

ISLAND SHOWCASE CONTEST RULES

I. ELIGIBILITY

The IPMS Victoria Model Contest is open to anyone who wants to enter their model for competition or just for display. A person may enter a model as a “proxy” on behalf of someone else who is unable to attend the contest. Affiliation with an IPMS Chapter or any other club is not required to enter this contest. There is no limit to the number of models a person may enter.

Entry in the Contest is open to all within the particular age groups: Fifteen & younger are Junior, Sixteen and older are Adult.

Entry Fees are:

- Adult Modeller, 16 years and older: \$10.00 for up to Five (5) entries, then \$2.00 per each additional entry. There is no charge to bring in models for display only.
- Junior Modeller, 15 years or younger: \$2.00 flat fee for any number of entries.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE THE SOLE WORK OF THE INDIVIDUAL WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THE ENTRY FORM.

Pre-finished models and pre-decorated kits of any kind are not permitted in any category (e.g. Corgi, Franklin Mint, GI Joe, 21st Century Toys, etc.).

3D Printed models are allowed as long as they consist of more than a single part, i.e. some assembly is required.

Previous IPMS Victoria/SPAM winning entries ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. Previous non-winning entries may be reentered.

Every entry **must be entered in the appropriate category**, or it may not be judged. If advice is needed for selecting the appropriate category, Entrants should check with the contest Registrars or Judges.

Each entry **may be entered in only one (1) category** and the entry shall be eligible for all applicable summary and special/theme awards.

Persons planning to submit **oversized entries** (or entries that require special support such as AC power) must notify the IPMS Victoria Contest Committee at least one (1) month prior to the event, as we require time to pre-plan to accommodate such entries. Failure to provide advance notification for such entries may result in those entries being placed apart from the general display area, or not having adequate special support.

Persons planning to submit a **large number of entries in a single category** – which could reasonably be considered to overwhelm table space availability for the category – must notify the IPMS Victoria Contest Committee at least one (1) month prior to the event.

A separate area shall be designated for those that wish only to display models.

The Contest Chair or Head Judge may exclude from public display any entries s/he considers offensive to generally acknowledged standards of taste and acceptability. The following are examples of entries prohibited in competition or on display at this event:

- (1) There shall be no graphic depiction of any human being or animal excretory functions;
- (2) There shall be no depiction of sado-masochistic activity, equipment, settings or situations, to any degree, regardless of whether there are figures in the model and regardless of whether any figures present in the model are clothed;
- (3) There shall be no depictions of explicit sexual conduct, bilateral or autoerotic, regardless of degree and regardless of the clothing-status of the participants, that involves children and the touching of the breasts or genitals or other erogenous zones of any depicted figure; and
- (4) There shall be no depiction of any nude human male or female figures where the genitalia of the figure are exposed where the clear intent of the same is to portray a sexual scene.

IPMS Canada, IPMS Victoria, SPAM, the Archie Browning Sports Centre, or the IPMS Victoria Contest Committee assume no responsibility or liability for the transportation, handling, entry, registration, loss, storage or damage of any model entered or displayed.

II. AWARDS

An "Olympic Style" of judging is employed. Gold, Silver and Bronze awards, in the form of a medal or a ribbon, will be given in each category. Award winners in each category will be chosen by a team of judges. Every category that has any number of entries will have at least a Gold medalist by default, then Silver and Bronze, etc., as long as there are enough entries. Ties may be allowed when they are deemed deserving, and only when approved by the Head Judge. Sweeps (one modeller winning all awards and/or trophies in a category) are allowed. An Honourable Mention Award may also be given when an entry is deemed deserving thereof. Separate awards for Best Out-of-the-Box entries are awarded in each eligible Category. Note that it is therefore theoretically possible for an Out-of-the-Box entry to win both a Gold/Silver/Bronze award AND Best Out-of-the-Box award in a Category.

Sponsored special trophies shall be awarded in addition to the awards. Winners for each trophy shall be chosen by a panel of judges appointed by the Contest Committee. Special trophies may be given by an individual or club provided it is approved beforehand by the Contest Committee.

It is the **responsibility of the Entrant** to indicate on the Entry Form which **Theme Trophies** and/or **Special Trophies** the entry should be considered for. If the applicable trophies are not selected on the Entry Form, the entry will not be considered for those trophies. If assistance is required, ask a Registrar.

Each entry will automatically be considered for appropriate and corresponding "Best of" summary trophies. (For example, all aircraft category winners will be considered for the "Best Aircraft" trophy.)

Once all the winners for each category are determined, only then will all of the medal/ribbon awards be placed on the contest tables, next to the winning entries. Theme trophies, Class Summary trophies and other Special trophies are handed out during the Awards Ceremony which follows.

Entrants are **responsible for claiming all awards/trophies won** by their entries. If an Entrant knows that s/he must depart the event before the Awards Ceremony, the Entrant is responsible for informing members of the Contest Committee beforehand, and also arranging to have someone accept awards/trophies on their behalf. If a suitable person cannot be found to accept awards/trophies, the departing Entrant is responsible to arrange with the Contest Committee (prior to their departure) to have their awards delivered (at the Entrant's expense).

Entrants are **responsible for claiming all of their model entries** by the end of the event. The event organizers are not responsible for any items or entries left behind by entrants. If any entries are left behind at the event, the Entrants of the left behind entries are responsible to contact the Contest Committee to inquire about the left behind entries. If any left behind entries are picked up by the Contest Committee, those persons DO NOT assume any responsibility for the safe transport or storage of the left behind entries, nor do they assume any responsibility for any damage to the left behind entries while in their possession. The Entrant who left the entry is responsible for arranging the return of the entry to them; if any costs are incurred in the return of a left entry, the Entrant is responsible for paying for those costs.

III. GENERAL RULES AND DEFINITIONS

1. COMPOSITION. The use of **plastic** (i.e. polystyrene, PVC and ABS plastic, epoxy and polyurethane resin, 3D printed resin or plastic, etc.) as the primary material of construction is required, although the use of photoetch/metal/resin/3D printed detail parts, etc. is allowed as those items are widely accepted as a part of modern building methods.

Models made primarily of **alternate materials** - wood, paper, fabric, metal, etc. - are not eligible for competition. The sole exception to this rule is metal figures entered into the Figures Class.

If necessary, the Head Judge shall determine whether or not a model may be entered according to the above criteria.

2. COMPLETENESS. All models considered for judging must be complete in every respect, that is, all reasonable building, painting, decalling etc. shall be accomplished before the model is judged. In other words, unfinished models are not eligible for judging. The Head Judge shall determine whether a model in question is considered complete.

3. SCRATCHBUILT models may incorporate parts from other kits, but those should be generally unrelated to their original identity, except for minor parts such as wheels, guns, etc. Conversion models must contain significant structural changes to the basic kit involving extensive changes in contour or configuration. As a rule of thumb, use of commercially available conversion parts (for example, aircraft noses, resin cast turrets, or resin cast car bodies) does not call for the level of effort needed to qualify for entry in the conversion category.

4. FIGURES Class entries may be made of metal, plastic, resin, 3D printed or vinyl or any combination thereof. The inclusion of accessories supplied in the figure kit will not cause the figure to be classed as a Diorama.

5. COLLECTIONS: A collection is any group of three or more closely related items, combined as a single entry. The closeness of the relationship within the collection is a significant factor in judging. The entire collection must be the work of one person. Furthermore, the collection must fit one of the following two relationships:

- **TYPE** Collection
A group of 3 models of a particular TYPE. (May be different scales.)

Example:

Different variants of North American P-51 Mustang aircraft: P-51B, P-51C, P-51D, P-51K, XP-51F

- **THEME** Collection
A group of 3 models that share a common theme. (May be different types & scales.)

Example:

Vehicles from Star Wars movies: Rebel snowspeeder, Jawa sandcrawler, Imperial AT-AT walker, X-wing fighter, Imperial Star Destroyer.

6. **MARKINGS.** In aircraft and vehicle Classes, markings will determine the category in which a model is entered. For example, a C-47 in military markings would normally be placed in the Twin Prop category, but if it were in airliner markings, it would be placed in the Civilian category. All racing aircraft (other than conversion/scratchbuilts) will be placed in the Civilian category.

7. **MISSILES.** All ground based vehicle carried missiles will be placed in the appropriate Military Vehicle category. All missiles in flight attitude or on landing gear will be entered in the proper Aircraft category. Missiles used in space research, which originated as military vehicles (eg. Atlas/Centaur or Mercury/Redstone) will be placed in the Real Spacecraft category.

8. **CLOSED TOP.** Refers to an Armoured Fighting Vehicle (AFV) model with a closed roof, such as a Tank. There is no interior within the model. Any hatches may be open or closed, however open hatches may be occupied by a crew figure. Any interior detail fully blocked by a crew figure would render the model Closed Top.

9. **OPEN TOP.** (And AFV'S with Interiors) Refers to an AFV model without a roof, such as a Tank Destroyer or Self-propelled Gun where the fighting compartment is fully visible. For contest purposes it also refers to AFV's such as tanks with a detailed interior that is visible through an open hatch, or where the turret or part of the hull can be removed to display a finished interior. The interior can be supplied in the kit, aftermarket, scratchbuilt or any combination thereof.

10. **BASES.** Bases will be allowed in all categories and will not be considered in the judging except in the Diorama/Vignette categories. The base must not be the predominant feature of the entry and must be of a size proportionate to the model. A base may be a piece of undecorated wood, plastic, glass or mirror, or it may simulate the natural surface on which the prototype would be found. Aircraft and military vehicles may rest on simulated ground or paving, and aircraft that need beaching gear or dollies may be so equipped. Ships may be displayed in simulated water. The model may include primary crew figures. The addition of any other figures or equipment not attached to the model will make the model a diorama. The Contest Chair and Judges reserve the right to exclude oversize bases.

11. **DIORAMAS.** A Diorama is typically comprised of one or more models of objects on a base collectively composing a scene, real or imagined. All aspects of the diorama, including each individual model, figure, ground work and so on is judged individually and then considered together to determine a winner. Dioramas are judged not only on the technical merit of their construction but also on the strength of the theme or story they present, so that if two dioramas were technically equal, the one having the stronger theme or story would win.

12. **VIGNETTES.** A Vignette may be composed of up to three (3) figures, and may include a minor background (non-central) vehicle. In a Vignette, the primary focus is on the Figures. However, the quality of the Vignette base work and its relationship to the figures in setting a stage for their display will also be considered. As in dioramas, a Vignette having a stronger theme or story would win, all other things being equal.

IV. JUDGING

1. GENERAL. A Head Judge must be chosen and s/he must brief all judges before the contest. Judges should be chosen by the Head Judge for their skill and experience. Judges will be formed into three person teams, whenever possible, in order to avoid ties in the rare instances when the team's decisions are not unanimous. Judges may not judge a category in which they are entered and must declare a conflict. In such cases an appointed alternate will judge the category, if available. Strict impartiality will be observed.

Models will be judged for skill in construction, finish, and realism. Additional criteria are considered for special categories such as dioramas, collections, and conversions. Models are judged as three-dimensional objects and are examined in all aspects, including the underside, if required. Entries may be handled by judges both for proper table placement and for judging, but every effort will be made to avoid handling models. Models in the contest room may be covered by cases while on general public display, but such cases must be removed from models for judging. Models in cases will not be judged. The following is an exception to this rule: In instances where removal of a case could cause damage, and where, in the judgment of the Head Judge, the case would not impede effective judging, the case may be left on for judging. This arrangement must be made prior to judging.

Contest Registrars will help determine proper entry categories for models during registration, but final category placement is at the discretion of the contest judges. Categories may be expanded or consolidated when and as required. Models will be relocated by the Head Judge or his designate if they are found to be in the wrong category. If they must be moved, all reasonable effort will be made to notify the owner of the model prior to it being relocated.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGES. The overriding requirement for contest judges is INTEGRITY. Integrity is absolutely vital to the judging task. In addition:

- a) All Judging is impartial. In the Contest Room, judges have no friends and no enemies. Knowledge of who built a particular model must not influence the outcome of the judging.
- b) A judge will never judge his own work, nor will he attempt to influence other judges who are evaluating his work.
- c) All judging is done using the same set of rules and applying the same criteria to every model in the room.
- d) From the time that judging begins, and until the conclusion of the awards ceremony, judges will not disclose the outcome of any portion of the contest to anyone who did not participate in the judging.
- e) During the judging process judges will point out and discuss a model's pros and cons, but will do so in a way that is not disparaging to either the model or its builder.
- f) If a judge's model has been nominated for a special award, the judge must not participate in the voting for that award.

The foregoing are examples, not an all-inclusive list, of what constitutes judging integrity. While the standard is strict, judges can meet it easily by using basic common sense and by continually applying the judge's Golden Rule: Judge the work of others in exactly the same way you would want others to judge your own work.

3. SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF JUDGING. Once judging has begun, judges will remain in the contest room, except for short breaks. The Head Judge will form judging teams for each of the major Classes. After these teams have completed all the assignments given to them by the Head Judge, they should check back with the Head Judge for assignments in Categories not yet judged.

Judging of individual Categories is done by a series of “cuts” to determine the best models present. The first cut will eliminate any entries with obvious flaws, and succeeding cuts will continue to narrow the field until the winners have been decided.

Throughout the judging process, the first and most important things for judges to consider are the basics. Typically, the judges’ first cut will identify models that exhibit flaws in basic construction and finishing such as open seams or gaps, misaligned parts, glue marks, or poorly applied paint and decals. Often, it is the ranking of the models on the basics that will determine the final outcome in the Category being judged. Only when these basics don’t allow for a clear-cut ranking do the judges begin to look deeper.

Beyond the basics, another tremendously important consideration is consistency. A model should exhibit the same standard of building throughout. Thus, for example, an aircraft model in which one has super detailed the cockpit but not the wheel wells would lack a consistent level of detail.

“Weathering” is inherently neither good nor bad. When comparing a model with a weathered finish to a model with a pristine finish, the judges will concern themselves with the degree of success achieved by each builder in depicting the intended finish.

ALL JUDGES’ DECISIONS ARE FINAL.

V. SPECIAL CATEGORIES

1. **OUT-OF-THE-BOX** entries may be included in **every applicable Category**. These are indicated by an asterisk (*) on the List of Categories. They will only be considered at the Adult level. Only one Out-of-the-Box entry will be chosen as a winner in each applicable Category. They will be judged on basic modelling techniques only. These include: finish, decalling, seam filling, alignment and general workmanship. Antennas and seat belts can be added, gun barrels and exhaust pipes can be drilled out, but no other detail may be added. Instructions must be included with all Out-of-the-Box entries. Out-of-the-Box entries will be governed by the following rules:

- a) **KITS.** Any commercially available plastic, resin, or multi-media kit may be used. Other than outlined below, only what comes in the kit may be used.
- b) **FINISH.** The natural plastic finish may be retained, or it may be foil wrapped or painted with a brush, spray cans, or airbrush. Decals other than those included with the kit may be used. 3D printed decals may NOT be used. Insignia, markings, and instrument panels may be painted instead of using decals. Weathering is permitted.
- c) **CONSTRUCTION.** The modeller may fill seams and gaps; sand off rivets; scribe/re-scribe panel lines, hatches and doors; drill out gun ports; thin to scale such parts as trailing edges, flaps, doors; add rigging and antennas if they are on the instruction sheet or box art; add simple paper or tape belts or decal seat belts in the cockpit of an aircraft or the interior of a vehicle.

Note: NO aftermarket parts are allowed.

- d) IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO: vacuform, manufacture, or replace any part, or substitute parts from another kit; to cut or separate canopies, surfaces, hatches, doors, etc. (no major surgery); combine a standard kit with a conversion kit; add anything other than specified in the instruction sheet as noted in the Construction section above.

2. JUNIOR CATEGORIES are included within each Class so that Junior modellers have the opportunity to compete with modellers closer to their age and experience level. Nothing prevents a younger modeler from entering in the Adult Categories instead if s/he would prefer to do so.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Will Hendriks at 250-507-7625 or whendriks@shaw.ca.