

Enthusiastic Crowd Attends Judge's Meeting

MCA's annual Judges' Meeting held at Jim Osborn Reproductions in Lawrenceville, GA in late September drew a very enthusiastic and well-informed crowd and even though no major rules changes could be considered at this off-year meeting, a great deal was accomplished.

One decision the group made is one I think is a great step forward. Those attending decided that all Gold Card Judges must judge at least once each year at an event in which MCA rules are used.

In the past some of our Gold Card Judges have gone a year or two or more without judging at a show in which MCA rules were used. Of course, the majority of our Gold Card Judges participate in several events each year, so the new requirement will only effect a small minority.

Those at the Judges' Meeting felt it is important for Gold Card Judges to remain familiar with the rules and to get some regular "hands on" experience to insure that they keep their knowledge fresh.

After all, the MCA Judging Rules aren't static. They are being refined every year and being changed every other year. The only way to keep abreast of these clarifications and changes is to get out and judge some cars.

Now, thanks to the decision made in Atlanta in September, all those who carry Gold Cards will be required to do just that.

Phone Numbers Needed!

Another topic of conversation relating to Gold Card Judges which was raised at the meeting was the absence of telephone numbers for many Gold Card Judges included in our quarterly listings in *The Mustang*



Jack Yeager
Publisher
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Times.

One of the important aspects of being a Gold Card Judge is to be available to help others by answering questions relating to their restoration projects.

MCA's Gold Card Judges are theoretically the most knowledgeable and experienced authorities on specific models of Mustangs. They are expected to share that knowledge with others in the national organization — especially beginners who are just now starting to learn about the differences in the various model years.

For the novice who is out in his garage trying to complete a restoration project, the time-consuming chore of sitting down and writing a letter to a Gold Card Judge — then waiting days for a reply — is enough to dampen the enthusiasm of even the most avid Pony lover. But if he can pick up the telephone and call someone who has the knowledge and experience to answer his questions and provide some guidance on specific parts and/or rules, Mustanging becomes a much more enjoyable hobby.

MCA is asking all current Gold Card Judges to provide their area codes and telephone numbers for our quarterly listings by January 1, 1992.

We realize that fielding telephone calls can be a burden at times. Any of our Gold Card Judges who wish to specify particular hours of the day when they can be available to answer questions from fellow MCA members are welcomed to do so. Just include that information when submitting your telephone number, and we will be sure that it is incorporated in your listing. And be certain to indicate what Time Zone you are in! If you only want to be available from 6-9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, you'd better say so or a well-meaning Mustanger might call you from California at midnight!

Being an MCA Gold Card Judge means that you are willing to help others share our hobby. That's why your telephone number is important and why those attending the Judges' Meeting agreed that information should be included in our quarterly listings.

Street Class Changes

Finally, some significant progress was made at the meeting to stop trailered vehicles from entering street driven classes.

Some specific details about the steps MCA will take in 1992 to keep trailered vehicles from entering street driven classes will be published in later issues of *The Mustang Times*.

But the measures that were adopted at the meeting are sufficient to put an end to this problem once and for all. Those who have had the unpleasant experience of having their street driven Mustangs compete against trailered competitors will no doubt be relieved to know that they won't have to face such unfair odds in the future.

Overall, the 1991 Judges' Meeting was a very productive session.



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