

2023-2024 Buddy Poppy Display Contest

Bill Schaeffler - Dept. Commander
Jim Johnson – Buddy Poppy Chairperson

POPPY DISPLAY GENERAL RULES

1. The rules governing the poppy displays for the 2023-2024 year will be in accordance with the National Poppy Display Contest, (attached). All entrants will comply with these rules. Your entry will be judged by them. All Districts are requested to follow these rules as closely as possible when holding your display judging.

RULES

CATEGORY 1 - Public promotion of poppy sales: (Window, booth, parade or poster displays, sales promotion, etc.

- A. Display must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message urging the buying and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy.
- B. At least one (1) of the poppies used in the display must be in their original form and color, with labels attached.

CATEGORY 2 - Memorial or inspirational displays: (wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes.)

- A. Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy Program.
- B. At least one (1) of the poppies used in the display must be in their original form and color, with labels attached.

CATEGORY 3 – Artistic or decorative use of poppies: (Post home display, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

- A. Display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.
- B. Complete freedom shall be permitted in the use of poppies, poppy parts or poppy labels, and in the use of dyes or paints in achieving the desired artistic effect.
- C. At least one 1 of the poppies used in the display must be in their original form and color, with labels attached.

2. The scoring of the displays will be in accordance with the National Rules. Originality – 25 points; Composition – 25 points; Neatness – 25 points; Poppy Story – 25 points; for a total of 100 points maximum. The Originality, Composition, and Neatness are self-explanatory, with the Poppy Story as outlined in the Buddy Poppy Story.
3. There will be a First, Second and Third Place award in each Division Category. Category 1 displays must have been on display in a public place for a minimum of 3 days.
4. A report of District Judging must be sent to the Department Buddy Poppy Chairperson prior to the Department Convention. Any display not accepted at District level, or not entered in District judging will be ineligible for State Judging.
5. All displays entered and accepted at District level will be accepted for Department judging during the Department convention.
6. Forms for judging and reporting results will be distributed to all District Commander through Department HQ.
7. Poppies to be used in display contests are to be ordered from VFW Dept. HQ.
8. There will be four (4) judges. Each judge will grade all categories and disciplines within the category. The decision of the judges and that of the Department Buddy Poppy Display Chairperson will be final. During the judging, the entire area will be closed to all except the judges so as to insure impartial judging.

9. Previous Department winners are ineligible.
10. Official entry form for District and State is attached.

ALL DISTRICT CONTESTS SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN APRIL

The Districts should award prizes to their winner at their discretion. Each District entry will be allowed to enter in the Department Contest, in each of the 3 categories, however they must remain in the same category and divisions entered in the District judging. Any person or group of persons (except professional display builders), may enter a display. The display must be entered by a Post or Auxiliary.

All entries at the National Display Contest must be approved and sponsored by the Department Headquarters. No other entries will be accepted by officials of the National Contest. Department display contest winners will be announced at the Department Convention. Special forms will be given to those eligible for entry in National Competition. Do not take any entry to National without the proper forms as it will not be accepted.