



# NMRA ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM MASTER MODEL RAILROADER (MMR)

YOUR “TRAVEL GUIDE” FOR YOUR  
JOURNEY IN MODEL RAILROADING

METRO-NORTH DIVISION 5/20/17  
BY  
DON MITCHELL / SCOTT RUSSELL

## The Achievement Program Provides:

- A System of Requirements For Demonstrating a Superior Level of Modeling Skill
- Incentive To Learn and Master Skills
- Issuance of a Certificate
- Acknowledging Your Achievement

# MMR CERTIFICATES

## Railroad Equipment



Master Builder – Motive Power



Master Builder –  
Cars

## Railroad Settings



Master Builder –  
Structures



Master Builder – Scenery



Master Builder – Prototype  
Models

## Engineering and Operation



Model Railroad Engineer - Civil



Model Railroad Engineer -  
Electrical



Chief Dispatcher

## Service to the Hobby



Association Official



Association Volunteer



Model Railroad Author

7 CERTIFICATES NEEDED, AT LEAST ONE FROM EACH OF THE FOUR CATEGORIES

## HOW DO YOU EARN A CERTIFICATE?

- Must Be an NMRA Member
- Complete All Requirements of a Category
- Submit a Statement of Qualification Form (SOQ) With All Supporting Data, to Your Division AP Chairman (Paper Copies or Email)

Category:

# Master Builder Structures





## Master Builder - Structures

- Build 12 scale structures (buildings, bridges, factories, signal towers, oil derrick, dock, power line tower, crane, ship, etc).
  - 6 different types
  - 1 must be a bridge or trestle
  - 6 must be scratch built
  - Others must be super-detailed
- Earn a Merit Award (87.5 points) with 6 of the models via an NMRA sponsored contest or AP Merit Award judging.

# DEFINITIONS

## SCRATCH BUILT

To be considered scratch built, a model must have been constructed by the applicant without the use of any commercial parts except:

Motor  
Drivers and wheels  
Light bulbs  
Bell  
classification lights  
Valve gear

Gears  
Couplers  
Trucks  
Marker and  
Car brake fittings

## Basic wood, metal and plastic shapes

A model is considered "scratch built" if at least 90% of the model's pieces/parts (other than those specifically exempted in the list above) are fabricated by the modeler. This is a quantitative assessment based on the number of pieces with no weight given to complexity. This is a separate determination from the scratch building score.

# DEFINITIONS

## SUPER-DETAILED

To be considered "Super Detailed" it is necessary that a model have considerably more detail of excellent quality than is usually expected. The quality of the detail is of more importance than is the quantity. The applicant may qualify with Superior Craftsman Kits providing that, in the opinion of the Regional AP Manager, real individual craftsmanship is demonstrated.

Models falling within the following categories may also be considered as "Super Detailed":

Cross-kit models

Modified kit models

Parts built models

Extensively altered assembled models: e.g., to a different prototype.

In addition such models are to have more detail.



## NMRA Achievement Program Checklist

Revised – May 2006

### **Section A: Railroad Equipment.**

#### **Category 1 - Master Builder - Motive Power**

☐ Completed Statement of Qualifications

☐ Build 3 Scale Models – all 3 with 87 ½ merit award points - All super-detailed.

- ☐ Model 1 – Scratchbuilt - \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Model 2 - \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Model 3 - \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Category 2 - Master Builder - Cars**

☐ Completed Statement of Qualifications

☐ Build 8 scale models - 4 types - 1 passenger - 4 with 87 1/2 merit points - At least 4 built from scratch - all others super-detailed.

- |  |                                  |                                   |                              |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 1 - type: Passenger | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 2 - type: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 3 - type: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 4 - type: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 5 - type: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 6 - type: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 7 - type: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 8 - type: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |

### **Section B: Railroad Setting**

#### **Category 3 - Master Builder – Structures**

☐ Completed Statement of Qualifications

☐ Build 12 Scale Models - 6 types - 1 bridge/trestle – 6 with 87 ½ merit award points - at least 6 built from scratch - all others super-detailed.

- |  |                                  |                                   |                              |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 01 - type: Bridge - Trestle | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 02 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 03 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 04 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 05 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 06 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 07 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 08 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 09 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model 10 - type: _____            | <input type="checkbox"/> Points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch? | <input type="checkbox"/> SOQ |



**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM  
MASTER BUILDER STRUCTURES  
RECORD AND VALIDATION FORM  
May 2006**

PLEASE ATTACH THIS FORM TO A COMPLETED STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS (SOQ) FORM.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ NMRA #: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Region: \_\_\_\_\_

To qualify for this certificate you must:

1. Build twelve scale structures. At least six different types of structures must be represented in the total. One must be a bridge or trestle. At least six must be scratchbuilt. The remaining six structures, if not scratchbuilt, must be super-detailed with either scratchbuilt or commercial parts as defined in the "DEFINITIONS" section.
2. Earn a Merit Award of at least 87.5 points with six of the above models; either via an NMRA sponsored contest or AP Merit Awards.
3. Submit a completed Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) which shall include the following:

- ☐ Attachment giving detailed descriptions of the models.
- ☐ Identification of the scratchbuilt features.
- ☐ List of all the commercial components appearing on each model.
- ☐ The materials used in building the models, including a notation that the model is operational if intended to be.
- ☐ Verification of the Merit Awards.

	DESCRIPTION	SCRATCH BUILT	MERIT AWARD	VERIFIED BY	DATE	NMRA #
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

REGIONAL AP CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_ REGION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_