

**Midwest Region  
National Model Railroad Association, Inc.**

**Model Contest Subcommittee  
Policies & Procedures**

Article I – Authority and Purpose

1. These Policies & Procedures are established pursuant to Article IV, Section 1, Subsection c(4)(a) and Article IX, Section 1 of the Bylaws of the Midwest Region (hereinafter the “Region”). The Region’s Constitution, Bylaws and Policies & Procedures set forth rules regulating the affairs of the Region. Collectively these organizational documents constitute the Executive Handbook.
2. The purpose of these Policies & Procedures is to facilitate implementation of the Model Contest Subcommittee’s responsibilities.

Article II – General Rules

1. Any member of the NMRA in good standing is eligible to compete except those regularly building railroad models commercially. Any commercially built models are not eligible to be entered. Only models or portions thereof, which are the product of the owner-builder, will be considered by the Model Contest Chairman.
  - a. Commercial model builders are those who derive more than half their income from those activities.
  - b. To help promotion of the hobby and the Region model contest and to bring in new young people, whose modeling skill has not been shown, anyone in the age groups specified may enter Youth or Teen contests. The Youth contest is for those under 13 years old. Teen contests are for ages 13-17 years old.
2. Neither the Region nor the Host Division Committee can assume responsibility in the event of loss or damage to a model beyond the insurance carried by the NMRA and then only the dollar value that is shown on the entry form No. 901.
3. Reasonable care and protection will be provided for entries by the Host Committee and the Judges.

4. By entering, entrants agree to abide by Region rules and procedures. Each entry must be accompanied by an official entry blank, properly filled out by the entrant or his or her authorized proxy.
  - a. Entry form No. 901 should have name, address, age, NMRA number, region and phone number.
  - b. Entry by proxy must be authenticated by the owner-building, along with the owner's valid NMRA membership card and number.
5. There will be no restriction on the number of models entered by a single entrant nor an entry fee.
6. Any category in the contest event having less than two entries may be considered for award, if in the judgment of the Region Contest Chairman and the Judges, the model is worthy of consideration.
7. Judges for the model contest will be selected by the Region Contest Chairman with the help of the Host Division Contest Chairman.
  - a. The Region Contest Chairman will work with the Convention Contest Chairman to arrange and conduct the Region contest at the Spring and other Region Conventions.
  - b. Informing the Convention Host Chairmen of contest requirements.
  - c. Supervising judging.
  - d. Creating and maintaining the required forms and records for conventions.
  - e. Informing the Region Achievement Program Coordinator of candidate entries for merit awards.
  - f. The Model Contest Room must be open for a minimum of four (4) hours for acceptance and registration of models. Times will be published prior to the event.
8. The Host Convention Committee is specifically responsible for:
  - a. Arranging for rooms, furniture, equipment, etc. for the Region contest.
  - b. Arranging for security for the contest.
  - c. Publicizing the Region contest in convention literature.
  - d. Assisting the Region Contest Chairman to recruit judges.
9. Models will be grouped by category and suitably displayed.

10. Models which have won a first place in any prior Region Contest cannot be reentered. Division first place models may be entered in region competition.
11. Contests will be held at the Spring and other region conventions. Each contest will consist of separate scratch-built and kit-built contests independent of each other.
12. Judges may enter the contest, but must excuse themselves from judging the category in which they have an entry.

### Article III – Entry Instructions

1. Complete the entry form (Form 901) as accurately as possible, including name, NMRA number, address, phone number, category and model identification.
2. On the judge's score sheet (Form 902 or Form 903, as applicable), list briefly all pertinent information in the appropriate factor box which will describe the model to the best advantage.
  - a. Supplemental information to verify or identify a point may be submitted with the entry form. This includes pictures, drawings, scale or hand drawn. The judges are, however, under no obligation to consult the supplemental information.
3. All scales will be combined in the categories. There will be no division based on scale of models.
4. The bottom of the entry form (Form 901) must be presented to obtain the model after the event.

### Article IV – Definitions

1. Module (Portable Layout)
  - a. Portable layout, switching layout or layout composed of non-interchangeable sections or interchangeable sections.
  - b. Fill out the NMRA form for Modular Contest by using the same information for a single model.
2. There are two classes for Module Contests
  - a. Individual entries on which 90% or more of the work was done by one person.
  - b. Group entries on which work was done by more than one person.

3. Kit Built is a model that is kit built, kit bashed or cross kitted. A kit entry is generally one built using components packaged together for commercial sale. The entrant may modify or supplement such components.
4. Scratch Built is a model where most of the parts have been fabricated by the builder. Scratch building includes drawing your own plans, using your forms, material such as wood, metal, plastic, paper, etc. to make your model.

#### Article V – Model Contest Categories

1. Steam Locomotives – All types of steam locomotives. Entries must be powered.
2. Diesel and other Locomotives – All locomotives except steam or traction. Including heavy electric locomotives. Entries must be powered. Multiple unit entries must have one unit powered.
3. Passenger Cars – All types of cars in passenger service, other than cabooses, traction or maintenance of way and self-propelled cars.
4. Freight Cars – All types of revenue freight cars.
5. Cabooses – All types of cabooses except M of W cabooses.
6. Non Revenue – All types of maintenance of way equipment, all types of railroad vehicles.
7. Structures on Line – All buildings or structures, etc. having to do with a railroad without scenery.
8. Structures off Line – All structures or buildings, etc. not having to do with something on the railroad without scenery.
9. Display on Line – This includes station with platforms, roundhouse with turntable or anything with significant scenery that is connected with the railroad.
10. Display off Line – This includes stores, churches, factories, etc. with significant scenery that is not connected with the railroad. A sawmill with a pond goes in a display.
11. Traction – All models of electrically powered equipment except heavy electric. Models must be powered. Multiple entries must have at least one unit powered. A powered interurban car goes in Traction. A non-powered interurban trailer goes in Passenger. A traction interurban freight motor goes in Traction. A GG1 heavy electric goes in Diesel and other Locomotives.

## Article VI – Modeler Classifications

1. A Novice – Is anyone who fulfills the entry requirements, and has not won a first place in any one of the categories in the model contest in the Region Convention.
2. A Master – Is anyone who fulfills the entry requirements, and has won a first place in any one of the categories in the model contest in the Region Convention.

## Article VII – Awards at Region Conventions

### 1. Modeling Awards

- Best of Show Master Craftsman – Most points awarded to any model in the Master class.
- Best of Show Novice Craftsman – Most points awarded to any model in the Novice class.
- Best of Show Kit – This is awarded to the best kit-built model with the most points.
- Best of Show Craftsman – This award is for the most points awarded to any model.
- A.P. Merit Award – This is given to anyone, Master or Novice, with a judge's score of 87 points or more in any category. There is a certificate and ribbon given out.
- First Place Award – A certificate, blue ribbon and a wood plaque.
- Second Place Award – A certificate and red ribbon.
- Third Place Award – A certificate and white ribbon.
- Honorable Mention – A certificate and ribbon. This is given to someone that, in the judge's opinion, has tried and was short of points on a model.
- Participant Ribbon – For an entry into the contest.
- Tree Ribbon – For an entry with the most trees on it.

### 2. Special Awards. These awards are given by Divisions in the Region in recognition of a member or members who excelled in the hobby or by a family in memory of a loved one who loved the world of model railroading.

- a. Robert J. Moskal Memorial Award – A wood plaque. At the Spring Region Convention the award will be for a model, building, piece of rolling stock, etc. and/or for a photo or slide. The judging for the Robert J. Moskal Award will be done by the family or a proxy for them.
- b. The Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division presents two awards, both are wood plaques.
  - 1) The Goat Award – This award is given in honor of a former WISE Division Superintendent, Mel Andresen. The award is for any model of Great Northern Railroad, steam or diesel, freight, passenger cars, etc. This award will be given a model for the most points in the Spring Region Convention.

- 2) The Milwaukee Electric Traction Award (Formerly the Angus Traction Award) This award is given in honor of all Region members who loved and modeled traction. The award is for any traction model with the most points in the Spring Region Convention.
3. All model and special awards will be presented at the Convention banquet, brunch or other appropriate ceremony.

# MODEL CONTEST AWARDS

## BEST OF SHOW MASTER

Name of Contest Winner: \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_

## BEST OF SHOW NOVICE

Name of Contest Winner: \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_

## BEST OF SHOW KIT BUILT

Name of Contest Winner: \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_

## STEAM ENGINE

Name of Contest Winner: **First:** \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second:** \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Third:** \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

## DIESEL & OTHER LOCOMOTIVES

Name of Contest Winner: **First:** \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second:** \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Third:** \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

### PASSENGER CAR

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

### CABOOSES

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

### FREIGHT CAR

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

### TRACTION

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

### NON REVENUE CAR

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

### STRUCTURES ON LINE

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

### STRUCTURES OFF LINE

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

### DISPLAY ON LINE

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Second:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**Third:**

Model Name:

AP Award Points:

Master or Novice:

**DISPLAY OFF LINE**

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second:**

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Third:**

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**MODULAR CONTEST**

Name of Contest Winner: **First:**

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second:**

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Third:**

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Award Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Master or Novice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ROBERT J. MOSKAL MEMORIAL AWARD MODEL CONTEST**

Name of Contest Winner: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Photo or Slide: \_\_\_\_\_

**HONORABLE MENTION**

Name of Contest Winner: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Photo or Slide: \_\_\_\_\_

**POPULAR VOTE**

Name of Contest Winner: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Photo or Slide: \_\_\_\_\_

# NMRA Contest Entry Form

Entry# \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 GROUP NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ NMRA #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ REGION: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PROV: \_\_\_\_\_ DIV: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZIP/POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ SCALE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 H (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ W (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Arts & Crafts**

GENERAL

- Kit Built
- Original
- Pattern

NEEDLEWORK

- Kit Built
- Original
- Pattern

RAILROADIANA

- Kit Built
- Original
- Pattern

**Model**

POWER UNIT

- Steam Locomotive
- Diesel & Other Motive Power
- Traction

ROLLING STOCK

- Passenger Car
- Freight Car
- Caboose

OTHER

- Non-revenue Car
- Structure - On Line
- Structure - Off Line
- Display - On Line
- Display - Off Line

POPULAR VOTE

- Favorite Train
- Thumbs
- Photo Match
- Creativity (Structures)

**Photo/Pass**

MODEL SUBJECT

- (A) Black & White
- (B) Color Print
- (C) Slide

PROTOTYPE SUBJECT

- (D) Black & White
- (E) Color Print
- (F) Slide

- Pass Contest

MODULE CONTEST

- Module - Individual
- Module - Group

- Display Only  
(All Categories)

DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGES HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

1. First Place or Gold Award (Best of Show) winning entries at this Contest level or higher are not eligible.
2. This *Entry Form* (Form 901) must be completed for all entries. The appropriate *Judges' Score Sheet* must be completed for contests requiring the judging form. (Model-except Popular Vote)
3. Supplemental information, including plans and photos, may accompany your entry. However, the judges are under no obligation to consult this information. (The Contest Chairman may limit this material.)
4. The Contest Committee reserves the right to determine how to display entries and Entries may not be removed from the Contest Room without notification of the Contest Committee and presentation of the claim check.
5. Be sure to declare a value on your Entry for insurance purposes.
6. After filling out this *Entry Form* and the *Judges' Score Sheet* (if applicable), return both to the clerk and receive the Entry Number for your *Entry Form*, *Judge's Score Sheet*, *Claim Check* and *Entry Identification Tag*. Place your Entry with the *Identification Tag* attached in the proper Category. Retain your "CLAIM **MUST** be presented to the Contest Committee to pick up your Entry.
7. I hereby certify that this Entry is entirely my/our workmanship or that the original exposure was made by me. I also hereby release the NMRA and all persons connected with this Contest from any liability due to damage to or loss of the Entry beyond that provided by the NMRA insurance coverage.
8. I agree that reproduction rights are granted to the NMRA for publication in the NMRA Bulletin or any other publication of the NMRA.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ VALUE: \_\_\_\_\_

## NMRA Contest Claim Check

I hereby certify that Entry # \_\_\_\_\_, entered in the Contest has been returned to me in satisfactory condition.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# JUDGES' SCORE SHEET for NMRA MODEL CONTEST

**Model Description** \_\_\_\_\_ **Entry No.** \_\_\_\_\_

*Describe the model in detail. Check all the items that apply. Add additional data. Attach extra pages with photos/plans/drawings and additional description as needed. Add as much additional information as possible about techniques and work incurred.*

**1. CONSTRUCTION (Maximum 40 Points)**

**Points Awarded**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drew my Own Plans     | <input type="checkbox"/> Followed construction article | <input type="checkbox"/> Soldered                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used Prototype Plans  | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit metal             | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit cardstock    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used kit plans        | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit plastic           | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit glass        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used commercial plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit wood              | <input type="checkbox"/> Crosskitted or kitbashed |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Made patterns            |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Made molds               |

Describe in detail how model was built, complexity of construction , methods used. \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. DETAIL (Maximum 20 Points)**

**Points Awarded**

Describe complexity, difficulty, refinement, amount of additional detail parts added.

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**3. CONFORMITY (Maximum 25 Points)**

**Points Awarded**

Give information as to prototype modeled or explain logic of design. Include copies of photos, drawings and plans.

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**4. FINISH and LETTERING (Maximum 25 Points)**

**Points Awarded**

- Finish:*  Weathered     Non-Weathered     Spray     Airbrush     Mask and Spray.
- Signs & Lettering:*     Decals     Hand Letter     Dry Transfers     Photo Reduction     Photo Etching

Describe finish and lettering methods in detail \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. SCRATCHBUILDING. (Maximum 15 Points)**

**Points Awarded**

List all parts you have fabricated. Note any special or unusual features added. \_\_\_\_\_

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**This space for contest committee only.**

Score Tabulated by \_\_\_\_\_ Verified by \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL TOTAL**

# JUDGES' SCORE SHEET for NMRA MODULE CONTEST

Entry:  Individual  Group

Entry No. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the module in detail. Check all the items that apply. Add additional data. Attach extra pages with photos/plans/drawings and additional description as needed. Add as much additional information as possible about techniques and work incurred.

**1. CONSTRUCTION (Maximum 25 Points).....Points Awarded**

- a. Percentage of kit built plastic structures..... % c. Percent of cross-kitted structures ..... %  
b. Percentage of kit built craftsman-type structures..... % d. Percent of scratchbuilt structures..... %  
e. Scenery other than above. Describe in detail techniques and materials used. \_\_\_\_\_

**2. DETAIL (Maximum 20 Points).....Points Awarded**

Describe complexity, difficulty, refinement, amount of additional detail parts added.

**3. CONFORMITY (Maximum 10 Points).....Points Awarded**

Give information as to prototype modeled or explain logic of design. Include copies of photos, drawings and plans.

**4. ELECTRICAL (Maximum 15 Points).....Points Awarded**

Give details of electrical features beyond those required by module specs. Include copies of drawings and plans.

**5. FINISH and LETTERING (Maximum 20 Points) .....Points Awarded**

Weathered  Non-Weathered  Spray  Brush  Mask and Spray .

Point out method of coloring and texturing natural surfaces (rocks, earth, etc.) and man-made surfaces (roads, etc.)

Signs and Lettering: Decals  Hand Lettering  Dry Transfers  Photo Reduction  Photo Etching  Other (explain).

**6. SCRATCHBUILDING. (Maximum 20 Points) .....Points Awarded**

List all parts you have fabricated. Note any special or unusual features.

**7. INGENUITY (Maximum 15 Points) .....Points Awarded**

Indicate any features or techniques that you believe to be creative, innovative, and perhaps helpful to fellow modelers.

Score Tabulated by \_\_\_\_\_ Verified by \_\_\_\_\_