



# International Plastic Modelers' Society 2023 National Contest Categories

*Substantive changes from 2022 are noted in RED text.*

## In general:

Specific scale applications for each Class are listed below at the start of each Class. Unless otherwise specified, each Category includes model subjects of all eras, types, subjects, and scales.

## Split Categories:

Categories may be split into two or more sub-categories. The use and naming of splits will be based on the entries at the contest and determined by the National Contest Committee. Named splits are listed below. All other splits will be defined at the contest. The estimated number of splits per Class are listed below.

## Dioramas:

The Dioramas Class has been reorganized - all Diorama categories have been moved to their respective model-subject classes. (All aircraft dioramas are now in the Aircraft Class, all automotive dioramas are now in the Automotive Class, etc.) No other changes have been made to the quantity or definition of the Diorama categories. Some class or category numbers have been changed to accommodate this realignment. Per *Rule IV-1D*, Vignette (Small Composition) includes a single vehicle and/or no more than 5 figures; Diorama (Large Composition) includes more than one vehicle and/or more than 5 figures.

## Awards Packages:

The total award packages (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards) will not exceed the sum of the categories, the estimated split counts listed herein, plus 4 additional award packages. (This comprises 196 listed categories and estimated additional splits, plus 4 extra 'just-in-case' award packages to be used at the Chief Judge's discretion.) **For 2023, a maximum of 200 award packages may be presented.** This count is exclusive of any additional overall and theme awards.

## 0. Juniors (14 categories – no additional splits anticipated)

*Pre-Teen includes entrants through 12 years old.*

*Teen includes entrants 13 through 17 years old.*

*There are no separate Basic Kit Build categories in the Juniors Class.*

### Aircraft

10	Pre-teen
11	Teen

### Military Vehicles

20	Pre-teen
21	Teen

### Figures

30	Pre-teen
32	Teen

### Ships

40	Pre-teen
42	Teen

### Automotive

50	Pre-teen
51	Teen

### Dioramas

70	Pre-teen
71	Teen

### Miscellaneous (including Gundams)

80	Pre-teen
81	Teen

## **I. Aircraft** (50 categories and pre-planned splits, plus 9 estimated additional splits)

*1/144 refers to scales 1/82 and smaller.*

*1/72 refers to scales 1/81 to 1/60.*

*1/48 refers to scales 1/59 to 1/40.*

*1/32 refers to scales 1/39 and larger.*

*Categories 101 - 144 are for military aircraft only.*

*Prop Aircraft categories include aircraft driven by external propellers, and unpowered gliders.*

*Even-numbered Aircraft categories are Basic Kit Build categories.*

### **Biplanes** (and others that are predominantly fabric, struts, and rigging)

101 Small, 1/144 and 1/72

103-A Large, 1/48

103-B Large, 1/32

### **Small Prop, Single Engine Aircraft**

*1/72 scale = not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan*

*1/48 scale = not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan*

105-A 1/72 US/Allied Inline

105-B 1/72 US/Allied Radial

105-C 1/72 Axis Inline

105-D 1/72 Axis Radial

106 1/72 Basic Kit Build

107-A 1/48 US/Allied Inline

107-B 1/48 US/Allied Radial

107-C 1/48 Axis Inline

107-D 1/48 Axis Radial

108 1/48 Basic Kit Build

### **Medium Prop, Two-Engine Aircraft**

*1/72 scale = not exceeding 11" length or wingspan*

*1/48 scale = not exceeding 17" length or wingspan*

111 1/72

113 1/48

### **Large Prop, Multi-engine Aircraft**

*1/72 scale = exceeding 11" length or wingspan*

*1/48 scale = exceeding 17" length or wingspan*

115 1/72

117 1/48

### **Medium and Large Prop, Multi-engine Aircraft, Basic Kit Build**

*1/72 scale = exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan*

*1/48 scale = exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan*

118 1/72

120 1/48

### **Small Jet**

*1/72 scale = not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan*

*1/48 scale = not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan*

121 1/72

122 1/72, Basic Kit Build

125 1/48

126 1/48, Basic Kit Build

### **Large Jet**

*1/72 scale = exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan*

*1/48 scale = exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan*

129 1/72

130 1/72, Basic Kit Build

131 1/48

132 1/48, Basic Kit Build

### **1/32 Aircraft**

135 Propeller-Driven

137 Jet-Powered

138 Basic Kit Build

### **1/144 Aircraft**

- 141 Small (not exceeding 4.25" in length or wingspan)
- 143 Large (exceeding 4.25" in length or wingspan)
- 144 Basic Kit Build

### **Rotary Wing**

- 151 1/144 and 1/72
- 153 1/48 and 1/32
- 154 Basic Kit Build

### **Civil, Sport, Racing, and Air Taxis**

- 157 1/144 and 1/72
- 161 1/48 and 1/32
- 162 Basic Kit Build

### **Airliners, Airliner Types, and Airships**

- 163 1/144
- 165 1/72, 1/48, and 1/32
- 166 Basic Kit Build

### **Unmanned Aerial Vehicles**

- 167 All entries

### **Elevated Displays** (non-diorama displays --"Aircraft on a Pole") (see [Rule IV-2E](#))

- 175 All entries

### **Vacuum-formed**

- 181 All entries

### **Conversions**

- 183 All entries

### **Scratch-Built**

- 185 All entries

### **Dioramas**

- ~~740~~191-A Vignette, 1/144 and 1/72
- ~~740~~191-B Vignette, 1/48 and 1/32
- ~~744~~193 Diorama

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## **II. Military Vehicles** (38 categories and named splits, plus 1 estimated additional split)

*1/35 refers to scales 1/35 and larger.*

*1/48 refers to scales 1/59 to 1/36.*

*1/72 refers to scales 1/100 to 1/60.*

### **1/35 Military Vehicles** (including tanks, assault guns, and self-propelled guns)

- 200-A Closed-top AFVs, through Korea, Axis Light and Medium
- 200-B Closed-top AFVs, through Korea, Axis Heavy
- 200-C Closed-top AFVs, through Korea, Allied
- 200-D Closed-top AFVs, through Korea, Other
- 201-A Closed-top AFVs, post-Korea, NATO
- 201-B Closed-top AFVs, post-Korea, Warsaw-Pact and Russian
- 201-C Closed-top AFVs, post-Korea, Other
- 206-A Open-top AFVs or AFVs with Interiors, Axis
- 206-B Open-top AFVs or AFVs with Interiors, Allied
- 206-C Open-top AFVs or AFVs with Interiors, Other
- 209 Armored Cars
- 210 Armored Halftracks
- 211 Soft-skinned Military Vehicles

### 1/48 Military Vehicles

- 212 Tracked
- 213 Wheeled

### 1/72 Military Vehicles

- 218-A Fully Tracked, through Korea, Allied
- 218-B Fully Tracked, through Korea, Axis
- 218-C Fully Tracked, through Korea, Other
- 219 Fully Tracked, post Korea
- 220 Armored Cars and Armored Halftracks
- 221 Soft-skinned Military Vehicles

### Artillery Pieces (including missiles and railroad guns, but excluding limbers and prime movers)

- 223 All entries

### Conversions and Scratch-Built

(A model that MUST have its silhouette/type SUBSTANTIVELY CHANGED by the MODELER, using SCRATCH-BUILDING SUPPLIES, i.e., sheet plastic, sheet brass, tin, wood, etc.)

- 228 All entries

### Kit-Bash Conversions

(A model that MUST have its silhouette SUBSTANTIVELY CHANGED by the MODELER, using ANY PRE-EXISTING KIT PARTS from another model or manufactured conversion parts/pieces designed for such change by the manufacturer, whether or not it is intended for the model it is employed upon.)

- 229 All entries

### Multi- or Towed Vehicles (non-diorama display)

(No more than three vehicles attached to each other; see [Rule IV-3C](#) and definition. Examples: any towed Artillery prime-mover/limber and artillery piece; any Tank Transporter/Trailer, with or without a loaded vehicle; any other combination of two vehicles that are attached to each other.)

- 235 All entries

### Basic Kit Build

- ~~290~~ 240-A 1/35 Closed-top AFVs, through Korea, Axis
- ~~290~~ 240-B 1/35 Closed-top AFVs, through Korea, Allied
- ~~290~~ 240-C 1/35 Closed-top AFVs, Other
- ~~291~~ 241 1/35 Open-top AFVs and AFVs with Interiors
- ~~292~~ 242 1/35 Armored Cars and Halftracks
- ~~293~~ 243 1/35 Soft-skinned Vehicles
- ~~294~~ 244 1/48 AFVs, Open- and Closed-top
- ~~295~~ 245 1/48 Armored Cars, Halftracks, and Soft-skinned Vehicles
- ~~296~~ 246 1/72 AFVs, Open- and Closed-top
- ~~297~~ 247 1/72 Armored Cars, Halftracks, and Soft-skinned Vehicles

### Dioramas

- ~~724~~ 250 1/49 and smaller
- ~~720~~ 251-A 1/48 and Larger, Vignette
- ~~720~~ 251-B 1/48 and Larger, Diorama

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## III. Figures (16 categories, with 0 estimated additional splits)

*1/32 and 1/35 figures will compete as 54mm.*

### Dismounted and Mounted

- 300 53mm and smaller

### Dismounted

- 305-A 54mm to 70mm, Pre-1900
- 305-B 54mm to 70mm, 1900 to Present
- 306-A 71mm and larger, Pre-1900
- 306-B 71mm and larger, 1900 to Present

### Mounted or With Mount

- 312 54mm and larger

**Conversions and Scratch-Built**

317 All entries

**Fantasy and Science Fiction**

322 53mm and smaller

323-A 54mm to 120mm, Fantasy

323-B 54mm to 120mm, Science Fiction

325 121mm and larger

**Busts**

327 Pre-1900

328 1900 to Present

329 Fantasy, Science Fiction, and Others

**Dioramas**~~730~~ 330 Vignette~~732~~ 332 Diorama**IV. Ships** (18 categories, plus 1 estimated additional split)*1/700 refers to scales 1/451 and smaller.**1/350 refers to scales 1/450 to 1/101.**1/72 refers to scales 1/100 and larger.***Aircraft Carriers**

400 1/700

401 1/350

**Battleships, Battlecruisers, and Cruisers**

402 1/700

403 1/350

**Other Surface Ships, smaller than cruiser-sized***Destroyers, Escorts, Corvettes, Commercial, etc. (except 'boats')*

404 1/700

405 1/350

**Sailing***Sail-powered ships and boats*

407 All entries

**Early Steam and Sail***Transition vessels: American Civil War, Spanish-American War, pre-dreadnoughts, etc.*

408 All entries

**Submarines**

412 1/700

413-A 1/350, pre-1946

413-B 1/350, 1946 to present

415 1/72

**Boats, Speedboats, Motor Torpedo Boats, Motor Patrol Boats**

418 All entries

**Naval Technology** (Standalone naval equipment, such as gun turrets, gun and missile mounts, boat davit sets, aircraft catapults, etc.)

420 All entries

**Conversions and Scratch-Built**

(A conversion entry MUST have its silhouette SUBSTANTIVELY CHANGED by the modeler, using either scratch-building materials or parts from another model or manufactured conversion, whether or not it is intended for the model it is employed upon).

423 All entries

**Basic Kit Build**

426 All entries

**Dioramas**~~740~~ 430 Vignette~~742~~ 431 Diorama

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**V. Automotive** (22 categories, plus 4 estimated additional splits)*1/32 refers to scales 1/32 and smaller.**1/24 refers to scales 1/31 to 1/20.**1/16 refers to scales 1/19 and larger.***Factory Production**

500 1/32

501-A 1/24, 1959 and older body

501-B 1/24, 1960 and newer body

**Hot Rods, Street Rods, and Street Machines**

506 Hot Rods and Street Rods

507 Street Machine

**Customs**

512 All entries

**Competition Vehicles**

516 1/32

517-A 1/24, Drag Racing, Modified Street and Purpose Built

517-B 1/24, Open Wheel

517-C 1/24, Closed Wheel

**Large Scale** (except motorcycles)

529 1/16

**Conversions and Scratch-Built**

534 All entries

**Documented Replicas**

535 All entries

**Commercial Vehicles** (including cargo as part of overall entry)

539 Light Commercial (2 axles)

540 Heavy Commercial (3 or more axles)

**Motorcycles** (civilian/racing only)

545 All entries

**Curbside**

550 All entries

**Automotive Technology and Culture**

580 All entries

**Basic Kit Build**

590 Factory Stock

591 Hot Rods, Street Rods, Street Machines, and Customs

592 Competition

**Dioramas**~~750~~ 596 All entries

## **VI. Space and Science Fiction Vehicles** (10 categories, plus 1 estimated additional split)

### **Real Spacecraft, Missiles, and Vehicles** (kits and scratch-built)

- 600 Real Spacecraft, Missiles, and Vehicles
- 601 Hypothetical Design

### **Science Fiction and Fantasy Subjects** (see *Rule IV-6A*)

- 605 Star Trek, from kits
- 606 Star Wars, from kits
- 607 Gundams, from kits
- 608 Mecha (robots, etc.), from kits
- 609 Other Vehicles or Vessels
- 610 Conversions and Scratch-built

### **Basic Kit Build**

- ~~698~~ **628** All entries

### **Dioramas**

- ~~760~~ **630** All entries
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## **VII. Miscellaneous** (12 categories - no additional splits anticipated) (*Renumbered from Class VIII. and 800 series*)

### **Dinosaurs**

- ~~800~~ **700** All entries

### **Humor in Modeling**

- ~~840~~ **710** All entries

### **Hypothetical** (other than science-fiction)

- ~~820~~ **720** Kit-Based (spurious markings on standard kit)
- ~~824~~ **721** Kit-Bashed / Scratch-built

### **Triathlon** (models from three different classes – see *Rule IV-7C*)

- ~~830~~ **730** All entries

### **Collections** (5 or more closely related items – see *Rule IV-7D*)

- ~~840~~ **740** All entries

### **IPMS Chapter / Group Entry** (see *Rule IV-7E*)

- ~~850~~ **750** All entries

### **Miscellaneous** (any subject not otherwise covered, except dioramas)

- ~~860~~ **760** All entries

### **Basic Kit Build**

- ~~890~~ **770** Hypothetical (other than science-fiction)
- ~~894~~ **771** Triathlon (models from three different classes)
- ~~892~~ **772** Miscellaneous (any subject not otherwise covered, except dioramas)

### **Dioramas**

- 780 All entries
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## Additional IPMS/USA Contest Awards

- Best of Class Awards** will be given in each of the eight Classes and are listed below. The awards are selected from the first-place winners in the categories within each Class.

<i>Tom Kolk</i> Best Junior Model Award	Best Ship Award
<i>Ken Robert</i> Best Aircraft Award	Best Automotive Award
<i>Art Gerber</i> Best Military Vehicle Award	Best Space or Science Fiction Vehicle Award
Best Figure Award	Best Miscellaneous Award
- The **Best Diorama Award** will be selected from among all the first-place winners in the diorama categories.
- The **Best Use of an IPMS/USA Convention Special Decal** will be selected by IPMS/USA Past Presidents from among any of the entries in the contest which use a Convention Special Decal. See **Rule III-6: entrant must sign up specifically for this special award.**
- The **Jim Sage Most Popular Model Award** will be given as selected by majority vote (by ballot) of the attendees of the convention (registrants and general public attendees).
- The **George Lee Judges Grand Award** will be given as selected from the Best of Class award recipients, as selected by the National Contest Committee (Class Head Judges and Chief Judge).
- Theme Awards** will be selected from among any of the entries in the contest which meet the parameters of the designated theme, and as noted by the entrant on their model entry form. See **Rule III-6: entrant must sign up specifically for these special awards.** Up to 5 Theme Awards may be requested by the host chapter, are approved by IPMS/USA, and are posted on the convention website along with the Rules and Categories.
- Manufacturer or Special Interest Group (SIG) Awards** can be sponsored/selected by various manufacturers, organizations, and special interest groups. These awards must conform to **Rule III-5. Also, see Rule III-6: entrant must sign up specifically for these special awards.** Any such awards expected to be announced by IPMS at the Convention or in its *Journal* magazine must be accompanied by sponsorship of at least one regular category awards package. The screening/selection for these awards is not accomplished by IPMS/USA judging teams; they are selected by the sponsors/sponsors' selected teams. They will be chosen while the contest room is open to public viewing, and the awards placed/presented prior to the awards banquet at the convenience of the sponsor.
- Honorariums.** The honorariums or named best-of awards in paragraphs 1, 3, and 4 have been approved by the NCC for the three year-period of 2022 through 2024, per **Rule III-7.**