

## 2008 MCA SHOW CLASSES EXPLAINED

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 ”



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The Mustang Club of America is a unique automobile organization. Membership in MCA provides the Mustang enthusiast a host of benefits including an authoritative and informative monthly magazine, *Mustang Times*, which covers announcements of Ford's new Mustang models, in-depth "How To" articles, an amazing array of vendors providing products for the purist as well as the fan of modifying his/her Mustang, and a guide for those planning to attend the many shows and other activities around the country. MCA provides an exciting web-page designed to promote the hobby by covering a host of information about the club, its officers, shows and judges . . . along with the rules that guide them.

And, speaking of rules, there have been a number of changes for the 2008 show season. These have been covered in great detail in the January and February "Judges Corner." Shorty Brown outlined the new format for Modified classes, as well as highlighting the new Restomod, Race Car, Youth, and Display Only Classes. My counterpart, Charles Turner, defined the array of classes for the 2008 show season which now has some 25 less classes than 2007. These changes are the result of countless hours by your Judging Team, including Head and Assistant Head Judges, Gold Card, and Certified Judges who came together in Atlanta in November 2007 to discuss and propose rule changes to the Board of Directors who, in their January 2008 board meeting, adopted the judging rules for this year's show season.

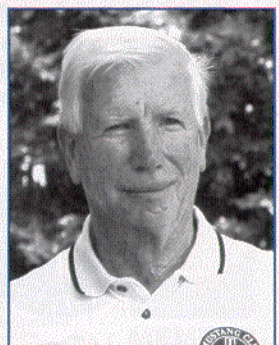
One vexing issue was that of correcting the methodology of judging late-model Mustangs. MCA has a long-standing rule that a Mustang is not considered Concours, that is, judged on authenticity, unless it

is ten or more years old. In recent show seasons, this ten-year rule was not adhered to and some classes of newer Mustangs were judged by concours (authenticity) standards. The Board of Directors endorsed the Judging Team's recommendation to remove all 2 to 9-year old Mustangs from the authenticity rules. This will reduce confusion on the part of both owners and judges as to how to treat these cars. It really didn't make sense to authentically judge these Mustangs—many of which were still under warranty. This year's show season will provide a proving ground for the revised rules and judging sheets and will likewise provide a forum for analyzing their effectiveness at the '08 Judges' Meeting in November.

Other initiatives are being worked on by your Judges. Wally Short, my boss, has initiated a plan of action to retrieve, compile, and store drawings, technical data, and other information on 4th and 5th generation Mustangs which will provide invaluable data to format concours judging rules as these models reach the ten-year threshold. Your Judging Team is continuing to refine and develop consistent-format judging sheets as well as exams for certified judges.

I remain as excited today about the many benefits of MCA membership as I did when I joined its ranks more than 30 years ago. Most of those years I judged at MCA national shows in a variety of levels. Early on I found that the Mustang Club of America is all about people . . . it is a family organization, dedicated to the preservation and mystique of the marque. This year's show season promises to be the greatest ever, and with your help, **it will be.**

*Allen Stewart*



**Allen Stewart**  
 Head Judge - 3rd, 4th, and 5th Generation