



# Cajon Division Celebration Rules

## Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA

Revision - 5/10/2025



### Contest Purpose

The primary aim of the Cajon Division Celebration is to provide a platform for members to display the results of their modeling efforts for evaluation and the appreciation, enjoyment, and education of the membership. The basic goal for contest participants is to provide an incentive to model and provide constructive criticism to assist the modeler in improving their personal modeling skills. This is accomplished by evaluation of models against defined parameters of quality modeling, through a combination of comparison with the work of fellow modelers modeling techniques, attention to detail and evaluation of models against defined parameters of quality modeling. All types of models are of interest to our members and for this reason the evaluation is held within the framework of the Celebration of Models, Photos & Crafts.

### Evaluation Venues

Cajon Division Evaluations are to be held at all Cajon Division regularly scheduled Membership Meets. At a minimum, Cajon Division evaluations shall be held twice annually in conjunction with the Fall and Spring membership meets as required by the Cajon Division By-Laws. Additional Cajon Division evaluations may be scheduled by the Board of Directors provided timely notification to the membership is provided to allow time for members to plan their model submissions.

### Celebration of Models Submissions

Display Space shall be provided in the Celebration of Model location to provide for two Submission Categories. All submissions accepted for display shall be directly railroad related or found within the context of the area normally or prototypically found near or in support of railroading.

Submission Categories

1. Judged Model Evaluation: Models to be evaluated for Merit Award eligibility.
2. People's Choice: non-evaluated, as well as railroad related Arts and Crafts.

### Entrant Eligibility

**Evaluated Model Evaluation.** Any NMRA member in good standing may submit models for evaluation in the Model Evaluation provided they are not engaged in a commercial business related to the model submitted. Unmodified preassembled commercial models are not eligible for submission in the Model Evaluation. Commercial kits are eligible. Non-NMRA event attendees are not permitted to submit models in the Model Evaluation.

**People's Choice Contest:** Any fully registered attendee may enter items for display and the associated popular vote with the exception of anyone deriving more than 50% of their income from the area related to the article entered.

## Evaluated Model

**Evaluation Rules.** Entries shall be evaluated by teams of experienced evaluators using the matrix point scoring system in accordance with the current NMRA Achievement Program Judging Guidelines and documentation. Since the NMRA AP judging guidelines and matrices are used in determining the evaluated winner scoring, those models that score above 87.5 points in evaluation are automatically qualified to receive an NMRA Achievement Program Merit award certificate in their identified model category.

**Model Scale.** All scales shall be combined in each of the categories. There shall be no divisions of entries within each category for different scales.

### Model Categories.

1. **Steam Locomotive:** All types of locomotives where the prototype was powered by steam. The model must include an electric motor or other means of propulsion and be capable of operation to be eligible for the category.
2. **Diesel and Other Locomotives:** All types of locomotives except for those in Category 1, above, and traction types, Category 3, below. The model must include an electric motor or other means of propulsion and be capable of operation to be eligible for the category. In the case of multiple joined locomotives, at least one of the units must be powered.
3. **Traction Powered Locomotives:** All equipment associated with urban, suburban, and interurban electrically powered railroads. The model must include an electric motor or other means of propulsion and be capable of operation to be eligible for the category.
4. **Passenger Car:** All types of passenger revenue carrying equipment, including coaches, observation, mail, baggage, and combine cars, as well as powered rail buses and RDC cars. Express reefers are included in this category.
5. **Freight Car:** All types of freight revenue carrying cars, not including express reefers.
6. **Caboose:** All, including traditional, bobbers, drovers, and transfer types.
7. **Non-Revenue:** Right-of-way/track maintenance cars, rail and inspection cars, railroad cranes, and others not considered directly involved in revenue service.

**8. Structure On-Line:** Structures which are adjacent to and have direct access to railroad tracks. This would include mobil cranes, skip loaders, fork lifts, and caterpillars

**9. Structure Off-Line:** Structures which do not have direct access to railroad tracks.

**10. Display/Diorama:** Model scenes which may include multiple structures, locomotives, rolling stock, scenery elements and other details. All elements will be judged as a part of the entire scene. The modeler may request a specific element be evaluated separately and eligible for AP Merit award. The Contest Chair will review the request and determine if a fair evaluation can be given.

Evaluated Model Evaluation. There shall be awards presented in every populated Evaluated Model category containing qualified models. Qualified models are those that earn a minimum evaluation score of 50 points (40% of the available total). Certificates and ribbons shall be presented\* for all models placing First through Third and Best-of-Show as follows:

- Best-of-Show shall receive a certificate and purple ribbon\*\*
- First place shall receive certificate and blue ribbon.
- Second place shall receive certificate and red ribbon.
- Third place shall receive certificate and white ribbon.

\*Certificates may be mailed to the evaluation winners after the contest if time does not permit completion at the event.

\*\*The Best-of-Show model is removed from its evaluation category and the remaining model placements in that category are advanced to First-through-Third in that category.

Additionally, any Cajon Division member's model placing Best-of-Show or First-through-Third that also earns a Merit Award (87.5 points or more) shall also receive a Cajon Division Plaque.

Models earning a Merit Award placing below Third place shall receive an Honorable Mention certificate and ribbon.

Evaluated Model Evaluation Forms.

1. Model Entry Form, NMRA Form #901, latest revision, available on the NMRA Website. Modelers who desire to have their model(s) included in the Model Evaluation must fill out this form and submit it at the time of submission of the model(s). A claim check will be provided for each item entered, which must be presented to retrieve entries after the contest.
2. Model Contest Judges Score Sheet, Form #902, PSR version, latest revision. One copy of this form will be provided to the modeler for each model entered. This form will be prepared by and available from the Cajon Division Contest committee chairman or representative, also available on the Cajon Website < <https://www.cajondivision.org/> >.

## **People's Choice Contest for Display-only Models and Railroad related Arts and Crafts**

1. **Rules.** Any railroad related model, art object or craft item can be entered and displayed for the enjoyment and appreciation of the event attendees and is automatically entered in these categories without need of evaluation paperwork. To ensure owner identification for model return purposes, the Model Contest Entry Form, Form #901, latest revision, available on the NMRA Website shall be submitted with the model.

Awards will be determined by a popular vote of the members attending the event who cast a vote. A voting container and ballots shall be provided in the contest room.

### **People's Choice Contest Categories.**

1. Locomotives. (All types)
2. Rolling stock. (All types)
3. Structures. (All types)
4. Arts and Crafts. (All types)
5. Thumbs
6. Favorite Train

**People's Choice Evaluation Awards.** Awards shall be presented for First-through-Third place according to popular vote tally for each of the four People's Choice Categories as follows.

- First place shall receive certificate and blue ribbon.
- Second place shall receive certificate and red ribbon.
- Third place shall receive certificate and white ribbon.

### **People's Choice Forms.**

1. Model Contest Entry Form, Form #901, latest revision, available on the NMRA Website or in the Celebration Room

## **Cajon Division Celebration General Information**

**Forms.** Each entry must be accompanied by the official NMRA form(s), properly filled out and signed by the entrant or his assigned proxy. The required forms for each Evaluation Event are listed in the description of that event. Proxy entries must be accompanied by a letter of authorization signed by the entrant. Proxy entries are intended to allow those who cannot attend personally to participate in the Evaluation. Evaluation forms should be completed prior to the time of entry. A claim check will be provided for each item entered, which must be presented to retrieve entries after the contest.

**Number of Entries.** There shall be no restrictions on the number of models entered by a single entrant in the Model Evaluation. In the division of Display-only-models and Arts and Crafts, each entrant is limited to a maximum of five entries in this category. Joint entries (work performed by more than one modeler) are not eligible for evaluation entry.

**Prior Award Restrictions.** Models which have placed Best-of-Show or First place in any prior NMRA National, Regional or Divisional Contest cannot be entered in a following Cajon Division celebration.

**Schedule.** The Cajon Division Contest Chairman, in cooperation with the Cajon Division Board of Directors or Superintendent, shall establish the Celebration Room schedule to include time windows for model entry, judging, and pickup. If possible, this schedule will be distributed to the membership through the Order Board newsletter and electronic distribution prior to the Event. In any case, such schedule shall be posted at the contest location.

**Contest Committee.** The Cajon Division Contest Committee shall consist of the Cajon Division Contest Chairman, the Cajon Division Achievement Program Manager and any Contest Chairman appointees. The Contest Chairman is responsible for the maintenance of this document, with input and review by the Committee members. The Committee is responsible for the conduct and administration of Cajon Division including staffing; recruitment and training of evaluators; and resolution of rule questions or queries at evaluation events.

**Cajon Division Celebration Costs.** Costs associated with the conduct of Cajon Division celebration such as venue rent, award costs, security, etc. are the responsibility of the Cajon Division general fund. Allocation of these funds are at the discretion of the Contest Committee Chairman as chartered by the Cajon Division Board of Directors and the Cajon Division By-Laws. The Contest Chairman should seek Cajon Division Board of Directors approval for any extra-ordinary or unusual contest expenses prior to purchase.

**Evaluated Model Evaluators-** Evaluator shall be members of the NMRA who are recognized as experienced and adept modelers by their peers (Master Model Railroaders are desirable, but not a requirement). They need not be Cajon Division members. They must be totally conversant with the NMRA judging guidelines. Members of the Cajon Division Contest Committee may be evaluators and they may enter models in the contest, but they must recuse themselves from evaluating any models in the specific model category they have entered. If possible, the evaluating teams should consist of five teams of at least two and preferably three evaluators each, assigned to a specific evaluation matrix category. One evaluator will be appointed Senior Evaluator for the Model Evaluation. The Senior Evaluator shall clarify points or questions, verify point totals and will determine who will be the matrix category evaluating team leaders. No evaluating shall be conducted outside the evaluation room. Each matrix category evaluating team is to evaluate that category for all judged evaluated model contest entries. In the event of a lack of available evaluators and they may enter models in the contest, but they must recuse themselves from, evaluating teams may evaluate up to two different matrix categories maximum. If

there is a severe lack of evaluators, evaluating teams may be reconstituted with different members for different categories.

**Contest Room Etiquette.** Visitors to the contest room are prohibited from touching or otherwise interfering with displayed models or arts and crafts. Visitors to the contest room during evaluating shall not converse with, or otherwise interfere with the evaluators. Contest room staff will admonish those who do not observe these rules and they may be asked to leave the contest room.

**Contest Security.** Neither the Cajon Division nor the Pacific Southwest Region assume responsibility in the event of loss or damage to an entry. Reasonable protection will be provided for the contest room contents in that a member of the contest committee shall be present in the contest room at all times when the room is open for viewing. The room shall remain empty of people and locked at all times when a committee member is not present. Contest entries must be claimed by the entrant or his proxy at the time specified by the Cajon Division Contest Chairman. The Contest Committee shall not be responsible for returning any entry not claimed at the end of the announced time.

**Contest Rules Accessibility.** The latest revision of these Cajon Division Contest rules is to be maintained and accessible to anyone on the Cajon Division web site <---> and available for review in the contest room of a Cajon Division event.

**Cajon Contest Rules Revisions.** These Contest rules and revisions are subject to approval by the Cajon Division Board of Directors and changes are to be dated and noted below as they are instituted. Any desired contest rule changes must be completed, and Cajon Division members notified by notice in the Order Board and/or electronically of the changes at least 60 days prior to a Cajon Division contest.

## Cajon Division Contest Rules Revision History

**Revision** - 1/5/2024, Butts, Morse, Allee. Original Draft.

Revision - 2/10/2025, Allee