

## NASG Model Contest Rules – Detailed Version



- I. These procedures are to be followed in any model contest sanctioned by the National Association of S Gaugers, Inc. (NASG). The contest-sponsoring organization may not alter any portion of these rules without obtaining the permission of the NASG Contest Committee Chairman (CCC).
- II. NASG-sanctioned model contests are open to NASG members in good standing only. This specifically includes family members. The sponsoring organization will obtain a current listing of NASG members from the NASG Membership Committee. NASG officers will be responsible for providing membership updating before and/or during contest registration. The NASG may choose to limit eligibility to members in good standing as of a date prior to contest registration. If this decision is made, prior announcement must be made in the S Gauge press and in any pre-registration information provided by the contest sponsor to potential conventioners.
- III. Any number of models may be entered by a contestant, but no more than two entries per person for each event. NASG does not require that an entrant be present at a sanctioned contest, but neither NASG nor the contest sponsor may be held responsible for loss, damage, handling, or postage costs involved with mailed-in entries. NASG disclaims any responsibility for lost or damaged models at NASG-sanctioned contests. The sponsor should either publicize that it is also not responsible or else provide itself with insurance. This does not absolve the sponsor from providing monitors when the contest room is open and either guards or sufficient security at other times.
- IV. Entries must be in 1/64th scale and must be made in the name of the builder(s) only, who must be eligible to compete. A custom-built model may not be entered by the current owner in his own name. Ready-to-run (R-T-R) models may not be entered merely as manufactured. A minimum of three modifications must have been made to the model. These may include painting or repainting as one of the modifications, lettering as another. Failure to note these modifications on the contest entry form may result in disqualification.
- V. Models which have been awarded a first place in any NESGA or NASG-sanctioned contest prior to 1973 may not be re-entered in an NASG contest. First-place winners in NASG-designated "Regional" contests may be reentered in contests in other "regions" and in NASG-designated "national" contests. A first place in a National contest may not be entered in future National contests. It may win subsequent regional contest awards but no model is eligible for first place in two different contests in the same region.
- VI. Modelers must meet the criteria of II above and are divided into four classes. They may step up to the next class but not downward.
  - A. Junior: The Junior event shall be open to all those who are 16 years old or less.

- B. Amateur: This class includes all modelers who have not won any of the following combinations in NESGA or NASG contests:
1. Best-in-show, overall or for the Amateur class.
  2. Two First-Place awards.
  3. Four awards for Second-Place and/or Third-Place.

Please note that modelers are to be encouraged to step up to the Craftsman class if they have not met the above requirements but are experienced modelers.

- C. Craftsman: This class includes anyone who has placed as in B above, plus it is open to others who wish to compete on this level. Two First-Place awards, or one Best-In-Show (either overall or for the class) in this class places the modeler in the Master Craftsman class.
- D. Master Craftsman: This class includes those mentioned in C above, plus it is open to those who feel their models are of the superior workmanship found in the class.

Note that this section applies to the contestant and not to the model. Therefore, all models entered by the contestant must be entered in the same class. Also, if a model is eligible for entry in a subsequent contest, it must be entered in the class in which the modeler is currently eligible to compete, regardless of the class in which the model previously competed.

- VII. Classes shall be broken down into the events listed in Section VIII. The events are structured in the following categories:

- A. Highrail: These are any models using either American Flyer trucks or "Highrail" (also called "Hi-Rail") trucks and American Flyer type or scale couplers. These models may lack some details on the underbody and end sills that would interfere with operation of the Hirail trucks or American Flyer type couplers.
- B. Kit and Converted: These are scale models on which more than 50 percent of the parts were purchased preformed by the modeler. This includes all but the most radical kit modifications and the conversion and detailing of "tinplate" cars and locomotives.
- C. Scratch Built: These test the modeler's creativity and skills and are generally the most prized by their owners. NASG requires that 50 percent or more of the parts for a model in this category be fabricated by the modeler. Commercial model-building materials which must be cut and shaped may be considered "scratch" (e.g. roofing and siding stock, rail, wood, metal or plastic structural shapes).
- D. Open: No distinction is made between Highrail, Kit or Scratch.
- E. American Flyer Imagineering: This is an open category, all classes compete against each other without distinction. This category tests the

modeler's imagination and creativity. The model must be in the spirit of something that the A. C. Gilbert Company might have built in the past or built if the company had continued in existence up to the present. Models must be in the form of a nearly complete prototype or a production model and not a crude mock-up. Use of original or reproduction Flyer parts is required as the company always tried to incorporate existing parts into new production. Use of new technology is permitted as the company did embrace advances in technology. Models may include accessories, rolling stock and engines. Modelers should provide information as to how their model is a logical addition to the American Flyer product line. Models based primarily on the modification of a non-Flyer product are not eligible for Flyer Imagineering.

VIII. NASG-sanctioned contests will have the following events:

#### MASTER CRAFTSMAN CLASS

Open Category: Steam Locomotives  
 Diesel & Electric Locomotives  
 Passenger Cars  
 Trolley & Interurban Cars  
 Freight & MoW Equipment  
 Structures  
 Dioramas

American Flyer Imagineering

#### CRAFTSMAN CLASS

Highrail: Steam Locomotives  
 Diesel & Electric Locomotives  
 Passengers Cars  
 Freight & MoW Equipment

Kit & Converted: Steam Locomotives  
 Diesel & Electric Locomotives  
 Passenger Cars  
 Freight & MoW Equipment  
 Structures

Scratch Built: Steam Locomotives  
 Diesel & Electric Locomotives  
 Passenger Cars\*  
 Trolley & Interurban Cars  
 Freight & MoW Equipment  
 Structures  
 Dioramas

American Flyer Imagineering

#### AMATEUR CLASS

Highrail:	Steam Locomotives Diesel & Electric Locomotives Passenger Cars Freight & MoW Equipment
Kit & Converted:	Steam Locomotives Diesel & Electric Locomotives Passenger Cars Freight & MoW Equipment Structures
Scratch Built:	Passenger Cars Trolley & Interurban Cars Freight & MoW Equipment Structures Dioramas

American Flyer Imagineering

#### JUNIOR CLASS

Open Category: All

American Flyer Imagineering

#### UNCLASSIFIED

NASG Modules: Open to all classes without distinction.

Model Photos: Color Prints  
Black & White Prints

Note 1. Many possible events are not included. These are generally not applicable to the situation and have had little or no demand in the past. Other events may be added if the sponsor feels the addition justified, but the sponsor must gain prior approval from the CCC.

Note 2. An NASG module is defined as a module that meets NASG S-10 module standards.

Note 3. Photo Event Rules:

- a. Exposure of the original negative or slide must have been made by the entrant personally.
- b. Photos must depict a scene of which 50 percent or more has been created in 1/64th scale.
- c. Each print must be at least 5" x 7" and no larger than 8" x 10" and must be mounted on an 11" x 14" rigid mount for ease in display.

Note 4. Junior Event Rules:

- a. Models entered in the Junior event may not be simultaneously entered or receive an award in any other event in the same contest. However, this does not disallow a model from being entered in the Junior event one year and another event the next year, but not the reverse, as long as all other requirements for the particular event are satisfied.

Events may be combined or split prior to the contest with the approval of the CCC and announcement by the sponsors and made known to the contestants when they enter.

Events may be combined after registration is closed if only one entry is made in one or each of the events involved. Combinations must be made within the same class and follow a logical progression. While these rules allow combining, it is not NASG policy to recommend it. If the judges feel that each of the combined models is deserving of a First-Place in its intended event, then the combination should not be made.

Each of the Amateur and Junior Class final events must have a First-Place awarded; and if two or more models are entered in the event, a Second-Place must also be awarded. Unless the sponsors require a First-Place award in each event, the judges may withhold the First-Place award in any event in the Craftsman and Master Craftsman classes if, in the opinion of the judges, none of the models entered is of sufficient caliber to rate a First-Place in that event. In such a situation, a Second-Place must be awarded.

"Diorama" is defined as a group of models and/or scenery combined to give a unified scenic effect. A single structure may be mounted on a scenic base with or without track and rolling equipment and entered in the appropriate "Structures" event. It will be judged solely on its merits as a structure while scenery and track are ignored by the judges (except that the design and use of the structure may be more fully understood). A model may not be entered simultaneously in Structures and Diorama events.

- IX. The contest sponsor will select its judges. There shall be a minimum of three contest judges. If more than three judges are involved, all models in an event are to be judged by the same three judges. However, some other combination of three may judge another event simultaneously to speed the judging process. The sponsor is responsible for determining that each judge is an experienced model builder, familiar with railroads and model railroading.
- X. Judges generally may not have any entries in the contest. Exceptions may be granted only by the decision of the CCC and only in such cases where an event is not judged by a person having an entry in that event. Judges may not accept gratuities from any individual in any connection with the contest or the convention with which it is a part. However, they may receive compensation for their time from the contest sponsoring organization. Violations of this rule will result in the individuals involved being barred from participating in all future NASG-sanctioned model contests or until such time as the CCC may determine.
- XI. Contest registration at conventions must be of adequate duration and scheduling for all conventioners to have an opportunity to enter. The starting

- and cut-off times must be announced in advance (in pre-convention information) and made available in convention programs.
- XII. The use of NASG Model Contest Entry Forms is required and sample quantities are available from the CCC. Distribution quantities are the responsibility of the contest sponsor.
  - XIII. The sponsor must have at least one copy of these rules at the contest registration desk. A copy shall also be available in the judging area. The Short-Form Contest Rules are available from the CCC. NASG provides only samples of these forms. Distribution quantities are the responsibility of the contest sponsor. The Short-Form Contest Rules shall be mailed out with pre-registration information and also provided at the contest registration or convention check-in.
  - XIV. During judging, only sponsoring committeemen, NASG contest officials, and legitimate press photographers may be allowed in the contest judging area. However, in no instance will any contest entrant be present during the judging except as may be determined by the CCC.
  - XV. In each event, the method of selecting the winners will be the choice of the judges. NASG recommends that the point system on the model contest entry form be used.
  - XVI. Each event shall have First-Place and Second-Place awards provided for. The sponsor may also provide for Third-Place or Honorable Mention at the judges' discretion. The sponsor may provide a "Best-In-Show Award" for each class, overall, or some combination, although it is not required. Determination of which models deserve such an award shall be at the judges' discretion. Some form of permanent prize must be given for winning models. This may be in any conventional form such as ribbons, plaques, certificates, cups, etc. Whether to also award a monetary or other material prize to certain or all winners is left to the discretion of the contest sponsor. NASG does not recognize any need for such additional compensation.
  - XVII. Any or all of the awards may be announced in any order at an appropriate ceremony. Or, they all may be displayed next to the winning entries.
  - XVIII. Adequate time shall be provided, after the awards are made known, for the conventioners to view the award-winning (and other) entries. This shall be a minimum of one hour.
  - XIX. The NASG Contest Committee requires a record of all entries and prizes won. This is to ensure that the contestants are staying within correct classes and to provide an update on the classification listing to the next sponsor, as well as to maintain contest records. The completed Entry Form "Part A's", showing the number of points and award won (if any), shall be used for this. The obtaining of this record is part of the sponsoring committee's responsibility in obtaining an official NASG sanction.
  - XX. The CCC shall have the full right and responsibility for the final decision of

interpreting and applying these procedures to any situation as may arise. This includes the authority to add to, delete, suspend or modify such procedures, on either a temporary or permanent basis, as may be determined by the CCC to be in the best interests of the NASG.

- XXI. From time to time the CCC shall designate (in writing) a representative whose task shall be to carry out some or all of the responsibilities required of the CCC in these procedures. Such representatives shall act with the full authority of the CCC within the areas specified in the written designation.

Questions concerning these rules should be submitted to the Contest Committee Chairman: [contest@nasg.org](mailto:contest@nasg.org).

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