



Antiques  
for Everyone  
THE NEC BIRMINGHAM 2010

**IT IS ESSENTIAL TO READ ALL THE RULES,  
REGULATIONS & GUIDELINES THESE FORM  
PART OF THE TERMS & CONDITIONS OF  
YOUR CONTRACT**

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# **OVERALL RULES, REGULATIONS & GUIDELINES**

## **VETTING AIMS**

The appointed Vetting Committees will examine stock for sale using the following criteria:

1. Dateline
2. Genuine
3. Quality / Fairworthiness
4. Labelling
5. Restoration, Additions or subtractions - later enhancements or any alterations that change its original character, size, or enhance its value will not be allowed.
6. General Rules

Any exhibitor found to be deliberately excluding items from the vetting process will be immediately asked to withdraw from the Fair and may be excluded from future Fairs.

We advise all exhibitors to carefully select items of stock they wish to exhibit in accordance with the Vetting Rules, Regulations and Guidelines.

## **1 DATELINE**

Antiques for Everyone is a dateline Fair, the specific datelines have been displayed by discipline in the Regulations section of this booklet and identify additional specific requirements for Section 1 and Section 2.

Please contact the Vetting Co-ordinator if you require additional advice or are unable to determine the relevant dateline for your stock item.

In exceptional circumstances, it may be possible for an item that is outside the dateline to be exhibited if, in the opinion of the Vetting Committee, it has important and/or special interest to the Fair whilst maintaining the remaining vetting aims.

To obtain pre-vetted approval, a photograph and full description must be emailed to the Vetting Co-ordinator at least 4 weeks before the Fair – these details will then be passed to the relevant Vetting Committee Chairman to obtain a collective Committee response. Confirmation of acceptance, issued by the Vetting Co-ordinator, will be required for the item to be allowed at the Fair.

## **2 GENUINE**

Only genuine authenticated items will be allowed at the Fair. Deliberate fakes or objects made to deceive will not be permitted. Any claim must be backed up by documentary or photographic evidence; this evidence must be available to the Vetting Committee on or prior to the Vetting Day.

## **3 QUALITY / FAIRWORTHINESS**

Items of poor workmanship, badly restored, in need of restoration, in a dilapidated or dirty condition will be rejected. The suitability and quality of items for sale is at the discretion of the Vetting Committee.

## **4 LABELLING REQUIREMENTS**

Labels must be completed by commencement of vetting and subsequent daily vetting and clearly visible. Any restoration must be clearly indicated on labelling and invoices. Exhibitors are responsible for the contents of their own labels and the onus is upon themselves to ensure that they are correct. Items not labelled or labelled incorrectly are eligible to be vetted off. Contents of labels should include:

- Description of Item
- Country of origin – including factory where available
- Material from which item is made
- Any restoration details
- Date of manufacture – must be quoted in 20 year periods ie “18<sup>th</sup> Century” or “Georgian” is not accurate enough.
- Price – in plain UK pound sterling figures
- Paintings and Watercolours – please refer to the specific discipline information on page 15

All items are required to be accurately and fully described and justified.

Items of mixed medium will be vetted by all relevant committees.

**The Ruling by Trading Standards** concerning labelling of very small items such as Jewellery allow a list describing each item by number to be affixed to the side of a showcase on full public display if individual labels are too difficult to produce.

**Labelling & Prices for Objects in Glass Cabinets** – Exhibitors must ensure that such items are clearly labelled, and the label is clearly visible from outside, showing the price. Alternatively, a catalogue/price list must be displayed on the side of the cabinet, or be clearly visible adjacent to the cabinet.

### **Items for Display Only**

All such items must be within the prescribed datelines, or of modern construction and clearly marked **“DISPLAY ONLY - NOT FOR SALE”**. No modern copies of period design will be allowed for display only purposes. Even if an item is only for display purposes it will be vetted and must comply with the vetting criteria. Additional stand lighting can be supplied by exhibition contractors.

## **5 RESTORATION**

A reasonable amount of restoration is permitted in accordance with the age of the item, and general acceptability in the discipline concerned. Any restoration must be clearly stated on the label.

Restoration must be in keeping with the original character of the piece, allowing evidence of antiquity. Items must not be restored to a level that obscures evidence of age or the extent of serious damage.

No Marriages of any kind will be allowed. Any Item having additions, subtractions, later enrichments or any alterations which change its original character, size, or enhance its value will not be permitted.

The degree of restoration allowed is at the discretion of the Vetting Committee.

## **6 GENERAL RULES**

**IF ANY EXHIBITORS ARE FOUND TO BE DISPLAYING ITEMS ON THEIR STAND WHICH HAD NOT BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE VETTING PROCESS THEY WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE FAIR IMMEDIATELY.**

We would advise all exhibitors to carefully select items of stock they wish to exhibit in accordance with the Vetting Rules, Regulations and Guidelines.

Items may be subject for inspection and/or comparison with the stolen goods database thus providing due diligence.

Items purchased from Section 2 for re-sale in Section 1 during the Fair must be submitted to Section 1 Vetting Committees and vice versa, in view of the differing datelines.

Exhibitors with more than 25% of their combined stock listed for re-labelling or removal should be aware that repeated vetting problems could jeopardise their future participation.

Items of mixed medium will be vetted by all relevant committees.

The vetting committee reserve the right to remove any exhibit from sale that is considered to be of dubious age, quality or description.

### **INITIAL VETTING DAY**

Vetting commences at 11.00 am and exhibitors are reminded that all stock must be labelled and available for vetting at this time. Exhibitors must not leave the Fair until they have confirmed their vetting check list has been signed under each discipline. Exhibitors should note that members of the Vetting Committees may re-visit stands at any time to request items to be removed.

### **DURING VETTING**

The Organisers kindly request that exhibitors withdraw from their stand and out of ear shot whilst their stock is vetted. Keys to cabinets must be available to Committees. Any rejected items will be noted on the vetting form and need to be immediately removed to secure stores for the remainder of the fair - vetted off items are automatically excluded from any future Clarion NEC fairs. Positively no discussion will be entered into with the exhibitors during or after vetting. Exhibitors must comply fully with all Vetting Committee or Organiser requests.

### **SUBSEQUENT VETTING**

Subsequent vetting commences at 10.00 am Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Any incoming stock must be accompanied by a subsequent vetting form and a corresponding movement of goods form, to be handed to the security officers on either the vehicle entrance doors or the stores by 9.45 am.

### **APPEALS**

Appeals must be received by the Chair of vetting committee in writing before 16:00 hours on vetting day, and by 10:45 hours on subsequent days. Due to the limited time available appeals will be limited to a maximum of 3 per stand. Appeals will be dealt with by the Appeals Chairman, who will hear reasons for rejection from the Chairman of the relevant Committee, and reason for re-instatement from the exhibitor concerned. The Appeals Chairman may also, at his discretion, consult any other person he may choose. The resulting decision of the Appeals Chairman will be final.

### **REMOVAL OF REJECTED ITEMS**

In the event that the exhibitor fails or refuses to remove any item rejected by the Vetting Committee before opening hours on the day in question, the Company may itself remove such articles at the exhibitors own risk and shall not be under any liability for damage or loss during or after removal. Any item rejected by the vetting committee will not be accepted to any future Antiques for Everyone Fairs.

## **SCREENS**

Security screens must not be in evidence on your stand during the vetting process nor obstruct the vetting process in any way. This includes subsequent vetting where items have been placed for vetting the following morning. In the event that access is not available to the Vetter's then the said items will automatically have to be vetted off.

## **ENDANGERED SPECIES**

The UK is a signatory to the convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Dealers are advised to check with the government website [www.ukcites.gov.uk](http://www.ukcites.gov.uk) for current information on the sale and export of fauna or flora made of or incorporating (irrespective of percentage) material such as ivory, whalebone, tortoiseshell, rhinoceros horn, rosewood and lignum vitae etc.

The website also gives guidance notes on export licence applications.

As these regulations are under constant review dealers are advised to check prior to each fair.

## **TRADING STANDARDS POLICY**

### **Electrical Goods**

All electrical goods sold in working order or to be used must be tested and fitted with a current test label. All electrical goods sold as collectors' items e.g. early radios, gramophones, art deco fans etc. must be invoiced as non-working and sold as decorative/collectable objects only and not to be used. Wiring and plug must be removed. Any mechanical collectables must be invoiced as sold in working order or sold as decorative object only (Not to be used). (Trade Descriptions Act – Fit for Purpose).

### **Trade Tools**

Cabinetmakers and clockmakers tools etc should be described as decorative collectables only, unless the article is in full working order.

### **Invoices**

All items sold during the Fair must be properly invoiced in accordance with Trading Standards requirements. A receipt bearing the identical description as well as your name and at least a telephone number should be given on each sale.

## **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

Exhibitors are requested to behave in a professional manner whilst participating at NEC Fairs. Conduct which is aggressive, either verbally or physically, towards any member of staff including the organisational team and their appointed contractors, the Vetting Committees, Security, Traffic, Catering etc., and other exhibitors, will NOT be tolerated and may be excluded from future Fairs or asked to leave the Fair forthwith.

## **DISCLAIMER**

Whilst the Organisers and Vetting Committees of the Antiques for Everyone Fair do not in any way hold themselves responsible or warrant the genuineness or age description of any article exhibited, visitors and exhibitors are advised that every attempt is made to ensure that articles have been submitted for inspection by members of the Vetting Committee to ensure as far as possible that exhibits are fairworthy and comply with datelines.

Clarion Events Birmingham Ltd reserves rights of admission for exhibitors and visitors.  
Correct as of October 2009

## **ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS FOR SPECIFIC DISCIPLINES**

### **ANTIQUÉ LIGHTING**

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1914  
Section 2 - 1950**

- All electric wiring must comply with current safety standards regarding earthing or the wiring must be removed completely. **All lights fitted with a flex and plug must bear a PAT test certificate.**
- All items must be accurately labelled and include original method of illumination e.g. oil, gas or electricity.
- Sympathetic conversion to electricity from oil or gas use will be permitted but any major changes to the original construction of the light will not be acceptable.
- Oil lamps: Bases and oil reservoirs should be original and glass shades should preferably be of the same period as the bases. New shades of appropriate design will be allowed but must be labelled "modern".
- Gas and electric fittings: All exhibits should be as originally constructed apart from any necessary conversion to meet electrical standards or the use of any shade carriers required. Single old shades supported on modern shade carriers and labelled "hanging lights" or "pendants" will not be allowed. (The shades however may be sold separately). Reproduction glass shades of appropriate design will be permitted on old fittings but these must be labelled "modern". American table lamps of dubious age will be rejected.
- Chandeliers: not more than 30% of lustres should be replaced on any one fitting; also they should not be embellished by the addition of extra beads or drops.

### **ARTS & CRAFTS**

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1914  
Section 2 - 1950**

- Refinishing of furniture should be sympathetically carried out, using good natural wax finish. Pieces should ideally not be stripped and re-coloured or overly French-polished.
- Items must be genuinely in the Arts & Crafts style and not be general Victorian or Edwardian furnishings re-coloured or re-styled to be sold as such. Later embellishments are not acceptable.
- Items must not be labelled as the product of particular designers, makers, workshops or regional schools, unless there is available and substantial proof to verify this.
- The original finish and patination of metalwork is preferable to highly polished examples. Metalwork on furniture must be original.
- Lighting will also be vetted by the appropriate committee, but shades should be sympathetic to the style. Unless there is available and substantial proof, labels attributable to individual designers, makers, workshops or regional schools will not be allowed.
- Arts & Crafts textiles and carpets should be in good condition and not "tender" or faded. They must be from the original period and not later copies or adaptations.
- Replacement glass liners to metalwork are not allowed.

## **CLOCKS, BAROMETERS & SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS**

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1914  
Section 2 - 1960**

### **Clocks & Barometers**

- No totally replaced movements or replaced dials will be allowed.
- All dials if not re-silvered, should be clean & legible.
- Replaced hands must be in keeping and labelled as such.
- Re-gilding only acceptable if of highest quality and labelled as such.
- Enamelling can be repaired but not totally replaced.
- All clocks and barometers must be in full working order and guaranteed for at least 1 year.
- If for any reason a clock is not in good working order, it should be labelled as such and it will be at the vetting committee's discretion as to the fairworthiness of the item.

### **Scientific Instruments**

- No later Indian or copies of instruments allowed. Telescopes, binoculars etc. must be in working order.
- All measuring, weighing or calculating instruments must be invoiced as collectors' items only or words to that effect. (Trade Descriptions Act – Fit for Purpose).
- Each element of globes on stands must be vetted by the respective committee i.e. Globes on wooden stands would be vetted by Furniture and the Instrument Vetting Committees.
- Globes on silver stands would be vetted by Silver and Instrument Vetter's. Any globes with gores or horizon rings replaced with photocopies will be rejected.
- Any sand glasses with replacement frames will be rejected. Tickets must have good descriptions and be dated '19th Century Scientific Instrument' or 'Measuring Instrument' – will not alone be acceptable.

## **EUROPEAN CERAMICS**

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1914  
Section 2 - 1950**

- Fine, signed or Limited Edition pieces by Royal Worcester, Royal Crown Derby, Coalport, Minton etc may be allowed up to 1975 but entirely at the discretion of the Vetting Committee.
- All other ceramics must have been produced prior to the relevant dateline with the further exception of the following Moorcroft items:-
  - Walter Moorcroft flambé items will be allowed due to their quality
  - Patterns allowed providing they have the impressed factory mark with facsimile signature are: Spring Flowers, Orchids, Clematis, Anemone, Fuchsia, Columbine, Hibiscus, Lilies.
- Badly damaged ceramics will be rejected. Over restored pieces not up to showroom standard will be considered unfairworthy and will be rejected.
- No ceramics of mass inferior manufacture from the 20th Century will be permitted.

- Alterations - Conversions are only acceptable if the item is changed from an obsolete purpose to a modern purpose, at the discretion of the Vetting Committee, and always providing the alteration is sympathetically executed and indicated on the label - e.g. Linen Press changed to Wardrobe, and converted Commodes.
- Replaced Feet & Handles - Acceptable if so labelled and in-keeping with the piece.
- Veneers, Cross-banding & Inlays - Replacement up to 25% are acceptable, at the discretion of the Vetting Committee, but not whole tops. Later cross-banding and inlays intended to enhance the value of the piece will not be permitted. Any acceptable replacements etc should be labelled clearly.
- Items of furniture with associated tops are not acceptable.
- Re-gilding - Acceptable if back/underside has an area left visibly old.
- Re-painting/Re-decoration - Poor quality or redecorated items are not acceptable. However, genuine examples of period paint decorated pieces will be allowed provided that the decoration is still in the original style with no added enhancement or embellishment. Any restoration to paint work must be professional and of high quality. The basic original surface and colour must be apparent even if latterly obscured by historic retouching. All pieces must retain their original character.
- Upholstered Items – Must have part of the framework left open for inspection. Photos showing original finish/decoration before restoration would greatly help to “pass” the item. Chairs with loose joints will be rejected.
- Blind Panels - Altered to take glazing or grilles will not normally be accepted.
- Replacement Leather or Marble Tops - Replacement marble and leather tops allowed only if the piece had them originally and must be labelled accordingly.
- Later Carving - Is not acceptable.
- Items made in two or more parts - Must not be screwed together nor filled with items preventing the Committee from examining the pieces separately.
- Tantalus and Spirit Boxes Replacement glass will be permitted as long as it is of suitable quality, appropriate and clearly labelled “modern replacement”.
- Replacement Glass in Mirrors - Modern replacement plates in mirrors must be so labelled. No picture frames as mirrors.
- Photos showing original state of the item before restoration would greatly help the vetters to pass the item.
- Access must be given to all drawers and cupboards.
- Would all exhibitors please note – mass-produced copies of period furniture made throughout the 20th Century may be considered not in the best interests of the Fair.

- No damaged glass is allowed unless the glass is of such age and rarity that it is still deemed an important or unique item. All cracked glass, excessive trimming of feet and rims, and cloudiness are deemed to be not fairworthy.
- Later engraving on glasses will be considered on its individual merits and relevance to the original glass. Where the later engraving intended to falsify and deceive in order to increase the value of the glass, it will be vetted off.
- No items of mass inferior production will be permitted including late cut glass from the late 19th and early 20th century.
- Post-war design will be permitted but must be of a high artistic design standard.
- Items must be signed by a major manufacturer and/or artist and must have been made within ten years of its initial design date.
- Any later re-issues of older ranges, for example by factories such as Venini or Iittala, cannot be exhibited.
- Studio Glass is currently outside the dateline of this fair, but dealers wishing to exhibit exceptional items by the acknowledged top echelon of British and International glass artists should submit those items for pre-vetting for a decision by the Organisers and the Chair of the Glass Vetting Committee.

**Hock Glass**

- In recent years the production of coloured and cased and cut hock glasses has increased hugely with the bulk of the new production coming from glass factories in Eastern Europe. The vetting committee are aware of this production and wish to provide a safeguard for the buying public, the dealers and the Fair Organiser's, by introducing the following guideline:
- Clear, cased or coloured hock glasses which are not attributed to a major manufacturer will NOT BE PERMITTED.

**Items Not Allowed**

- Pressed glass which is unattributable to a maker is unacceptable and will be vetted off.
- Witch balls are not permitted
- Decanters with missing stoppers, and any other items missing a vital element.

**Items Allowed**

- Items which will be allowed are: wineglasses with coloured bowls and clear stems, green glass weights and 'dumps'.

**Restoration and Replacements**

- Reasonable restoration will be permitted at the discretion of the Committee including trimmed wine glasses etc. providing it is clearly labelled.
- Trimming that changes the proportions or functions of an item will not be allowed. Any dealer with an excessive proportion of trimmed wineglasses in relation to other stock will be required to reduce the number of trimmed items.
- Decanters must be reasonable clean and replacement stoppers must be in the original style.
- Replacement shades for lighting must be clearly labelled as such.
- Replacement glass for Tantalus and Spirit Boxes will be permitted as long as it is a suitable quality, appropriate to the date of the original and clearly labelled "modern replacement".

- All items must be of manufacture prior to 1970.
- All items must conform to the relevant sections of the Hallmarking Act (by law).
- Any item that is new, reproduction, fake or over restored and items of marriage will be 'vetted off'. Reshanked rings and 'old cut' diamonds in new settings will be deemed as new.
- Conversions will not be allowed – i.e. small brooches into rings, watch chain tassels into earrings, chatelaines into necklaces – in view of the numerous possibilities decisions will be at the discretion of the Vetting Committee.
- Replaced pins and catches are allowed if altered neatly; lead solder repairs are not allowed.
- Items of exceptional quality and pieces by named manufacturers which fall outside the dateline may be allowed at the discretion of the Vetting Committee – please refer to 'Dateline' section of the Vetting Aims on Page 3 for the pre-vetting instructions.
- Certificates for stones that have been independently assessed may be shown to clients. Exhibitors who are not qualified to do so must not offer verbal grading on stones they are selling.
- Offering written valuations (albeit by an independent third party) showing prices in excess of the asking price as an inducement to buy is not allowed.

### **Organics and Costume Jewellery**

- Pearls must be of good quality, good form and colour and well strung with a quality fastener. Conversions of brooches into chokers will be allowed if the value of the clasp exceeds the value of the pearls, and the conversion does not materially alter the brooch.
- Akoya cultured pearls are allowed if pre 1970s- they must be well strung and pearls in good order. No mixing of pearls with freshwater or other beads is allowed. Pearls that are in bad condition are not allowed.
- No freshwater cultured pearls are allowed.
- South Sea and Tahitian pearls necklaces of fine quality at the Vetter's discretion will be allowed with the following exceptions :
  - South sea and Tahitian pearls will not be allowed if they are blemished, circled or of a low quality.
  - No mixed South Sea or Tahitian with freshwater pearls will be allowed.
- Under international law it is illegal to sell Scottish fresh water pearls in antique jewellery without a licence. All exhibitors must apply for a licence to sell antique jewellery which includes Scottish pearls. Even if you are unsure it is against the law;
  - Under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, which was strengthened in March 1998 to give freshwater pearl mussels full protection worldwide, it is illegal to fish for pearls, and to sell or advertise the pearls even if they were collected before that date. Jewellers can apply to the Scottish Executive for a licence to sell pearls legally acquired before 1998 if their application is based upon supporting evidence.
- Amber, jet, coral and tortoiseshell – must be well strung with no cracks or marriages (no mixed beads)
- American Indian and Ethnic jewellery – no new jewellery or reproductions. Pre 1920's only.
- Mexican silver jewellery must be pre 1968 – i.e. items must be marked either with the 'bell' or 'eagle mark' – items marked with TR173 marks will be excluded.

- Plastics including Bakelite – no reproductions – this includes L Stein jewellery. These types and Vulcanite and Gucha Percha must state so on label.
- All organics must be clearly labelled.
- Glass beads must not be labelled as French jet.
- Enamelled jewellery – only minor repairs are allowed at the Vetting Committee’s discretion, and details must be shown on a label.
- Watches must be in working order.

## MAPS & PRINTS

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1914**  
**Section 2 - 1950**

**Section 1** Dateline of 1914 for all Maps & Prints.

All mediums of print are allowed with no dateline ONLY if totally executed by the original artist. This rule does not include limited edition prints produced by publishers and then signed by the artist.

**Section 2** Dateline is 1950 for all Maps & Prints.

The exception is Prints of any medium executed and signed by the original artist, for which the dateline is 1970 for both Section 1 and 2.

**Both Sections** When exhibiting Paintings, Drawings and Prints together, to assist the speed of the vetting process, please clearly label Prints as such.

- All Prints & Maps should be clearly and individually labelled with circa date and if hand coloured, whether colouring is original, later or recent.
- All Maps & Prints must be mounted, framed or contained in a portfolio. Polythene / paper bags or bundles of loose prints are unacceptable / unfairworthy.
- Every Map / Print must be in decent condition, labelled whether restored or cut down to be considered fairworthy and the framing and/or mounting must be in good clean condition whether old or recent.
- Exceedingly battered or dirty frames, mounts, maps or prints will be classed as **Not Fairworthy**.
- Please be aware that there can be very modern restrikes from old plates. Unless certain on the date of maps or prints, they should not be brought to AFE.
- Chromo-Lithographs are acceptable unless of very poor quality.

## METALWARE

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1900**  
**Section 2 - 1950**

- Base metal – brass, copper, bronze, pewter, iron & steel
- Overall false patination will not be accepted. However, sympathetic restorative work such as re-gilding, re-silvering etc is acceptable if the article was finished in the same way originally.
- The pastiche or articles of an ambiguous nature are not allowed. For example certain candlesticks were copied in the 1920’s and although they would pass the dateline in Section 2, they cannot be allowed as they are outwardly exact copies of an earlier period.

This discipline basically covers all smaller decorative/valuable items other than Jewellery, not necessarily just in showcases. They can be made of almost any material;

**Enamel Objects**

- Enamels must not be cracked or chipped making them unsightly and thus unfairworthy.
- Any restoration must only be sufficient to make items visually acceptable for sale and labelled accordingly.
- Excessive over-spraying to hide re-enamelling or crazing, to change script to alter decoration to make an item more saleable is not acceptable.

**Russian Antiques**

- Precious Metalwork, Enamel and Faberge items should be clearly labelled with a maker, work master, town/city and date.
- An item should not be over restored as it will then be deemed to be unfairworthy. This is made with particular reference to the condition of enamels.
- Objects by particular Goldsmiths and labelled such should be genuine, of that date and by that maker. They cannot be later copies bearing spurious makers' marks. In addition, items that are Post Revolutionary should be labelled as such with a date.
- Modern reproductions of Pre Revolutionary objects will not be allowed in the Fair.

**Miniatures**

- All miniatures or small pictures presented in the manner of miniatures whether executed in oil, enamel, watercolour or any other medium must be original artwork i.e. not overpainted prints or photographs or any other paint enhanced reproduction.
- All miniatures must be labelled describing the material used i.e. watercolour, etc. Also the base if it is other than Ivory, i.e. copper, enamel, cartridge paper, ivorene, etc.
- Any miniature, which is damaged and has been restored in a DISCREET manner making it fairworthy, must be labelled accordingly.
- Any miniature, which has been over restored either to conceal damage, over enhance or to change the original image/background etc., in order to improve the original character will be rejected.
- In Section 1 late 19th or early 20th Century copies or miniatures in an earlier style are not acceptable. Likewise furnishing pictures often Continental "sweetened versions" in the style of 18th Century or "antique style" in "piano key" or over elaborate frames made to look like earlier works will be rejected.
- All miniatures and silhouettes offered must be in a fairworthy condition, which is of sufficient quality to be acceptable i.e. well executed, not faded by sunlight, damaged by water, mildew etc. and displayed in a suitable frame.
- In Section 2 later 19th Century 'Pastiches' of quality will be acceptable if they are fully and accurately labelled.

**Silhouettes**

- Silhouettes must be "ALL of the period" - i.e. Any silhouette where there is reason to suspect that the background has been added or further embellished to enhance the whole, even if the figures are clearly original will be rejected.
- All later copies in an earlier period style even if they are within the dateline of the Fair will be rejected.
- All silhouettes should be clearly labelled not only stating the date and maker if known but should also give as much information as possible about the method of production, i.e. whether it is painted on glass, plaster, board etc. Likewise if they are cut out and laid down etc. NB. Many

silhouettes painted on glass (particularly rigged sailing ships or coaching subject) which are being generally offered for sale are younger than they should be. We therefore strongly advise that they should be carefully scrutinised by the dealer before being offered for sale.

#### **European Ivories, Tortoiseshell, Mother of Pearl etc.**

- All items must be in good order, not cracked or damaged and any restoration must be sympathetically carried out and marked accordingly.

#### **All Boxes to include Snuff Boxes, Toothpick Boxes etc.**

This covers frames rectangular, square and oval conventional boxes made in papier-mâché, tortoiseshell, ivory, etc., as well as converted seashells, ram's horns snuff mulls, carved treen (wood) snuff shoes, coquilla nut figures, and other nuts including coconuts etc., Toothpick boxes, Boite a miniature, sealing-wax boxes; small pocket writing boxes etc., the list is endless but the rules apply equally.

- No marriages such as fitting lids to bases of any description.
- No embellishments such as miniatures or silver/brass inlay or painting added to plain boxes, or any other "trick" to enhance a plain box such as divisions inserted making a fly box or a stamp box etc.
- No later engraving, such as an added date or initials. This ruling applies equally to treen, brass/copper boxes, snuff mulls etc.
- If the fitments are replaced, such as mini inkwells, scent bottles, etc., they must be labelled.
- No damaged hinges or defective clasps or cracks; likewise excessive restoration would make them unfairworthy.
- Where the original lining has shrunk / disintegrated boxes must not be re-lined.
- Hinges, feet, escutcheons, handles and all other furniture must be original or accurate replacements.

#### **Papier Mache**

- The main fabric of the article must be in good order; likewise the painting and any Mother of Pearl decoration etc. must be complete and if restored marked accordingly.
- Some re-gilding is acceptable provided it is in the original design only to restore and not enhance more than the original decoration - e.g. very plain trays or those with just border patterns, given central decoration of pictures, Mother of Pearl or gilding etc., are not acceptable.

#### **Tôleware**

- Tin by its very nature tends to rust and flake, but all objects offered must be in good order preferably with only its original paintwork.
- However, discreet re-painting will be allowed if the article would otherwise be unfairworthy but only if it is not a way of altering/over enhancing the object and must be honestly labelled.
- Any object which is completely overpainted to cover an unacceptable degree of rust or excessive re-soldering, or similar embellishments will be rejected.

#### **Scent Bottles**

- Bottles must be in a fairworthy condition, i.e. not chipped, cracked, or necks re-ground etc. New stoppers will be permitted if they are in the correct style.
- No new silver spun tops will be permitted.
- No reproductions.
- All bottles must be correctly labelled with date, material, country/continent of origin.
- Bottles produced by cutting away half a probably damaged originally double ended scent bottle will not be acceptable.

#### **Fans**

- Fans must have undamaged leaves or be sympathetically restored and labelled accordingly.
- The sticks and guards must be of a piece i.e. originally matching and if restored it must be sufficiently well done so as not to detract from the appearance and labelled accordingly.

## **OIL PAINTINGS, WATERCOLOURS & DRAWINGS**

**Section 1 - No Dateline  
Section 2 - 1950**

**For all Period, Contemporary/Living artists labels must clearly state:**

- 1.** Name of Artist or attribution, dates and/or period of the work
  - 2.** Background information including exhibitions (as a group or individual previews)
  - 3.** Medium of the work labelled
  - 4.** Unknown and previously non-exhibited artists' works must be pre-vetted one month before Fair dates for inclusion in a Clarion Birmingham event.
- **Condition:-** Everything should be in a fairworthy condition. Restoration should be noted on the label. Items considered not to be in the best interests of the Fair will be rejected at the discretion of the Vetting Committee.
  - Conditions of watercolours, mounts, prints and some primitive naïve paintings should be given greater care to ensure fairworthy condition.
  - Labels must be visible for the purpose of vetting and during the open period of the fair.
  - Over cleaning, strengthened colours and signatures and over restored pictures will not be permitted.
  - **Restoration:-** All mounts and frames must be of a presentable standard.
  - **Copies:-** No copies or modern derivatives are allowed.

## **ORIENTAL CARPETS & RUGS**

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1950  
Section 2 - 1950**

- There must be at least 70% of stock pre-dating 1950.
- No modern Chinese of any kind including silks and needlework will be allowed at the Fair.
- Carpets or rugs made in Pakistan will not be allowed.
- All contemporary carpets and rugs must be of good quality and from the country of origin.
- All carpets and rugs must be clearly labelled with date and condition and country of origin.
- Cut and shut or badly restored items will not be allowed.

## **ORIENTAL OBJECTS, ANTIQUITIES & ASIAN WORKS OF ART**

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1914  
Section 2 - 1950**

All excavated Chinese ceramics and ceramic antiquities with a retail value of over £3,000 for pottery and above £4,000 for porcelain and stoneware must be thermo-luminescence (TL) tested by an internationally accepted testing centre. This testing requirement will cover all Chinese ceramics to the end of the Yuan period (AD1368) and pottery tomb figures to the end of the Ming period (1644). Post Yuan porcelain and stonewares will not require a TL certificate. This testing requirement also covers pre-medieval ceramic antiquities to end of the 7th century AD. To have a piece tested contact:-

Oxford Authentication Ltd.  
The Bolton Building  
Grove Technology Park  
Wantage  
Oxfordshire  
OX12 9FA

(Telephone) 01235 770998  
(Fax) 01235 771021  
(Website) [www.oxfordauthentication.com](http://www.oxfordauthentication.com)

- A TL Certificate does not guarantee total authenticity and all tested pieces will still be subject to vetting in accordance with the regulations. It is recommended that excavated Chinese bronzes and works of art such as wood, lacquerware etc. are also authenticated with a TL Test. Where there is no TL certificate available for bronzes, works of art or ceramics below the retail price threshold, a disclaimer notice must be displayed alongside the piece - the notices are available from the Vetting Office.
- It is acknowledged that the test can be invasive and may damage thinly potted objects - in these special circumstances, a TL certificate will not be required but a disclaimer notice must be displayed as above.
- Totally refinished or reshaped Chinese provincial furniture or food boxes will not be allowed. Chinese provincial furniture will only be allowed if of original shape and finish and of high enough quality to be considered an asset to the Fair by the Vetting Committee.

## **SCULPTURE, BRONZE & ORMOLU**

**Section 1 - No Dateline  
Section 2 - 1950**

- Sculpture, in any medium, should not be over-cleaned. Some replacement is acceptable, up to 25% of the LESS important parts, but must be like for like replacement, i.e. bronze for bronze, silver for silver, etc. All replacements must be specified and clearly labelled, as must any damage or omission from the original.
- Overall false patination is not acceptable. However, sympathetic restorative work such as re-gilding, re-silvering or re-patinating is acceptable where the finish is the same as the original finish. Any re-finished sculpture must be clearly labelled as to the extent of the re-finishing, 'some re-patination' on the label is not sufficient. Items that have been totally re-patinated may be removed at the discretion of the vetting committee if the finish is not of sufficiently high standard or the method of re-finishing is not the same as the original method used.
- Non original bases must be labelled as such.
- Resin cast 'bronzes' are not acceptable.
- Modern sculpture is to be by an artist who has had his or her work exhibited at a recognised venue or establishment and be a 'one off' or maximum of 20 editions. The sculpture will be vetted on the quality of casting and finish as well as the reputation of the artist. Unless intrinsic to the work, low quality casting and finishing will not be permitted.

- In the case of a work produced after the death of the artist, this must be clearly stated in the description

**Contemporary Sculpture, labels must clearly state:**

1. Name of Artist or attribution, dates and/or period of the work
  2. Background information including exhibitions (as a group or individual previews)
  3. Medium of the work labelled.
  4. Living Artists are excluded from exhibiting their own works.
  5. Unknown and previously non-exhibited artists' works must be pre-vetted one month before Fair dates for inclusion in a Clarion Birmingham event.
- Re-casts are not allowed, except when under licence, such as Barbidiene. When a piece of sculpture, in whatever medium, appears to be an illegal copy, whether or not it bears a signature, it will be rejected.

**Outdoor Sculpture, Ornaments & Furniture**

**Section 1** No Dateline **Section 2** Dateline of 1950.

**SILVER & SILVER PLATE**

**Dateline: Section 1 - 1970**  
**Section 2 - 1970**

- The dateline for silver and plate throughout the fair is 1970
- All exhibitors trading in silver and gold must display a card showing the Hallmarking act.
- Items that contravene the Hallmarking Act are not allowed (by law).
- All items should be in as original condition as possible, with good colour and patination appropriate for their age and usage. Over-polishing and over-restoration is discouraged.

**Silver**

- Later engraved or chased decoration is unacceptable and will be vetted off.
- No unsightly repairs are acceptable. Others should be noted on the ticket.
- Later inscriptions and heraldic engraving are acceptable as long as they are noted on the ticket.
- Careful erasures are acceptable as long as there are no thin areas, and must be noted on the ticket.

**Plate**

- Replating of Old Sheffield plate unacceptable, although minor "ragging-in" allowed as long as it is noted on the ticket.
- Replating of electroplate acceptable as long as it is noted on the ticket.

**Mixed Media**

- Items with replacement glass elements (clarets jugs, cruet bottles, salt and basket liners etc) may be removed at the discretion of the glass committee. All replacement glass must be noted on the ticket.

**Labelling**

- All Treen items if not British must have country or at least a geographical area (i.e. North Africa) of origin on the label.
- Please double check when ticketing items of ivory that they are not made from bone.

**Boxes**

- All boxes, whenever possible, should have original interiors and be in fairworthy condition. Boxes with interiors in poor condition or dilapidated will not be allowed.
- If a box has been converted from an obsolete purpose such as a knife box or spoon box to a stationary cabinet or cigar humidor to a small collector's cabinet, the conversion should be of the same workmanship quality as of the original box. All internal alterations, modifications and conversions must be indicated on the label and invoice. (Acceptance of these conversions will remain at the discretion of the Vetting Committee).
- Boxes with added inlays and restored boxes with poorly matched replacement inlays will be rejected.
- No conversions of tea caddies to money boxes or letterboxes will be allowed nor will any box that has been enhanced in form, decoration or purpose i.e. plain workboxes converted to games compendiums and boxes with later painted decoration.
- Any box or caddy that has been re-veneered or refinished in such a way that its original decoration form or age is obscured will be subject to possible rejection at the discretion of the Vetting Committee.

**Tantalus and Spirit Box Replacement Glass**

- This will be permitted as long as it is of suitable quality, appropriate and clearly labelled 'modern replacement'.

**Ethnographica and Natural History Specimens**

- Exhibitors should make sure that all exhibits comply with the current legislation re the Endangered Species Act.
- All fossils and minerals should be presented in their natural state i.e. not reworked into eggs, balls, stands or paperweights or other craft objects.
- All horns and antlers must have their original mounting boards.
- Ethnographical, wherever possible, exhibitors should try and research the article and give the country, tribe or area, and be more specific with the labelling of items 'African Mask' or 'Oceanic Club'.
- Any re-cased natural history specimens must have cases of original type and quality. Any repainting to carved wooden fish must be minimal and noted on the label accurately.

**Leather and Sporting Goods**

- Please ensure when labelling articles described as crocodile or snakeskin that it is the real thing. If one is not sure it is safer to label items as hide, leather or skin in order to comply with the Trade Descriptions Act.
- Luggage and vintage picnic sets must be in good condition inside and outside, and complete.

**Fishing Tackle**

- All fishing flies, tackle, wallets and lures must be within datelines.
- Stuffed fish and carved fish should be within original cases if cases available. No modern cases will be allowed.
- Repainted fish or fish mounted on modern boards will not be allowed.

### **Walking Canes, Sticks and Umbrellas**

- Re-carved handles or new handles on old sticks will not be allowed.
- No replacement canes allowed.
- Old handles with new sticks will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances.
- All gadget and system canes/sticks must be original.
- No re mounting of handles as magnifying glasses or paper knives etc....

### **Decorative Items/Collectors Items**

- Please ensure items labelled ivory are ivory and not in fact bone.
- All goods must be accurately labelled as to original purpose and country of origin, wherever possible.
- All architectural embellishments to be presented in a good fairworthy display i.e. not in heaps as this is not acceptable.

### **Needlework, Linen and Lace**

- Modern Chinese, Russian, or other modern linen or lace will not be allowed.
- Badly darned linen throws or shawls unless early period examples will be rejected.
- All linen needlework must be kept tidy and displayed attractively.
- Embroidered silk pictures must be in good condition (small breaks in groundwork will be allowed).

### **Samplers, Stumpwork and other Early Needlework**

- Samplers with reworked dates will be rejected as will any with suspect dates.
- Samplers that have been restored or finished at a date later than that of the original manufacture must have an explicit label and an invoice when sold indicating what has been done. No reworking or later colouring of samplers, wool or silk pictures.
- All material fragments, drapes, passimentrie, haberdashery and millenary pieces must be presented in a fairthworthy manner.

### **Dolls, Toys, Model Boats, Yachts and Ships**

- Replacement parts and restoration must be indicated clearly on all labels, i.e. non original dolls clothes.
- Dolls dressed in non-original clothes made from old materials must be labelled accordingly.
- Dolls with replacements parts should be labelled accordingly i.e. new wigs or eyes etc.
- No new dolls heads allowed.
- All teddy bears and stuffed toy animals must be dated on the label and any examples that continued in production after the Fairs dateline will be vetted off.
- All model boats, yachts and ships that have been re-rigged or had replacement parts or sails must be labelled accordingly.
- Scale models must be of good quality, poor weak examples will not be allowed.
- Clockwork toys need not be working but must be in a fairworthy condition.
- Please indicate on your invoices whether it's sold as a working toy/model or non working collectors items (Trade Descriptions Act – Fitness for Purpose).

### **Vintage Electrical**

- Vintage Electrical items must comply with current wiring and safety regulations and have a current PAT certificate. Non working collectors items must have plugs removed and be invoiced as collectors items only. Exceptions will be made for items like telephones and electrostatic machines.

### **Books and related printed material**

- All books and related material must be pre 1950, in sound and clean condition and presented in a fairworthy manner.
- All books and related material must be clearly priced, described and invoiced according to the accepted book trades description
- Exceptions will be made for more recent books when specifically related to local history, the arts and antiques collecting.
- Fragile items or any item with loose leaves such as trade catalogues, pamphlets, sheet music, early magazines. Newspaper etc... must be within the fairs dateline, be presented in individual plastic sleeves and be clearly labelled on the sleeve as to the nature of and condition on the contents.

Our aim is to produce a Fair of a standard consistently higher than those of this nature elsewhere, to safeguard the public in their purchases as required by law and to give exhibitors a clear guide on the standards required.

Clarion Events Birmingham Ltd, reserves rights of admission for exhibitors and visitors.

Correct as at October 2009