

RAISE THE BAR

“THE JUDGING COMMUNITY, THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AND THE BOD MEMBERS STARTED A PATH OF WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE BETTERMENT OF MCA AND ITS MEMBERS.”



**NATIONAL HEAD JUDGE -
1ST & 2ND GENERATION**
Allen Stewart (02607)
305 Red Oak Drive
Lenoir, NC 28645
828.726.0701
ajstewart6@bellsouth.net

**NATIONAL HEAD JUDGE -
3RD-5TH GENERATION**
Jim Silverman (27762)
72 Westhaven Drive
Brockton, MA 02301
508.584.8848
mustanggt350@msn.com

TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO MCA
Bob Perkins (06474)
North 3123 State Road, 16-26
Juneau, WI 53066
920.696.3788
perkinsrestoration@Hughes.net

Back in September, when the Grand National was closing its doors on another successful show season, the judging community held its annual judges meeting. From most accounts it was one of the most productive. The judging community, the Executive Officers, and the BOD members started a path of working together for the betterment of the MCA and its members. We all agreed there are many things that need improvement and updating, and that we would choose the priorities wisely.

At the November Regional Directors' Summit and BOD meeting, a detailed presentation was made on the new Certified Judge testing program. Although it's taken longer than originally anticipated, hopefully by the time you read this the automated system will be up and running. Like any new system there may be a few bugs, but we feel that by working as a team those bugs will quickly be eliminated. The certification program is one of the most important avenues in building the judging community for the future.

All the proposals that were generated from the judges meeting were unanimously approved. I felt that the BOD members understood the importance of the judging community, and mutual respect was at the forefront during the entire weekend.

A few items approved were the new show class structure for 2012. In there you will see the Trailered Driven Concours class, which for years of Mustangs up to 1978, has changed to a 20-year rule. In 2012 cars as new as 1992 can participate; every year an additional year of Mustang will be able to participate.

Fire extinguishers will be required at all shows, and in 2013 all show cars must be owned by MCA members to compete. Because of the problem of judging cars less than two years old, starting in the 2013 season the Modified class will go back to not including cars two years and newer. During 2012, we will phase in with a one-year rule so cars up to 2011 will be able to compete in the Modified classes.

The Specialty class will now be cars newer than 10 years old. Like all other classes, once a car gets to 10 years old its choices become more clear: either Concours, Occasional/Daily, Modified,

or Unrestored. The same now applies to the Specialty class, once 10 years old they have to move on to a different class. Starting in 2012 the Late Model classes, youth, and race car classes will no longer be popular vote. There are inherent problems with popular voting, so starting in 2012 they will be in a Division called Judges Choice. A small team of judges, including one of the Head Judges, will do a simplistic method of picking the top three cars in the three classes in the division. We feel there will be more value added to the award, and no longer subject to friends voting for friends.

The website in the judges section is being updated as quickly as we can. Our goal is to get the information to the membership as early as possible so they can better prepare for the 2012 show season.

At the beginning of this article I mentioned the team of the judging community and the BOD members. But I also have to mention another team. The 3rd and 4th generation judging rules and judging sheets were, for many years, not up to what we as a club demand for detail and correctness. The team of Billy Henson, Chuck Wiltens, Greg Burkowski, Dick Ziegler, and Phil Rumble with a little direction from me, worked together on multiple conference calls and emails with one goal—to drastically improve the rules and judging sheets for 1979-2004 Mustangs. Much effort was put in to greatly enhance the information on the SVT Cobras and now to include the Mach 1 and Bullitt Mustangs. My hat goes off to these dedicated members who worked hard for the club and the hobby. If you bump into any of them say thank you.

We can't forget all the other assistant head judges and dedicated members that take their job seriously. Let's work together proactively for a fun-filled 2012 season.



Jim Silverman
National Head Judge
3rd-5th Generations