

THE MAFVA NATIONAL MODEL COMPETITION - 2017

Our mission:

Encourage the hobby

Encourage newcomers

Encourage modellers to improve

Create the ultimate showcase for modeling excellence!

Model: A representation of a vehicle, object or figure. There should be some work done by the modeller in construction or finishing.

Exclusions:

Winning models from past MAFVA contests may not be re-entered.

MAFVA contest core personnel, judges and class sponsors are prohibited from entering categories that they are judging or sponsoring.

All entries for the competition must be the modellers own work - with the following exception.

Proxies: Entry of models by proxy is permitted where a modeller cannot attend in person providing this is agreed in advance with the organisers.

Size: Bases must not exceed four square feet in area (i.e. 576 sq. In.) for any entry - this is in order to leave adequate space for other models. Other than in diorama, vignette or artillery classes a model should not extend more than 3" (large scale) or 1.5" (small scale) beyond the model's basic structure for similar reasons. Outsize models may be allowed by prior arrangement with the Chief Adjudicator.

"Inappropriate" Subjects: Due to the family nature of the MAFVA experience, it is show policy that models depicting explicit nudity and those containing violent or "adult" subject matter will not be accepted for entry. Figures are subject to review for content by the Chief Adjudicator.

Entry of models: Modelers must neatly print **all** information on Entry Form (please ask questions if you do not understand). Incomplete entry forms will be disqualified. Modelers are allowed to place their own model on contest table, but **MUST** be accompanied by a contest steward. Entry ticket must be displayed with model. The identity of the entrant must not be displayed within the model.

Removal of models: Once entered, models cannot be removed from contest early - except with the agreement of the organisers. Early removal without agreement automatically disqualifies entrant. After the awards presentation a steward will accompany you to remove your model (no exceptions.)

Disputes: All Judges' decisions are final. Contestants may request their score sheet in order to analyse their own performance and improve their work, but no discussion of those scores will be entered into.

Liability: MAFVA assumes no liability or responsibility in case of accidents involving models or for property lost, stolen or damaged. Entries unclaimed after closure on Sunday will be turned over to the leisure centre's Lost Property.

How a Model is Judged:

The Open System: Every model entered is carefully scrutinised by the judges and judged on its own merit.

MAFVA Nationals judging is now based on the open system. This means each and every model is judged on its own merit, based on our established criteria for gold, silver, and bronze...judging is not on a comparison with other models in the contest. There can be more than one of each type of award per category.

For example, if there are three models of equal merit in a category and the judges agree that all are gold material then all three models will be awarded golds. On the other hand if the judges feel there are no gold-caliber models in a category then none will be awarded. That goes for silver and bronze as well. There can be multiple awards or no awards given in a category depending on the judges' discretion.

The open system is fairer to modelers and minimises disappointment and disputes.

Models entered in figure categories will be judged primarily on the figure(s) alone even if displayed on a scenic base.

Models entered in the diorama category will be judged with emphasis on the entire scene. Models entered in the vignette category will be judged with emphasis on the main subject vehicle. It is the modeler's option to choose the appropriate category at the time of entering the contest.

Helpful tips for contest entrants

Here's what our judges look for:

Subject

Realism: Does it appear that the modeller has researched the subject and produced a realistic representation of the original, or a feasible 'what if' vehicle?

Construction

Basic work is the first thing the judges will check. There should be no seams visible. Joints, etc. should be filled where necessary. Glue marks are considered a flaw, and sanding scratches should be eliminated.

Scratchbuilt or modified parts should be correct in scale and uniform. If the entire entry is scratchbuilt, overall appearance and symmetry will be examined. Do all road wheels rest on the ground? Is the vehicle 'square' and 'true' (Unless depicting a damaged vehicle).

The judges can only judge what they see before them. Modifications and scratchbuilding may be documented with notes and/or photographs to draw the judge's attention to salient points. Documentation should be kept to a sensible amount bearing in mind available space and the time a judge can be expected to spend examining each model. Excessive documentation does not equal more marks. A few 'under construction' photos may assist a judge to award extra marks. Stewards will advise if required.

Painting

Painting should be smooth with no visible brush strokes (unless intentional on camouflage - in which case it should be in scale). Fingerprints, runs, smudges, cracks, paint reactions, dust in paint etc. will all detract.

If figures are present, skin tones are important. Few modelers use flesh tones straight from the bottle. Usually skin tones are mixed from two or three different colours. Clothing should be toned to show folds and shadows. Materials such as leather, metal and canvas should be represented in

a realistic manner.

Be careful of hard lines when doing washes.

Dry brushing should be subtle when doing highlighting.

Has camouflage been applied well? If the vehicle is a single colour has an attempt been made to 'break up' the plain finish with toning and shadowing?

Dynamics, Scale Fidelity and the "WOW" Factor

A model can also have a "WOW" factor. Presentation, figures and positioning can all enhance a model and will earn extra marks. Judges are human, too. Kits that make them look twice because of dynamics and presentation may receive better marks—and a dynamic kit may be more easily "forgiven" for minor technical errors.

Marks will be awarded for technical fidelity. i.e. are loads secured? Are jerry cans mounted in secure holders or just glued on the surface etc.?

Finishing & Presentation

Decals, if used, should have a finish that does not show any film around the edges. Also, decals applied over flat paints can get a "silvered" appearance, and this is judged poorly. If a flat finish is the result you're after, apply decals over gloss-painted surfaces and then flat-coat the model.

Weathering should not be overdone when used. Weathering should be in scale. Too much can make for a sloppy-looking finish. Weathering should be sympathetic to the subject modelled.

Overall presentation is also very important. The base and mount for any kit should enhance its appearance rather than possibly detract from the model. Good and appropriate design, construction and finish of a base will be rewarded.

Finally, remember that judging is a subjective exercise. Some things may appeal to some judges that may not to others. MAFVA strives to put the right judges with the right subjects.

Marking Criteria - Single vehicle (may tow a trailer or carry another vehicle - marks will be awarded for the total rolling assembly)

1. Subject/Realism	10 marks
2. Construction.....	30 marks
3. Painting and Finishing.....	30 marks
5. Dynamics, Scale Fidelity, WOW Factor & Presentation.....	20 marks
Total.....	100 marks

Marking Criteria - Diorama

1. Subject/Realism	10 marks
2a. Construction - Diorama.....	20 marks
2b. Construction - Vehicle.....	10 marks
3a. Painting - Diorama.....	20 marks
3b. Painting - Vehicle.....	10 marks
5. Dynamics, Scale Fidelity, WOW Factor.....	10 marks
6. Finishing & Presentation.....	10 marks
Total.....	100 marks

Marking Criteria - Vignette

1. Subject Realism.....	10 marks
2a. Construction - Vignette	10 marks
2b. Construction - Vehicle.....	20 marks
3a. Painting - Vignette	10 marks
3b. Painting - Vehicle.....	20 marks
5. Realism, Dynamics, Scale Fidelity, WOW Factor.....	10 marks
6. Finishing & Presentation.....	10 marks
Total.....	100 marks

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

A 'vehicle' is defined as one which is either self-propelled by means of an engine, or horse-drawn and is land based or amphibious.

Aircraft, boats and air cushion vehicles etc. go into the Miscellaneous class.

A 'vehicle' may include tractor and trailer, towing vehicle with vehicle on tow, recovery/transporter vehicle with vehicle load. The rolling assembly will be judged as a whole.

Models should be placed in the correct class if in doubt ask one of the competition staff.
The final decision rests with the Chief Adjudicator.

A model placed in the wrong class will be moved to the correct class.

All models that are placed in the competition are done so at the owners own risk.

JUNIOR CLASSES

Juniors are those aged 16 or under on the day of the competition judging.

Class 1 - Junior (any scale) Vehicle, artillery piece or diorama - MAFVA members only
Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 2 - Junior (any scale) Vehicle, artillery piece or diorama - All comers
Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 3 - Junior (any scale) Figure or group of figures - All comers

SENIOR CLASSES - MAFVA members only

Definition: Classes 4, 5, 11 and 12

"Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle.":-

is a tracked armoured vehicle with a main armament designed to engage in battle directly. Typically the main armament should be capable of traversing a full 360 degrees.

Exceptions to above to be included in these classes:

First World War tanks without rotating turrets including the Russian Tsar 'tank' that has giant wheels instead of track.

Reason: These were designed to engage in battle directly.

Self propelled guns with a main armament capable of traversing a full 360 degrees.

Reason: So closely related to a main battle tanks as to make little difference to judging.

Exceptions NOT to be included in these classes:

Tank Hunters such as Stug, JagTiger etc. and Self propelled guns such as the M107 which do not have the capability of rotating the main armament through a full 360 degrees.

These vehicles will be judged in the Artillery class. Reason: To avoid overloading the judging task in the "Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle" classes.

In the event of a dispute regarding eligibility, the decision of the Chief Adjudicator will be final.

Small Scale

Class 4 - Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Small scale - 1:47 and smaller.

Standard Kit - World War II and earlier (In service Aug.1945 or earlier)

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are permitted. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 5 - Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Small scale - 1:47 and smaller.

Standard Kit - Post World War II

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are permitted. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Definition: Classes 6, 7, 13 and 14

"Vehicles other than Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle."

Includes wheeled armoured vehicles (e.g. Mowog Piranha), half tracks, armoured cars, armoured personal carriers, armoured recovery vehicles, softskin military and paramilitary vehicles, armoured riot control vehicles in military or police service, civilian vehicles in military service or support. Tracked vehicles not intended for direct combat. Horse drawn military vehicles.

Exceptions NOT to be included in these classes:

Artillery (Including missiles) Unarmoured police vehicles (and Mad Max type fantasy vehicles).

Civilian vehicles not in military service or support. These vehicles are judged in the Miscellaneous class.

Class 6 - Vehicles other than Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Small scale - 1:47 and smaller.

Standard Kit - World War II and earlier (In service Aug.1945 or earlier)

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are permitted. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 7 - Vehicles other than Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Small scale - 1:47 and smaller.

Standard Kit - Post World War II

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and

canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are permitted. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Definition: Classes 8 and 15

Conversion: An alteration of the basic kit to another version or Mark. Examples are adding wading gear, not provided in the kit, to a Sherman or changing a Panzer IV Ausf. F to a Panzer IV Ausf. A.

Scratchbuilt: A model where a large part of the model is made by the modeller and not from commercial items.

A converted or scratchbuilt model may be detailed to any desired level by the modeller. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Unpainted scratchbuilts: "Painting and decal 'points will be used to judge neatness and cleanliness of finish. i.e. 0 marks for painting. 40 marks will be available for 'Finishing & Presentation'.

**Class 8 - Any Military Vehicle. Small scale - 1:47 and smaller.
Conversion or Scratch Built. - Any era.**

Class 9 - Small scale - 1:47 and smaller - Vignette

One or more vehicles - straight from kit, converted or scratch built on a scenic base vignette.

The vehicle(s) will take precedence over the vignette in the marking.

Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Originality and 'telling a story' or a real life situation will count highly in the "WOW" Factor marking

Class 10 - Small scale - 1:47 and smaller - Diorama

One or more vehicles - straight from kit, converted or scratch built in a setting.

The overall diorama will take precedence over individual vehicles in the marking.

Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Originality and 'telling a story' or a real life situation will count highly in the "WOW" Factor marking

Large Scale

Class 11 - Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Large scale - 1:46 and larger

Standard Kit - World War II and earlier (In service Aug.1945 or earlier)

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are permitted. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 12 - Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Large scale - 1:46 and larger

Standard Kit - Post World War II

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are permitted. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 13 - Vehicles other than Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Large scale - 1:46 and larger.

Standard Kit - World War II and earlier (In service Aug.1945 or earlier)

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or

mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are permitted. Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 14 - Vehicles other than Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle. Large scale - 1:46 and larger. Standard Kit - Post World War II

A single, commercially produced model constructed from a kit. It may be plastic, resin, metal or mixed materials. It may be improved or corrected with commercial or scratch built items, but should still depict the model from the box, ie. it is still the same version or mark. Hatches and canopies may be open if this is an option on the kit. Aerials, seatbelts, rigging and wires are

Class 15 - Large scale - 1:46 and larger Conversion or Scratch Built. - Any era.

Class 16 - Large scale - 1:46 and larger - Vignette

One or more vehicles - straight from kit, converted or scratch built on a scenic base vignette. The vehicle(s) will take precedence over the vignette in the marking.

Figures should be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Originality and 'telling a story' or a real life situation will count highly in the WOW Factor marking

Class 17- Large scale - 1:46 and larger - Diorama

One or more vehicles - straight from kit, converted or scratch built in a setting.

The overall diorama will take precedence over individual vehicles in the marking.

Figures should be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Originality and 'telling a story' or a real life situation will count highly in the WOW Factor marking

Any Scale

Class 18 - small scale - 1:47 and smaller - Artillery

An artillery piece - including missiles - with or without towing vehicle or transporter.

Tank turret static positions included in this class. Also includes self propelled guns and 'tank hunters' (e.g. Stug, JagTiger etc. and Self propelled guns such as the M107).

Self propelled guns with a capability of traversing the main armament through a full 360 degrees will be judged in the appropriate **Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle class**.

Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 19 - large scale - 1:47 and larger - Artillery

An artillery piece - including missiles - with or without towing vehicle or transporter.

Tank turret static positions included in this class. Also includes self propelled guns and 'tank hunters' (e.g. Stug, JagTiger etc. and Self propelled guns such as the M107).

Self propelled guns with a capability of traversing the main armament through a full 360 degrees will be judged in the appropriate **Tank/Tracked fighting vehicle class**.

Figures may be included and will be marked as part of 'Finishing & Presentation'

Class 20 - any scale - Miscellaneous

Entries by MAFVA members not covered by other classes. ie. What-ifs?, Armoured trains. Air Cushion Vehicles, Aerosans, plus aircraft and boats. Also includes fantasy and non military vehicles.

OPEN CLASSES - All comers

Class 21 - any scale - Open Class - any scale - Open to all comers

Any model built by a non MAFVA member.

Class 22 - any scale - Figure or group of figures - any scale - Open to all comers

Open to MAFVA members and non MAFVA members.

Best of Show

This award will be given to the model chosen by the whole panel of judges to be the best in the whole show regardless of whether it has been entered in the competition or not.

General Rules

A pair of judges will be allocated to each class. Judging will be carried out at check-in and the score sheets handed to the Competition Secretary for recording. Airfix have expressed a wish to have a photo booth at check-in to photograph each model as it is presented. This may precede the judging process.

It will be the judges' discretion not to award all of the available prizes in a specific class. The adjudicator's decision is final on this and all competition matters.

With the exception of the 'All comers' classes, the MAFVA National Championships are open to members of the Miniature AFV Association only - the organisers reserve the right to request sight of prospective entrants' membership cards. It will be possible to join the Association on the day of the Championships at the MAFVA control desk.

In the event that a class contains less than three entries, the organisers may, at their discretion, combine such classes with others deemed to be of a similar nature in order to maintain competition. Entrants are requested to ensure that entries are sufficiently robust to permit this although efforts will be made to arrange for any such movements to be carried out by the entrant.

Whilst the organisers will take reasonable care to protect entries from damage and stewards will be on duty to assist in this, no liability can be accepted by the organisers for any damage which occurs during the period of the show.

Judging will be by one or more panels of experienced modellers selected by the organisers on the basis of their experience and depth and breadth of knowledge.

Award winners and the Best of Show winner will each receive a certificate and trophy or medal. Additional awards may be presented at the organisers' discretion.

Additional special awards may be made by those wishing to sponsor them and judging arrangements for these will be agreed separately between the organisers and the sponsors.

In the event of a dispute, the decision of the organisers shall be final in all matters and no correspondence will be entered into.

The competition entry desk will open at 10am and close at 12.45pm. Competition entry forms can be downloaded from the website, and will save time if completed in advance. These times will be published in advance and entrants will be advised to avoid a possible last minute rush.