

GRAND STRAND SCALE MODELERS

Presents

Beachcon 2026

Show Theme

The Big Cats



Saturday, March 14, 2026 9am - 4pm

**General Robert H. Reed Recreation Center
800 Gabreski Lane, Myrtle Beach, S.C.**

General Admission
\$5.00 Single Adult
(18 and older)
\$8.00 Family

Contestants
\$10.00
Unlimited number
of models

Juniors
(17 & under)
and
Active Duty Military
(with ID)
FREE



New Show Layout
SUPER RAFFLE!

More Traders
More Contest Categories
On Site Food
Concession

Award
Sponsorships
Category Medallions \$30
Best of Class Trophy \$40
Best of Show Trophy \$50

Vendor Tables
6' Table - \$30.00
8' Table - \$40.00



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www.grandstrandscalemodelers.org

Cat #	Category	Sub Category
1	Junior, Age (12 & Under)	All Types & Scales
101	Aircraft	Biplanes, 1/72
102	Aircraft	Biplanes, 1/48 - 1/32
103	Aircraft	Military, All Types 1/144
104	Aircraft	Prop & Glider, 1/72
105	Aircraft	Prop & Glider, 1/48
106	Aircraft	Jet, 1/72
107	Aircraft	Jet, 1/48
108	Aircraft	Prop (Excluding Biplanes), 1/32
109	Aircraft	Jet, 1/32
110	Aircraft	Rotary Wing, All Scales
111	Aircraft	Commercial, Civil, Sport & Racing
112	Aircraft - Out of Box	All Types & Scales
201	Military Vehicles	All Types, 1/72-1/76 (1945 & Earlier)
202	Military Vehicles	All Types, 1/72-1/76 (1946 & Later)
203	Military Vehicles	1/48 - All Types (1945 & Earlier)
204	Military Vehicles	1/48 - All Types (1946 & Later)
205	Military Vehicles	AFV 1/35 - All Types (1945 & Earlier)
206	Military Vehicles	AFV 1/35 - All Types (1946 & Later)
207	Military Vehicles	Wheeled/Soft Skin/Artillery 1/35 (1945 & Earlier)
208	Military Vehicles	Wheeled/Soft Skin/Artillery 1/35 (1946 & Later)
209	Military Vehicles - Out of Box	All Types & Scales
301	Figures	Factual - 89mm & Smaller
302	Figures	Factual - 90mm & Larger
303	Figures	Fantasy - All Scales
304	Figures	Busts
401	Gundams	1/144 & Smaller
402	Gundams	1/100 & Larger
403	Mecha	1/144 & Smaller
404	Mecha	1/100 & larger
405	Gundams/Mecha	Unpainted - All Scales
501	Ships	Oar & Sail - All Scales
502	Ships	Powered - All Scales
503	Ships	Submarines - All Scales
504	Ships - Out of Box	All Types & Scales

Cat #	Category	Sub Category
601	Civilian Vehicles	Cars & Trucks, 1/43 & Smaller
602	Civilian Vehicles	Cars 1/24-1/25 (Street)
603	Civilian Vehicles	Trucks, 1/24-1/25 (Street)
604	Civilian Vehicles	Cars - 1/24-1/25 (Racing)
605	Civilian Vehicles	Cars - 1/24-1/25 (Custom)
606	Civilian Vehicles	Cars & Trucks - 1/23 & Larger
607	Civilian Vehicles	Trucks, Commercial, 1/24-1/26
608	Civilian Vehicles	Motorcycles, All Scales
609	Civilian Vehicles - Out of Box	All Types & Scales
701	Space & Sci-Fi	Fictional, All Scales
702	Space & Sci-Fi	Factual, All Scales
703	Space/Sci-Fi - Out of Box	All Types & Scales
801	Diorama & Vignette	Aircraft
802	Diorama & Vignette	Military Vehicle
803	Diorama & Vignette	Other
901	Miscellaneous & Collections	All Types & Scales (Excluding Collections)
902	Miscellaneous & Collections	Collections
903	Miscellaneous & Collections	Triathlon
S01	Special Award	Theme Awar - The Big Cats
S02	Special Award	Founders Award
B000	Best of Class	Best Junior
B001	Best of Class	Best Aircraft
B002	Best of Class	Best Military Vehicle
B003	Best of Class	Best Figure
B004	Best of Class	Best Gundam/Mecha
B005	Best of Class	Best Ship
B006	Best of Class	Best Civilian Vehicle
B007	Best of Class	Best Space & Sci-Fi
B008	Best of Class	Best Diorama
B009	Best of Class	Best Miscellaneous Art & Collections
2000	Best of Show	

Grand Strand Scale Modelers Beachcon 2026 Contest Rules

Including extracts from IPMS/USA Rules

1. Awards: Each category will have a First, Second, and Third place award.

2. Eligibility: The entry must be built solely by the entrant.

3. No Sweeps Rule: An entrant may enter multiple models in a category but may only place once in each category entered. Thus, they may either win a First or Second or Third place award.

4. Separate Out of Box categories: Out of Box models may also be entered in the appropriate regular categories if desired but will be judged as NOT Out of Box against their peers in the category.

Models entered in the appropriate Out of Box Categories must be constructed using only the parts that came in the kit. There are a few exceptions such as adding simple seat belts, rigging or ship railings. Check with the Head Judge if necessary. These entries MUST be accompanied by kit instructions. Models entered in OOB categories without kit instructions MAY be disqualified.

5. Models are entered solely at the entrant's risk. The Grand Strand Scale Modelers, IPMS/USA, and General Robert Reed Recreation Center are not liable for loss or damage to any model.

6. Models may be displayed on a base of reasonable size depicting ground cover, open/removed access panels and no more than two (2) figures for scale purposes. If ANY other elements are present on the base the model, must be entered in the appropriate diorama category. Bases will not be judged in any category except Dioramas. (See # 18)

7. Markings will be the sole determinant between and within the civil and military classes. (example: a P-51 racer with an "N" is a civilian aircraft)

8. Contest entries must conform to the IPMS OFFICIAL POLICY of IPMS USA (*full policy follows* in order to be entered. Historically accurate nose art/markings are permitted providing it does not violate the guidelines in the IPMS OFFICIAL POLICY. Beachcon will not exercise the option to use screened presentations.

9. Manufacturer pre-painted models may be entered in the appropriate category for the model. On the contest entry form, builders must indicate the fact that their entry is pre-painted. Such entries may be either metal or plastic, but they MUST have been assembled by the entrant.

10. Triathlon The contestant must enter three (3) models, each of which must be of a different major category group.

Example: triathlon entries are an airplane, an automobile and a ship; or a figure, an armor model and a spacecraft.

The models will be judged as a group, with overall quality determining placement. Credit will be given for diversity of entries. No more than one of the three models comprising this entry may have won as an individual entry in a previous National Contest. Models constituting this entry may not, simultaneously, be competing in other parts of the contest. Models comprising a winning triathlon entry may subsequently be entered individually if they were not, themselves, previous winners.

11. Collections are a group of five (5) or more closely related items. Past winning models may be included as part of a collection, if they comprise no more than 40 percent of the collection. The entire collection must be the work of one person. The closeness of the relationship within the collection is a significant factor in judging. For example, a collection based on variants of a single airframe is a tighter relationship than one of different aircraft operated by a unit. Models comprising a winning Collection may be entered as individual entries at subsequent shows, if they were not themselves previous winners..

12. The Contest Registration Committee will assist in determining an entry's class at the time of registration, but the final determination rests with the Chief Judge. The decision of the Chief Judge is final. Categories may be combined or split at the discretion of the Contest Committee.

13. Junior entrants (age 17 or younger) may compete in either the junior or regular categories, but not both.

14. The Conversions/Scratch-built categories are reserved for those models which are either totally scratch-built or represent a significantly different version of the original kit without the use of commercially available parts as the primary means of conversion. Models converted primarily using commercially available parts will be entered in the standard categories.

15. Vacuform categories are for models constructed from a vacuform kit (*either commercially available or produced by the entrant*).

16. "Curbside" civilian vehicles are to be judged only for presentation and paint finish. They will not be picked up during judging, and need not have completed or painted undersides, interiors, etc. All other models entered in the competition are subject to close examination by the judges, and are expected to be complete in every respect.

17. Commercial Vehicles are defined as those which have some marking of operation by an individual or corporation (*i.e. Acme Towing*) or those that are fitted with equipment appropriate to a commercial function (*i.e. wrecker boom, generator etc.*)

18. Dioramas are judged with consideration of both story line and basic construction, with the emphasis on story line. (*i.e. A very strong story line does not necessarily outweigh very poor construction or vice versa*)

19. Any model that has placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd or won Best of Class or Best of Show at a previous Beachcon or at another IPMS Regional or National contest can be entered for **DISPLAY ONLY**. (*This does not apply to previous awards at other local contests, Out of Box or Merit Awards, or preclude entry in a Triathlon or Collection category.*)

20. Special Theme Categories

Entrants may choose to have their models to also be considered for these awards in addition to competing in their category of choice. Check the appropriate box on the Entry Form if you want your entry to be considered for these awards

Show Theme – Big Cats

Any subject that is named after or marked as a cat (Lion, Tiger etc.), during any time frame. (Examples: F-14 Tomcat, Tiger Meet F-104, Tiger tank, Korean War tank with tiger nose art, tiger camouflaged figure, Sunbeam Tiger car, Tiger stripes on a car. A Gundam or Mecha named as a cat or featuring cat markings, a striped camouflaged ship.)

Founders Award – Any subject. Judged by two of the currently active founders of GSSM. (*Not the same as Best in Show*)

21. Best of Class & Show

Best of each class will be selected from the 1st Place winners in each category by the Class Head Judge polling the opinions of his teams. Best of Show will be selected by the Contest Head Judge polling the opinions of the Class Head Judges

22. Any attempt by the builder to influence the judges will result in disqualification of all entries by that modeler.

23. Removal of Models

We would prefer that modelers leave their entry in place until the awards are presented so that attendees can view the winning entries. However, if you must leave early, please notify the Head Judge before removing your entries.

24. Award Presentation

Winners must be present to claim an award or designate a proxy who will be present. Alternatively, if you note that you won an award based on the posted list of winners but were not present to claim it, you may contact a club officer and arrange for pick up or shipment of the award at the your own expense.

Official Policy - IPMS USA

Part One. Prohibitions.

Concerning all sanctioned IPMS contests (*local, regional and National IPMS events*), each of the following depictions (individual models, groups of models, or dioramas/vignettes) are prohibited in competition and may not be placed on display at any IPMS event.

a) There shall be no depiction of excretory functions depicting any human being or animal. For instance, and not by way of limitation, there can be a model of an empty 19th century outhouse, but no human being should be depicted in the graphic process of using the facilities in a restroom.

b) There shall be no depiction of sado-masochistic activity, equipment, settings or situations, to any degree, regardless of whether there are figures in the model, regardless of whether any figures present in the model are clothed or if said depiction is representative of a scene from an S/M movie or book. For instance, and not by way of limitation, no one should be permitted to enter the matter of the depiction of a judicial punishment scene (*e.g., A diorama of thirteenth century Spanish punishment of heretics.*)

c) There shall be no depictions of explicit sexual conduct, bilateral or autoerotic, regardless of degree and regardless of the clothing-status of the participants, that involves the touching of the breasts or genitals or other erogenous zones of any depicted figure.

d) There shall be no depiction of any nude human male or female figures where the genitalia of the figure is exposed where the clear intent of the same is to portray a sexual scene.

e) Depictions of any nude human male or female figure, subject to the **Prohibitions** described above. For instance, a model of Michelangelo's David would be permissible; the equivalent depiction of a woman would also be permissible. A figure exposing a woman's breast(s) or genitalia absent sexual activity, would be a permissible subject only to specific local laws that would prohibit the same.

f) Models or dioramas of historic events (*e.g., general dioramas or specific depictions of the result of the activities of a Soviet Gulag, or a Nazi death camp*) where the suffering of human beings, or the result of a pogrom, is depicted. Where the theme, content or subject matter of presentations is graphic or would violate any provision of of this policy, then the presentation is prohibited in any setting.