

American Motors Owners Association, Inc.

Concours Rules

March 2015



1. Introduction

- A. The rules set forth herein are intended to be the rules used for judging AMC vehicles entered in AMO Concours d'Elegance events sanctioned by "American Motors Owners Association," hereinafter referred to as AMO.
- B. It is the intention of these rules to be clear and concise. They are designed to treat with equality, all AMC vehicles eligible for competition be they stock, restored, custom, or modified.
- C. All guidelines and edicts set forth herein are designed to comply with and support fully, the Constitution and spirit of AMO.

2. Concours Officials

- A. A Manager, Concours Events, shall be appointed by the AMO President with approval from the AMO Board of Directors. The appointment shall be for two years, beginning and ending with the AMO International Conventions. The Manager, Concours Events, shall be responsible for all activities in and dealing with all National and Regional AMO sanctioned events. The Manager, Concours Events, shall be directly responsible to the AMO President, and then to the AMO Board of Directors.
- B. An Assistant Manager, Concours Events, shall be appointed by the AMO President with approval from the AMO Board of Directors. The Assistant Manager, Concours Events, may be recommended by the Manager, Concours Events. The appointment shall be for two years, beginning and ending with the AMO International Conventions. The Assistant Manager, Concours Events, shall be responsible for full support of the Manager, Concours Events. The Assistant Manager, Concours Events, shall be directly responsible to the Manager, Concours Events, the to the AMO President, and finally to the AMO Board of Directors.
- C. A Concours Designate shall be appointed either by the Manager, Concours Events, or the AMO President, depending on the circumstances involved, to fill the position of Manager, Concours Events, in his/her absence. The Concours Designate shall assume the full responsibilities of the Manager, Concours Events, in such cases.
- D. The Manager, Concours Events, shall appoint Concours Judges. The Manager, Concours Events, shall determine the eligibility of the judges and see that all judges are properly instructed as to the procedures and rules used for judging.
- E. The Manager, Concours Events, shall appoint Concours Scorers. The Manager, Concours Events, shall determine the eligibility of the scorers and see that all scorers are properly instructed as to the procedures and rules used for scoring.
- F. The Manager, Concours Events, as the need is deemed necessary, shall appoint various support committees. The Manager, Concours Events, shall determine the length of service of such committees.
- G. One such committee shall be a sounding board when the AMO Concours Rules need to be changed, or to discuss disputes following an international meet. Said committee shall be comprised of the current Manager, Concours Events; Assistant Manager Concours Events; the immediate past Manager, Concours Events; the immediate past Assistant Manager, Concours Events; and a fifth individual appointed to serve by the AMO President, thus ensuring an odd number of committee members.

3. Entrants

- A. Only those vehicles owned in whole or in part by a current dues paying member of AMO shall be eligible to participate in the Concours competition. A current membership card shall be proof of same. For non-members of AMO, a one-day membership shall be available for the date of the event. The fee for this special membership shall be collected when the entry and judging fees are collected prior to entering the show field. Should such individual choose to join AMO after the event, this one-day fee shall be applicable for regular membership within thirty (30) calendar days of the event.
- B. Each entrant shall be responsible for properly registering his/her vehicle not less than one hour prior to the commencement of judging. The entrant must supply the VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) on the vehicle judging sheet. Additionally, each entrant shall be responsible for the proper classification of his/her vehicle, ensuring that it meets the stated criteria in the current *AMO Concours Rules* for the stock/non-stock classifications. A participant registering for the Senior Division of a specific class *must* have a Senior Badge appropriately attached to the grille of the car being entered. All Senior Division cars shall be confirmed by AMO officials at the meet, using past records and the VIN (Vehicle Identification Number). The Manager, Concours Events, shall make the decision on any disputes in this area prior to the commencement of judging. Any person found supplying false information shall be disqualified from competitive eligibility for that particular event.
- C. Each entrant shall be charged a fee for having a vehicle judged, in addition to that amount charged by the club for entry onto the field. The Manager, Concours Events, in conjunction with the AMO Treasurer and AMO Meet Chairman, shall set this fee. The amount of these fees shall be clearly stated on the preregistration form. Said fee is payable in advance, at registration, or on the field for judging.

4. Classifications

- A. A standard set of classes shall be used at the International AMO Sanctioned Concours Event. It is suggested that AMO Sanctioned Regional Events divide their classes in a manner which is most equitable for the particular event. Any decision to make changes should be made by the Manager, Concours Events.
- B. The standard set of classes to be used shall be as follows:

1. Special Interest	Prototypes, one-offs, special promotions, etc.
2. Race Car	All AMC cars specifically modified for racing purposes
3. Non-AMC Powered	An AMC vehicle with an engine other than AMC built/bought
4. Driven	Any AMC driven a minimum of 750 miles per year
5. Rambler Non-Stock	1958-1969 Ramblers (including Marlins) with non-factory options
6. Rambler Stock	1958-1969 Ramblers (including Marlins) stock as they came from the factory
7. AMC Non-Stock	1970-1988 AMCs and Jeeps with non-factory options
8. AMC Stock	1970-1988 AMCs and Jeeps stock as they came from the factory
9. Hurst Non-Stock	1969-1971 Hurst AMCs with non-factory options
10. Hurst Stock	1969-1971 Hurst AMCs as they came from the factory
11. Javelin Non-Stock	1968-1974 Javelins with non-factory options
12. Javelin Stock	1968-1974 Javelins as they came from the factory
13. AMX Non-Stock	1968-1970 AMXs with non-factory options
14. AMX Stock	1968-1970 AMXs as they came from the factory
15. American Cup	Any AMC "Best of Show" in Non-Stock
16. American Heritage Cup	Any AMC "Best of Show" in Stock
17. Display Only	Any AMC not judged

Class Notes:

1. The entity determining the year of the car shall be the model year, not necessarily the year of manufacture, i.e. a 1971 model built in September 1970 is classified as a 1971 model. The VIN shall be used as the determining factor.
2. Special Interest Class: In order to be eligible for this class, the vehicle must be a prototype, a one-off production model, a model built specially for a given event (i.e. a movie), or a model built for a celebrity. Documentation must be presented in any case in question. Any vehicle in this category may compete in a regular class should the owner so desire. In all cases, the Manager, Concours Events, shall determine the eligibility of any such vehicle. *Junior level judging only.*
3. Race Car Class: Specially modified race cars are eligible for this class. All entries in this class must be AMC-bodied and AMC-powered. *Junior level judging only.*
4. Non-AMC Powered Class (approved July 2005): Specifically for Rambler/AMC cars with engines other than what AMC built, bought, or installed in their vehicles. *Junior level judging only.*
5. Driven Class: This class is for those AMC vehicles which are driven 750 or more miles per year. Proof of same shall be accomplished via a mirror tag, filled out/certified by the Manager, Concours Events, or his/her designate (a team captain) prior to judging, and retained by the owner of the car. *Junior level judging only.* Should a vehicle attain 190 points or more, the vehicle shall move to the appropriate class and compete with all other vehicles in the appropriate class at the Junior level. The vehicle receiving the highest score at the Gold Award level shall be awarded the *Great American Road Award*. This award may only be won once by any given vehicle. The vehicle then advances to the appropriate show class for further competition.
6. Pro-Street Vehicles shall be listed under either Race Car Class or Non-Stock in their respective classes.
7. The Mighty Mite shall be included in the appropriate Rambler Class.
8. Display Class: For any AMC vehicle not judged.
9. Stock shall be defined as any vehicle as it came off the assembly line of an AMC assembly plant or as changed by AMC designers to represent future or possible model types, including such models as the SS/AMX, the Vignale AMX, and similar type specialty vehicles built under the supervision of AMC. Included in this area are Group 19 parts and other AMC dealer installed options.
10. Non-Stock shall be defined as any AMC vehicle with an AMC produced or purchased engine not necessarily stock for the particular model or year of manufacture, along with parts and accessories not necessarily correct for the particular model, including any after-market items not necessarily manufactured for an AMC production vehicle.
11. Senior Division: Any above described AMC vehicle (groups 5 through 14), stock or non-stock, achieving a raw judging score of 190 points or greater.
12. Vehicles which qualify for American Cup participation shall have moved up through previous non-stock classes. Vehicles which qualify for American Heritage Cup participation shall have moved up through previous stock classes. If a change is made from stock to non-stock or from non-stock to stock, the vehicle shall go back and start from the Junior level of the particular class.

5. Judging

- A. The Manager, Concoors Events, shall appoint Team Captains and Judges. Team Captains and Judges shall be members in good standing of AMO and free from prejudices and favoritism. When circumstances so warrant, non-members may be used as judges.
- B. A minimum of four (4) and preferably five (5) Judges shall be used for each class. A minimum of two (2) preferably three (3) Judges shall be used for the race car class. Under no circumstances shall a Judge have a vehicle entered in the class which he/she is to judge. In line with this rule, no spouse or boyfriend/girlfriend shall be allowed to judge a class under the same circumstances. In the event that a team consists of four judges (two for race cars) the team captain shall also serve as a Judge.
- C. The Manager, Concoors Events, shall appoint a Team Captain for each team. It shall be the Team Captain's responsibility to see that each vehicle judged equally. During this process, bias shall be avoided and Judges shall be guided by the Team Captain to ensure equity. Each Team Captain shall collect registration forms from the vehicles as they are judged and turn them, plus the judging sheets, in to the scorers.
- D. Through a Judges' meeting held prior to the start of the actual judging, all Judges shall be made aware of the methods and procedures used in judging. Following the meeting, each team should casually walk through the area of vehicles which they will be judging, thus giving themselves an opportunity to become familiar with the vehicles which have been entered for competition.
- E. It is the vehicle owner's responsibility to ensure all appropriate judging sheets are filled out completely and are made available to the judging team prior to the start of judging the particular vehicle. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of the entry and forfeiture of the judging fees.
- F. It is not necessary for the entrant to be at his/her vehicle when the Judges are ready to judge the vehicle. Vehicles will not be opened during the judging. The only possible touching of the vehicle would be the opening and closing of doors, which shall be done by the Team Captain in the absence of the owner.
 - 1. All vehicles shall be judged in the same manner. Whatever is used as a basis for judging one vehicle shall be used in the same manner for all other vehicles.
 - 2. All soft tops shall remain in the "up" position; all hoods and trunks shall remain open. Windows shall be in the "up" position, but may be opened slightly for ventilation. Judges shall not mark down for neatly placed cleaning materials located at a discreet distance from the vehicle in competition. They shall score down, however, when such materials and/or litter are inappropriately spread close to and around the vehicle.
 - 3. Failure to have a hood or trunk opened shall result in a loss of all judging points in that area, with the exception of special consideration given in the event of rain.
 - 4. No stanchions, ropes, tents over the vehicles, chains or any other restricting devices are permitted around and/or over the vehicles. All of the area surrounding the vehicle is to be clear for Judges to be able to judge the vehicles. If any such devices are present, disqualification from judging may occur.
 - 5. Floor mats should be removed from the vehicle, so the judges can see the carpet in order to complete the interior judging process.
- G. AMO shall supply all materials needed for judging: Clipboards, pens, pencils, calculators, forms, and any needed documentation (i.e. paint codes) supporting the Stock classes.
- H. All writing done on the judging sheets shall be in ink. Any change made must be initialed by both the Judge and the Team Captain.
- I. Under no circumstances shall any information on the judging sheets or about the judging as a whole, be discussed with anyone outside of the officials of the Concoors in connection with their assigned duties.
- J. Vehicles judged at an AMO Concoors event shall be judged solely by AMO at that event. Vehicles shall not be allowed to be judged by any other club at that same event on that day. To do so forfeits the AMO award. Vehicles can be entered in only one category per judged event.
- K. Score sheets shall be retained by AMO (the Manager, Concoors Events) for a four-year period.

6. Scoring

- A. The Manager, Concoors Events, shall appoint scorers. Ideally, scorers shall be members in good standing of AMO. When circumstances so warrant, non-members may be used as scorers.
- B. The Manager, Concoors Events, shall determine the number of scorers needed.
- C. Scorers may act as runners in gathering the completed judging sheets along with the registration forms of the judged cars. Under no circumstances shall any scorer/runner discuss any of the information on the judging sheets with anyone outside of the officials within the scoring group.
- D. Results of the judging shall be announced by the Manager, Concoors Events, during an official awards presentation or at another place and time as previously determined and public announcement prior to the event.
- E. Judging forms may be requested by the entrant from the Manager, Concoors Events, no earlier than 30 days following a judged event. The entrant must do this in writing and enclose a self-addressed, stamped No. 10 envelope with the request, or via email with the correct address provided. Email requests are accepted as well.

7. Protests

- A. All protests must be filed in writing with the Manager, Concours Events, fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of judging. The Manager, Concours Events, shall rule upon such protests before the vehicle is judged. This decision shall be final and binding. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- B. Whereas, every effort shall be made to ensure judging results are correct before they are announced at the end of the Concours event, should circumstances warrant, there is a two (2) week period where the Manager, Concours Events, may receive a formal protest in writing to investigate the results. The Manager, Concours Events, shall make a decision, and advise the originator of the protest, no later than four (4) weeks after the formal announcement of the Concours results. The Manager, Concours Events, shall have the final decision, whether to over-turn the previous results, or to let them stand as announced.

8. Awards

- A. No minimum number of entries is necessary for any class since all vehicles are judged on their own merit.
- B. There is a total of 200 points possible on the judging sheets.
- C. 2 points shall be added to a score when a Junior Level participant judges.
- D. 1 point shall be added when an official AMO grille badge is affixed to the grille.
- E. The following shall be the breakdown for the Junior and Senior Divisions for the award levels indicated:
 - 1. Junior Level
 - A. Bronze Award – 145 to 169 points
 - B. Silver Award – 170 to 184 points
 - C. Gold Award – 185 to 200 points (+2 points for an individual who judged/+1 point for a grille badge)
 - D. 190 points (not rounded off) shall move the vehicle up to the Senior Division.
 - 2. Senior Level
 - A. Bronze Award – 170 to 179 points
 - B. Silver Award – 180 to 189 points
 - C. Gold Award – 190 to 200 points (+1 point for a grille badge)
 - D. Vehicles not attaining a minimum of 170 points shall revert back to the Junior Division.
 - 3. Race Car Level – 140 points (on race car judging sheets only)
 - A. Bronze Award – 100 to 119 points
 - B. Silver Award – 120 to 129 points
 - C. Gold Award – 130 to 140 points (+1 point for a grille badge)
 - D. There is no Senior Division in the race car class.
 - 4. American Cup/American Heritage Cup Level
 - A. Winners in these classes shall be the vehicles which attain the highest number of raw points.
 - B. Vehicles not attaining a minimum of 180 raw points shall become ineligible to compete in these classes and revert back to the Senior Division of the appropriate class.
- F. In a case where no vehicle attains minimum point levels, no awards shall be made at that level or in that class. In all cases, scores shall not be rounded off.
- G. A “Best of Class” award shall be awarded at the International Convention for each of the five major classes. These awards shall be
 - 1. “The Great American Road Award” for the Driven Class
 - 2. “George Romney Award” for the Rambler Class
 - 3. “Roy D. Chapin Jr. Award” for the AMC Class
 - 4. “Hurst Award” for the Hurst Class
 - 5. “Mark Donohue Award” for the Javelin Class
 - 6. “Richard A. Teague Award” for the AMX Class
- H. Each award shall be a floating award and shall be passed on from the previous year’s winner. These floating trophies shall be awarded to the highest raw point vehicle in each class in the Senior Division. An additional trophy shall also be awarded to the recipient to keep.
- I. The American Cup: This is the top honor presented to the car scoring the highest number of points in the Non-Stock Classes, “Best of Show” winners. To be eligible for the American Cup, a car must have been a “Best of Show” winner in the Non-Stock category of its own class. Once a car has won the American Cup, it is retired from AMO competition. There shall be a special place on the show field for the display of past American Cup winners. Should a past American

Cup winner choose to display his/her vehicle, an appropriate plaque shall be presented to the owner: "Past American Cup Winner."

- J. The American Heritage Cup: This is the top honor presented to the car scoring the highest number of points in the Stock Classes, "Best of Show" winners. To be eligible for the American Heritage Cup, a car must have been a "Best of Show" winner in the Stock category of its own class. Once a car has won the American Heritage Cup, it is retired from AMO competition. There shall be a special place on the show field for the display of past American Heritage Cup winners. Should a past American Heritage Cup winner choose to display his/her vehicle, an appropriate plaque shall be presented to the owner: "Past American Heritage Cup Winner."
- K. Special provision for American Cup and American Heritage Cup past participants who have not won the respective cup, to display their cars without judging. In such a case, an appropriate plaque shall be presented to the owner: "American Cup Display," or "American Heritage Cup Display."

9. Procedure for Creating a New Major Judging Class

- A. Definition: A new major judging class shall be made up of a specific group of AMC vehicles and may provide for a Senior Division and a specific Best of Show Award (floating) for that class.
- B. A representative of the proposed class shall write a formal letter of request for the proposed class to the Manager, Concours Events. The letter shall include the suggested guidelines which AMO shall follow for the proposed class.
- C. The Manager, Concours Events shall research the viability of such a class and respond to the representative within six (6) months of the formal request. Said research shall consist of contacting and talking to various participants at AMO regional events, when possible. Records from past AMO International Conventions shall also be consulted. Additionally, Manager, Concours Events shall request input from AMO Officers, Board of Directors, and Appointed Officers.
- D. Should the response be negative, the proposal shall be dropped and not be permitted to be revisited for one full calendar year from the date the response is provided. The process would then have to repeat the same cycle to be reintroduced.
- E. Should the response be positive, the class representative would then be informed of the process for establishing the proposed class.
- F. In order to establish a new class, there must be sufficient (at least eight [8] participants in judging) in the following three (3) AMO International Convention events. Should this minimum not be met, the proposed class shall be considered not viable and removed from any future events.
- G. Should the minimum requirements be met, the class shall be considered viable. There would be developed both a Stock and a Non-Stock section along with Senior Divisions in both sections. There would also be a "Best of Show" award (floating) named according to the wishes of the requesting representative. The winner of this award would then be eligible to participate in either the American Cup Class or the American Heritage Cup Class.
- H. The Manager, Concours Events, shall then approach the AMO Board of Directors for formal approval of the newly created class.

10. Addenda

- A. A suitable area shall be made available for both registering vehicles and scoring the judging sheets.
- B. The Manager, Concours Events, shall be responsible for maintaining all records for AMO sanctioned events.
- C. Final standings in the awards area shall be given to the Editor of *American Motoring* (Newsletter Editor) for publication in the meet issue following the event. This information shall include place, name, and year and model of the vehicles receiving awards.
- D. This document shall be updated as needed, by the Manager, Concours Events, to increase its credibility and purpose.
- E. Every vehicle entering an AMO show field must carry a fully charged extinguisher. This fire extinguisher must not be necessarily permanently affixed to the vehicle, but with each participating vehicle. The fire extinguisher shall be placed at the left rear tire of each vehicle for fast access in case of an emergency. ABC specified dry chemical three-pound size or halon; one and one-half pound size is the minimum requirement.
- F. All vehicles must enter the show field under their own power. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
- G. Special awards may be presented at the discretion of the Manager, Concours Events, the AMO President, and/or the Concours Committee.

American Motors Owners Association Concours Rules were revised August 2000, September 2001, August 2002, October 2003, August 2005, March 2015.