

## Your Input Is Needed At Judges' Meeting

In four years of traveling to MCA-sanctioned Mustang shows from coast-to-coast as your president, one of the topics I invariably hear discussed is the national organization's official judging rules.

Seems everyone has some comment relating to the rules, especially those in the modified classes, who are still not satisfied with the way in which we judge those cars.

The object of the rules, of course, is to preserve the integrity (and value) of the Ford Mustang — to provide, as closely as possible, a written set of guidelines which reflect just what the cars were like when they rolled off the assembly line. To a great extent, I feel our judging rules are far more accurate and detailed than those of any other car club I know of.

But they aren't perfect, and MCA tries to make modifications, clarifications and changes depending on research, new information, or other newly-discovered facts.

Toward that end, we hold a National Judges' Meeting each year to discuss the rules.

Major changes in the rules are permitted only ever other year, and the last overhaul came at the 1990 judges' meeting in Juneau, WI. But this year MCA judges and members will meet to consider clarifications and corrections, and to discuss possible changes which might be brought before the organization when the next revision occurs in 1992.

That meeting will be held at Jim Osborn Reproductions in Lawrenceville, GA September 28.

You do not have to be a Gold Card Judge or even a certified MCA Judge to attend the meeting and voice any opinions you might have regarding our rules. All that is required is that you be a current MCA member.

This is the place to make your concerns regarding our rules known. It's the place for our members with modified Mustangs to come and discuss the modified rules and give us some suggestions about what is right and what is wrong with the rules for this particular class.

It's also a good place to discuss the new late model rules, which were used for the first time at the MCA Atlanta National in July.

If MCA's Official Judging Rules are of concern to you, if you feel there are errors, changes, clarifications or revisions that should be made, I encourage you to join us in Lawrenceville this month and make your voice heard.

It's a far more effective way of getting your point across about MCA rules than com-



**Charles Hampton**  
MCA President

plaining at regional or national shows. And since we want our rules to be accurate, detailed and fair, we consider it essential that MCA members with comments, suggestions or criticisms relating to the rules attend the National Judges' Meeting and speak their minds. I promise we will listen.

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Speaking of late models, we had an outstanding turnout of post-1973 Mustangs at the Atlanta MCA Show in July. A total of 44 late model cars were judged at that show — representing 26 percent of the total field.

The late model judging rules drafted by MCA Board Member Randy Church were used for the first time at the Atlanta show, and many of the owners liked the idea of true competition in those classes.

Of course, as with anything new, there were a few complaints, some questions, and some differences of opinion, but by and large the rules were well accepted.

Those who weren't satisfied with the new judging criteria for late models are welcome to attend the judges' meeting and tell us how we can improve them.

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I'd like to again emphasize that MCA is constantly seeking new regional group affiliates.

As I noted last month, I have volunteered to assist National Regional Group Director

Horace Wood in working with any Mustang clubs interested in becoming affiliated with MCA.

If you know of a group that might be interested in joining our nationwide network of regional clubs, please contact us by writing to MCA, P.O. Box 447, Lithonia, GA 30058. We'll give your inquiry immediate attention.

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The MCA Board of Directors has been making an effort during the past two years to contact the officers of all our affiliated regional groups, seeking input and suggestions from them on how the national organization can better serve their needs.

Each regional group has been assigned a representative from the board of directors and those representatives are expected to contact their groups for comments.

Recently, new regional group assignments were made and our board members are now in the process of calling club officers. If you don't hear from an MCA member soon (within the next 60 days at the most), I'd like to hear from you.

We consider this effort an important one and we want to know what we are doing right and what we are doing wrong in our efforts to serve our regional groups.

Since we began this process of opening the lines of communications with our regional groups by assigning board members to contact club officers, we have received many excellent suggestions, some interesting ideas, and a few criticisms.

Our goal is to implement as many of your suggestions and ideas as possible and to find a way to respond to your concerns and problems.

Every MCA regional group has an assigned representative, so you should be getting a call in the near future. If not, please don't hesitate to let me know!

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