

WWA Decoy Competition 2026 Appendix B

The 2026 WWA competition IWCA Style Decoy Division shall have two competitor levels, Amateur and Open. Amateur will represent both novice and Intermediate competitor levels. This includes the 2026 IWCA Championship competition in the Open Competitor level.

IWCA Style Decoy Division

Section 8. IWCA General Guidelines (All Divisions)

- 8.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 8.2. Carvings may not be entered in the same show twice. EXCEPTION: carvings may be entered in an IWCA Division and an IWCA Championship at the same show.
- 8.3. IWCA Judging Procedures and Code of Ethics will be in effect.
- 8.4. Unless a show competition includes novice, intermediate, or amateur, the competition is open to all carving levels.
- 8.5. IWCA advancement rules apply if show competition includes novice, intermediate, or amateur levels.

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.

Section 9. IWCA Style Decoy Division

- 9.1. Decoys must be made of wood, cork, or stretched canvas.
- 9.2. Texturing will be allowed by rasping, chip carving, combing, scratching, stippling and flocking.
- 9.3. No wood burning except as a cutting tool.
- 9.4. Stoning or carving (no burning) will be allowed on the crest, tuft, or hood of any species of waterfowl with a crest, tuft, or hood as long as it remains sturdy and functional.
- 9.5. Undercut areas, wingtips, tails, and necks must not be fragile.
- 9.6. Feather groups may be simply carved (back, side-pockets, rump, and breast).
- 9.7. Only primaries, tertials, scapulars and tail feathers may be individually carved.
- 9.8. Detailed carving of the bill is allowed.
- 9.9. Inserts may be used to strengthen weak areas such as bills, tails, and crests. Open bills are allowed.
- 9.10. Feather splits may be carved.
- 9.11. Decoys must have a facility for an anchor line. Keels and weights are not required.
- 9.12. Decoys will be placed in the tank with their bottoms up, pushed down to just submerged, and then released. Decoy must self-right. Test may be performed two(2) times only. Swans and geese must self-right from the side.

9.13. There will be no restrictions on painting of IWCA Style Decoy Division decoys. The carver is allowed to create expressive poses to capture the many attitudes of waterfowl.

9.14. A decoy that checks, splits, takes on water, and/or has paint deterioration at any time prior to the completion of all decoy judging will be disqualified and forfeit any awards said decoy was awarded. All decoys in the disqualified decoy's species and category would be re-ordered, so as to move up one place, i.e., second becomes first, third becomes second. There will not be a third place decoy ordered up since the species would have to be re-ordered as well as the whole category re-judged.

9.15. There are no restrictions as to the number or gender of the entries.

9.16. Decoys must have no visible markings that will identify the carver and/or painter. All such marks must be covered with tape.

9.17. Judging for essence of species, anatomy, coloration, attitude on the water, flotation, and how well the decoy projects must be evaluated from a minimum of twenty feet.

9.18. Decoys entered in the IWCA Style Division in the "Open" class only will compete in the IWCA Style Championship.