



International Plastic Modelers' Society 2021 National Contest Categories

Changes from the 2019 & 2020 Contest are shown 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. Pre-named, pre-planned splits are listed below. All other splits will be defined at the contest. The estimated number of splits per Class are listed below.

The total award packages (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards) will not exceed the sum of the categories, the estimated split counts listed herein, plus 5 additional award packages. For 2021, a maximum of 199 award packages may be presented. *(This comprises 194 listed categories & pre-planned splits, plus 5 extra 'just-in-case' award packages, to be used at the Chief Judge's discretion.)*

This count is exclusive of any additional overall or 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 Out-of-the-Box 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 (53 categories and pre-planned splits, plus 3 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 Out-of-the-Box categories (per Rules II-1 & III-2).

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

- 101 1/144 and 1/72
- 103-A 1/48 and 1/32
- 103-B 1/48 and 1/32, pre-planned Split

Small Aircraft – Single Engine, Prop

- 105-A 1/72 **US/Allied Inline** (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 105-B 1/72 **US/Allied Radial** (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 105-C 1/72 **Axis Inline** (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 105-D 1/72 **Axis Radial** (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 106 1/72 (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box
- 107-A 1/48 **US/Allied Inline** (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 107-B 1/48 **US/Allied Radial** (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 107-C 1/48 **Axis Inline** (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 107-D 1/48 **Axis Radial** (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), **pre-planned split**
- 107-E 1/48 (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), pre-planned split
- 108 1/48 (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box

Medium Prop Aircraft

- 111 1/72 (not exceeding 11" length or wingspan)
- 113-A 1/48 (not exceeding 17" length or wingspan)
- 113-B 1/48 (not exceeding 17" length or wingspan), pre-planned split

Large Prop Aircraft

- 115 1/72 (exceeding 11" length or wingspan)
- 117 1/48 (exceeding 17" length or wingspan)

Medium & Large Prop Aircraft

- 118 1/72 (exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box
- 120 1/48 (exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box

Small Jet

- 121-A 1/72 (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan)
- 121-B 1/72 (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), pre-planned split
- 122 1/72 (not exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box
- 125-A 1/48 (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan)
- 125-B 1/48 (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), pre-planned split
- 126 1/48 (not exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box

Large Jet

- 129-A 1/72 (exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan)
- 129-B 1/72 (exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), pre-planned split
- 130 1/72 (exceeding 8.5" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box
- 131-A 1/48 (exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan)
- 131-B 1/48 (exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), pre-planned split
- 132 1/48 (exceeding 13.9" length or wingspan), Out-of-the-Box

1/32 Aircraft

- 135 Propeller-Driven
- 137 Jet-Powered
- 138 Out-of-the-Box

1/144 Aircraft

- 141 Small (not exceeding 4.25" in length or wingspan)
- 143 Large (exceeding 4.25" in length or wingspan)
- 144 Out-of-the-Box

Rotary Wing (civil or military)

- 151 1/144 and 1/72
- 153 1/48 and 1/32
- 154 Out-of-the-Box

Civil, Sport, Racing, and Air Taxis

- 157 1/144 and 1/72
- 161 1/48 and 1/32
- 162 Out-of-the-Box

Airliners, Airliner Types, and Airships

- 163 1/144
- 165 1/72, 1/48, and 1/32
- 166 Out-of-the-Box

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (civil or military)

- 167 All entries

Elevated / In-Flight (non-diorama, gear-up, in-flight displays --"Aircraft on a Pole") (see revised Rule II-10)

- 175 All Scales

Vacuum-formed (civil or military)

- 181 All entries

Conversions (civil or military)

- 183 All entries

Scratch-Built (civil or military)

- 185 All entries

II. Military Vehicles (34 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
- 210-A Armored Cars, pre-planned split
- 210-B Armored Halftracks, pre-planned split
- 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 II-16 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

Out-of-the-Box

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

III. Figures (14 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, pre-planned split
- 305-B 54mm to 70mm, Post-1900, pre-planned split

- 306-A 71mm and larger, Pre-1900, pre-planned split
- 306-B 71mm and larger, Post-1900, pre-planned split

Mounted or With Mount

- 312 54mm and larger, All entries

Conversions and Scratch-Built

317 All entries

Fantasy & Science Fiction

322 53mm and smaller, Fantasy & Science Fiction, new split

323 54mm to 120mm, Fantasy, new split

324 54mm to 120mm, Science Fiction, new split

325 121mm and larger, Fantasy & Science-Fiction, new split

Busts

327-A Pre-1900, pre-planned split

327-B Post-1900, pre-planned split

327-C Others, pre-planned split

IV. Ships (16 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 1/350, pre-1946

414 1/350, 1946 to present

415 1/72

Boats, Speedboats, Motor Torpedo Boats, Motor Patrol Boats

418 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

Out-of-the-Box

425 Multi-media / high-tech kits (per Rule III.2.G)

426 Single-media / legacy kits (per Rule III.2.H)

V. Automotive (22 categories, plus 3 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 Stock

- 500 1/32
- 501 1/24, 1959 and older body
- 502 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 1/24, Drag Racing, Modified Street and Purpose Built
- 519 1/24, Open Wheel
- 520 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-A All entries
- 545-B All entries, pre-planned split

Curbside

- 550 All entries

Automotive Technology and Culture

- 580 All entries

Out-of-the-Box (including motorcycles)

- 590 Factory Stock
 - 591 Hot Rods, Street Rods, Street Machines, and Customs
 - 592 Competition
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VI. Space and Science Fiction Vehicles (8 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 II-18*)

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

Out-of-the-Box

- 698 All entries
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VII. Dioramas (13 categories - no additional splits anticipated)

Aircraft

- 710 Small Composition (single aircraft, no more than 5 figures), 1/144 and 1/72
- 712 Small Composition (single aircraft, no more than 5 figures), 1/48 and 1/32
- 714 Large Composition (2 or more aircraft, and/or more than 5 figures)

Armor

- 720 Small Composition (single vehicle, no more than 5 figures), 1/48 and larger
- 722 Large Composition (2 or more vehicles, and/or more than 5 figures), 1/48 and larger
- 724 Dioramas and Vignettes, 1/49 and smaller

Figures

- 730 Vignettes (no more than 5 figures)
- 732 Dioramas (more than 5 figures)

Ships

- 740 Vignettes (single vessel/craft)
- 742 Dioramas (multiple vessels/craft)

Automotive

- 750 All entries

Science-Fiction

- 760 All entries

Miscellaneous Dioramas

- 780 All entries
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VIII. Miscellaneous (11 categories - no additional splits anticipated)

Dinosaurs

800 All entries

Humor in Modeling

810 All entries

Hypothetical (other than science-fiction)

820 Kit-Based (spurious markings on standard kit)

821 Kit-Bashed / Scratch-built

Triathlon (models from three different classes – see Rule III-5)

830 All entries

Collections (5 or more closely related items – see Rule III-6)

840 All entries

IPMS Chapter / Group Entry (see Rule III-7)

850 All entries

Miscellaneous (any subject not otherwise covered, except dioramas)

860 All entries

Out-of-the-Box

890 Hypothetical (other than science-fiction)

891 Triathlon (models from three different classes)

892 Miscellaneous (any subject not otherwise covered, except dioramas)

Additional IPMS/USA Contest Awards

1. The ***Best Use of an IPMS/USA Convention Special Decal*** will be selected by IPMS/USA Past Presidents from among any of entries in the contest which use a Convention Special Decal, and as noted by the entrant on the model entry form.
2. ***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 the model entry form. 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.
3. ***Best of Class Awards*** will be given in each of the nine classes listed above, and are selected from the first-place winners in the categories within each class.
4. The ***Popular Best-in-Show*** award will be given as selected by majority vote (by ballot) of the attendees of the convention (registrants and general public attendees).
5. 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).