

2024 National Narrow Gauge Convention Contest in Pittsburgh

Chair: Dennis Vaccaro

Volunteer: Steve Zapytowski

2024 NNGC Contest Introduction:

The contest committee would like to welcome you to Pittsburgh. We encourage you to bring a model or photograph to enter in our contest. This is the time to show off your latest creation.

This a nonjudged popular vote contest. You may enter as many categories as you like, but keep in mind, if you enter more than one model or photograph in the same category you are competing with yourself.

We recommend you download a contest entry form and fill it out prior to leaving for the convention. Doing so will save you time and aggravation at check in. The form will be available to download from this webpage.

Plaques will be awarded for first, second, and third place in each category. A single plaque will be awarded for Best of Show and for the Special Award listed below.

2024 NNGC Contest Categories:

SR - STEAM MOTIVE POWER – ROD - must be narrow gauge

SG - STEAM MOTIVE POWER – GEAR - must be narrow gauge

OMP - OTHER MOTIVE POWER – INTERNAL COMBUSTION / COMPRESSED AIR /
ELECTRIC / CHAIN DRIVE - must be narrow gauge

LE - LOGGING EQUIPMENT

MOW - MAINTENANCE OF WAY - must be narrow gauge

C - CABOOSE (nonrevenue) - must be narrow gauge

RFC - REVENUE FREIGHT CAR - must be narrow gauge

PC - PASSENGER CAR - must be narrow gauge

SNE - SPECIAL NONREVENUE EQUIPMENT - mining, paving, road vehicles, airplanes, boats, motorcycles, and any other equipment not fitting other categories as determined by the contest chair.

S - STRUCTURES

D - DIORAMA

OM - OPERATING MODULE - must be narrow gauge

Y – YOUTH – Under 18 years old

FT - FAVORITE TRAIN - must be narrow gauge

MPB - MODEL PHOTO - B&W - must be narrow gauge

MPC - MODEL PHOTO - COLOR - must be narrow gauge

PPB - PROTOTYPE PHOTO - B&W - must be narrow gauge

PPC - PROTOTYPE PHOTO – COLOR - must be narrow gauge

DO - DISPLAY ONLY – no voting

BEST OF SHOW Model & Photo

SPECIAL AWARDS – Mt. Albert, On30 Group, Fantasonics

2024 NNGC General Contest Rules:

1. Models must be built **entirely** by the entrant without help from another person. Entries must be narrow gauge as indicated in the Category List. No “proxy” entries allowed. Only registered convention attendees may submit entries.
2. A model or photograph that has won first place or best of show at a previous National Narrow Gauge Convention may not be entered in the same category.
3. Photos **must** be mounted on a stiff backing material such as card stock or foam core board. Photos may also be matted. Photos (with mounts or mounting) may range in size from a minimum of 5" x 7" to a maximum of 12" x 16". (This will be strictly enforced). **No** frames or glass cover will be permitted. Digitally and/or computer enhanced photos **will** be permitted.
4. Display table(s) will be provided for attendees to display non entry models and photos. These models and photos will not be voted on and no plaques will be awarded. Display space will be limited and will be used on a first come, first served basis. If you have a large display, please contact the contest chairs to arrange space.
5. Structures may be stand alone or on a limited base. **NO SCENERY ITEMS ARE PERMITTED IN THE STRUCTURE CATEGORY.**
6. Dioramas may be stand alone or mounted on a base. Scenery is not only permitted on dioramas but is encouraged.
7. Modules differ from dioramas in that a module is designed to be part of an operating layout. Modules will be displayed in the exhibit area. Due to space concerns no modules will be allowed in the contest room.
8. If you have a structure, diorama, or display larger than 2 x 4 feet please contact the model contest chair before the convention.
9. ‘Special Nonrevenue Equipment’ includes mining, paving, road vehicles, airplanes, boats, and any other equipment not fitting other categories as determined by the contest chair.
10. Only one vote per category per attendee. Only one voting slip will be issued to a registered attendee. Registration number must be on the voting ballot. No additional slips will be issued. All slips with duplicate attendee numbers shall be disallowed.

2024 NNGC Additional Criteria

MODEL SIGN IN:

Sign in begins at 6pm on Tuesday and runs through Noon on Friday. The entry registration and description forms must be completed before signing in of the entry. Your contest registration must be completed ~~and acquired~~ before placing your entry on a display table. Complete information must be supplied and a value assigned to your entry. Entry category and number will be provided at the registration desk by the contest staff. All entries, including those for display only shall be signed in at the Contest registration desk. Once signed in you will receive a numbered tag and a numbered claim check and be directed by the contest staff where to place your entry in the display area. Place your description form with your entry and attach the numbered tag given to you at the registration desk to your entry. Photos need only have an numbered entry tag – description forms are not needed for photos. Module entries will receive a numbered placard to place with the module along with your description form.

VOTING:

This is a popular vote contest. Voting begins at Noon on Wednesday and ends at 9pm on Friday. Only one vote per category per attendee will be allowed. Votes are only to be cast on the ballot provided to the attendee. Ballots will be in the registration packet. `Extra` ballots will not be provided. Handwritten ballot forms will be disallowed. All duplicate ballots with the same registration number will be disallowed. Votes for display only entries, unregistered, or ineligible items won't be counted Place completed ballots in the official ballot box at the contest registration desk before the close of voting. Votes will be counted, and tallies displayed after the close of voting. In the event of a tie, a committee of three consisting of the Contest Chair, and Show Organizers shall break the tie by agreement.

MODEL SIGN OUT:

Sign out begins 10am on Saturday and runs through 2pm Saturday. The entrant must present and sign their claim check and show their model at the registration desk to retrieve their model. Only the entrant may pick up their model unless prior arrangements were made. Entrants that lose their claim check must present a photo identification to retrieve their model and sign a duplicate claim check prepared by the contest staff. **Unless prepaid shipping is arranged and appropriate packaging are provided, or other pickup arrangements are made before the end of the contest, all abandoned models shall become the property of the Show to be disposed of as it warrants.**

AWARDS:

Popular Vote Awards - Plaques will be awarded for the top three places in each category, other than Display Only where there is no voting. The model in each category receiving the greatest number of certified votes shall be the winner in that category. The model in each category receiving the second greatest number of certified votes shall be second place in that category. The model in each category receiving the third greatest number of certified votes shall be third place in that category.

Best in Show – This is the model / diorama / module that has the most popular votes of all entries in the show. This can be in any category other than Photo. A Best in Show will also be awarded for the Photo receiving the most votes of any Photo. A model, or photo, winning best of show will not be considered for first place in its category. Other models/photos in that category will be advanced as appropriate. In the event of a tie, a committee of three consisting of the Contest Chair, Contest Co Chair, and the Show Organizer shall break the tie by agreement.

FINAL AUTHORITY

All decisions, disputes, or need for clarification shall be the sole responsibility of the Contest Chair.