

# All Aboard 2024

April 26 -28, 2024

Corban Estate Arts Centre, West Auckland

Newsletter 3



## Registration

Registration for the convention is now open.

- Full registration fee is \$100 if paid by March 31, 2024.
- The fee is \$120 for April 1, 2024 onwards.

[Click here to Register](#)

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## Clinics

We plan having 10 clinics of 45 minutes each. The 45 minutes includes the time for questions. There will be 15 minutes between consecutive clinics to give clinic attendees to move to a new clinic room if necessary.

Clinics provide a very good opportunity for convention attendees to help shape the content of the convention. Clinics can be on any topic related to the hobby of model railways in New Zealand. We would like some clinics to be those that have not been at an NZAMRC convention before. We would also like some clinics on the modern aspects of the hobby.

We have arranged for several local people to each give a clinic on short notice if we do not get enough clinics from convention attendees. We much prefer these people not give clinics because, and as we stated above, we believe clinics provide a very good opportunity for convention attendees to help shape the content of the convention.

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## NZAMRC Modelling Competition

The NZAMRC Model Competition is being run by the NZAMRC and not the Local Organising Committee. There is now considerable information about the NZAMRC Model Competition on the NZAMRC webpage <https://nzamrc.org.nz/conventions/> (alternatively, you can Google "NZAMRC Conventions"). This webpage has links to documents entitled "NZAMRC Model Competitions: Guidelines for Entrants", "Model Competitions - Rules Section" and "Model Competitions - Special Awards". There is also a link to an online entry form for the competition.

An important aspect for at least some convention goers is the model competitions, so the good news for 2024 is that some important improvements are in the pipeline.

The Association and the Competition Committee have listened and we are at present engaged in a review of the rules, the trophies and the judging.

We hasten to add that this is evolution not revolution. Not radical, just fine tuning.

## Rules

Main changes to the rules are in the entry sections, which as well as the Scratch building and Kit Building/Modified Ready-to-Run sections are expected to have a new section for Computer Assisted Modelling. An enhanced Finish Only section for models that may only have had finishing work such as painting, decaling, weathering, etc., is also on the cards.

# Trophies

On the trophies front, we're working on an enlarged list of possible awards, 'possible' being the operative word at this stage. We're looking at keeping the Best in Show and Best Skill awards along with an enlarged list of some 35 potential special awards.

Gone will be the likes of '1:64 scale NZ Locomotive' and in their place nine awards per section particular to NZ, US, UK and European modelling, plus one for prototypes from 'the rest of the world'. As one example, the Best American model award would have no other restriction, so the way would be clear for a layout module rather than a locomotive, a bridge rather than a boxcar, and so on.

Will this mean an interminable presentation ceremony? We've run the results from two previous conventions, one with a field of 79 entries and one with 31 entries. In both cases there would only have been 13 special awards. Like I said, most of the 'possible' awards will be just that.

Rules are available from the NZAMRC website <http://nzamrc.org.nz/>

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## Flatcar Load Competition



The Flatcar Load Challenge is a modelling competition in which the entrants will be judged on the load for a flatcar. There will be trophies for first, second and third place. These trophies are being sponsored by the Australasian Region of the National Model Railroaders Association. The competition is open to modelers of all prototypes. The competition has the following simple set of rules

1. Each entry for the challenge consists of a flatcar with a load. The flatcar must be operational but will not be judged. The load only will be judged.
2. The judging will be by popular vote.
3. An entry can be on any scale from T to 7/8".
4. A modeller can submit more than one entry.
5. A modeller can submit an entry on behalf of another modeller.
6. No documentation is to be supplied with the model.

7. The load on a flatcar must be made from more than one part. These parts need not be scratch built.



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## Accommodation

The accommodation in Auckland varies considerably in quality and the local organising committee (LOC) will leave it to individual attendees to decide on their

accommodation. Although there is some accommodation near the venue in Henderson, there is a greater choice to the east of Henderson.

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## Contacts

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**URL:** <https://www.nzamrc.org.nz/conventions/>

[Click here to Register](#)

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