

# REGIONAL SHOW JUDGING

*"AT THE JUDGES*

*MEETING LAST FALL, ONE OF*

*THE AGENDA ITEMS WAS TO*

*DISCUSS MAKING A STANDARD*

*TYPE OF JUDGING SHEET FOR*

*MCA REGIONAL GROUPS TO*

*USE AT THEIR DISCRETION."*



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Long before it was realized that there was no standard judging sheet to use to judge the cars. In the past, there were formats such as 5-10 major sections of the car divided up and then scored from 1-10. For instance, "Interior 1-10, Engine Bay 1-10, etc..." Sometimes this was hand-written on sticky notes or if someone had the forethought, printed on a piece of paper. This generally worked ok, but left a lot to be desired. For one, the judging was very subjective as there really wasn't anything to call out what to judge for. Most clubs would, generally, have to rely on the expertise of the judges at hand. Then, you have the issue of whether or not to judge authenticity, which can be time consuming, especially for a one day Regional Show. Finally, you really have nothing to give back the show entrants as far as feedback for improvements. So, it becomes quite obvious that not having a standard in place is not such a good thing!

For the HCMC show, I quickly realized that we needed a standard judging sheet. Thinking about our time limitations for a one day event with about 100-120 cars, it was decided to use the MCA Occasional Driven judging rules as a basis for our judging sheet. Basically, we would judge all cars strictly on Workmanship, Condition and Cleanliness. This creates a level playing field for all entrants and helps the judges to be more consistent. For our show last year, we ended up with about 100 cars. We broke our classes into the five major generations of Mustangs (as in the MCA Rulebook) and then had an additional Special Interest Class for all other non Mustangs. This worked out well as we ended up with about 20 cars for each judging team. The judging teams consisted of about two judges and we were able to complete all the judging in approximately one hour. So how did we do it?

Since I've been keeping up with the Judging documents (along with Pete Morgan) for the past few years, I have access to all

the electronic copies of the Judging Sheets and Rulebook. Since we decided to use the MCA Occasional Driven Rules for our show, I simply took the electronic copy and modified it for simplicity. Point totals were rounded up to multiples of five with a 200 point total. For the most part, the verbiage remained the same throughout the sections, with some being condensed. When completed, the sheet became two pages, which fit nicely on one piece of paper, double-sided. It was very easy to judge the cars in this format and made tallying points quick. Additionally, we allowed show entrants to pick up their judging sheets after the show if they wanted to. At least half wanted theirs, so it was apparent that owners wanted feedback. One other side-effect of all this is that not only did entrants get a taste of how their car might be judged at a National MCA Show, but we also were able to train judges to a set standard, which would easily qualify them to pass the MCA Certification Test for Occasional/Daily Driven.

Seeing how well the judging sheet worked at the HCMC show, at the Judges Meeting last Fall, one of the agenda items was to discuss making this type of judging sheet a standard for MCA Regional Groups to use at their discretion. In following one of MCA's goals to provide services to the Regional Groups, it was voted a yes to make available such a judging sheet. The sheet will be made available for download on the MCA website in the "Judging" section. It will be in MS Word format and also Adobe PDF. We are making the Word format available so that clubs may add their own watermark to the sheets or make changes that apply to them. Generally, though, the MCA Head Judges would like to see the general content and points spread to remain the same.

We hope that the sheets will be useful to the Regional Groups. Of course, feedback is always appreciated. By no means does the wording and points spread have to be set in stone. We are happy to review the sheets at the next Judges Meeting and incorporate your feedback.

*Charles Turner*

**CHARLES TURNER**  
Head Judge  
1st and 2nd Generation

