



SOMERSET COUNTY GUY FAWKES CARNIVALS ASSOCIATION

JUDGING AT CARNIVAL

JUDGE'S GUIDANCE NOTES for Classes 13 and 14

(Best decorated towing vehicle and best dressed towing vehicle driver)

Overview

The purpose of this document is to offer advice and guidance for the judges of our Carnivals. These notes, as well as guiding judges in some of the less obvious aspects of their task, also provide those taking part with a better understanding of how they will be judged.

Guidance

These classes can be difficult to judge and are not normally given categories to mark against so to a large extent it is up to you to award points / places as you feel fit. The following guidance is offered to assist you in your choice.

For Class 13 (Best decorated towing vehicle)

The whole impact of the towing vehicle should be considered, including the personnel (if any) mounted on the vehicle, moving parts and lighting etc. You should however not be influenced by the main entry when judging this class. This may be difficult, but it is to be awarded purely on the merits (or otherwise) of the towing vehicle.

As mentioned earlier, some towns do not have judging categories for this class, however, it may be an advantage to consider the following judging categories as being appropriate: -

- Vehicle build up.
- Presentation and general effect
- Lighting

All mounted entries with decorated towing vehicles should be judged as it has been agreed that clubs do not need to enter this class separately from entering their main class.

For Class 14 (Best dressed towing vehicle driver)

This class is a very long standing class in our carnival and much valued by some of the entries. However nowadays more and more entries are 'boxing in' their driver for (as some may consider) a more advantageous result in their main class.

It is recommended that in order to be judged for this class the driver should be visible from the waist upwards. Any make up worn by the driver should also be considered when judging this class.

As mentioned earlier, some towns do not have judging categories for this class, however, it may be an advantage to consider the following judging categories as being appropriate: -

- General effect
- Costume
- Make up or mask

All mounted entries should be examined to determine if the driver is in costume and if so judged accordingly as it has been agreed that clubs do not need to enter this class separately from entering their main class.

Where should I judge?

If you have been allocated a zone prior to the procession, please observe this request, if not please consider the advice given below.

Judging should not take place in any rest area or other areas as indicated by local judging instructions

Even avoiding these areas, there are miles of route along which judging can take place. Judges are respectfully requested not to congregate in pairs or small groups and to try not to stand in front of the same people all night. The judging will be fairer for all concerned if the judges are spread over a wide area within the zones. In addition, if judges do congregate, and they may well be judging different classes, the perception to the public and competitors alike is that collusion is taking place.

Whenever possible, judges are asked to judge both sides of all entries in their class. It is recognised that the sheer number of entries in some classes may make this impractical. Please do the best you can with the time available.

Affiliated Committees:

**Bridgwater, Bridgwater Gangs & Features, North Petherton, Highbridge & Burnham on Sea,
Shepton Mallet, Wells, Glastonbury-Chilkwel, Mid Somerset Gangs & Features & Weston Super Mare**

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What should I do if I see an entry deliberately holding up the procession?

The smooth flow of the procession is critical to the future of our carnival. We therefore seek the assistance of our judges in controlling the flow of entries. If an entry is considered by a judge to be holding back, posing for video cameras perhaps, or creating an "advantageous gap" for judging or effect purposes then the judge should draw the attention of the procession marshals to the offender. If the offence is thought to be serious enough penalties may be imposed on the offender. Penalties could include the deduction of points from each judge's total for any offending entry. This will be subject to the S C G F C A's guidance on the methods of dealing with the imposition of penalties to entrants.