2026 PARADE OF GEMS
CANAVERAL MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY
MEMBER SINGLE PIECE COMPETITION GUIDELINES

MODIFIED COMPETITION GUIDELINES (SEPT.2026)

It's time to get started on your competition pieces for our November 2026 Parade of Gems show!

The categories this year are:

- Beginning Cabochon, *ADDITIONAL DIRECTION*
- Advanced Cabochon, *MODIFIED*
- Beginning Faceting,
- Advanced Faceting
- Beginning Jewelry,
- Advanced Jewelry, and *MODIFIED*
- Beginning Wire Wrapping

Members may submit entries in more than one category. Members who have previously placed first in a beginning category or are clearly advanced makers should participate in the advanced category where applicable.

Judges will not know who submitted pieces and will provide written feedback aimed at supporting your progress and helping you build your skills!

Up to three prizes will be awarded for each category: $25 for First Place, $20 for Second Place, and $15 for Third Place. Prizes will be in the form of vouchers good for purchasing merchandise during the 2026 Parade of Gems show (vendors will accept the vouchers for merchandise and be reimbursed by the club). Vouchers cannot be redeemed for cash and will expire when the show closes on Sunday, November 15th, 2026.

Winners will be announced and prizes will be awarded at the Parade of Gems show on Saturday, November 14th. All entries will be proudly displayed in the CMGS club area during the show and can be picked up after 4pm on Sunday November 15th.

Entries must be received no later than 12:00pm on Saturday, October 31st. Specific information for each category will be requested on entry forms when pieces are turned in for judging. Wayne Mellish will accept entries at the CMGS workshop from 8:30am to 12:00pm on Saturday, October 31st. If you can't make it to the shop at this time, contact Wayne, (321) 759-7056, to make other arrangements. Entries will not be accepted after the closing deadline.

This is a fun and friendly competition within our club, so why not give it a go? You ARE good enough to enter, so head on over to the shop and start creating!

You've got this!!!

Yvonne Alexander
2026 CMGS Education Officer

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COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS BY CATEGORY

Category: Beginning Faceting
Cut the Standard Round Brilliant with Horizontally Split Mains according to the guidelines provided. Faceted stone must be a minimum of 11-13mm and may be cut from any material. Judging is based on size correctness, meet point accuracy, and polish.

Category: Advanced Faceting
Cut the Improved Simple Trillion ("Odyssey") stone according to the guidelines provided. Triangle side must be 11-13mm and may be cut from any material. Judging is based on size accuracy, meet point accuracy, and polish.

Category: Beginning Cabochon
ADDITIONAL DIRECTION
Cut a 30 x 22mm oval cabochon with beveled edges using the blue double template in the cabbing room at the workshop. This is a calibrated stone that will be judged against the template. *The bottom must be chamfered, and all surfaces must be polished.*

Category: Advanced Cabochon
MODIFICATION
Do to the limitations of our equipment we are changing the shape of the stone for our advanced cabbing competition. The new shape can be found on the www.slabstocabs.com clear template number 3A, at the top of the template in the center; see provided illustration. It will be clearly marked 2026. Your stone should match the template, have an even ark in all directions, have a good back bevel and be polished front and back. This is a calibrated stone that will be judged against the template.

Category: Beginning Jewelry
Create a bezel-set round or oval pendant with a second decorative wire framing the bezel or the back plate. Use the same decorative wire to create or accent the bale. Submit pendant on a chain or cord that compliments the design. Cabochon must be at least 18mm in length or width, but the back plate may be of any shape, size, and design. Any metal may be used. Bezel and decorative wires, cabochon, embellishments, and chain or cord may be purchased.

Category: Advanced Jewelry
MODIFICATION
Celebrate what "America the Beautiful" means to you. Fabricate a pendant with a hinged design celebrating America (United States). All metal components must be hand fabricated and metal may be of any type. Incorporate at least one faceted stone and one cabochon of any size. Stones may be purchased but must be American (USA) mined *(see modification below)*. Include description of stones and mine origin and your design inspiration on competition entry form. Submit pendant on a chain or cord that compliments the design; chain or cord may be purchased.

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Modification

It's come to my attention that sourcing American mined faceted stones is cost prohibitive. Therefore the requirement to use American mined faceted stones is being modified so everyone can participate.

The cabochon should be mined in the USA per the original requirements, however the faceted stone may be sourced anywhere in the world, provided that there is a known source for that stone in the USA. For example, Tanzanite is not found in the USA and would therefore not meet the new requirements. Sapphires can be found in Montana, so a sapphire sourced from Sri Lanka, for example, would be acceptable as long as the potential USA source is identified on the competition entry.

Judging: The maximum points allocated to the gemstones will be 5% of the total score, so 2.5 points each for cab and faceted stone. As long as the cab is from the USA and the faceted stone could be found in the USA, maximum points will be awarded.

Source of American Mined Facet Stones: If you want to use American mined faceted peridot or garnets from Arizona, you can purchase them at the shop. Maximum 2 stones per person, $1.00 per stone for uncalibrated peridot, and $10.00 per stone for calibrated Anthill garnet. See shop stewards to purchase.

Category: Beginning Wire Wrapping

Wire Wrapped Pendant: Create a wire wrapped cabochon pendant using at least 6 wires of any metal type and shape. Cabochon must be a minimum of 25mm in one direction and the finished pendant must be at least 50mm in either length or width. Present pendant on a cord or chain that complements its design. All components may be purchased.

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MODIFICATION TO ADVANCED CABBING – NEW TEMPLATE