

C&NWS MODEL CONTEST

Judging by the number of entries in the annual model contest, it would appear that this event has increased in popularity through the years. While the contest rules have appeared every year in the annual meet registration form, it might be worth expanding on these rules and explaining the judging procedure.

The contest rules are probably familiar to modelers who have or intend to enter their efforts, but they are worth repeating here. In addition, there have been a few modifications and clarifications. One change has been the elimination of the Fantasy category. Modelers who previously entered models in this “might have been” category are encouraged to enter as display models. These will not be judged, but offer you the opportunity to show your creativity. A new category is Self Propelled. This includes gas electric cars and electric cars and locomotives of C&NW and predecessor lines. The Diesel Locomotive category has been clarified to include single units and combinations of units that were specifically purchased as a “locomotive”. For example; the two unit sets of E3

And E6 diesels, the FT sets, including the later purchase of F3A units to make up an FTA, FTB, F3A locomotive, and other cab units numbered A, B, C and D. Mixed consists will be entered under the Open category.

Locomotive and rolling stock entries may be exhibited on a section of undecorated track. Structures entered as such must be exhibited with no scenic effects. If scened bases or other structures are included, the model must be entered as a diorama. Dioramas will be a new category.

A full set of revised rules will be printed in the 2007 Meet schedule.

All members of the C&NWS in good standing attending the meet are entitled to vote in the model contest. The results of this vote are tabulated and awards are presented to first, second and third place winners in each category. The results are announced as the Sunday breakfast meeting. The first place winners in each category are evaluated by a panel of three or four judges to determine the winner of the Lloyd Keyser best of show award. The judge’s panel consists of Lloyd Keyser and two or three other members whom he chooses based on their modeling experience show achievements. The guidelines used by the by the judges is printed below.

Recitations of rules always sound restrictive; a lot of “thou shalt nots”. That is most decidedly not the intent of the members involved in the modeling contest. The display of models by members is an important part of our expression in the Chicago and North Western and it’s constituent lines. Participation is strongly encouraged. In the eyes of the judges, and certainly by the members at large, all entries are winners.

GUIDELINES FOR SCORING BEST OF SHOW

A. Fidelity to prototype max. Points: 40

- Effort to achieve conformity
- Comparison of model to photos, drawings, etc.
- If compressed, has it captured prototype features? (For structures).

B. Degree of difficulty max. Points: 30

- Amount of scratch-built vs. commercial components
- Complexity of project
- Level of detail required to simulate prototype

C. Workmanship max. Points: 30

- Quality of basic assembly effort
- Finish
- Weathering as appropriate to prototype and date