



# Huntsville Plastic Modelers Society 49th Annual Model Show



## COUNTDOWN TO NATS

22 August 2026 • Huntsville, AL

## Rules

### I. ELIGIBILITY

1. The contest is open to all modelers, without regard to IPMS or HPMS membership.
2. Contestants may enter models for a fellow modeler who is not attending the contest, as long as the **builder's name** is on the entry. Entry fees for proxy models will be as if the models were the signing entrant's own. All entries must be the sole work of the individual whose name is on the entry blank.
3. The HPMS may exclude from public display any entries which they consider offensive to generally acknowledged standards of taste or acceptability.
4. JUNIORS. Junior division categories are limited to entrants 16 years and younger.
5. HPMS has adopted the IPMS/USA standard where no contestant may win more than one award per category.

### II. CONTEST

- 1. PLASTIC DEFINITION.** For the contest Plastic includes but is not necessarily limited to polystyrene, ABS plastic, celluloids, polyethylene, vinyls, epoxy and polyester resin, fiberglass, acetates, acrylics, nylon, other synthetic fibers and monofilament, and other plastic modeling compounds. Neoprene rubber is also defined as plastic for this contest.
- 2. COMPOSITION.** The use of plastic as set forth, above is encouraged; however, the use of other modeling materials is allowed as the builder sees fit. Judging standards of finish, attention to detail, and authenticity will be the same regardless of the materials used.
- 3. MISSILES/ROCKETS.** All vehicle-carried or mobile missiles or rockets will be placed in the Armor category. All air-launched or missiles in flight attitude or on landing/handling gear will be entered in the proper Aircraft category. Missiles used in space research which originated as military vehicles (e.g. Atlas/Centaur or Mercury/Redstone) will be placed in the Real Spacecraft category.
- 4. BASES/DIORAMAS.** Bases will be allowed in all categories and will not be considered in the judging except in the Diorama classes. A base becomes a diorama if there is any interaction between it and the model. Dioramas are judged not only on the technical merit of their construction but also on the strength of the theme or story they present, so that if two dioramas were technically equal the one having the stronger theme or story would win. Figure entries will not be classified as dioramas by the inclusion of accessories supplied in the figure kit.
- 5. Out of the Box (OOB)**
  - A. Kits.** Any commercially available kit may be used as long as the kit is constructed as a predominantly single-medium product. It can consist of an all-polystyrene kit. Kits with various other materials included (e.g., cast-resin or 3D-resin detailing accessories, etched-metal detailing frets, turned-metal detailing parts, and other similar detailing parts) will not be permitted. Examples of other material parts that will be allowed are kit-supplied vacuum-formed windscreens, canopies, windows for Aircraft and Automotive models; kit-supplied rubber/vinyl tires or treads and poly-caps to retain wheels and/or parts attached to pylons; metal gearboxes and/or metal-rod axles for Armor and Automotive models.
  - B.** As a general guideline, kit parts that are necessary to complete and support the overall structure of the completed model are allowed.
  - C. Construction.** The modeler may fill seams and gaps; sand off rivets; drill out gun ports, exhaust pipes, or other appropriate openings; thin to-scale such parts as trailing edges, flaps, and doors; re-scribe panel lines lost in construction, and add rigging and antennas, if shown on the kit's instructions. No major reconstruction or modifications will be allowed for OOB entries.

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**D. Decals.** Decals other than those included with the kit may be used. They may be used to replace old/damaged/missing kit decals. They may also be used to provide alternative insignia and markings to those originally provided with a kit. However, their use for OOB entries is restricted to 2-dimensional water-slide or dry-transfer products. 3-dimensional products such as 3D-printed or resin-dot printed instrument panels, access panels, fasteners, bolts, rivets, stitching, etc., are commercially offered as after-market improved-detailing products, and so fall outside of the intended/accepted usage as decals for BKB entries.

**E. Finish.** All painting/finishing techniques are allowed. Insignia, markings, and instrument panels may be hand-painted instead of using decals. Weathering is permitted.

**F. Exclusions.** It is **not** permitted to vacuum-form, manufacture, or replace any part, or substitute parts from another kit; cut or separate canopies, surfaces, hatches, doors, etc. (no major surgery+); combine a standard kit with a conversion kit; add anything other than specified on the instruction sheet.

**G. Instruction Sheets.** Modelers must attach at least the first page of the kit instruction sheet to the entry form and have the rest of the instruction sheet accessible to the judges for review during judging (preferably, directly under the table from the model). Models entered without an attached kit instruction sheet cannot be considered for a BKB award, since judges then cannot verify if the builder used only kit-supplied parts.

## 6. JUDGING.

**A.** Judging is open to all attendees of the contest, whether they are entrants or not.

**B.** IPMS or IPMS Chapter membership is not a requirement for judging.

**C.** Judges are not allowed to cast votes in sub-categories they are entered in.

**D. ALL DECISIONS BY THE JUDGES ARE FINAL.**

