

# Virtual contest

In lieu of in-person meetings and contests, the Board of Governors (BOG) has decided to hold virtual contests. To avoid reinventing the wheel, the current procedures will remain in effect to the extent possible. If there is a conflict between the rules outlined in this document and the rules for the standard contest, this document will take precedent for these contests.

Contest is open to all NMRA members. If you are not a registered member of The Miami Valley Division 3, please include your NMRA affiliation (Division) when you enter.

Merit judging of the models is not possible, under these conditions.

## Contest:

The Contest Chair shall adjudicate the contests and record the participation and outcome of each contest. If issues arise causing dissention, the Division 3 Superintendent shall determine the outcome. The subject of each contest will be as listed on the contest page of the division website ([Modelraildayton.com](http://Modelraildayton.com)) and in the *Call Board*.

**The deadline for entry to the contest will be 12 noon (EDT) the Sunday before the general meeting.**

- a. All entries will be emailed to the Webmaster. [div3virtualcontest@gmail.com](mailto:div3virtualcontest@gmail.com)
- b. The date/time stamp as indicated by the Webmaster's email will determine if the entry was received in time.

**The deadline for voting will be 12 midnight (EDT) the Friday before the general meeting.**

- a. All votes will be emailed to the Contest Chair. [ezrails@att.net](mailto:ezrails@att.net)
- b. The date/time stamp as indicated by the Contest chair email will determine if the vote was received in time.

### EXAMPLE:

For the August contest, entries would need to be received by noon on August 9, 2020.

Votes for the August contest would need to be received by midnight on August 14, 2020.

## Categories and definitions:

**Kit** – Model is constructed following the instructions provided with no modifications or added details except the following:

Couplers may be added or changed to meet the modeler's specifications (Example – Kadee couplers replacing hook-horns)

Trucks may be added or changed to meet the modeler's specifications. (Example – replacing talgo style trucks)

Weathering the model is permitted, but only judged for the month of the weathering contest.

**Kit-bashed** – model is made from a kit or ready-to-run, with added details and/or repainted and decaled.

**Scratch-built** – model has been built using plans, published, or designed by entrant; and is built using stock scratch-building materials, i.e., sheet stock, strip wood, dowels, etc. Commercial windows and doors may be used, as well as commercial couplers and trucks.

### EXAMPLE:

Scratch-building materials are non-detail parts and would normally be listed in the scratch-building materials section of the Walther's catalog. Other non-modeling items, such as hardware may also be used for scratch-building. For further information consult NMRA guidelines.

**Photography** –In these contests, the photography category is limited to prototype subjects. In this category, the judging will be on the entire photograph. Entries in this category must be taken by the entrant.

## **Requirements for entries.**

1. Photos may be any size. The higher the resolution (megapixels) the better the results will be.
2. Webmaster may resize the photo, but no other editing will be done, except as noted by item 6 of the "How to do it" section.
3. Photos should be in JPG(JPEG) or PNG format.
  - a. Other formats may be submitted, but compatibility is not guaranteed.
  - b. One photo per entry.
4. In the photography category, a maximum of 3 entries per entrant is allowed.
  - a. Only one entry per email.
5. The photo must be accompanied by:
  - a. Name of entrant.
  - b. Email of entrant.
  - c. If not division 3 member, indicate NMRA affiliation.
  - d. Scale of model, except photography category.
  - e. A short description of the entry to include modifications to the model if appropriate.
    - i. Use of the "Contest Form" on the contest page is recommended, but not required. If not using the contest form, please indicate which category you are entering.
    - ii. If using that form, please leave ID line blank.
6. In the model categories, the photo need not be taken by entrant. If not taken by entrant, credit for the photo should be given to the photographer. Credit for the model will go to the builder. Photos for the photography category must be taken by the entrant.
7. By entering the contest, you are giving Division 3 permission to use the photo.

### Suggestions:

Photos should be as clean and simple as possible. The membership is judging the model not the setting. A plain but contrasting background would be the way to go. Think of the setting at a regular meeting. Lighting will be key to a good photo, as well as the angle of the photo to the model.

## **How To Do It**

1. Select your model according to the contest for that month.
2. Take several photos of the model, selecting the best to enter.
3. Name the photo file to relate to the photo, i.e. if it is a picture of a Union Pacific GP-30, then title the photo file UP GP30.
4. Attach the photo to an email.
5. Attach a copy of the entry form from the website or enter text in the email body as outlined above.
6. Send email to [div3virtualcontest@gmail.com](mailto:div3virtualcontest@gmail.com) .
7. No personal information will be included in the contest table.
  - a. It will be deleted if included in your description.
  - b. It will be blacked out if found on the photo. If it can not be blacked out the entry will be rejected.

## **Voting**

1. Voting will commence with the posting of the entries on the division website.
2. Votes must be received by the Contest Chair no later than 12 midnight the Friday before that month's general meeting.
3. To Vote, click on the "vote here" button on the contest table.
  - a. When the email form appears, cast your votes using the subject line of the email. If the link fails to work, use your email to cast your vote.
  - b. Enter the entry number of the item you are voting for.
  - c. You may vote for one entry per category.
  - d. You may put all your votes in one email. For example, there are four categories, if you vote for the first entry in each category the subject line would be 101, 201, 301, P1.
  - e. If there are no entries for a category then, of course, there will be no voting for that category.
4. Make sure to send your email before the deadline.
5. If your email server requires entry in the text area of the email, simply reenter your votes.
6. No replies to voting emails will be made.
7. Once the monthly contest is concluded emails will be deleted.