Grebes, Gulls, Jaeger, Loons, Pelicans, Petrels, Puffins, Shearwater, Skimmers, Terns,

## SECTION 3 – TRADITIONAL



Note: Traditional carvings exhibit the skill of a carver using wood to achieve aspects of form, dimension, shading and character. Inserted materials and paint are generally not permitted. Please read the requirements of each Division carefully!!  
... and review the general competition rules on page 3.

### Division G    **Natural Finish Wildlife**

Category 1	Birds
Category 2	Rusty Nail Shorebirds
Category 3	Reptiles and Amphibians
Category 4	Mammals
Category 5	Stylized or artistic
Category 6	Myth & Fantasy

- All entries may be any species worldwide.
- Carvings can have either a smooth or wood burned finish.
- Only transparent stains and clear finishes may be used. Wood grain must be visible. Opaque paints are not allowed.
- Glass eyes or other inserts are not allowed (see exception for Category 2)
- In Category 2 a nail or similar bill is permitted as well as a wire or similar leg
- Stylized or Artistic wildlife is open to any interpretation or style provided the finished carving is not a true-to-life carving.
- Myth and fantasy animals include creatures that are animal-like such as dragons, unicorns and centaurs. The majority of the carving is of animal form

### Division H    **Animals**

Category 1	Realistic - <b>painted</b>
Category 2	Caricature – paint optional, all aspects must be carved, <b>minimal extra materials allowed, example- string for a rope</b>
Category 3	Heads (Mammals only) - <b>painted and/or textured</b>
Category 4	Myth and Fantasy - <b>painted</b>

- All animals will be accepted in Category 1 and 3. These animals can be either wild or domestic.
- Carvings must be “in the round”, meaning fully 3 dimensional
- Natural perches and bases may be used.
- Category 3 - must be head and neck portion only, must be mounted on a base
- Category 1, 3 & 4 Glass eyes are permitted, but optional.
- Natural finish carvings must be placed in Division G – except for Caricatures
- Caricatures must include an exaggeration of certain features for comic effect.
- Myth and fantasy animals include creatures that are animal-like such as dragons, unicorns and centaurs. The majority of the carving is of animal form.

### Division I    **Human**

Category 1	Realistic
Category 2	Caricature
Category 3	Myth and Fantasy
Category 4	Masks

- Carvings can be painted or left natural.
- Glass eyes or other inserts are not allowed, except minimal extra materials allowed, example- string for a rope.
- Carvings must be “in the round”, meaning fully 3 dimensional
- Caricatures must include an exaggeration of certain features for comic effect.
- Myth and fantasy include figures that are humanoid such as Santas, gnomes, trolls, fairies, wizards, leprechauns and mermaids. The majority of the carving is humanoid in form.

**Division J     Relief**

Category 1	Relief
Category 2	Intarsia
Category 3	Chip

- All animals are permitted in this Division – Worldwide.
- Relief carvings may be left natural or painted.
- Chip carvings may include metal, leather or other components if they require items such as hinges, clasps or snaps (e.g. jewelry box).
- Entries must be displayed in an upright position.
- Wood burning is allowed but only for minimal highlighting. The wood burning cannot be the dominant feature of the carving.

**Division K     Natural Materials**

Category 1	Bark – Spirits and Faces
Category 2	Bark – Whimsical Houses, castles and similar
Category 3	Found Wood
Category 4	Canes and Walking Sticks
Category 5	Bone and Antler
Category 6	Stone
Category 7	Pyrography (Wood Burning)

- All entries carved in bark must be entered in Category 1 or 2 – Bark.
- Walking sticks and canes must include some element of carving. Metal or rubber may be used on the bottom as a grip as well as metal cane joints. Leather or manmade material may be used as a walking strap near the top of the piece.
- Found wood does not include carving blocks cut from trees or harvested logs, but does include cypress knees, driftwood, weathered wood, roots, fence posts or tree knots.
- Found wood must have a carving and not just be a 'piece of wood'.
- Wood burning is permitted for highlighting carvings.
- A simple stand is provided at the competition for canes and walking sticks. Unusually long, heavy or oddly shaped canes may require a special stand; otherwise they will be displayed lying on the table.
- Pyrography work must be done on a natural surface such as wood, but can be of any shape. The emphasis of the entry must be the creation of a picture using pyrographic textures, depths and color tones. **Carving is discouraged** on the finished product. The finished product can include complimentary color accent using paints, oil pencils or other such color mediums. All work must be displayed in an upright position.

**Division L     Reptiles, Amphibians**

Category 1	N/A
Category 2	Reptiles and Amphibians – realistic, painted

- Only carvings of North American species will be allowed.
- Natural perches and bases may be used.
- Carvings are to be realistic and will be judged against the live subject.
- Glass eyes are accepted,
- Natural finish carvings will be entered in Division G.
- Larger species may be reduced in size to a minimum of 45 cm (18 inches) but will be judged against the mature anatomy of the life-size species.

## **SECTION 4 – MID CANADA FISH CARVING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**General Competition Rules, Skill Levels, Awards, Judging and Registration: Please see pages 3 to 6 of this rules booklet**

### **Division W                      Natural Finish Fish**

Category 1	Natural Finish Fish – Realistic
Category 2	Natural Finish Fish – Stylized or artistic

- All entries must be of a species native to North America.
- Carvings are not required to be life-size.
- Carvings can have either a smooth or wood burned finish.
- Only transparent stains and clear finishes may be used. Opaque paints are not allowed.
- The wood grain must be visible through the finish.
- Glass eyes or other inserts are not allowed **except inserted wood fins**
- Stylized or Artistic is open to any interpretation or style provided the finished carving is not a true-to-life carving.

### **Division X                      Fish Decoys**

Category 3	Realistic decoys
Category 4	Working Decoys

- All Fish Decoys must be weighted with an attachment point and **will be swimming in this competition**. A water tank will be available for the swimming competition.
- Fish decoys may have adjusted pectoral and pelvic fin positions to accommodate decoy performance.
- Realistic Fish Decoys are a lifelike rendition of the species. Maximum detailing allowed.
- Working Fish Decoys must reflect the traditional style of decoy used for fishing through the ice as used in a spear house. Simple detailing encouraged.

### **Division Y                      Decorative Fish**

Category 5	Decorative Salmonids
Category 6	Decorative Warm-water gamefish
Category 7	Decorative Tropical Fish
Category 8	Decorative Open Ocean fish

- All carvings of North American species, both freshwater and salt water, will be accepted.
- Habitat must be made by the carver; however natural bases may be incorporated.
- Fish are to be textured and painted, and will be judged against the live subject.
- Glass eyes are accepted.
- Larger species may be reduced in size to a minimum of 45 cm (18 inches) but will be judged against the mature anatomy of the life-size species.
- Salmonids include: salmon, trout, chars, freshwater whitefishes, and graylings
- Warm-water gamefish include: walleye, pike, bass, sunfish, carp, catfish, etc.
- Tropical reef fish include: wrasses, butterflys, angels, damselfish, squirrelfish, groupers, eels, and other primarily reef-dwelling species.
- Open ocean fish include: sharks, rays, mahi mahi, tuna, etc.

## **SECTION 5 – COCKTAIL CARVINGS**

### **Division M    Cocktail Carvings - must fit into a four-inch cube (excluding base)**

Category 1	Puddle Ducks, Diving Ducks, Geese and Swans, Shorebirds, Confidence decoys
Category 2	Songbirds, Wading birds, Seabirds, Upland Game, Birds of Prey
Category 3	Traditional carvings (Section 3)
Category 4	Fish Section (Section 4)

- See **page 9** for a list bird groupings
- This category provides participants with an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities at micro-miniature carving. Entries become the property of Prairie Canada Carvers' Association and will be auctioned off during the show. All proceeds will be retained by Prairie Canada Carvers' Association to provide working funds for future competitions.
- **Do not enter if you wish to keep your carving.**
- Entries may be carved of wood, antler, bone or stone, and glass eyes may be used. If there are feet, they must be made by the entrant.
- All species of North American birds, fish and mammals are accepted.
- All Traditional carvings are accepted.
- Full detailing and painting is allowed.
- There is no limit to the number a person may enter. Skill levels do not apply.

Prairie Canada Carving Competition appreciates the support of the carving community in donating carvings to our Cocktail Auction. This continues to be a major fund raising activity for PCCA. The last auction (2024) raised a total of \$1495.00. We invite all carvers to contribute one or more pieces and to join in the fun of the auction on Sunday afternoon. Be sure to mention the auction to friends, families and collectors of your work! All entries that meet the Cocktail criteria are competing for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons. The **Best of Show cocktail carver will receive \$100**, and a **Best of Show ribbon**.

## **SECTION 6 – SPECIAL COMPETITIONS AND PURCHASE AWARDS**

### **Division N    Special Competitions**

Category 1	Junior (under 18) - any carving, any category <b>No entry fee.</b> Junior - Open to all carvers who have not reached their 18 <sup>th</sup> birthday on the day immediately preceding the opening of the show. Junior carvers can choose from any Division or Category.
Category 2	Junior 16 & 17 years – Redhead drake duck Silhouette. <b>No entry fee.</b>
Category 3	Junior 12 – 15 years - Redhead drake duck Silhouette. <b>No entry fee.</b>
Category 4	Junior 11 years & under - Redhead drake duck Silhouette. <b>No entry fee.</b>

#### **Prairie Canada Junior Cash Award – Sponsored by Cliff Zarecki**

This award offers a \$100 first prize for the **best carving** by a Junior carver. Second place will receive \$50 and third place receives \$25. There is no entry fee.

### **Division O    Purchase Awards for 2025**

Category 1	Prairie Canada Purchase Award
Category 2	Jim Richardson - Antique Bluebill Decoy Purchase Award
Category 3	Richard Whittom - Duck head Purchase Award
Category 4	Carrie Braden - Feather Purchase Award
Category 5	AAE Tech Services – Brook Trout Purchase Award
Category 6	Winnipeg Building & Decorating - Rainbow Trout Purchase Award
Category 7	DKB Dental Corp. - Belted Kingfisher with Minnow Purchase Award

**Category 1    Prairie Canada Purchase Award**

This purchase award offers \$500.00. The criteria this year is “**Best Wildlife Sculpture suitable for the 2027 Prairie Canada raffle piece**”. The carving can be from any Category of the competition, at a suggested maximum of 16” size. Carvings will be judged for merit and on its ability to generate revenue. The carving will not be floated. The entry judged as first in this category will become the property of the Prairie Canada Carvers’ Association and the carver will receive the \$500.00 prize. This carving becomes the PCCA raffle piece for next year. **Please advise your intention at registration.    There is no entry fee for this category.**

**Category 2    Jim Richardson Antique Decoy Purchase Award**

This purchase award offers \$600.00 for a **Bluebill decoy in the style of Wilfred Benham, c. 1930, Ontario.** Carvings will be judged according to Prairie Canada’s Division B guidelines, except decoys will be floated but **do not have to self-right.** *The carving is to be entered as a newly painted decoy “just off the workbench”, and must not be “antiqued”.* Winner will receive the \$600.00 prize and the carving becomes the property of Mr. Richardson. The entry fee for this category is \$20.00.

**Category 3    Richard Whittom Purchase Award**

This purchase award offers \$200.00 for the best life-size **duck head carving.** The winner will receive the \$200.00 prize and the carving becomes the property of Mr. Whittom. Entries must be the head and neck/breast portion only of the duck, and displayed on a suitable stand. The carver may choose to follow any of the guidelines of Divisions A, B, C, or D. The entry fee for this category is \$15.00.

**Category 4    Category 4    Carrie Braden Purchase Award**

This purchase award offers \$100.00 for the **best life-size bird feather.** The winner will receive the \$100.00 prize and the carving becomes the property of Ms Braden. Entries must be a feather from a North American bird, any species. The feather may be displayed in any way the carver chooses, let your imagination be your guide. The entry fee for this category is \$15.00.

**Category 5    AAE Tech Services    Fish Purchase Award**

This purchase award offers \$600.00 for the best **Brook Trout** carving. The winner will receive the \$600.00 prize and the carving becomes the property of AAE Tech. Carvings will be judged according to Prairie Canada’s Division Y guidelines. **Natural habitat and bases are permitted.** The fish must be a length of 16 to 20 inches. The entry fee for this category is \$20.00.

**Category 6    Winnipeg Building & Decorating Fish Purchase Award.**

This purchase award offers \$500.00 for the best realistic **Rainbow Trout** carving. The winner will receive the \$500.00 prize and the winning carving becomes the property of Winnipeg Building and Decorating. Carvings will be judged according to Prairie Canada’s Division Y guidelines. . **Natural habitat and bases are permitted.** The fish must be a length of 16 to 20 inches. The entry fee for this category is \$20.00.

**Category 7    DKB Dental Corp. Purchase Award.**

This purchase award offers \$600.00 for the best **Female Belted Kingfisher with minnow** carving. The winner will receive the \$600.00 prize and the winning carving becomes the property of Schramke Dental Corp. Carvings will be judged according to Prairie Canada’s Division E guidelines, but may be painted as a smoothie. **The kingfisher must be life size, and presented as a wall-hanging sculpture.** The entry fee for this category is \$20.00

**Division P    Exhibition**

	<b>Category 1</b>	<b>Woodturnings &amp; carved vessels</b>
	<b>Category 2</b>	<b>Ornaments</b>
	<b>Category 3</b>	<b>Creative Sculpture (interpretive/stylistic)</b>
	<b>Category 4</b>	<b>Habitat</b>
	<b>Category 5</b>	<b>Small Wonders    NEW!!</b>

Prairie Canada Carvers' Association appreciates new carving ideas within the carving community. This Division will be the venue to assess the level of interest in different styles and artistic approaches. If an Exhibition Category proves to be popular it will be considered for inclusion in future judging Categories. Exhibition categories will be awarded with only 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons. We appreciate comments regarding Exhibition Categories and any recommendations for future Categories.

- Category 1 is for woodturnings and carved vessels. This exhibition category is meant to first display the art of turning wood on the lathe. Items produced by the artists may be utilitarian such as nut bowls or vases, or may be artistic, incorporating laminated woods of different colours, exotic species, intricate patterns or cutouts. Secondly, bowls and other vessels may be carved by the artist using traditional gouges and other tools, or hollowed or shaped using power carving tools. Embellishments are often included in either type of vessel.
- Category 2 is for ornaments that may be used as holiday decorations. Examples might include turned or carved wooden balls, miniature carvings, carved found wood, animals, birds, fish, eggs, flowers, pyrography, intarsia, angels, elves, etc.
- Category 3 is for a sculpture using wood, stone, bone, antler or any combination of these. The piece must display a predominance of carving techniques. Other natural or manmade materials may be incorporated into this sculpture, such as glass, metals, etc.
- Category 4 is for habitat construction – A habitat display must be the main focus of the entry. Includes flowers, trees, grasses, fungi, etc. Incidental insects, shellfish etc. can be included.
- Category 5 is for carvers noticing the online carving community's love for small, fun carvings. Examples include cats, chubby birds, comical humans, gnomes, wizards, little bears, turtles, fish, whistles, etc. Size should be around 4", but there are no strict limitations. Carvings can be finished in any manner. There is no fee for these carvings, but they do need to be registered. The goal is to make us smile.

**Division Q    Original Carvings**

Category 1	Wildlife
Category 2	Traditional
Category 3	Miscellaneous

- A woodcarving that does not meet the requirements of any category or division may be entered and will be judged in an "Original Carving" category.

**SECTION 7 – JUST FOR SHOW, AUCTION****Division R    Just for Show**

Pieces that are to be shown but not entered for competition must be registered on the "Competition Entry Form" included with this booklet. They will be registered under Division R. An entry fee applies.

### **Division T     50/50 Auction**

Non-competition pieces may be entered for the '50/50 Auction' and will be auctioned off during the Sunday afternoon Cocktail Auction. These carvings must be identified at the time of registration and the following conditions apply:

- Proceeds from the auction will be split equally between the carver and Prairie Canada Carvers' Association.
- No 'reserve bids' are allowed.
- Carvers may enter only their own work.
- Prairie Canada will supervise the collection of money and provide the carver with their portion.
- Carvings will only be released upon payment to Prairie Canada Carvers' Association.

Pieces are registered under Division T for tracking purposes. No entry fees apply.

All proceeds retained by Prairie Canada Carvers' Association will be used to provide working funds for future competitions.

### **Division U     Donated Carvings for Auction** *(does not include Division M – Cocktail Carvings)*

Prairie Canada Carvers' Association welcomes the donation of any carvings for auction during the Cocktail Auction on Sunday afternoon. All proceeds will be retained by Prairie Canada Carvers' Association to provide working funds for future competitions.

Pieces are registered under Division U for tracking purposes and will not be judged. No entry fees apply.