

JAXCON GSB JUDGING

AN INVITATION AND AN EXPLANATION

Before you delve into the information provided below, we'd like to issue you an invitation to be a judge at JAXCON! This may be a new system, but if you read below, we believe you'll see that it's rooted in the same basics of judging you've always used. And, if you're a new judge, we know you'll be able to learn to judge with very few problems. In fact, a show like JAXCON is one of the best places to get your feet wet judging!

As a judge, you will STILL use the "basics" to judge by. If you're an experienced judge, then you already know these. If you're a new judge, then you need to familiarize yourself with the Basics as listed below. These are not new, and should not be difficult to apply in our GSB system of judging. What will be different is the idea of looking for the OVERALL craftsmanship of a build, as opposed to only looking for problems. We will encourage you to simply accept that the craftsmanship displayed on the top is equal to the bottom. However, if you NEED to see the bottom of an entry, we'll have someone who can pick it up and show it to you.

We believe our new system offers some flexibility not available before. If you've shied away from judging due to going to lunch with friends, or not wanting to be tied up all afternoon; those can be worked around now! Judges will judge independently! You'll be able to take breaks, go to lunch, shop, and as long as you get the job done, judge at your leisure! Also, if being in a group, or having to discuss/argue with other judges was a hang up; that's changed! Your opinion is your opinion on each model. You grade at your own speed, by yourself, with no need to get bogged down with others. So, while as a judge you DO have responsibilities, you'll also have some freedoms not present in judging before now!

We believe that too many "good" models go unrewarded in the 1-2-3 system and that's why we're going to the GSB system. However, keep in mind that a medal should be EARNED. First Coast IPMS does NOT believe that every entry will deserve a medal. We are not making a change in order to give away "participation trophies". We simply believe that IF model builders are going to compete, they should stop competing against *each other*, and start striving to meet a *standard*. We want to reward deserving builds and yet also to take some of the nasty dog-eat-dog attitudes out of our contests. We want it to be more of a show and less of an actual competition!

We hope that if you've judged at Jaxcon in the past, you'll do so again. And, if you haven't tried judging, or thought it was "inconvenient" in the past; that you'll give it a try here. Since we'll be awarding entries based on averaging the judge's opinions, the more judges that give their opinion, the better and more accurate the results will be!