

**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, Advanced and Platinum**

A club member may commence exhibiting at the level they feel most appropriate. They will continue to exhibit at that level (unless the Committee decide otherwise) until they progress to the next level in accordance with these guidelines. A tree winning a level in a particular month may not be shown in that level again that year.

Once a club member achieves 1<sup>st</sup> place twice in a particular level (in either Annual Bench Competition &/or Annual Show) they will progress to the next highest level the following year (unless the Committee decide otherwise).

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

## **SPECIAL CATEGORIES**

Separate to the *Progressive Levels* discussed above, a club member may make one entry, into any of the ***Special Categories*** shown below:

### **Mini Kindergarten, Style, 3-Point Display, Suiseki and Kusamono**

<b><u>Special Category</u></b>	<b><u>Frequency</u></b>
<b>Mini</b>	Monthly
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Monthly
<b>Style</b>	Monthly
<b>3-Point Display</b>	Mar, Jun & Sept
<b>Suiseki</b>	Feb, Apr, May, Jul, Aug, Oct & Nov
<b>Kusamono</b>	Feb, Apr, May, Jul, Aug, Oct & Nov

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

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

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

*Advanced, Platinum, Style, Mini & 3-Point Display* must not have wire on the trunk.

**Ownership & Care:** Exhibited material in all sections 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, Platinum, Style, Mini & 3-Point Display categories must be displayed in a bonsai pot. Kindergarten must be displayed in a "training pot" (ie not a bonsai pot).

**Display Tables:** Exhibitors will preferably use a display table, particularly in Advanced, Platinum, 3-Point Display, Mini & Style categories.

**Soe (or Display stone):** Exhibitors will preferably incorporate a Soe, particularly in Advanced, Platinum, 3-Point Display, Mini & Style categories.

**Height:** There are no height restrictions in any level or category other than the Mini category & Kusamono category. A Mini must not exceed 20cm from the rim of the pot to the upper tip of the tree and a Kusamono must not exceed 50 cm from the rim of the pot or display plate to the top of the Kusamono.

**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.

**Kusamono:** The Kusamono display should conform to the seasons and can be single or mixed plants, in or out of a pot.

Plants may be a variety of smaller plants and grasses (including small bamboos, weeds, mosses, small ferns & small herbaceous plants. No trees or woody plants. Maximum height 500mm from rim of pot or display plate and maximum size of pot / display plate is 150mm wide. Can be displayed with scroll, figurine or Suiseki which should be subservient to Kusamono.

**3-Point Display:** An exhibit of up to 3 trees. One tree will be medium to large in size, the 2<sup>nd</sup> tree will be small to medium in size and if a third tree is utilised it will be very small in size or may be an Accent element such as Soe, Kusamono, Suiseki, stone, figurine or similar creative element. Typically, the two main trees will have directional movement towards each other and the small tree or Accent element will be positioned between the larger trees. All elements should be displayed on supportive devices such as stands. Displays shall not exceed 1.5m in width.

### **DISPLAYING TREES**

Exhibitors are limited to showing one exhibit in each relevant category that a competition is run. 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>)



**Central Coast  
BONSAI Club**