

SAFETY FIRST!!!

Any build deemed unsafe by the majority of judges will be disqualified and that decision will be final. This should be common sense, but examples would be safe brakes, steering, tires, fuel tanks, lighting, seatbelts etc. Seatbelts are recommended for all entries but not mandatory.

Examples of safety, Latching doors, No leaking fuel, etc....

ALL builds must be legally licensed and insured.

ATTITUDE

While this is a competition, we are all friends here. There are enough people out there against rat rods. We do not need to be and should not be against each other. Rat Rodders have the well earned reputation of being some of the greatest people in automotive culture. Please live up to and respect that reputation. There should be no doubt that the judges will have a very difficult job to do. The unenviable task of choosing one Champion among many talented builders. Please respect them and their decision.

CONTESTANT QUALIFICATIONS

Anyone, minimum age of 16 with valid driver's license. ALL builds must be legally licensed and insured. Home garage builders, Shop owners etc. can compete. Remember, it's a \$5000.00 budget. If you stick to the budget, it's an equal playing field. If you DO NOT stick to the budget, the judges WILL penalize you. The staff of Rat Rod Magazine or its sponsors are not eligible to compete but may build for fun.

\$5,000.00 BUDGET

Parts will be judged on perceived value. Keep in mind that the judges will have their own perceived value of your parts that may not be in line with yours. During judging, you will have an opportunity to discuss values in the event of discrepancy. Heated tempers and tantrums will not be tolerated and **COULD RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION**. Judges will have final determination of value.

You may barter, wheel, and deal with your parts. For example... let's say you buy a wrecked 2008 Ford F-250 for \$3000.00 to **USE** as a donor chassis for your build. You sell the wheels and tires for \$1200, and the interior for \$500. You now only have \$1300.00 in your chassis. We recommend you document this for the judges. If you do **NOT** have documented proof, the judges will likely apply the perceived budget rule.

You may **NOT** barter yourself into a higher budget. For example... you buy a donor vehicle for \$3000.00 and sell off parts for \$3500.00... do **NOT** consider your budget to be \$5,500.00. The budget is \$5000.00.

1980 OR OLDER VEHICLE BODIES ONLY.

This is a Build-Off. NO pre-built vehicles may be entered. NO half-built vehicles. NO quarter-built vehicles. Ya get it? **YOU MUST SUBMIT AT LEAST 2 PHOTOS OF YOUR BUILD TO RAT ROD MAGAZINE ***BEFORE*** YOU BEGIN THE BUILD PROCESS. SEND PHOTOS TO... rrmbuildoff2024@gmail.com** You may enter at any point beginning **TODAY THROUGH JULY 1, 2024. NO** entries will be accepted after **July 1st, 2024.**

JUDGING CRITERIA

There will be 5 judges. All highly qualified and respected builders themselves. Builds will be judged on **ADHERANCE TO BUDGET, CREATIVITY, INGENUITY, QUALITY OF CRAFTSMANSHIP, DRIVABILTY, BUILT VS BOUGHT PARTS.** ***Safety items will not count against budget*** See SAFTEY FIRST above for example.

THE DRIVE

Yes, you may trailer your builds to the event... BUT, you didn't think you weren't going to have to drive them did ya? ALL entries MUST be on site at Psycho Silo Saloon **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024, BY 11AM.** From there, all builds will embark on a 30–60-minute drive to a destination yet to be determined. At this destination location, the judges will judge your builds and talk to you if need be. A breakdown WILL NOT result in a disqualification, but you MUST have your build present for judging before it ends. After judging, all entries may depart for the day BUT, all entries must be back the RATSTOCK at Psycho Silo Saloon the next day. A champion will be announced at 4pm at RATSTOCK. THE WINNER The Champion Builder will get the cover of Rat Rod Magazine, a custom designed Championship Jacket, a custom-made Championship Ring and the custom-made Official Rat Rod Build-Off 2024 Championship Trophy.

CHEATING

There is no pride or honor in cheating. You not only disrespect yourself, but you also risk losing the respect of the Rat Rod Community. Don't do it. We are all better than that.

JUNIOR BUILDER CLASS

This class is open to all kids 15 years of age or younger. Kids may use Go Carts, Wagons, Wheelbarrows, etc for the base of their builds. NO Mini Bikes. All builds must be built in the rat rod spirit. All builds must be small engine powered. The only new, store purchased items that may be used are nuts, bolts, cables, hardware and safety equipment. Everything else must be used, scrap, or swap meet found items. We want to introduce these kids to the joy and pride of building as well as the blue-collar rat rod and hot rod culture we all know and love.

BUDGET \$2000.00

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

By all means, share this experience with your child. Parents may help in the build process, but you are encouraged to let the child handle as much of the build as possible. The judges will talk with your child to gauge how familiar he or she is with what they built. If you built it for them... the judges will know. The judging will take place at RATSTOCK, on Saturday, September 21 at 12PM. The winner will be announced with the adults as the Official Rat Rod Build-Off Junior Champion. He or she will receive a feature in Rat Rod Magazine as well as a custom-made Championship Trophy