

## **WWA Decoy Competition Appendix A:**

INTERNATIONAL WILDFOWL CARVERS ASSOCIATION GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR WILDFOWL DIVISIONS  
Approved September 2016 IWCA will conduct a review of competition rules annually.

### Section 1. IWCA and Non-IWCA Competition Levels

- 1.1. 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 may 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 re-vise 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 & Species

#### 3.1. General Guidelines

- 3.1.1. If there are three or more entries of the same species 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.

#### Divisions for Species

- 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, 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.