

## **JCNA Concours Proposal to Address Issues Raised by the Membership and Clubs**

### **Background:**

Our first set of rules was codified in 1973 and has since been expanded and approved by JCNA at the AGMs. The rules as they are today are the result of hard and thoughtful work by JCNA individuals and committees. However, since the founding of JCNA and the development of North American Awards, there have been complaints of inequity in judges' knowledge and the application of rules. And there have been charges that some clubs see their event as more social, although all wish to be sanctioned. As the results of each club's Concours affect the end-of-year standings, these complaints have had merit.

Taking the complaints seriously, the Concours Committee and the Rules Committee were charged with exploring options to address these issues, as well as to seek comments from clubs and individuals. I can tell you that these Committees worked extremely hard, and a lot of ideas and observations came from their work. While the BoD was kept informed on their work, the BoD remained one step back so the effort would not be influenced. Options were presented at the AGM in Philadelphia, but were withdrawn at the request of the Committees so they had free range. However, after more than two years, there is still no single proposal that answers the issues, is affordable, or does not suspend the North American Award system. While there is room for improvement, the system is not totally broken. I have offered before that the mention of a car as a JCNA winner is so sought after by sellers, private and professional, that they will state such even if not always fact.

Last year at the AGM a request was made for either the BoD or me to "force" the Committees to offer a program. While that was impossible, and probably reflected frustration, it was promised that a proposal would be made at the next AGM. I had discussions with the Chairs of the Committees and we discussed options. The BoD read all proposals and discussed them at length. And on January 9, 2017, a special BoD meeting was held to discuss the options. The proposal that follows is supported by both Committee Chairs as well as the BoD in total.

Before we get to this proposal, let's look at why the previous proposals were rejected and will not be offered. This is done in part to prevent unproductive discussion at the AGM. Hopefully, any discussions of substance can be held with your Regional Directors prior to the AGM.

**Two-Tier System:** This system would not grow trained judges, as the results of the clubs' Concours would not determine NA awards. While the clubs could hold events, the results would hold only local weight. Further, the Two-Tier System, which would require scheduling annual side-by-side Concours events for the purpose of determining the final NA winners, would require an undetermined amount of funding, as well as a rewrite of the rule book. It would also present a logistical challenge, as the event could be thousands of miles away for many members. Just the challenges of raising dues to fund such an event make this seem impossible. Further, the event would not include all JCNA members or classes. If for no other reason, the inequity of this system was reason for rejection.

**Growler Award:** This proposal actually only adds expense to the North American awards and does not address any of the real issues. It was rejected by the Committees as well as the BoD.

So here is the proposed **Concours Adjustment**, which is no panacea, but is a compromise solution that seems to address the issues within the structure we currently have.

**Part 1.** All clubs will still be encouraged and have the authority to hold sanctioned and recognized events, as they currently do – no change. Clubs will still be required to hold their event to JCNA standards and to report their results to JCNA in a timely manner. Again, this is no change from current practice. For the clubs, this eliminates the specter of options that minimize a local club event and its ability to draw attendees.

**Part 2.** Although seldom held lately, Regional level events may be sanctioned and approved. These will count the same as club shows toward NA awards, and if utilized, will allow more events in a particular Region. A warning here is that these Regional events will need to be coordinated through the respective Regional Directors as well as the event sanction official to ensure that they are true Regional events and not just a second club event of the year.

**Part 3.** Participation in the annual JCNA International Jaguar Festival (IJF) will count toward the NA awards with a weight factor of 2. In other words, the score received at the JCNA Festival will be entered twice into the computations. The IJF will not count as a Regional event, but rather as a non-location event. This is to preclude any bias to the clubs in or out of their geographical locations. It also excludes a one-event Regional champion. The two IJF scores will be tallied as Club/Regional scores, and the highest three scores will be used for the final NA standings.

**Part 4.** Class ties. Any class that ends the year in a tie will be decided by an aggregate score of the year's events for those participants' cars. This will be only for North American EOY awards and will not of course affect Regional awards (two only required).

**Part 5.** Should the aggregate system result in a further tie, attendance at the IJF will be a discriminator. Should that result in yet another tie, then the tie stands.

The anticipated results of the above Concours Adjustments are to have more sets of eyes on cars that are participating in high-level competition. The more judges' eyes that see the entry, the more secure we can be in the equity of the outcome. They also encourage these wonderful cars to be present at more than the all-too-frequent three early shows before returning to storage for a year.