



MMOC CONCOURS Competition 2024

General Information and Judging Guidelines

The Concours competition has been an integral part of the MMOC Rally Scene for many years and the MMOC wishes to encourage members with vehicles in outstanding condition (original or rebuilt or modified) to formally display them at designated Concours rallies throughout the rally season.

With the youngest of Minors now over 50 years old it is important to have and display this category of vehicles as physical references for anyone contemplating the restoration or modification of their vehicle.

You will find the owners of the Concours vehicles are extremely knowledgeable about their particular Minor model and that they are more than willing to help with questions from the public when their vehicles are being displayed.

Within the Morris Minors Owners Club, the organisation of Concours participation has developed considerably since its inception with the now clearly established categories of Concours, Masters and Grand Masters. All Concours categories are marked out of a maximum 300 points.

1) Concours Class (Min 160 – Max 240 points)

Vehicles in this category will typically be in either excellent original condition, rebuilt to original specification or 'modified'. Modified vehicles may include post-production convertibles or vehicles which have moved away from original specification with the fitting of safety devices such as seat belts, disc brakes, brake servos for example.

Converted saloons are welcome if they meet the above condition requirements and the conversion has been completed as per factory specification for a Convertible model, although on later models, the chassis plate would indicate its saloon origins (i.e. MA2S – 1000 Saloon).

Vehicles achieving the entry level of 160 points (out of 300) will be invited to continue to compete in Concours events. Those failing to achieve entry level requirements, will be advised on areas for improvement and encouraged to resubmit their vehicle at a future event.

2) Masters Class (Min 241 – Max 275 points)

Entry into this category will be either by continued improvement in the condition of the vehicle (from Concours Class) or the achievement of attaining Masters status on initial Concours entry or retaining Masters Class status from the previous year's rallies.

Vehicles in this category will typically be in excellent condition but with greater attention to 'detailing' and presentation in all areas, most importantly the condition and presentation of the underside of the vehicle.

3) Grand Masters Class (Min 276 – Max 300 points)

Grand Masters is the ultimate achievement within the MMOC Concours. It is generally accepted that vehicles achieving this accolade are very much better than when they left the factory.

Owners opting for this category are striving for perfection in every aspect of the vehicles condition and operation.

Entry to Grand Masters is normally restricted to those vehicles that have achieved Master Class status already. Vehicles in this class typically have a realistic chance of securing 276+ marks on a regular basis.

Notification to the Chief Judge is required for anyone wanting to enter this sub- competition where the competitor is competing against the marking system.

4) Concours - Modified / Custom Class (min 160 point threshold)

From 2011 entries have been accepted from owners of Morris Minor based 'Modified and Customised' vehicles. Given the diverse nature of such vehicles, acceptance into this specialised class will be at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

This Class is independent from the other Concours classes and does not allow for the same progression due to the departure from the vehicle's original specification. The points awarded on the day will reflect this departure, as well as the standard of workmanship and presentation.

This Class is still marked out of the full 300 maximum. The minimum condition entry level mark for vehicle judging in 2024 will be the Concours category threshold mark of 160.

5) Previously Entered Concours Vehicles (min 160 point threshold)

This category is to encourage previous entrants in the Concours competition to show their vehicles in an unjudged format. Vehicles can be trailered to these events if desired and will be positioned in such a way as to make clear they are not being judged on the day and therefore not part of the competition.

General Information – Entry to Concours

Any Morris Minor (1948 – 1972 plus post-production) can be entered into the designated MMOC Concours rallies for 2024 (as outlined in 'Minor Matters') if they abide by the rules laid out in the categories described above.

They must be pre-entered into the Concours event in question and cannot enter on the day. Potential entrants are to apply directly to the relevant Regional / National Rally organisers (stating that they are Concours entrants). They in turn will forward notification to the Chief Judge.

General Information – Judging

A great deal of time and effort is required in preparing and showing a vehicle to these exacting standards and it is important that there is a high and consistent standard of judging. It is essential that it is seen to be fair and professional in all aspects of its operation.

To this end a Chief Judge is appointed with the express responsibility of overseeing the organisation and conduct of the judging. It is his/her responsibility to implement the agreed rules in a fair and unbiased way, within a rigorous system, where clear guidelines are presented and agreed to by all competitors.

An intrinsic part of this is the acceptance, that within the rules set out, the ruling of Chief Judge is final in the event of any dispute arising.

The highest standing a vehicle achieves is the one it will retain for the remainder of that rally season, regardless of subsequent marks awarded.

The only exception to that ruling would be if the vehicle showed a marked sudden deterioration. In this case the Chief Judge would discuss with the entrant the measures needed to return the vehicle to its former condition and note that if the measures needed are not carried out that there may be a need for a revision of its status. In the rare event of this happening the entrant would be advised in writing by the Chief Judge of the revision of status.

2024 Judging Team

Chief Judge	Mark Havard
Assistant	Vacant position
Time Keeper	Vacant position

General Information - Judging Arrangements

Arrangements for judging are subject to strict regulation which ensures fairness amongst entrants and assists the judges in organisation an appropriate schedule in order to complete the judging in the limited time available. For clarity these have been summarised as follows:

Entrant Arrival Time

It is expected that the latest time a vehicle will arrive is 30 minutes before judging commences. This is to allow for the necessary paperwork and other requirements to be satisfactorily completed prior to judging.

Late Arrival

Entrants arriving late may be excluded from the competition. The Chief Judge's decision is final on this matter.

Judging Start Times

Generally judging will not commence earlier than 11.00am. Although this may differ dependent on the number of entries, the weather conditions and the number of judges available on the day. If there are any changes to the commencement time the Chief judge will inform all entrants as soon as possible on the day.

During the Judging Process

- Once the judging commences no further preparation or amendments to an entered vehicle can be made by any other of the entrants to ensure fairness.
- Entrants are to be with their vehicle at the time of judging. Engine running and the operation of lighting and indicator controls may be required.
- A precise time period will be confirmed for judging each vehicle on the day and this will be monitored by an official time-keeper again to ensure fairness. (usually 5mins per mark section)
- The number of judges at each event will be confirmed by the Chief Judge on the day and is dependent of the number of entries.
- Entrants are required to keep the area around their vehicle as tidy as possible so as to enhance the presentation of their vehicle and to project a positive image of Concours competition to other MMOC members and the general public.
- Entrants must be prepared to produce vehicle documentation if requested to do so by the judges.
- Competitors are required to complete the vehicle information section of the judging sheet prior to their vehicle being judged. A copy of the vehicle information sheet will be retained by the Chief Judge.

Annual Review

- Judging sheets and guidelines are reviewed annually. All updates will be notified in the Club magazine, Minor Matters, and online through the members area on the website. Printed copies of the guidelines are available on request from the Derby Office.

Judging Marking Sheets

MMOC Concours mark sheets have been developed over time and are reviewed annually. The sheet/sheets used during a specific rally season are available upon request from the Chief Judge.

The mark sheets in 2024 will return four sections format;

- Exterior/Wheels and Tyres
- Underside
- Interior/Boot and Toolkit
- Engine Bay

Each category will be normally be allotted a min of 5mins and maximum 7mins judging time depending on numbers of entrants on the day.

General Information - Penalties and Restrictions

Over the years it has been necessary to adopt a number of penalties and restrictions both on the Rally Field and away from it. These are outlined below.

1. Transportation of vehicles by trailer

The transportation of a vehicle to, and/or from any MMOC event at which it is to be judged in the MMOC Concours competition is strictly prohibited.

If it is known prior to judging that a vehicle has been trailered to the event, the Chief Judge will advise the entrant that the vehicle is not eligible for judging on the day.

If after the results have been announced, it is discovered that a vehicle was transported by trailer on any part of its journey to or from the event both the owner and the vehicle will be banned from MMOC competition for one year from the date of the event.

It should be noted that the ban on the vehicle will continue, even if the vehicle changes ownership during that year.

2. Display Concours category – New for the 2024 season

For the 2024 Concours season a new category is being introduced with the aim of encouraging recently restored vehicles, as well as former Concours vehicles, to be displayed in order for members to appreciate the efforts made by their owners to return them to showroom condition.

The vehicles exhibited in this category will not be subject to judging and as such they will be exempt from the trailering rule. Of course, the vehicles can be driven to and from events as well.

It is hoped that vehicles which have been 'retired' from Concours competition will be seen again and that some recently restored vehicles can be presented perhaps with a view to being entered in future Concours events.

Anyone interested in this aspect of Concours is invited to discuss their attendance at specific Concours events with the Chief Judge, Mark Havard.

Tel:

Email:

3. Lifting of vehicles on site

No vehicles should be raised from the ground in the Concours display area or any other designated area, including rally campsites. Failure to comply with this ruling will result in disqualification from the event.

4. Restriction on Converted Saloons

Converted saloons are accepted into all categories of Concours except Grand Masters. Anyone contemplating entering a converted saloon is advised to discuss the matter with the Chief Judge prior to entering it in the Concours competition.

It is important to note that any vehicle entered as an original convertible and subsequently found to be a converted saloon, will be subject to a one-year ban from MMOC Concours competitions from the date of the event. This restriction applies to the owner as well as the vehicle.

Results Procedure

Under normal circumstances the results will be announced on the day of the event and prizes will be awarded. Entrants are reminded of the demands placed on the judges while at events and the need for them to travel home within a reasonable time frame after the event and therefore discussion over marks is welcome with a judge but may be more appropriate at a later date over the phone.

It is important for the vehicle owner to be aware that the marks awarded to the vehicle may vary from one event to the next. This is not detrimental to the vehicle but simply reflects the criteria applied on that particular day. Factors such as the weather and ground conditions, new or different judges, and/or variations with the judging sections may all be contributory factors. The main thing to note is the overall placing of the vehicle rather than the marks achieved at any one event.

Second Opinion Judging

In the event of a vehicle achieving marks that are close to the threshold between categories, it may be appropriate for a second opinion to be sought from another judge within the team. Adjustments made during Second Opinion Judging must not exceed 3% of the total marks allocated originally.

Tie Break Procedures

Under exceptional cases where vehicles obtain identical marks and it is necessary to allocate specific placings, e.g. 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc. it may be necessary to have a tie break.

For the vehicles involved in the tie break a further 10 points (outside the 300 for this situation) are available to the Judges to award at their discretion. During a tie break judges may look at Oil Level, Oil Cleanliness and the Originality of the vehicle.

Minimum Number of Concours Entrants Requirement

During 2024 a minimum number of entrants will be required in order for Concours Judging to take place at the nominated events. This has proved necessary due to the large distances judges are required to travel with the attendant costs incurred. Close liaison between the Chief Judge, Event organisers and Concours competitors will be maintained in order to monitor closely the cost effectiveness of staging judging.

In principle any event where there are less than 3 Concours entrants in total there will be a review by the Chief Judge and if cancellation is deemed necessary the Chief Judge will advise all parties, including the individual entrants, the principal rally organisers, the Club Secretary and Branch Liaison Officer accordingly in advance of the event taking place.

Complaints Procedure

In the event of a complaint regarding any aspect of the Concours arrangements and judging, the Chief Judge should be consulted in the first place. If, following discussion, the complaint remains unresolved it should be referred in writing to the Club Secretary. Under normal circumstances, (holiday permitting), complaints will be acknowledged within 7 days and a resolution sought within 14 days.

MMOC Rally Venues 2024 (where Concours competition will take place)

The MMOC Rally venues along with any other selected events not organised by the MMOC where Concours judging will occur will be notified in advance in the Club Magazine Minor Matters. These are normally highlighted in the Events Diary with a red 'c' next to the event.

Summary

This Concours review document has been compiled and updated by Ray Newell (Club Secretary) and amended by Mark Havard (Chief Judge 2024).