

MMOC CONCOURS

Judging Guidelines and Information

2018 Update

Concours competition has been an integral part of the MMOC Rally Scene for many years and the MMOC wish to encourage members with vehicles in outstanding condition to formally display these at designated Concours rallies throughout the rally season. It is seen as something to aspire to for those members wishing to present their vehicles in a manner that reflects the original specification and standard of build of the vehicle when it left the factory.

With the youngest of Minors now 47 years old it is important to have 'original' physical references for anyone contemplating the restoration of their vehicle to the correct specification. The owners showing their vehicles are extremely knowledgeable about their particular model and more than willing to help with questions from the public on the day.

Within the Morris Minors Owners Club, the system of organising Concours has developed considerably since its inception with the clearly established categories of Concours, Masters and Grand Masters. All categories are marked out of a maximum 300 points.

1) Concours

This category has been devised to provide encouragement and motivation to owners/competitors to improve their vehicle's condition. The Judges can advise how vehicles can be improved and if the owner desires, progression be made to the higher judging categories.

Vehicles in this category will typically be in very good condition in all aspects of body panel fit, paintwork, chrome work, engine bay, interior and the underside.

They will be either in excellent original condition, rebuilt to original specification or 'modified' away from original condition by the fitting of safety devices such as seat belts, disc brakes, brake servos for example.

Converted saloons are welcome if they meet the above condition requirements and the conversion has been completed as per factory specification for a Convertible model, although on later models, the chassis plate would indicate its saloon origins (i.e. MA2S – 1000 Saloon).

The minimum condition entry level mark for vehicle judging in 2018 will be the Concours category threshold mark of 160.

Vehicles achieving above the entry level of 160 marks will be invited to continue to compete in Concours events. Those failing to achieve entry level requirements, will be advised on areas for improvement and invited to resubmit their vehicle at a future event. Those not wishing to do so will return to Condition Class Judging.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Mark Band</u>
Concours	160 – 240

2) Masters

Entries into this category will be either by continued improvement in the condition of the vehicle (from Concours) or the achievement of attaining/retaining Masters Class status from the previous year's rallies.

Vehicles in this category will typically be in excellent condition (As Concours category) but with greater attention to original detailing in all areas.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Mark Band</u>
Masters	241 – 275

3) Grand Masters

Grand Masters is the ultimate achievement within the MMOC Concours. It is generally accepted that vehicles achieving this accolade are better than when they left the factory. Owners opting for this category are striving for perfection in every aspect of the vehicles condition and operation.

Entry to Grand Masters is normally restricted to those vehicles that have achieved Master Class status already. Vehicles in this class typically have a realistic chance of securing 276+ marks on a regular basis.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Mark Band</u>
Grand Masters	276 – 300

4) Concours - Modified / Custom

Since 2011 entries have been accepted from owners of Morris Minor based, modified and customised vehicles. Given the diverse nature of such vehicles acceptance into the specialised class is at the discretion of the Chief Judge. This Class is independent from the other four classes and does not allow for the same progression between classes, due to the departure from the vehicles original specification. The points awarded on the day will reflect this departure, as well as the standard of workmanship and presentation.

Regardless of the difference to a vehicle that would normally be entered into the other four classes, the Modified Class is still marked out of the full 300 marks. The minimum condition entry level mark for vehicle judging in 2018 will be the Concours category threshold mark of 160.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Mark Band</u>
Modified / Customs	Marked out of 300

5) Previously Entered Concours Vehicles

This new category for 2018 is to encourage previous entrants in the Concours competition to show their vehicles in an unjudged format. Vehicles can be trailered to these events if desired and will be positioned in such a way as to make clear they are not being judged on the day and therefore not part of the competition.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Mark Band</u>
Previously Entered	Must have achieved min 160 marks

General Information - Entry

Any Morris Minor (1948 – 1972) can be entered into the designated MMOC rallies for 2018 as outlined in 'Minor Matters' if they abide by the rules laid out in the categories described above. They must be pre-entered into the event and cannot enter on the day.

Potential entrants are to apply directly to the Branch Rally organisers in question and National Rally's organisers.

General Information - Judges

As a great deal of time and effort is required in preparing and showing a vehicle to these exacting standards, it is important that there is a high, yet consistent standard of judging. It is essential that this is seen to be fair and professional in all aspects of its operation. To this end a Chief Judge is appointed with the express responsibility of overseeing the organisation and conduct of the judging. It is his/her responsibility to implement the agreed rules in a fair and unbiased way, within a rigorous system, where clear guidelines are presented and agreed to by all competitors. An intrinsic part of this is the acceptance, that within the rules set out, the ruling of Chief Judge is final in the event of any dispute arising.

The highest standing a vehicle achieves is the one it will retain for the remainder of a particular rally season, regardless of subsequent marks awarded. The only exception to that ruling would be if the vehicle showed a marked sudden deterioration. In this case the Chief Judge would discuss with the entrant the measures needed to return the vehicle to its former condition and note that if the measures needed are not carried out that there may be a need for a revision of its status. In the rare event of this happening the entrant would be advised in writing by the Chief Judge of the revision of status.

2018 Judging Team

Chief Judge	Ian Murray
Judging Team	Brian Fletcher and Michael Cook.
Time Keepers	Allison Fletcher and Julie Murray.

General Arrangements - Judging Arrangements

Arrangements for judging are subject to strict regulation which ensures fairness amongst entrants and assists the judges in organising an appropriate schedule in order to complete the judging in the limited time available. For clarity these have been summarised as follows:

Entrant Arrival Time

It is expected that the latest time a vehicle will arrive is 30 minutes before judging commences. This is to allow for the necessary paperwork and other requirements to be satisfactorily completed prior to judging.

Late Arrival

Entrants arriving late may be excluded from the competition. The Chief Judge's decision is final on this.

Judging Start Time

The Chief Judge will provide guidance in advance of each individual event to all Concours competitors. As a general rule judging will not commence earlier than 10.45am. Although this may differ dependent on the number of entries, weather conditions and the number of judges available on the day.

During The Judging Process

- Once the judging commences no further preparation or amendments to an entered vehicle can be made by any of the entrants to ensure fairness.
- Entrants are to be with their vehicle at the time of judging. Engine running and the operation of lighting and indicator controls may be required.
- A precise time will be confirmed for judging each vehicle on the day and this will be monitored by an official time keeper.
- The number of judges at each event will be confirmed by the Chief Judge on the day and is dependent of the number of entries.
- Entrants are required to keep the area around their vehicle as tidy as possible so as to enhance the presentation of their vehicle and to project a positive image of Concours competition to other MMOC members and the general public.
- Entrants must be prepared to produce vehicle documentation if requested to do so by the judges.
- During the 2018 Rally Season competitors will be required to complete a vehicle information sheet prior to their vehicle being judged. Completion of this sheet will be a requirement at each event attended. A copy of the vehicle information sheet will be retained by the Chief Judge.

Annual Review

- Judging sheets and guidelines are reviewed annually. Updates will appear in the Club magazine, Minor Matters and online.

Judging Marking Sheets

Specialised mark sheets have been developed over time and will be reviewed annually. The sheet/sheets used during a specific rally season are available upon request from the Chief Judge.

Judging sheets used in 2017 had six sections;

- Exterior
- Wheels and Tyres
- Underside
- Interior
- Boot
- Engine Bay
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The sheets in 2018 will return four sections format;

- Exterior/Wheels and Tyres
- Underside
- Interior/Boot and Toolkit
- Engine Bay

Each category will be allotted a min of 5mins and maximum 7mins on the day depending on numbers of entrants on the day.

General Information - Penalties and Restrictions

There are a number of penalties and restrictions that have been adopted as custom and practice over the years. These are outlined below.

1. Transportation of vehicles by trailer

The transportation of a vehicle to, and/or from any MMOC event at which it is to be judged is prohibited. If it is known prior to judging that a vehicle has been trailered the Chief Judge will advise the entrant that the vehicle is not eligible for judging. If after the results have been announced, it is discovered that a vehicle was transported by trailer on any part of its journey to or from the event both the owner and the vehicle will be banned from MMOC competition for one year from the date of the event. It should be noted that the ban on the vehicle will continue, even if the vehicle changes ownership during that year.

2. Lifting of vehicles on site

No vehicles should be raised from the ground in the Concours display area or any other designated area, including rally campsites. Failure to comply with this ruling will result in disqualification from the event.

3. **Restriction on Converted Saloons** - Converted saloons are accepted into all categories of Concours except Grand Masters. Anyone contemplating entering a converted saloon is advised to discuss the matter with the Chief Judge prior to entering it in the Concours competition. It is important to note that any vehicle entered as an original convertible and subsequently found to be a converted saloon, will be subject to a one-year ban from MMOC Concours competitions from the date of the event. This restriction applies to the owner as well as the vehicle.

Results Procedure

Under normal circumstances the results will be announced on the day of the event and prizes will be awarded. Entrants are reminded of the demands placed on the judges while at events and the need for them to travel home within a reasonable time frame after the event and therefore discussion over marks is welcome with a judge but may be more appropriate at a later date over the phone.

It is important for the vehicle owner to be aware that the marks awarded to the vehicle may vary from one event to the next. This is not detrimental to the vehicle but simply reflects the criteria applied on that particular day. Factors such as the weather and ground conditions, new or different judges, and/or variations with the judging sections may all be contributory factors. The main thing to note is the overall placing of the vehicle rather than the marks achieved at any one event.

Second Opinion Judging

In the event of a vehicle achieving marks that are close to the threshold between categories, it may be appropriate for a second opinion to be sought from another judge within the team. Adjustments made during Second Opinion Judging must not exceed 3% of the total marks allocated originally.

Tie Break Procedures

Under exceptional cases where vehicles obtain identical marks and it is necessary to allocate specific placings, e.g. 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc. it may be necessary to have a tie break.

For the vehicles involved in the tie break a further 10 points (outside the 300 for this situation) are available to the Judges to award at their discretion. During a tie break judges may look at Oil Level, Oil Cleanliness and the Originality of the vehicle.

Minimum Entry Requirements

During 2018 a minimum number of entrants will be required in order for Concours Judging to take place at the nominated events. This has proved necessary due to the large distances judges are required to travel with the attended costs incurred. Close liaison between the Chief Judge, Event organisers and Concours competitors will be maintained in order to monitor closely the cost effectiveness of staging judging. In principle any event where there are less than **3no** Concours entrants in total will be reviewed by the Chief Judge and if cancellation is deemed necessary the Chief Judge will advise all parties, including the individual entrants, the principal rally organiser, the Club Secretary and Branch Liaison Officer accordingly in advance of the event taking place.

Complaints Procedure

In the event of a complaint regarding any aspect of the Concours arrangements and judging the Chief Judge should be consulted in the first place. If, following discussion, the complaint remains unresolved it should be referred in writing to the Club Secretary. Under normal circumstances, (holiday permitting), complaints will be acknowledged within 7 days and a resolution sought within 14 days.

MMOC Rally Venues 2018 (where Concours competition will take place)

The MMOC Rally venues along with any other selected events not organised by the MMOC where Concours judging will occur will be notified in advance in the Club Magazine Minor Matters. These are normally highlighted in the Events Diary with a red 'c' next to the event.

Summary

This Concours review document has been compiled and updated by Ian Murray, amended from the 2015 Judging Guidelines compiled by Ray Newell, Club Secretary.

2018/01/31