

A. ELIGIBILITY

1. Anyone is eligible to enter any number of models in the Show.
2. Anyone may serve as a "proxy" to enter models for someone who is not attending the Show; in such cases the modeller's name must appear on the entry form.
3. All entries must be the sole work of the individual whose name is on the entry form (exception – *Category 903 Models/Dioramas built by multiple builders*).
4. Commercially built and pre-finished models that do not require significant additional work by the modeller will be deemed ineligible even when entered into the specific categories for models with pre-finished components.
5. Junior division categories are limited to modellers 16 years of age and younger. Juniors may, at their own discretion, enter their models in senior categories; however models entered in senior categories will not be eligible for special junior awards.
6. The Head Judge will exclude/remove from competition any entry considered by IPMS Vancouver officials to be inappropriate or offensive to generally accepted standards of taste and morality as they apply to family oriented events where the presence of minors is encouraged. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, there shall be no depiction of excretory functions of any human being or animal, no explicit sexual or sado-masochistic activity, regardless of whether any figures present in the model are clothed, and no depiction of excessive violence or macabre activity or the aftermath thereof. The Head Judge's decision to disallow the display of such an entry shall be final.
7. Modellers entering subjects that exceed three feet in either width or length, or that require special power support or special placement, must notify IPMS Vancouver at least **one** month in advance of the Show. The limited space for the Show requires pre-planning for such entries and while every effort will be made to accommodate the entry, the Show officials retain the right to disallow the entry. Failure to provide advanced notification for such entries could result in their exclusion from the Show or inadequate support and placement.
8. The IPMS Vancouver Show is primarily for static models. Any model that can move (a remote controlled vehicle, a walking figure, etc.) or that has movable parts extending beyond the area of the base on which it is mounted (a crane, a figure or robot with swinging arms, etc.) must have its batteries removed while on display. The Head Judge will remove from the show any entry that, in the opinion of IPMS Vancouver officials, may cause damage to any other entry.
9. Exhibitors are asked to leave their entries on the display tables until the trophy award ceremony is over.

B. JUDGING

1. Judging will be conducted in accordance with IPMS contest rules and guidelines for skill in construction, finish, realism, and accuracy. Models are judged as three-dimensional objects and are examined in all aspects.
2. The judging process is conducted by multiple judging teams overseen by the Head Judge.
3. The Head Judge is chosen by the members of IPMS Vancouver to organize and oversee the judging process of the Show. The Head Judge will brief all judges before the Show judging commences.
4. To the extent possible, judging teams will comprise at least three judges. Every effort will be made to create judging teams that include at least two judges with experience in judging the team's assigned categories.
5. Juniors may not serve as voting judges, but may be assigned to judging teams as participating observers.
6. Judges will be broadly solicited from other IPMS Chapters as well as other model related clubs, societies and organizations.
7. Strict impartiality shall be observed and violators will be removed immediately from judging and from judges' lists for future Shows.
8. First, Second and Third place ribbons will be awarded in each category.
9. Honorable Mention ribbons will be awarded where appropriate.
10. Trophies are also awarded to entries of exceptional merit.
11. Individual judges may not determine the awards in any category in which they are entered.
12. Judges may move an entry for judging if viewing it from one or more aspects is obstructed.
13. Judges may combine or split categories in order to create categories of approximately 5 to 15 models per category or to differentiate differing scales within a category.
14. All judges' decisions are final.
15. The Head Judge may waive any rule if circumstances warrant.
16. It is recognised that judges are volunteer hobbyists who are offering their time in support of the Show and the modelling hobby in general. They take their role seriously and apply their expertise to the best of their ability.

While judges are encouraged to discuss with entrants their decisions in determining the awards, they do so of their own free will.

An entrant cannot expect or demand explanations as to the judges' decisions. Entrants who disagree with the judges' decisions are reminded of the terms of this paragraph and agree not to aggressively or unduly pursue, harass, criticize or otherwise demean the judges or IPMS, either verbally or in writing.

C. SPECIFIC JUDGING CRITERIA

1. Bases

Bases are allowed in all categories. Except for the *Vignette* and *Diorama Categories* they are not considered during judging.

A base must not be the predominant feature of the entry and must be of a size proportionate to the model. Show officials reserve the right to exclude oversized bases.

A base may simulate the natural surface on which the prototype would be found; however, nothing other than that surface may be used.

Aircraft and vehicles may rest on simulated ground or paving. Aircraft that need beaching gear or dollies may be so equipped. Ships may be displayed on simulated water bases, no dry-docks.

The modeller may always elect to place a model on a base in the appropriate *Vignette* or *Diorama Categories* as long as they meet the criteria for a *Vignette* or a *Diorama*.

2. Cases

In order to facilitate judging, modellers will be asked to remove cases. Cases left in place may not allow the model to be fully viewable from all aspects and could negatively impact the judging process to the point of judging exclusion. IPMS Vancouver will not remove cases from models.

3. Conversions

In addition to the normal judging criteria common to the entire Show, judges of the Conversion Categories will give special consideration to the complexity of the conversion. Assuming both are finished to similar standards, a conversion accomplished primarily by the builder's craftsmanship will prevail against a conversion accomplished with primarily commercial aftermarket parts.

4. Out of the Box

Out-of-the-Box entries are governed by the following rules:

Kits:

Any commercially available kit may be used.

Finish:

All finishing techniques are allowed.

Decals other than those included with the kit may be used.

Insignia, markings, and instrument panels may be hand-painted instead of decaled.

Weathering is permitted.

Construction:

The modeller may:

Fill seams, gaps, sink holes or ejection pin holes; sand off rivets and imperfections in the mouldings.

Drill out gun ports, gun barrels, air intakes, vents, exhaust pipes or other appropriate openings.

Thin to scale such parts as trailing edges, flaps, hatches, doors, etc.

Add rigging and antennas.

Add simple tape, foil, or decal seat belts in the cockpit of an aircraft or the interior of a vehicle (NO commercial or manufactured hardware such as buckles, etc.).

It is NOT Permitted to:

Vacuform, scratch-build or replace any part.

Substitute parts from another kit.

Cut or separate canopies, surfaces, hatches, doors, etc. (no surgery).

Combine a standard kit with a conversion kit.

Add anything other than as specified on the instruction sheet, except as noted above under Construction.

Instruction Sheets:

The kit instruction sheet must be attached to the entry form for the judges to refer to.

Models without an instruction sheet will not be considered for an award.

5. Dioramas

The technical merit of the construction of all components and the strength of the theme or story are judged. Should two dioramas be technically equal, the one having the stronger theme or story would prevail.

6. Collections (*Category 901*)

The closeness of the relationship within a collection is a significant factor in judging with a tighter relationship carrying more weight in determining a winner.

As examples, a collection based on variants of a single airframe is a tighter relationship than one of different aircraft operated by a unit. A collection of British battleships is a tighter relationship than a collection of battleships of various navies.

D. CONTEST DEFINITIONS

1. Composition

The use of "plastic" in its multiplicity of forms is encouraged. These would include, but not be limited to, acetates, acrylics, celluloid, epoxy and polyester resins, fiberglass, nylon, polyethylene, polystyrene, resin, thermoplastic or thermosetting polymer, vinyl, and other synthetic and monofilament fibers. The use of other non-plastic modelling materials is allowed as the builder sees fit. Regardless of the materials used, judging standards of finish, attention to detail, and authenticity will be the same.

2. Scratch-built

Scratch-built models may incorporate parts from other kits, but these should be generally unrelated to their original identity, except for minor parts such as wheels, guns, etc. Models determined to be scratch-built must be entered in the proper *Scratch-built Category*.

3. Conversions

Conversion category entries must represent a version different from that provided by the basic kit and must contain significant structural modifications involving extensive changes in contour or configuration. These changes must be the work of the entrant.

Simple conversions may be entered in regular categories. However, more extensive conversions must be entered in the appropriate *Conversion Category*. The builder must detail the conversion changes made to the base kit on the entry sheet or on accompanying documentation.

4. Jet Aircraft

Jet Aircraft categories include manned, rocket-powered aircraft such as the Me-163, X-1, X-15, X-24, etc.

5. Vignettes

A vignette consists of a single subject, or a rider and mount, displayed on a base with terrain details in a scene or a setting. The model subject is the dominant feature of the entry and the terrain, scene, or setting should merely enhance and support the model.

The *Vignette Categories* are only found in the *Single Figures and Vignette Category*; all other Vignettes are to be placed in the appropriate category where the subject will be judged solely on its

technical merits and not on the scene or setting. The modeller may choose to enter these types of Vignettes in the *Diorama Category* as long as the entry meets the criteria for a Diorama.

6. Dioramas

A Diorama comprises one or more models or figures displayed in a setting or scene where that setting or scene forms a major component of the entry with all of the diorama components integrated to tell a story.

7. Kit Accessories

Entries may include any accessories and/or any primary crew members supplied in the basic kit. Inclusion of such elements will not cause the model to be classified as a vignette or diorama.

The addition of any other figures or equipment outside or not attached to the model (e.g., support equipment, foliage, shell splashes, or buildings) will make the model a Vignette or Diorama, which must then be entered in the proper *Vignette* or *Diorama Category*.

If in doubt, please ask the Show Registrar for guidance.

E. CATEGORY PLACEMENT

1. General

In most cases, the placement of a model in the appropriate category will be straight forward but markings and configuration can also play a part.

In the *Aircraft* and *Vehicle Categories*, markings can help to determine the category in which a model is entered. For example, a C-47 in military markings would normally be placed in the *Multi-engine Prop Category*, but if in airliner markings it would be placed in the *Civilian Airliners Category*.

The *In-Flight Aircraft Category* is only for aircraft with retractable landing gear depicted in flight, mounted on stands with the landing gear fully retracted. Spinning props and jet exhaust emissions may be simulated but are not required and crew figures are optional. This is not an "in-flight diorama" category; models will be judged solely as individual aircraft.

Other aircraft mounted on stands, including those with fixed landing gear and those with retractable landing gear fully or partially extended, are to be placed in the appropriate *Aircraft Categories*.

A Space Shuttle, either by itself or attached to fuel tank and booster, would be placed in the *Space & Science – Factual Vehicles Category*. A Space Shuttle on the back of a NASA Boeing 747 would be placed in the *Civilian Airliners Category*.

Military missiles are to be placed in the appropriate *Armour Category* based on the configuration of the transport vehicle and/or launcher.

Civilian and military launch vehicles are placed in the *Space & Science – Factual Vehicles Category*.

If in doubt about Category placement, please ask the Show Registrar for guidance. Please note that final category placement is at the discretion of the Show Judges.

If a model needs to be moved for proper category placement, a reasonable effort will be made to have the modeller move it him/herself. If the modeller cannot be contacted, the Show Judges will move the model.

2. Prior Show award winners

A model that has **not** won a first place ribbon and/or a trophy in any individual category of any previous IPMS Vancouver Show may be re-entered in the appropriate category.

A model that has won a first place ribbon and/or a trophy in any individual category of any previous IPMS Vancouver Show may only be entered into the *Masters' Category (Category 1000)*, as part of a *Collection (Category 901)*, or part of a *Models/Dioramas built by multiple builders (Category 903)*.

Model that have won a first place ribbon and/or trophy as part of a *Collection (Category 901)* or *Models/Dioramas built by multiple builders (Category 903)* in any previous IPMS Vancouver Show may be entered as individual entries if they were not previous individual winners.

3. What-If

Models that represent subjects that were never completed or are hypothetical and do not represent a factual, physical prototype are to be entered into one of the *What-If Categories*. In the case of never completed subjects, it is the modeller's discretion to place them in the appropriate category instead.

4. Collections (*Category 901*)

A collection is any group of five or more closely related items and must be the work of one person.

5. Models/Dioramas built by multiple builders (*Category 903*)

This category is the only exception to the rule calling for a subject to be completed by a single individual.

The intent is to provide a forum for displaying a project that is too extensive or complex for a single individual to complete in a reasonable time. Subject matter, time frame, scale, location, etc. are open.

6. Masters (*Category 1000*)

This category is for models that have won a first place ribbon and/or a trophy in any individual category of any previous IPMS Vancouver Show.

F. LIABILITY

IPMS Vancouver, the Bonsor Recreation Centre and the Show Judges do not assume any liability whatsoever for loss or damage to contest entries no matter how caused