

How The System Works

The first year as your Chief Judge has been very rewarding for me. We started the year at the Sunshine Chapter meet with just over 100 bikes on the field. Then the Perkiomen Chapter meet had 140 bikes. Every other meet had an increase in bikes on the judging field, and the members really liked the new pins we handed out. They were a special 50th Anniversary pin, soon to be collector items. In 2005 the pins will not be as elaborate, but we will try to come up with a design to please everyone.

I had the distinct pleasure of attending the European Chapter's first national meet. The people made me feel right at home, and the bikes were something you had to see. They ride their bikes all over the continent, and some even dress in period clothing. The bikes range from

correct restorations to some of the best "period modified" you will ever see.

This year would not have been such a success without the able help of my Assistant Chief Judge, Robin Markey; the National Deputy Judges; the new Senior Judges; the Chapter Deputy Judges and the judges who work so hard to make the process more enjoyable for everyone.

For those of you who are new to the judging process, I will give a brief overview.

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You *must* be an AMCA member to have a bike judged. You can preregister online free of charge or register onsite for a fee. Before you place your bike on the judging field, a judge must witness the bike running during the weekend of the national meet. If the bike does not run, we *cannot* judge it.

The bike is then assigned 100 points; the judges look over the bike and deduct points for incorrect and/or missing parts. There are 25 different categories such as "frame/fork," "front fender," "wheels/tires," etc. The maximum deduction in a category is four points with the exception of "incorrect color" which is a six point deduction.

When the judges finish judging a bike, the score sheet goes to a team for calculation.

The first time a bike is judged and scores from 85 to 89.75 points it is awarded a Junior Second. If the bike scores 90 points or above, it will skip Junior Second and be awarded a Junior First award. The next time a Junior Second bike is judged, it must score 90 points or above to secure a Junior First. A bike must score a Junior First before moving up. When this bike is judged again, it must score 95 points or better to receive a Senior award. Once a bike has received a Senior award, it must again score 95 points or above to be awarded the Winners Circle. Afterwards, the bike must maintain 85 points or higher to remain in the Winners Circle category. We encourage you to ride the bike and keep showing it at national meets for everyone to enjoy either as a correct restoration or a very original bike.

In addition to the judging categories, we also have National Recognition Awards. They are Oldest Bike, Most Unique 1, Most Unique 2, Period Modified 1, Period Modified 2, Longest Distance Ridden 1 and Longest Distance Ridden 2. Every bike on the judging field, whether for Judging or Display Only is eligible for a National Recognition Award. A team from the host chapter will select the recipients of these awards.

I hope this overview helps everyone understand the way bikes are awarded trophies.

See you at a national meet in 2005. 🏍️

