

# 2017 Taos Wool Festival Handspun Yarn Show

October 7, 2017

Kit Carson Park - Taos, New Mexico

## General Rules & Information

### Submission of Entries

#### A. Mailing of Entries

- Skein, entry form, and fee may be mailed to the Yarn Show Coordinator no later than September 19, 2017.

Yarn Show Coordinator: Peggy Doney  
6833 Snowbird Terrace  
Colorado Springs, Co 80918

For questions, call 719-260-8442 or e-mail [Peggy@the100thsheep.com](mailto:Peggy@the100thsheep.com)

- Please include a mailing label and funds for return postage including tracking and insurance.
- The Yarn Show Coordinator will not be responsible for any skeins that do not have tracking/insurance that are lost in transit.

#### B. At the Festival

- Entries are accepted at the Handspun Yarn Show in the Big Top tent between 8:00 and 9:00 am on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Prior to submitting the entry, all entrants need to visit the Information Booth, pay for your entry, and receive a payment ticket for the Handspun Yarn Show. The Information Booth will open at 7:45 AM.
- Bring the payment ticket and completed 2017 Handspun Yarn Show Entry Form, along with the yarn skeins to the big top tent.
- At 9:00 am the Big Top tent will be closed for judging. \*No late entries will be accepted.
- Judging will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, and the Show will be open for viewing when the judging is completed.

### Fees:

- A. MAVWA members (includes all family members) are allowed up to 5 entries total between the competitions. More than 5 entries, \$5 per item.
- B. Non-Members: \$10 per entry/item per show
- C. No charge for Wool Festival Booth vendor for the first 5 entries, \$5 per entry after that

### Skein requirements:

- There is no limit on the number or type of skeins that each spinner may enter.
- All yarn entered must have been spun since the last Taos Wool Festival in October 2016.
- An entry shall consist of one skein which shall be at least 25 yards in length, wound in a 2 yard skein.

### Sales:

- There will be no sales directly from the Yarn Show.

## Pick Up

- A. Entries may be picked up in person by the spinner or a designated representative (as indicated on the entry form) after 5:00 pm Saturday at the festival.
- B. Entries indicated to be returned via mail will be mailed to the spinner within thirty days after the event.
- C. Entries that are not picked up by 6:30 pm or by the conclusion of the Membership meeting on Saturday or that did not indicate for return via mail will be considered a donation to the silent auction on Sunday.
- D. You may choose to donate your skein to the Silent Auction which will be held on Sunday. If you choose to donate your yarn, you may indicate "Silent Auction" as the pick up authorization.

## Divisions, Categories and Classes

### Divisions:

#### **Youth:**

Youth are age 12 and under

#### **Beginner Division:**

Beginners or novices, are spinners of any age, new to spinning, or are just getting back to the wheel or spindle (spinning 1 year or less)

#### **Experienced Division:**

Spinning more than 1 year

#### **Mill Spun:**

Fiber mills who have spun yarn in house on their equipment

### Categories:

The Wool Festival at Taos proudly showcases CO/NM/TX fibers (Colorado/New Mexico/Texas). Only yarns spun from fiber in the CO/NM/TX region are eligible to receive Reserve Champion, Champion and Best in Show awards.

**CO/NM/TX animal fibers:** Fiber from animals raised in Colorado, New Mexico, or Texas.

**Other:** Fiber from animals that are not raised in Colorado, New Mexico or Texas

### Classes

#1: 100% wool

#2: Wool blends (at least 60% wool)

#3: Other animal fibers

#4: Novelty/Designer (Art Yarns)

#5: Spindle Spun Yarn (must include a picture of yarn on the spindle)

## Judging Criteria

Members of the Southwest Spinners Handspun Judges (SSHJ) have developed a Yarn Judge Certification Program, based on a similar program of the Northwest Regional Spinners, in order to standardize the way hand-spun yarn is judged across the country. SSHJ certified yarn judges will be evaluating hand-spun yarn on Saturday morning at the Taos Wool Festival. The judges will be issuing prize ribbons, and you will receive valuable feedback to help you improve your spinning. The judges use the Danish system for scoring, so 90 points and above receives a blue ribbon, 80-89 is red, 70-79 is white. Skeins are graded on presentation, technique, quality of spinning, fiber choice for type of yarn spun, and yarn for finished project.

During judging, the judges have the right to combine classes that have very few entries, to divide overly full classes, and to move skeins that would fare better in a more appropriate class. The judges' decisions are final.

### Entry Guidelines:

- The skeins must be at least 25 yds. in length, wound in 2 yd skeins.
- Skeins must be tied in four places with figure-eight ties using the same yarn being shown or yarn that is a similar color. Ties should not contrast with the skein.
- Skeins should be clean and finished.
- Provide as much information about your yarn as possible. The more the judges know, the better your chances at receiving a higher score. (i.e. raw fleece, commercial roving, hand-dyed, method of plying etc.).
- **Very Important!** Include the end use. What are you going to make with your finished yarn?
- Classes and lots will be combined as needed by the judges.

### Awards:

1. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons will be awarded by the Judges
2. Reserve Champion, Champion, and Silver Medallion entries will be presented at the awards ceremony at approximately 4:45 pm on Saturday. \*
3. Silver Medallion awarded for overall Best of Show for Handspun Yarn. \*

\*Only Yarns in the CO/NM/TX Category are eligible to receive Reserve Champion, Champion and Best in Show awards.