

Categories

Category I: Scratch-Built Models

Models that did not originate from a kit. Kit parts may be used in the model. But more than half of the model, including the hull, must have been fabricated by the modeler. All media.

- Class A: Vessels at a scale of $3/32'' = 1$ foot or smaller
- Class B: Vessels at any scale larger than $3/32'' = 1$ foot

Category II: Kit Models

Models based on commercial kits or hulls with or without the addition of scratch-built parts. This includes kit models that have been modified from the original instructions and any model with at least half of its materials comprised of pre-made commercial pieces. **Kits used must not be a banned pirated kit.** Please refer to the list of banned kits at on the NRG's Model Ship World forum - <https://modelshipworld.com/guidelines/> for more information email the NRG Office at info@thenauticalresearchguild.org

- Class A: Wood of any scale (ivory and bone, paper cardstock and metal may be used on the wood model).
- Class B: Plastic of any scale (includes laboratory-made materials such as resins and fiberglass).

Category III: Operational Models

Models will be judged on the static criteria of the model. Quality of operational installations will be considered. No classes.

Category IV: Dioramas

Display must tell a story. Ships-in-bottles may be considered for this category. No classes.

Awards

The judges will be recognized ship model/art authorities and members of the Nautical Research Guild, invited by the Wisconsin Maritime Museum. Judging criteria will include general impression of the model and research, historical accuracy, and construction value based on written papers. The judges' decisions are subjective and based upon current established standards. All models will be judged by these standards and not against each other. The judges' decisions are final.

Gold, Silver and Bronze Certificate Awards will be presented for entries that meet those levels of judges' standards in each category or class. If no model in a category or class meets the judges' standards, awards may not be presented.

PLEASE READ THE RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY CAREFULLY BEFORE SENDING THE ENTRY FORM.

Rules and Conditions of Entry

1. The contest is open to all model ship builders regardless of age or modeling expertise. Contestants may enter as many models as desired. Each model must be the sole work of the entrant. A model may not be entered for an award in multiple categories. Models previously winning an award in this contest are not eligible for contest entry.

2. Each entrant **must submit an official entry form for each model by May 1, 2020.**
Each entry form must be accompanied by payment according to the chart on the entry form.
3. Each model entered for award competition must include a one-page historical account on the actual ship or type of vessel the model represents. This account must appear typed on a single 8 1/2 by 11-inch sheet of paper. The preferred format is 5-15 bullet points, but prose is also accepted.
4. Each model entered for award competition must also include an account of model construction. Special materials, tools, and techniques should be highlighted. This account must appear typed on a single 8 1/2 by 11-inch sheet of paper. The preferred format is 5-15 bullet points, but prose is also accepted.
5. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum and the Nautical Research Guild reserve the right to describe and photograph any entry and to make use of the descriptions and photographs in any way the Museum and Guild may deem appropriate.
6. **All papers shall be submitted in PDF format or MS Word formats only.**

Contestant's Information

Each model in the Wisconsin Maritime Museum's Model Ships and Boats Contest is judged upon Areas of Inspection which include an Historical Account Paper, a Construction Account Paper, Historical Accuracy of the Model, Construction Value of the Model, and the Model's Overall Appeal.

Each model is looked at with individual merit and not judged against other models in the contest. A point system has been developed by the Contest Committee and applied to the Areas of Inspection with relation to the category the model is in. The judges' decisions are based upon these standards but are subjective. Awards might not be presented in a particular category if no models reach required point totals. This includes all special awards. All judging decisions are final. Judges are not obligated to discuss the outcome of the contest. Therefore, debate of point values or changing of awards will not be discussed. Any questions or comments on the judging procedure should be addressed to the Contest Chairman. A Level of Entry may be upgraded if the judges determine the contestant's entries are of a quality to compete in the next level.

Areas of Inspection for All Models

Historical Account Paper: Each model must have an historical account of the ship or type of ship the model represents. This write-up should give a brief history of the vessel being modeled. This should be on an a single 8-1/2" by 11" sheet of paper, typed. The preferred format is 5 -15 bullet points, but prose is also accepted. This should be in the model builder's own words. **The Historical Account Paper MUST be submitted in PDF format or MS Word formats only.**

Construction Account Paper: Each model must have a construction account. This should be on a single 8-1/2" by 11" sheet of paper, typed. The preferred format is 5-15

bullet points, but prose is also accepted. This write-up should completely outline the construction methods used to build the model.

Ideally, this will include materials used, special tools, jigs, or fixtures used or fabricated to produce the model, time involved, unique construction techniques, etc. If there is a special circumstance about the model that the modeler wants to point out, it should be included in this paper.

Modifications to kit-based models should be pointed out, and after-market parts added should be identified here.

The Construction Account Paper MUST be submitted in PDF format or MS Word formats only.

Historical Accuracy: Models will be judged based on any anachronisms or details that are out of place in time. These can be incorrect flags, improper fittings on masts and spars, color schemes, etc. Since there may be reasons for some unusual details, it is wise to include an explanation in the Historical Account Paper. If this explanation seems valid and the judges cannot find evidence to the contrary, no points will be deducted.

Construction Value: Craftsmanship will count for the greatest point value. Be alert to the following problem areas:

- Symmetry and proportionality
- Joinery of the various components
- Neatly prepared metalwork or other appropriate material
- Smoothness of finish coatings

- Neatness of assembly (are there glue spots, paint smears, etc.)

If any operational equipment is installed, does it inhibit the visual appearance of the model? Does operational equipment appear to be functional? Operational models will be judged as static, but it will be considered that certain construction processes are different from non-operational static models (i.e., hatchways and decks sections must be made to open for access, etc.).

Overall Appeal: The model will be evaluated on its overall visual appeal and the effectiveness of the display technique employed.

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Each entry shall consist of at least 6 but not more than 12 digital photographs of the model. Each photo shall be in either .jpg or .jpeg format taken and saved at the highest resolution the camera is capable of.
2. The photographs must not have been enhanced by Photoshop-type programs beyond color balancing and cropping. Evidence of work beyond this point is cause for disqualification. Photo manipulation beyond color balancing and cropping can hide the addition or removal of elements of the model. The object of the photograph is to provide an accurate representation of the model. The Administrator reserves the right to ask the entrant to resubmit some or all his photographs if they do not comply with these requirements (i.e., if they are submitted as Microsoft Word documents, in photo files other than .jpg or .jpeg or are poorly focused, etc.).

Required Photographs:

- At least one photograph must be of the overall model taken from midships abeam, from port.
- At least one photograph must be of the overall model taken from midships abeam, from starboard.
- A third must be of the overall model from dead ahead or astern.

Additional photographs must include:

- A bow port quarter diagonal view including the deck.
- Stern starboard quarter diagonal view including the deck,
- A view of the overall deck.
- The balance of the photographs may be of any view or detail selected by the entrant.

Do not exceed 12 photographs total.

Each digital photographic image file must be identified with the name of the model and the view depicted (i.e., “HMS Victory–bow quarter” or “RMS Titanic–deck chairs”). They should not be identified by only numbers or letters, or any camera-generated designation or file name. The files must not reveal the name of the modeler.

