



ORAPEX 2025 Exhibiting Rules

May 3 and 4, 2025
CURLING RINK, NEPEAN SPORTSPLEX
1701 WOODROFFE AVENUE, OTTAWA, ON, CANADA

1. Eligibility

- a) Participation is open to all philatelists.
- b) All competitive entries must be the property of the exhibitor, or a family member resident with the exhibitor, who will so declare on the entry form.
- c) If purchased as a unit, any entry must have been owned by the exhibitor for at least two years, be extensively revised, and have been prepared by the exhibitor.
- d) Any exhibit which has won a Grand Award at ORAPEX can only be re-entered in a subsequent show's Court of Honour or Non-competitive class, unless it has been extensively revised.
- e) Exhibits at time of entry that have won the American Philatelic Society (APS) Champion of Champions, an international Grand Prix, or three international large gold medals are ineligible. Furthermore, exhibits that have received the Grand Award at a Canadian national show or an APS WSP show in the same judging year cannot be entered competitively.
- f) The Multi-Frame Grand will be eligible for entrance in the summer APS Annual Champion of Champions competition; the One-Frame Grand will be eligible for entry to the AAPE Single-Frame Champion of Champions competition (providing there are at least six (6) One-Frame competitive exhibits); and the Youth Grand will be eligible for entry to the APS Youth Champion of Champions competition if it receives a silver or higher medal.

2. Exhibits

- a) Exhibits will be accepted in the following classes:

A. General Class

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| a) Traditional philately | i) Maximaphily |
| b) Postal History | j) Display |
| c) Aerophilately | k) Cinderella |
| d) Astrophilately | l) Thematic |
| e) Postal Stationery | m) Picture Postcards |
| f) First Day Covers | n) Topical |
| g) Revenue | o) Experimental |
| h) Advertising, Patriotic and Event Covers | |

B. One-Frame Class – Please note that there will be a limit of 18 One-Frame exhibits at ORAPEX 2025

C. Youth Class

D. Regional Class (same types of exhibits as above)

E. Court of Honour (invitation only)

F. Non-competitive Class

- b) Priority will be given to National level exhibits, but ORAPEX will accept Regional level exhibits if frame space is available.
- c) Exhibit frames accommodate 16 standard size 8½” x 11” pages in four rows of four pages or 8 pages of 11” x 17”. Entries with larger and /or odd sized pages may be accommodated but must receive prior approval from the Exhibits Coordinator.
- d) The entry fee is \$25.00 per frame in all classes except One-Frame Class (\$35.00 for the one frame), Youth Class (no charge), and Regional Class (\$15.00 per frame). All entry fees include HST. These fees are payable in advance and must accompany the entry form, the exhibit title page, and synopsis. If you are mailing your entry or sending it by courier, please include enough funds for its return and indicate how you wish it returned.
- e) All exhibits must be in transparent page protectors, ideally closed on three sides, and numbered on the back in sequential order, to aid in the correct mounting of the exhibit by the Exhibition Committee.
- f) Forgeries and reprints must be so identified in the text. Failure to do so may result in the exhibit being downgraded.
- g) Each multi-frame exhibit accepted for the Exhibition shall be allotted not less than two (2) frames and not more than ten (10) frames.
- h) Exhibits in the Youth Class will be displayed in the same type of frames as other exhibits. Each Youth exhibit accepted will be allotted at least one (1) frame. All other rules shall be identical to those of the national level exhibition, unless entered as a Regional Class youth exhibit.
- i) Failure to deliver an accepted exhibit forfeits the entry fee.

3. **FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie) Option**

- a) ORAPEX 2025 exhibitors interested in exhibiting on the international level may request the “FIP Option.” Please note that this is in addition to and independent of the regular competition and will be judged by separate FIP qualified judges. No separate awards are provided for FIP option exhibits.
- b) Those choosing the FIP Option must also be registered for the regular APS /RPSC judging at ORAPEX.
- b) The FIP Option provides exhibitors with a point breakdown, written comments, and the opportunity to meet with the FIP judges at the show.
- b) The FIP jurors may decline to judge any exhibit they deem outside their collective area of expertise in which case the FIP option entry fee of \$30 will be refunded.
- b) The FIP Option is limited to the **first 12 exhibits** that apply. Exhibitors selecting the option should have read the appropriate GREVs and SREVs for international exhibits. These can be found on the FIP website: www.f-i-p.ch.

4. **Exhibitors**

- a) Each exhibitor, by signing an entry form, indicates his/her willingness to abide by the rules of the exhibition.
- b) Exhibitors will initially be allowed a maximum of one multi-frame and one One-Frame exhibit. They may request additional frames for exhibits, if there are still unallocated frames by the entry form deadline.
- c) The name of the exhibitor must **not** appear on the faces of the pages, unless it is included on addressed exhibited covers.
- d) Exhibitors shall enter their exhibit in the proper class. The jury, at its discretion, may transfer an exhibit, if incorrectly entered.
- e) Exhibitors may deliver their exhibits directly to the exhibition hall **between noon and 7 pm on the Friday of the show weekend (May 2, 2025)**. It would be greatly appreciated if exhibitors could mount their exhibits as early as possible, as judging usually starts before 6 pm. The exhibition hall is the Curling Rink of the Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.
- f) Exhibitors choosing to mail or courier their exhibits should send them to Deborah Welch, Exhibits Coordinator, 158 Ruskin Street, Ottawa, ON K1Y 4C1. Exhibits should be sent to arrive between Monday, April 28, 2025 and Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

- g) Exhibitors names will be used in the **show** program, in the palmares, and in press releases after the show in connection with the awards. By submitting an entry, exhibitors are deemed to have agreed to this use of their names. To remain anonymous, exhibitors must advise the exhibit coordinator and furnish a pseudonym.
- h) Although exhibitors are free to mount their own exhibits, they must first contact the ORAPEX Exhibits Coordinator before doing so.
- i) The exhibits will be removed in a timely manner once the show closes. The hall will be emptied at 4:15 pm on the last day of the show (May 4, 2025). **Exhibitors will not be allowed to remove their exhibits prior to that time, so travel plans should be made accordingly.** All exhibitors must sign-out their exhibits at takedown time.
- j) Exhibits not claimed in person will be returned at the expense of the owner as soon as possible after the close of the Exhibition in the manner directed by the owner. Pre-payment must be enclosed. An additional charge of \$5.00 + HST Canadian must be included for wrapping and handling.

5. Exhibits Committee

- a) The Ottawa Regional Association of Philatelic Exhibitions reserves the right to accept or reject an entry for any reason without explanation. If an entry is rejected the entry fee shall be refunded.
- b) The Exhibits Committee reserves the right to place exhibits according to its own display plan.
- c) Although stringent precautions against theft, damage, or other mishaps are taken, no responsibility shall attach to the Ottawa Regional Association of Philatelic Exhibitions, the Nepean Sportsplex (City of Ottawa), Ottawa Philatelic Society (OPS), the Alta Vista Stamp Club, the Amicale des philatélistes de l'Outaouais (APO), the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC), their agents, officers, employees, voluntary or paid assistants, or any other persons authorized to perform any tasks in connection with the exhibits for any loss or damage to an exhibit for any reason whatsoever. Insurance is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor since all exhibits are held, exhibited and returned at the risk of the exhibitor.
- d) A panel of judges, accredited by the RPSC, or approved by a reciprocal agreement with other national societies, will decide on the allocation of awards. This allocation of awards is at the sole discretion of the judges; their decision is final and cannot be appealed.
- e) The decision of the Ottawa Regional Association of Philatelic Exhibitions concerning any and all exhibition matters (other than jury decisions) shall be final.

6. Awards

- a) RPSC National awards certificates will be given in eight (8) levels in the General and One-Frame Classes; Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, Silver, Silver - Bronze, and Bronze. All awards will be granted in accordance with the judged merits of the exhibits. No award medals will be given to exhibitors.
- b) No award will be made if, in the opinion of the judges, the exhibit is of insufficient merit.
- c) A Grand Award and Reserve Grand Award will be awarded for General Class exhibits. A One-Frame Grand will be awarded in the One-Frame class, and a Youth Grand will be awarded in the Youth class.
- d) An entry may be eligible for multiple awards. As well as the RPSC, many society and other awards including APS, AAPE, ATA, BNAPS, PSSC and PHSC, will be awarded at the discretion of the Jury.
- e) Judging will be on a point system and each exhibitor will be given a completed exhibit feedback form at the close of the show.
