

WWA Decoy Competition 2026 Appendix E

Antique Style Decoy Division

Antique style decoys and replicas of collectible decoys have become a sought after item among collectors and sportsmen and sportswomen. This class is to allow carvers of these decoys to compete and allow a larger audience to see their work.

1. All carvers competing in this category will be in one class. It will be “open” only. There will be no amateur, intermediate, or novice classes offered.
2. Submissions will be judged “on the shelf”. No decoys will be floated nor must they have provision for anchor lines, etc.
3. There will be five divisions: Diving ducks and sea ducks, Puddle ducks, Geese and Swans, Confidence decoys, and shorebirds.
4. “Stick up” decoys, like shorebirds, herons, standing waterfowl must have a means of standing on a table, either a base, feet, etc
5. Artists are encouraged to age their decoys and/or distress them to provide the appearance of use, and a fine patina. Decoys may be presented in a pristine condition, i.e., little wear, but still must have the appearance of age.
6. Artists are encouraged to use stylized paint jobs and authentic 19th and early 20th century painting techniques to further enhance the appearance of an antique decoy
7. Artists are allowed to replicate known carvers or decoy factory products, however they may be judged slightly down on originality
8. Judging will follow this criteria:
 - a. Originality
 - b. Artistic merit in stylized paint, form and carving
 - c. Authenticity, is this carving believably following 19th and early 20th century techniques and materials?
 - d. Aging, could this pass as an authentic antique decoy made 75 or more years ago?
 - e. Judges may assess the decoys from any distance to appreciate both the details and overall form of the entries
9. Ribbons will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each division, assuming there are sufficient entries to award all ribbons. The 1st place decoys from each division will be judged against each other for Best of show. Like IWCA judging, once the best of show is picked, whatever division that piece comes from, the 2nd place decoy will be moved up to be judged as part of the 2nd Best of Show. The same procedure will hold for 3rd best of show.