

NWGBA HONEY SHOW RULES

CHAIRPERSON: Karen Miller, cell 404-323-1663, karen@somethingsimple.org

ENTRY FEE: None

ENTRIES ACCEPTED: Saturday, Nov 14 2026 – between 9:00AM-10:30AM.

LOCATION: Walker County Civic Center, 10052 US-27, Rock Spring, GA 30739

RELEASE TIME: All entries will remain in the show area for public viewing after the judging. All entries will remain on display until 3:30pm Sat, Nov 14, after which exhibitors may pick up their entries.

GENERAL RULES

I. ELLIGIBILITY

1. (i) The honey show is open to any paid attended of the NWGBA Conference who wishes to enter one or more exhibits, except as otherwise specifically provided for herein.
- (ii) Exhibits may be submitted in person on behalf of qualified individuals by third parties.
- (iii) The honey show is NOT open to individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries, nor to individuals who are immediate family members of those individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries. "Immediate Family Member" is defined as individuals who are spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, first cousins, parents of common children, step-parents, step-children, or any individuals residing in the same residence.

II. Turn-in / Submission Period(s) & Deadline

2. Entries must be received and between 9:00AM and 10:30AM on Saturday, Nov 14, 2026 at the Walker County Civic Center, 10052 US-27, Rock Spring, GA 30739 **No entries will be accepted after this deadline.**

III. Exhibitor Declarations & Affirmations

3. Each Exhibitor must sign an affidavit stating that each exhibit he or she submits was produced by the Exhibitor in conformity with the rules set forth herein.
4. Each Exhibitor must affirm the inclusion of any image, likeness, or work of any individual other than the Exhibitor, portrayed in or made part of any exhibit, was done so with the prior, informed consent of said individual, and that each exhibit is submitted with the full consent of all parties.
5. Unless specifically otherwise provided for under an individual category's rules, ALL honey, beeswax, propolis, pollen, or royal jelly exhibited, or made part of any exhibit, must be produced by the exhibitor from honeybees owned and kept by the Exhibitor.
6. All beeswax items, unless otherwise specifically allowed herein, must be prepared from pure, unadulterated beeswax, free from any additives or enhancements. The use of synthetic, artificial, or adulterated beeswax or drawn honeycomb is strictly prohibited. *Exhibits found to be containing any of the above will be disqualified.*

IV. Double Entries Prohibited

7. Each Exhibitor may make only one exhibit per category. Family members and individuals from common households may not submit exhibits in the same category.
8. With the exception of Extracted Honey, in instances where the exhibit may qualify for consideration in multiple categories, the Exhibitor shall have the right to choose which category to enter their exhibit; the Exhibitor's selection will not be overturned by the Judge(s); and, said exhibit will be judged based on the criteria set forth in the category selected by the Exhibitor. The Judge shall have discretion to make the final determination as to proper color designation in regard to all exhibits of Extracted Honey.

V. Security

9. Exhibits must be unmarked or identifiable in anyway, except as provided herein.
10. The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to each exhibit as provided in the rules for each exhibition category. The Exhibitor shall be responsible for placing the ID labels on each exhibit as directed for each exhibition category, unless otherwise specified herein.
11. Once exhibits have been accepted into the competition by the Show Secretary, they may not be altered in any way.
12. After submitting entries to the Show Secretary, exhibitors may not enter the area where the exhibits have been placed. The Secretary, Stewards or Judges are the only persons who may enter the honey judging area.
13. Judges will enter the honey show area after the close of exhibitor acceptance. This is to ensure as close to a blind judging as possible.

VI. Food Safety

14. All food & beverage exhibits must be prepared under sanitary conditions and follow food safety guidelines. All food & beverage exhibits must be sealed and shelf-stable, or otherwise prepared and packaged in such a way to be able to withstand spoilage. Any entry that appears to be unsafe or unpalatable will not be judged and will be disqualified.

VII. Miscellaneous

15. All exhibits submitted in categories containing the designation "Extracted Honey" are to be presented in one-pound, glass (no plastic), "Queen-line" or "Classic" style jars.
18. In regard to the requirement of uniformity, items within or comprising any single exhibit should be alike and matching in every way: jars, containers, closures, contents, composition, orientation, placement, presentation, etc., should be identical across all individual items comprising any single exhibit.
16. For all exhibits which require, or give the Exhibitor the option of using any display case, dish, base, frame, stand, or any other exhibition aide, the same should be presented in the same clean, neat, and uniform manner so as to compliment and add merit to the accompanying exhibit.
17. All weight requirements refer to the net *contents* of the exhibit. For instance, a 16 ounce jar of honey should *contain* 16 ounces of honey. This does not include the weight of the container, the lid, the label, or any other packaging.
18. For all exhibits which call for the submission of a white card with the exhibit, any size card or sheet of paper from 3"x5" to 8.5"x11" will be accepted. Additionally, the Exhibitor may submit multiple cards for any exhibit as the Exhibitor sees fit. Should the Exhibitor wish to submit multiple cards, they should be secured together by staple or paper clips.
19. Copyright of any submitted recipe, artwork, literary work, or other media remains with the exhibitor, but the host organization has the unrestricted right to publish images of submitted recipes,

artwork, literary work, or other media in its newsletter, on its website, and via its social media outlets, plus unrestricted rights to use the same in any related material for PR purposes.

20. Where the submission of a “recipe” is required, that term includes the complete list of ingredients, quantities thereof, and the procedure used to combine and prepare the exhibit.

21. Return/Disposition of Exhibits-

(a) Exhibitors who wish to retrieve their exhibits at the conclusion of the honey show must make arrangements to pick their exhibits up at the specified release time on Nov 14. If an exhibitor wishes to have their exhibit(s) released to a third party or proxy, they must indicate so in writing.

(b) Exhibits and other items not retrieved by the deadline posted for pick-up, shall be deemed abandoned, and shall be donated to the Honey Show Committee for future use or disposal. The NWGBA and the Honey Show Committee are not responsible for any items left after the pick-up deadline.

22. The honey show committee reserves the right to reject any exhibit submitted if it is objectionable in any way. For these purposes, the definition of “objectionable” includes, but is not limited to: representations of nudity, graphic violence, profanity, obscenity, or any depictions of a sexually explicit nature. Decisions of the Presiding Judge on this issue will be final.

Prizes and Awards

It is the intention that ribbons will be given in all categories, even if there is only one entry in the category. However, in order to receive an award that entry must be worthy of placement. Entry into a category does not guarantee an award.

Exhibitors found willfully cheating, or purposefully altering or disfiguring an entry for the purpose of influencing the validity of judging will be disqualified from the contest, as well as from any future honey shows sponsored by NWGBA for a period of not less than three (3) years.

Ribbons will be awarded to Best in Show, First, Second, and Third place winners in each category with the exception of Category 3: Black Jar. This category will be awarded a first-place ribbon only. The Best in Show Winner will receive a \$150 cash prize; First Place winners in each Category will each receive a \$50 cash prize; Second Place winners in each Category will each receive a \$30 cash prize; and Third Place winners in each Category will receive a \$10 cash prize.

After the announcement of awards, any exhibitor may meet with the judge to discuss their entry and ask questions. An Exhibitor may appeal the Judge’s ruling concerning their own exhibit in instances where the Exhibitor believes the Judge misinterpreted or misapplied a rule in regard to the judging of their exhibit. The Presiding Judge, after hearing both sides and examining the rules and the exhibit at issue may, as he or she deems appropriate, uphold, reverse, or amend the decision, award(s), and/or official record in such a manner as to affect the most just result available. The decision of the Presiding Judge is final.

THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES WILL BE ACCEPTED & JUDGED AT THE HONEY SHOW:

- Category 1a: Extracted Honey – light
- Category 1b: Extracted Honey - amber
- Category 1c: Extracted Honey - dark
- Category 2: Chunk Comb Honey
- Category 3: Black Jar Honey
- Category 4: Beeswax Bars
- Category 5: Beeswax Candles
- Category 6: Honey Cake (open recipe)
- Category 7: Confections Made with Honey
- Category 8: Artwork Related to Beekeeping
- Category 9: Crafts Related to Beekeeping
- Category 10: Notions, Potions & Lotions
- Category 11: Photography Related to Beekeeping

RULES FOR INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES:

EXTRACTED & COMB HONEY

Extracted Honey

Extracted honey is judged in three subcategories: (a) light, (b) medium or amber, and (c) dark. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these three subcategories. One exhibit of extracted honey is defined as two (2) identical one-pound jars, as specified in rule #15 under the General Rules of the Honey Show. Closures may be of metal or plastic. Tamper-proof seals are strictly prohibited; any exhibits submitted with any tamper-proof seal(s) will be severely penalized. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors). *See Appendix hereafter for notes on correct jars and fill level.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on each of the jars comprising the exhibit. The labels should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of each jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar.

Chunk Comb Honey

One entry of chunk honey is two (2) identical one-pound jars. Chunk honey must be displayed in straight sided, uncolored, glass, wide mouth, jars. The glass should not be embossed. Such jars are available from many commercial beekeeping suppliers. Only one chunk of comb should be in each jar for competition. The chunk of comb must be in one piece, of uniform thickness, and with a straight mid rib. Virgin comb with this year's wax is preferred. All foundation should be unwired, thin surplus. The cuts should be clean and uniform. The chunk comb should be cut and sized to appropriately fit the container. The honey should fill the rest of the jar to the correct fill line. The comb should be oriented in the container as found naturally in the hive. Comb with watery cappings should be avoided. The comb should extend the length of the jar. The chunk of comb should account for at least fifty percent (50%) of the internal volume of the jar. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; uniformity of the jars that comprise the entry; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; absence of pollen, brood, uncapped cells, "wet" or "watery" cappings, or travel stains on the cappings; freedom from granulation; absence of floating wax debris in, or on the surface of, the honey; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors).

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on each of the jars comprising the exhibit. The labels should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of each jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar.

Black Jar

An entry consists of not less than two ounces, nor more than four ounces, of pure, unadulterated honey. The required jar will be provided by the Show Secretary at the sign-in table, and the Exhibitor will transfer their entry into the jar and return the exhibit to the Show Secretary. Judges evaluate entries for flavor only.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the exhibit. The label should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of the jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar. **Black Jar entries are not eligible for Best in Show. In the Black Jar category, only a First-Place prize will be awarded.*

BEESWAX & CANDLES

Beeswax Bars

An exhibit is defined as five (5) identical one (1) ounce beeswax bars. Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. The bars should be smooth-surfaced, free of blemishes, and identical in every way. The bars should be submitted on a plain, white plate or board (which may be made of paper, foam, cardboard, or any similar material), in a zip-top bag. Alternatively, at the Exhibitor's option, the bars may be presented in a protective display case. If a show case is used, it must not exceed 12"(length) x 12"(width) x 4"(depth), and the wax bars must be readily accessible for judging. The show case will not be judged, aside for cleanliness. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

*The presence of the word "BEESWAX" imprinted on one surface of each bar shall not be counted as a flaw or defect. However, any such mark or imprint shall be judged for casting flaws and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top center of the plate the wax blocks were presented on, and the second label on the top right-hand corner of the display case lid or plastic bag.

Beeswax Candles

An exhibit is defined as two (2) identical beeswax candles. The candles can be tapers, molded, or rolled. *For rolled candles only, the use of commercially manufactured sheets of beeswax is allowed. For all entries, the beeswax can be colored or left natural. If left natural, the beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with

caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. For exhibits utilizing colored or dyed beeswax, the wax should be of uniform color throughout, free of marbling, striations, or any unevenness in coloration. The wax should have a pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. The wax should be clean and free of impurities. Wicks should be trimmed to one-half inch in length. The candle must have a flat base with wicks waxed and well centered. One of the candles in each exhibit will be lit by the judge and allowed to burn. The exhibit must be presented with one (1) free-standing, fire-proof base or candleholder. Items comprising the exhibit should be uniform in every aspect, including height, thickness, weight, appearance, and performance (where appropriate). Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); proper wicking; performance; uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the bottom of each of the candleholders the candles were submitted with, and another label on the bottom, or at the base, of each of the candles.

FOOD ITEMS & BAKED GOODS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Exhibitors should be aware and keep in mind; this is a honey show. These beverage & culinary categories have been specifically chosen because of their ability to showcase honey as an ingredient. The influence and impact of honey on the finished product will be the first, and ultimate, factor the judges will consider when making final awards. The stronger and more pronounced the flavor and aroma of honey is in the finished product, the greater the preference that exhibit will receive from the judges. Conversely, an exhibit of otherwise exceptional quality that does not taste or smell profoundly of honey, will not be placed highly despite the presence of other exceptional qualities.

Honey Cake (open recipe)

The Exhibitor may submit one example of a cake baked by the Exhibitor. An entry consists of one (1) standard size cake no less than six inches (6 in.) in diameter or two (2) cupcakes. Exhibits may be, but are not required to be, iced or glazed. The recipe for the entry must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure), must accompany each entry (see rules 18 & 20).

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

Honey Confections

A confection is any pastry, tart, petit four, cookie, candy, chocolate, or other sweet food or delicacy, not otherwise encompassed in another category in this show. An Exhibitor may submit one example of a confection prepared by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of six (6) pieces or servings. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure), must accompany each entry (see rules 18 & 20).

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

ARTS & CRAFTS RELATED TO BEEKEEPING

Artwork Related to Beekeeping

Artwork is the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, often in a visual form such as (but no way limited to) painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related artwork of their own composition. The artwork must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The artwork must be mounted or freestanding in design. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item must accompany each entry (see rule 18).

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the front of the exhibit (centered near the bottom), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit. *If the exhibit is already signed or marked in some identifying way, the exhibitor may obscure the signature or identifying mark.

Crafts Related to Beekeeping

A craft is a pastime or a profession that requires particular skill and knowledge of a specialized field or subject. Craftsmanship typically denotes experience, knowledge, skill, and expertise in making things by hand. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related craftwork of their own composition. The craftwork must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The craftwork must be mounted or freestanding in design. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item must accompany each entry (see rule 18).

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the front of the exhibit (centered near the bottom), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit. *If the exhibit is already signed or marked in some identifying way, the exhibitor may obscure the signature or identifying mark.

Notions, Potions, & Lotions

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any health, bath, or beauty product of their own creation, not otherwise encompassed in another category in this show. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey, beeswax, and/or propolis produced by the Exhibitor. Entries are to be presented in a resealable, unembellished container appropriate to the item. Entries should not be less than one ounce (1 oz.)**, nor more than eight ounces (8 oz.) in weight. All entries will be sampled. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, texture, aroma, tactile feel, functionality, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit (see rules 18 & 20). ***Lip balms exhibits may have a minimum weight of not less than one tenth of an ounce (.1 oz.).*

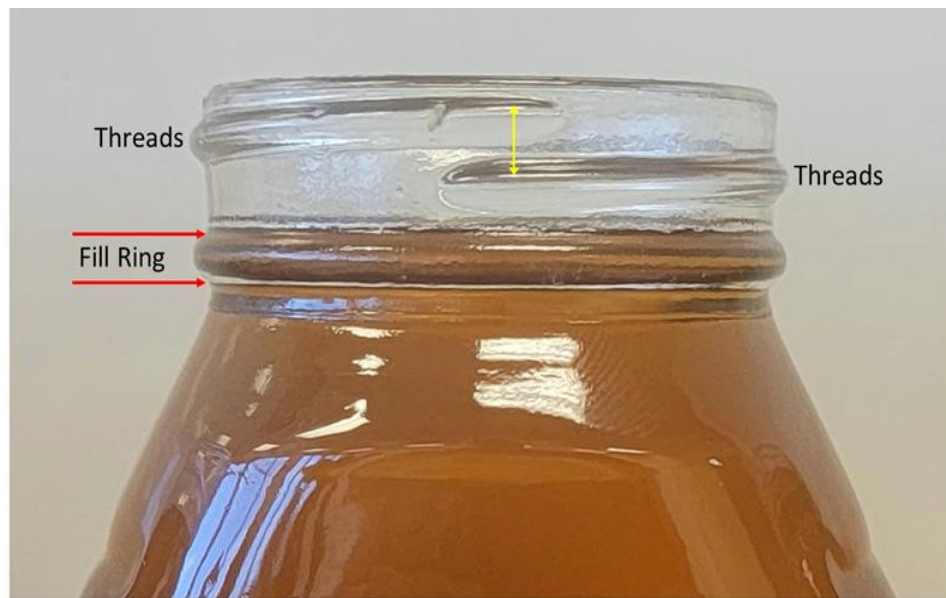
The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the front of the exhibit (centered near the bottom), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

Photography Related to Beekeeping

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related photography of their own composition. The photograph(s) must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. All photographs must have a viewable area of 5"x 7" or less in size. The photograph(s) must be mounted, matted, or framed. The photograph(s) must stand up for display; either equipped with an easel back, or the entrant must provide an easel on which to display the exhibit. Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the photograph must accompany each exhibit (see rule 18).

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the frame on the back of the exhibit (centered near the top), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

Appendix



Notes on Correct Fill Level:

- The correct fill level on honey entries is at the top of the fill ring of the jar, without going over.
- The fill ring is the raised ridge, or ring of glass, immediately above the shoulder of the jar and below the threads. It can be distinguished from the threads in two ways:
 - a) the fill ring forms a complete circle, without ends; and
 - b) the fill ring will be completely parallel with the bottom and top of the jar.
- Liquid honey in a circular shape forms a concave surface sometimes referred to as a meniscus. For the purpose of filling jars, the edge of the meniscus should clearly be at the top of the fill ring, without going over.

CLASSIC



QUEENLINE

