

First we need to clear up two mistakes made during the announcing of the winners at the MCA Grand National recently held in Kingsport, Tennessee (and superbly hosted by the First Tennessee Regional Group). In the 1971-73 Fastback class, Junior Division, Jackie Meade was awarded third place. In the Street Driven to 20 class, Terry Ziegler tied for third place. Our sincere apologies to both members for these mistakes.

Next, I would personally like to thank all of the judges who helped us this year at the three Mustang Club of America National shows. Your help was certainly appreciated by not only the national club, but by the sponsoring regions and by the members at large. Without the help of willing, qualified judges there would be no way of putting on the national shows as the competitions they are. Nor as the successes they were!

One question concerning the new line of reproduced Mustang parts now being carried by a number of Mustang parts vendors should be clarified here. A new program has been started by the judging department of the Mustang Club of America. Realizing that it is sometimes impossible to guarantee that a newly-manufactured part will exactly match an original one, regardless of the reproducer's and manufacturer's best intentions, we now will approve reproduced items for MCA judging. This means that if you use an approved item on your car, then no points will be deducted for that item even though it may not be an absolute replica of the original equipment part. If a reproduction piece is of good quality and of good resemblance to the original part, then it will probably be approved for MCA judging. This program should

eliminate any problems between vendors and their customers and entrants and their judges. Any vendors who wish to have reproduced items approved should submit samples to the National Head Judge for his examination. All reproduced parts must be approved *before* any national show.

Individual car's judging sheets from the Birmingham and Kingsport Nationals are available. If you want your sheet (and that is the *only* one that you can request) please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with 35 cents postage to the National Head Judge. Include a note indicating the show that you attended and your car's number. As a rule, these judging sheets will be available for a period of ninety days after the show date. After this time, the sheets will be destroyed. Please understand that these judging sheets are made available solely for informational purposes; no scores will be changed after a show date. It's like the baseball umpire: even if he's wrong, he's right! This is the only fair way to do it.

Soon we will be forming the committee to draft the rules and classes for next year. If you have had complaints about MCA judging in the past (and we have had some; no judging organization can escape that) here is your golden opportunity to have some input into the rules-making process. If you have constructive suggestions or specific criticisms, you are urged to forward them to the National Head Judge in the next sixty days so that the committee can take them under consideration. We want and need your input to make the MCA judging rules the best Mustang judging rules around. Please send your suggestions today!

To most Mustangers, winter means time to hibernate indoors with a fresh

restoration or a new project. We'd like to think of it as a perfect time to get certified to judge in next year's National shows. We need your experience! And besides, the judges got free T-shirts at all the 1981 Nationals. Who knows what all they'll get next year?

Bob Vickery
National Head Judge

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