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OCCASIONAL DRIVEN OR MODIFIED?

IN WHICH CLASS DOES MY MUSTANG BELONG?

By Jake Jarrell

If you are planning a trip to one of the four MCA National events and the Grand National event this year and you are having trouble with the class you think you should be in, don't let this bother you.

My name is Jake Jarrell, Assistant National Head Judge for Occasional and Daily Driven, 1st and 2nd Generations, also Assistant National Head Judge for 2nd Generation Concours.

I also work in the classification line with the Assistant National Head Judge for Classification Patsy Brown, and her husband "Shorty" Brown, Assistant National Head judge for Modified Class. Our goal is to make classification easy for you and your pride and joy.

Don't let the National shows scare you. Bring your Mustang and show it. And don't wait to the last minute to register.

OK here is a Primer on Occasional Driven vs. Modified. Let's imagine that you have a 1965 or a 2005, and that it is occasionally driven to local shows and cruise ins and maybe Sunday school. Occasional Driven is the class for you.

If you have repainted your 1973 from Baby Blue to Red, you have installed an aluminum intake and a Holley four barrel, replaced the radio with a DVD/CD sound system and added custom rims, NO, it does not belong in Modified! You technically qualify for a Modified class, however, points are received for modifications made, whereas in Occasional Driven, Mustangs are judged solely on cleanliness, condition, and workmanship. The number of modifications doesn't come into play.

So, while you may qualify for Modified, Again, Occasional driven is a better choice of class for your Mustang.

The judges that work the National events and judge the Occasional/Daily Driven Mustangs are a dedicated bunch, traveling many miles and spending a bunch of money to judge at each show. And I am truly thankful to have them!

Again, an Occasional/Daily Driven Judge is ONLY looking at three things: workmanship, condition, and cleanliness.

They are not looking at your Data Plate, checking to see if you changed the color, engine, or transmission on your car.

So you say, "I changed my 1968 Highland Green, six cylinder, with an automatic transmission to a Black, 428, four-speed, and changed the color on the interior too, and it is not modified?"

Yes it is Modified, but you have a choice of Occasional Driven or a Modified class.

Let's take this a bit farther. Let's say it is all chromed-out under the hood with custom touches on several things. The interior has several non-stock modifications, like a steering wheel, seats, radio, door panels, and pedal covers. Also, the trunk is carpeted with an amp, speaker box, and neon lights. Although you sure qualify for the Modified Class, however you still have a choice of Modified or Occasional Driven!

If you choose the Modified class, "Shorty" Brown will be over to recommend that you prepare a list of your modifications on a 8x10 piece of paper, and he will ask if you want the undercarriage judged unless you've trailered the Mustang. Modified Mustangs that are trailered have their undercarriage judged.

If you still can't decide, Patsy and I will recommend the class in which you have the best chance of getting a trophy.

Remember, this is our hobby. Showing a Mustang is fun, and an MCA National is a great place to meet the best people in the world!

Jake Jarrell



JAKE JARRELL
ASST. NATIONAL HEAD JUDGE
1ST/2ND GENERATION OCCASIONAL
& DAILY DRIVEN