



2026 Contest Rules and Guidelines

Materials Allowed

- Sand within 15' x 15' designated building area. (Masters 20' x 15')
- Decorative materials (must be natural/found on the beach, ie. shells, seaweed, etc.)
- Design must stand on its own, with no supports under or on top of the sand.
- No extending outside the plot area.
- No adhesives allowed.
- Buckets may be filled and plots watered down prior to the start time.

People-Power

- A team can consist of up to eight (8) workers in the sand plot area. Teams may alternate workers, but no more than eight workers at a time are allowed in the plot area.
- Teams may have unlimited water carriers.

Tools Allowed

- Hand tools (masonry, garden or household implements, shovels, tampers).

- Ladders, wheelbarrow (1), pails, buckets, watering cans or hand pump sprayers.
- Forms and molds (must be removed prior to judging).
- Please keep your tools/supplies in your designated plot area. Spectators may cut their feet on them.

Judging and Overall Guidelines

- Judges will be local VIPs and Commodores
- Things to focus on...
 - Judges – They will pass the front of your creation for judging purposes, so focus most on the front 180 degrees facing the ocean.
 - Clarity of Design – Your creation can be simple or complex. A good design is one that people can understand. Try to tell a story or make them think.
 - Degree of Difficulty – Height is hard to do. Cut throughs, bridges and anything without support underneath show difficulty.
 - Please keep your theme within the guidelines of this being a family friendly event, and have fun!

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Registration and plot assignments. First come, first serve ○ Report to Commodores Registration Table • 10:00 a.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Start time for all categories | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:00 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sand castle building STOPS. Judging begins. • 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Awards ceremony |
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Award Categories (subject to change)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commodores Award – Overall Best Creation • People's Choice Award – Best Creation • Most Unique Sand Sculpture (1st-3rd) • Most Unique Sand Castle (1st-3rd) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most Humorous Creation • Best Display of Theme • Jr. Division – Best Creation |
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Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce

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