

2022 HANDBOOK

THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK FOR THE NATIONAL+
DECK COMPETITION POWERED BY NADRA.ORG



NATIONAL+

DECK

COMPETITION

POWERED BY NADRA.ORG

CATEGORIES

RULES

HINTS & TIPS



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Thank you to our 2022 National Premier Members &
Official National+ Deck Competition Sponsors:



*National+ Deck Competition Sponsorships are reserved for **NADRA Premier Supporters**
To learn more, please email Info@NADRA.org*





NADRA Headquarters
P.O. Box 829
Quakertown, PA 18951
215-679-4884
NADRA.ORG

Dear Member:

The North American Deck and Railing Association (NADRA) recognizes and promotes excellence in the outdoor living & decking industry. Each year we celebrate and honor outstanding successes in the industry at a prestigious Industry Awards presentation & celebration.

Professionals of all levels & categories, from across North America (and beyond) enter NADRA's deck competition. Please take your time to read this document before entering. After reading this document, we encourage you to take the extra step to write out your project descriptions ahead of time to speed up your time in the registration system. However, this is not a requirement.

This is the Association's 13th Annual Competition. ***The Deadline to enter is Monday, January 9th, 2022. Winners will be announced on March 29th - 31st, 2023 in Clearwater Beach, FL at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort. Registration and sponsorship for the Awards will be available at NADRA.org***

****Important! NADRA Builder Members, please invite industry partners involved in your project build, to enter alongside of you, by selecting the "Partner Registration" option! Learn more on page 8.***

Sincerely,

NADRA Headquarters
Direct: 215-679-4884
Email: Info@NADRA.org





dates & deadlines

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2022 11:59PM EST

Early Bird Fees End.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 2022 11:59PM EST

Late entry fees are in place.



MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 2023 11:59PM EST

Deadline to enter is Monday,
January 9th, 2023 at 11:59pm EST.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2023 TO FRIDAY,
MARCH 31ST, 2023 - NADRA'S 2023 SUMMIT -
ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS:**

The 2022 National+ Deck Competition Winners will be announced at The Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater Beach, FL on March 29th - 31st, 2023. Registration and sponsorship details will be posted at NADRA.org



awards platform

REGISTRATION PLATFORM:

- Easy, fast registration
- Auto save as you go
- Make edits after submission. Entrants have the freedom to edit and refine their entries right up until deadline, even after submission.
- Intuitive entry process, no training required
- Easy entry into multiple categories with a copy feature!
- Preview entry, download PDF record
- Award-winning system design

REGISTRATION PROCESS:

- **NEW!** All entrants are able to download a blank PDF for each category to prepare for your entries.
- **File formats:** Upload JPEG, JPG or PNG files for images. You may upload mp4 or mov files for video. Maximum file size is 20MB per photo, and 100MB per video.
- **NEW!** More images are now permitted! A maximum of seven attachments can be uploaded with your entry as follows:
 - **Image 1:** Should always be your BEST image.
 - **Images 2 - 4:** Any images of your project that you wish to share
 - **NEW! Image 5:** You may include an image of your 3D renderings / designs. If you do not have a design image, you may use this space as you see fit.
 - **Image 6:** Before Photo
 - **Limit 20MB per image*
- **NEW!** (1) Video - (Video length increased by 30 seconds this year) Video must be 60 seconds or less. Video may not exceed 100MB. *****Note:** A video is not required, but is highly recommended. **You may upload a 7th image instead of a video if you choose.**
- **Reminder: * Do not include any branding on images. Do not use your company name or name on the file name. **You will be disqualified.*****



awards platform

REGISTRATION PROCESS CONTINUED:

- **Mandatory questions you must answer in the registration process:**
 - Company Name
 - Direct Number to reach you. This is NOT your 800 number or office line. This is the number where NADRA HQ can reach you for questions about your entry.
 - Agree to Terms and Conditions
 - First and Last Name
 - Email
 - Your Address (not the customer's address)
 - Please describe your project - ***This space should be used to describe any pertinent details about the build, including explanations of difficulties/obstacles that you had to overcome, and examples of craftsmanship that you might not see by looking at the photos. Judges rely on this section for you to tell them what they cannot see by looking at a photo. Take this section seriously.***
 - *Materials used in this project*
 - Would you like to allow your industry partners to enter alongside of you with this project? (refer to page 14 of the handbook to define "industry partner")
 - (If yes) Provide Industry Partner Contact Information



rules:

DEADLINE TO ENTER:

Monday, January 9th, 2023 at 11:59pm EST

RULES:

- Entries may be accepted from current members of NADRA that are in good standing.
- All projects must have been completed by a NADRA member.
- Projects **submitted** must have been completed in 2021 and 2022.
- Projects **previously submitted** in any prior NADRA National+ Deck Competition **do not qualify**.
- There is no limit to entries.
- All projects submitted must be residential, with the exception of the **Product Display category**, and the **Commercial Deck Project** category
- **IMPORTANT!!! In order to be considered for the overall best deck project, your project must be entered in the wood deck or alternative deck categories that best fits your project size.**
- Many category descriptions include details regarding entry limitations. Please see pages 8 - 10 for a complete list of categories and descriptions.
- Entrant must own the rights to any photos and / or video you upload in the competition.
- All submitted photos and videos may be used by NADRA in future promotions, websites, social media, videos, marketing, etc.
- By entering a category, you are agreeing that your project falls within the price guidelines of such category (i.e. Wood Deck Under \$35k).
- **IMPORTANT!!!** If you are a deck builder, sponsored by, or an ambassador for a manufacturer of lighting, decking, railing, fasteners, etc, and received discounted or gifted product(s), you **MUST** take into account the resale value of those products before selecting your category price point. If further explanation is needed, please contact NADRA HQ.



rules:

RULES CONTINUED:

- **IMPORTANT!!!** NADRA HQ, and/or Judges may, at any time during the entry and scoring process, request proof of category price range. This will be done in order to verify the project was entered into the appropriate category. You will be expected to supply, within 3 business days a signed contract with the homeowner and a copy of the permit. By continuing with registration, you agree to provide this information. Otherwise, the project(s) could be disqualified.
- Entrants will be randomly selected to provide proof of project contract/price with customer signature.
- **Do not** include any branding or company/ contact details in the Image file names and in photos or descriptions. NADRA HQ cannot rename for you. They will be disqualified if branding or company names are mentioned.
- **IMPORTANT!!! Images that are uploaded with the file name listed as your contact name, location, name of business, logo - or any branding whatsoever will be disqualified & removed from the competition.**
- The first image you upload should be your best image. See page 5 to see specifics regarding photo and video attachments.
- Project Partners that choose to enter the project alongside a builder, must be a current member of NADRA. (See page 14 for more details on Project Partners.
- You must read the entire Handbook before submitting your projects.
- By entering the 2022 National+ Deck Competition, the entrant agrees to all rules, terms, and conditions.
- No refunds.

categories:

2022 NATIONAL+ DECK COMPETITION CATEGORIES & RULES:

NEW Price Points!

- **Alternative Deck Under \$35k:** includes: aluminum, cap-stock, composite, plastic, PVC, stone, vinyl, etc
- **Alternative Deck \$35k - \$70k**
- **Alternative Deck \$71k - \$150k**
- **Alternative Deck \$151k - \$250k**
- **Alternative Deck Over \$250k**
- **Best Product Display:** (No size limit) includes Show Rooms, Home Show Booths, Exhibit Displays, and even Mobile Rig Displays. This category is intended for all business types: contractors, manufacturers, lumberyards, dealers, and retail stores.
- **Commercial Outdoor Living Project:** To include a deck: Must be a commercial address such as a restaurant, boardwalk, Doctor's Office, etc. * For builders only, not a category for Manufacturers.
- **Dock:** A structure extending alongshore or out from the shore into a body of water. Projects must be residential. If you have a beautiful commercial dock category, please enter it in the Commercial Outdoor Living Category.
- **NEW! Entry Level Deck:** This must be your first time entering the National+ Deck Competition. The project must be a deck. Can be an alternative or a wood deck. Project must be under \$20,000. This category does not qualify to be considered for the overall winner. You may not enter this project in any other category. If you prefer to compete against all other NADRA members, do not enter this category.
- **NEW! Hardscape:** (No size limit) includes any flat surface project that includes pavers, turf, natural stone, concrete, or stone finish. At this time, Hardscape category projects may not be entered into any other category, including the Unique Feature category.
- **Illumination:** Projects that show the use of outdoor illumination of outdoor living spaces, decks, private gardens and public landscapes; for the enhancement and purposes of safety, nighttime aesthetics, accessibility, security, recreation and more.

categories:

2022 NATIONAL+ DECK COMPETITION CATEGORIES:

- **Inlay on a Deck:** Inlay is the visual arts/decorative technique used to create an ornamental design, pattern, or scene by inserting a different material or different color or type on a deck.

NEW Price Points!

- **Limitless Creation \$35k - \$70k:** Any outdoor living project that includes a deck. Open to all materials, including pools. *If you have a spectacular project that has outstanding qualities that includes multiple categories, consider entering it into this category.
- **Limitless Creation \$71k - \$150k**
- **Limitless Creation \$151k - \$250k**
- **Limitless Creation Over \$250k**
- **NEW! Most Shocking Decks Inspected:** FREE TO ENTER. This category is for any member of NADRA who either: inspected, repaired or replaced the deck entered into this category. Must have been inspected in 2021 or 2022.
- **NEW! Pool Deck:** includes the surface areas surrounding the pool. Materials include all decking types, including hardscapes. The project must include a pool. The pool does not need to be built by the member. The space around the pool is what is being judged, not the pool.
- **Porch - Closed:** An enclosed room **attached** to the outside of a house/building.
- **Porch - Open:** An open room **attached** to the outside of a house/building.
- **Railing on a Deck:** Whether it's real wood, cable, aluminum, glass, WPC, Steel, Metal, or Wrought Iron. This category is to showcase the functionality and beauty of a railing on a deck.
- **Refurbished / Refinished Deck:** Most of the existing framing and the basic layout must be retained, Staining of existing boards or new decking, Before photo must be included as one of the photos uploaded. Refurbished Decks may not be submitted into any of the other deck categories such as Wood Deck, Alternative Deck or Limitless Creation. If you upgraded a refurbished space to include beautiful lighting or unique features, you may enter it into the Illumination or Unique Feature categories. Please contact NADRA if you need clarification.
- **Unique Feature:** Includes, but not limited to: fire pit, fireplace, pergola, pavilion, free-standing structure, creative/challenging lighting, underdecking, curves, creative inlays, outdoor kitchen/bar, water feature, outdoor shower, etc. Please do not upload any Commercial or Hardscape projects into this category.

categories:

2022 NATIONAL+ DECK COMPETITION CATEGORIES & RULES:

NEW Price Points!

- **Wood Deck Under \$35k:** includes: Pressure Treated, Cedar, Redwood, Southern Pine, Ipe, Hardwoods, etc.
- **Wood Deck \$35k - \$70k**
- **Wood Deck \$71k - \$150k**
- **Wood Deck Over \$150k**

We our members!

category fees:

☒ **NO INCREASE IN ENTRY FEES FOR 2022!**
☒ **NO INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES SINCE 2006!**

2022 NATIONAL+ DECK COMPETITION CATEGORIES & FEE SCHEDULE:

SUMBIT BY 12/19/22 STARTING 12/20/22

• Alternative Deck Under \$35k	\$100	\$150
• Alternative Deck \$35k - \$70k	\$100	\$150
• Alternative Deck \$71k - \$150k	\$100	\$150
• Alternative Deck \$151k - \$250k	\$100	\$150
• Alternative Deck Over \$250k	\$100	\$150
• Best Product Display	\$100	\$150
• Commercial Outdoor Living Project	\$100	\$150
• Dock	\$100	\$150
• Entry Level Deck	\$50	\$50
• Hardscape	\$100	\$150
• Illumination	\$100	\$150
• Inlay on a Deck	\$100	\$150
• Limitless Creation \$35k - \$70k	\$100	\$150
• Limitless Creation \$71k - \$150k	\$100	\$150
• Limitless Creation \$151k - \$250k	\$100	\$150
• Limitless Creation Over \$250k	\$100	\$150
• Most Shocking Deck Inspected	FREE	FREE
• Pool Deck	\$100	\$150
• Porch - Closed	\$100	\$150
• Porch - Open	\$100	\$150
• Railing on a Deck	\$100	\$150
• Refurbished / Refinished Deck	\$100	\$150
• Unique Feature	\$100	\$150
• Wood Deck Under \$35k	\$100	\$150
• Wood Deck \$35k - \$70k	\$100	\$150
• Wood Deck \$71k - \$150k	\$100	\$150
• Wood Deck Over \$150k	\$100	\$150



judging:

JUDGING CRITERIA:

- The 6 Photos that you submit
- The video will be used to show the scope of the project. The video will not receive a score.
- Use of Space / Functionality
- Creativity / Innovation
- Evidence of Craftsmanship
- Degree of Difficulty
- Overall Visual Appeal
- Description Provided by Entrant
- *****Judging for certain categories may vary.** Example: The illumination category may include judging criteria more relevant to outdoor lighting standards & techniques.

SCORING:

- Once the competition closes, NADRA headquarters will grant access to the judges.
- Judges remain anonymous until after the judging is complete.
- Projects are scored 0 - 10
- All scores are processed via an internal real-time leaderboard that reports on the results from judges as they are scored.

RESULTS:

- Results are not shared prior to the awards dinner outside of NADRA headquarters or beyond the President of NADRA. Winners will not be notified prior to the awards presentation.
- The exception to industry media publications applies. Some winner details may be shared at the discretion of NADRA headquarters in order to meet various deadlines with leading industry digital and print publications.

project partners:

The idea behind the partner option is to grow NADRA membership and to build camaraderie & support between all levels in the industry. Invite your industry partners to enter the competition with you!

PROJECT PARTNERS DEFINED:

- A partner is defined as a NADRA member who was instrumental in a project entered into the National+ Deck Competition. A partner may be:

Examples of partners might be:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| • Architect | • Lighting |
| • Decking Materials | • Lumberyard / Retail Store |
| • Designer | • Railing |
| • Distributor | • Stain |
| • Fasteners / Hardware | • Tools / Toolbelts |
| • Framing | • Under decking |
| • Hardscape Material | • Unique Features (i.e. Fire, water, pergola, umbrellas, etc) |
| • Inspector | • Other |

HOW IT WORKS:

- The builder must enter NADRA's National+ Deck Competition
- If you are a manufacturer or other potential partner, you are encouraged to ask your builders to communicate with you if they enter the competition. It will be your responsibility to register as a partner.
- If you partnered with a project that wins, you will also receive an award and recognition.
- Manufacturers may partner with a builder in the competition. In this case, the builder will register as a partner.
- All winning partners will be recognized in NADRA news, blog, website, social media and various industry print and digital publications.
- Partner submissions are \$150 per project, per partner.
- **Registration for partners takes place on a separate portal from the deck competition. NADRA members will be notified when partner registration opens.**
- ***Please contact Info@NADRA.org if you would like to schedule a time to discuss details about how Partners work.***



hints & tips from the judges:

A WORD FROM NADRA HEADQUARTERS & PAST JUDGES:

- 75% of judges that we surveyed considered staged photos mandatory in terms of level of importance in the judging process.
- 62% said that evidence of craftsmanship was most important in the judging process.

Advice we have heard from fellow members, NADRA HQ and past judges:

- "Be sure it meets code!"
- "The description is often where entries stand out. Nearly everyone has beautiful photos, and those go a long way. But we also have to know things about the deck that the photos may not tell us. What makes this deck truly special? What is unique about it vs. others? What challenges did you have to overcome? How did it meet the demands of the customer? A good description can help set one standout deck apart from another."
- Drone videos. There. We said it. Take your business to the next level, by investing in professional drone photos and videos that allow judges to see what a still photo cannot possibly show. Drone videos will help your business in so many other aspects: SEO, Social Media, Website, Home shows, and more. Invest in a drone. Invest in hiring someone to handle this aspect of your business for you.
- **READ THE HANDBOOK! DON'S SKIP PAGES. READ EVERY PAGE. TWICE. -- HEATHER** 👍😊
- Don't pay full price to enter! If you have a project that you know won't be complete until the very last minute, (or if you are a procrastinator) submit a project with placeholders and secure the early bird pricing!- Margie 👍😊



hints & tips from the judges:

We asked our Judges & HQ: "Do you have suggestions for NADRA members when taking photos for the competition? (i.e. removing debris, staging, etc)."

- *"Definitely remove debris. The primary thing is to make sure that the photos (shots from multiple angles are good) are clear and well-lit. It's helpful to see a shot that includes the house and the deck--to see how they work together."*
 - 1) *Clean up the deck.*
 - 2) *Plan ahead for the photos. Take during construction and after.*
 - 3) *Use ladders to get better angles.*
- *"Get professional photos. Also, make sure before / after shots are shot from the same position if at all possible."*
- *"You're trying to sell us on the deck, so make sure the photos are professional--not blurry or grainy, etc. As much as we try to be fair, a blurry photo will hurt your chances. If possible, show multiple angles and show closeups of special details. And be sure to have at least one wide shot showing the deck in the context of the whole house/yard."*
- *"Make it clean and tidy. Pay attention to the light - Full sun is best, but full shade can be okay too. You have a problem if there's too much contrast between the bright and dark areas, and detail gets lost. Take photos from several locations."*
- *Take elevation, drone, overhead, and some detail shots depending on photo count allowed ..before shots show creativity and dramatic change. A furnished deck with plants etc."*



hints & tips from the judges:

We asked our Judges & HQ: "What stood out to you most from the entries when going through the judging process?"

- *"The photos were by far the most important to me--but I'm not a deck builder. Staged didn't matter to me, close-ups of unique features are fun. Written descriptions are interesting, but it all came down to photos of the completed deck."*
- *"Creativity. Many people can build a nice deck. What makes your deck different?"*
- *"Most entries have good enough photos to judge the deck on looks. But making sure they have multiple angles, clear images, etc. is key. Close-ups of unique details are helpful. **But where most fall short is the description**--what makes this deck unique and special that the naked eye may not see?"*
- *"The story behind the design & project is helpful and relevant but in the end the finished project & design shown through photos establishes whether a project is in contention. Don't leave out photos. Upload as many as are permitted!"*
- *Upload a video! Even if you don't have a drone. Walk around the deck and talk about it (without disclosing who you are. Talk behind the photo... or provide a voice over.)*



2022 NATIONAL DECK COMPETITION POWERED BY NADRA.ORG TERMS AND CONDITIONS / DISCLAIMER

NADRA HEADQUARTERS
P.O. BOX 829
QUAKERTOWN, PA 18951
215-679-4884
INFO@NADRA.ORG
NADRA.ORG



terms & conditions

1. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS

The NADRA National+ Deck Competition, provides its service to you, subject to the following terms, which may be updated by us from time to time without notice to you.

2. ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to current NADRA members in good standing.

3. REGISTRATION OBLIGATIONS

You agree to read the official handbook, and rules, and provide true, accurate, current, and complete information about yourself and/or your company as prompted by our registration forms. If you provide any information that is untrue, inaccurate, not current or incomplete, NADRA has the right to suspend or terminate your participation in The NADRA National+ Deck Competition & related events and services without further obligation to you.

Category descriptions are outlined in the official handbook. By entering the competition, you agree to have read the official handbook, which is updated every year. You must read the handbook before submitting your first entry.

Entries must be completed and received before the entry deadline for the competition, complete with payment. Incomplete entries will be disqualified. All entries shall become the property of NADRA upon submission. NADRA is not responsible for lost, misdirected or delayed entries. NADRA reserves the right to accept or reject revised payments for entries received prior to the deadline but where payment was issued in an incorrect amount, at the sole discretion of NADRA.



terms & conditions

4. JUDGING AND AWARDS

- i. Decisions of the judges are final and may not be challenged in any jurisdiction for any reason whatsoever.
- ii. The awards are not redeemable in cash (if applicable) and must be accepted as awarded.
- iii. By entering and accepting an award, the entrant and/or winner authorizes the use, without additional compensation of his or her name and/or likeness and/or voice/photograph and/or municipality, state, and nation of residence and/or details included in submissions for promotion and/or advertising purposes in any manner and in any medium (including without limitation, radio broadcasts, newspapers and other publications and in television or film releases, slides, videotape, distribution over the internet and picture date storage) which NADRA may deem appropriate.
- iv. In accepting an award, the winner and any affected colleague(s) and/or guest(s) acknowledges that NADRA may not be held liable for any loss, damages or injury associated with accepting or using the award and any associated benefits thereto.

5. PRIVACY POLICY

Registration data and certain other information about you is subject to privacy protection when requested. You understand that through your use of our registration process you are consenting to the collection, use and disclosure of this information, as permitted by the said agreement, including the transfer of this information and use by NADRA, its judges, sponsors and affiliates.



terms & conditions

6. CONTENT USE

All materials published on or connected to the NADRA National+ Deck Competition website(s) are the property and copyright of NADRA (unless stated otherwise) and shall not be copied, reproduced, duplicated, sold, traded, exploited or distributed without NADRA's prior written authorization. This includes, but is not limited to, branding, logos, graphics, website design, and content.

Certain graphics throughout the website are used under license from third parties not specifically noted on this site and are not to be copied, reproduced or altered in any way.

Neither the author of any of this information nor NADRA makes any representation as to the particular construction methods identified herein and make no endorsement of any construction method so identified.

7. GROUND RULES -For Posting to Social Media Platforms:

Be welcoming!

We strive to be a community that welcomes and supports people of all backgrounds, identities and levels of outdoor living spaces from the entry-level to the experienced professional.

Please also extend the benefit of the doubt to newer members — there is no such thing as a stupid question. We can all learn from each other.

Be respectful!

Be considerate of the purpose of the deck competition and be mindful that you are representing more than yourself when posting and commenting on social media.



terms & conditions

Be careful when choosing your words!

We are a community of professionals. Be kind to others. Harassment and other exclusionary behavior will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Violent threats or language directed against another person
- Discriminatory jokes, language, or materials
- Defamatory or abusive language or materials
- Profane or illegal materials
- Advocating for, or encouraging, any of the above behavior.
- Messaging that is delivered in a hurtful manner

8. INDEMNITY

You agree to indemnify and hold NADRA, the NADRA National+ Deck Competition, and their affiliates, sponsors, officers, partners, and employees harmless from any claim or demand, including reasonable legal fees, made by any third party due to or arising out of information you submit, your use of our service and your connection to our service.

9. FINALITY

NADRA reserves the right to reschedule, withdraw or terminate this contest or any component herein at any time without prior notice or explanation and without further obligation.



terms & conditions

***DISCLAIMER:**

By entering any category, you are agreeing that your project falls within the price guidelines of such category (i.e. Alternative deck \$35k - \$70k)

****NADRA HQ, and/or Judges may, at any time during the entry and scoring process, request proof of category price range. This will be done in order to verify the project was entered into the appropriate category. You will be expected to supply, within 5 business days a signed contract with the homeowner and a copy of the permit. By continuing with registration, you agree to provide this information. Otherwise, project(s) will be disqualified.***

*You may be randomly selected to provide proof of project quotation with a customer signature.

By continuing with registration, and entering any project into NADRA's National+ Deck Competition, you agree to these terms.

“
**COMPETITION IS ALWAYS A GOOD THING. IT
FORCES US TO DO OUR BEST. A MONOPOLY
RENDERS PEOPLE COMPLACENT AND
SATISFIED WITH MEDIOCRITY.**

”

- NANCY PEARCEY

GOOD LUCK!