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## CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE JUDGING GUIDELINES 2023

**PLEASE NOTE:** The General Concours Judging Guidelines are included here again and contain details of the inclusion of the Preservation Award.

Changes to this document are:

- **Numbering** of each point to improve clarity
- Inclusion in item **1.1 Right of Entry to Concours d'Elegance** of paragraph requiring cars to be driven to Concours venues
- Inclusion of a clause **3.7 Preservation Award** giving minor details and referencing the full Award addendum.

If you have any questions concerning any awards please contact the Chief Judge, Neil Matthews by email: [neil@headingtonpark.com.au](mailto:neil@headingtonpark.com.au) or mobile 0408 995 720.

### **RROCA (Vic Branch) Concours d'Elegance Rules – 2018 Edition**

#### **1.1 Right of Entry to Concours d'Elegance**

Only motor cars that have specifically entered for the Concours d'Elegance, in accordance with the time-limits placed thereon by the Chief Judge and President of the Branch, will be judged. Similarly, any late entries are to be at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

Only cars that are driven under their own power to the Concours Judging Point and Display venues will be eligible to be judged.

#### **1.2 Eligible Motor Car**

This is defined in the Deed Constituting the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia, paragraph 1.1, as being "any car built by Royce Limited, Rolls-Royce Distributing Limited, Rolls-Royce Limited, Bentley Motor Cars (1931) Limited, Rolls-Royce of America Inc., Rolls-Royce Motors Limited, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Limited, Bentley Motors Limited or their successors". Federal Council resolved some years ago that in interpreting the definition of "eligible motor car" motor cars constructed by Bentley Motors Limited (the pre 1931 company) or from parts manufactured by Bentley Motors Limited are not eligible motor cars within the Constitution of the Club. Bentley motor cars fitted with Rolls-Royce radiator shells (or vice versa) are to remain as eligible cars, but shall suffer a points penalty when judged in Concours d'Elegance, at the discretion of the Judging Panel.

### **2.0 Classes**

#### **2.1 Standardised Categories of Classes**

The Branch Committee has defined the following Classes to apply at all Branch Concours d'Elegance.

#### **2.2 Amalgamation of Classes**

The Branch Committee has further resolved that no amalgamation of Classes be allowed at a Branch Concours d'Elegance.

Therefore, should a Class have only one motor car entered for judging and that motor car is of a suitable standard (as defined from time-to-time by the Branch Committee), that motor car shall be judged in its Class.

#### **2.3 Classes:**

1. Pre-Ghosts and Silver Ghosts
2. Phantom I and Phantom II
3. 20 HP and 20/25
4. 25/30, Phantom III and Wraith
5. Derby Bentley (31/2 Litre, 41/4. Litre, Mk V)
6. Silver Wraith, Silver Dawn and Phantom IV
7. Bentley Mk VI and R-type
8. Silver Cloud I, Silver Cloud II, Silver Cloud III, Bentley S I, Bentley S2, Bentley S3 and Phantom V
9. Silver Shadow, Bentley T Series, derivatives of those models and Phantom VI  
(Derivatives shall encompass Rolls-Royce and Bentley Corniche, Camargue and all Series 2 models, i.e. Silver Shadow II, Silver Wraith II and Bentley T2 except any late models with 17 digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) which shall be included in Class 10)
10. Silver Spirit, Bentley Mulsanne, derivatives of those models.  
(All eligible cars with 17 digit VIN broadly speaking to mean manufactured after October 1980)
11. Silver Seraph, Bentley Arnage and derivatives of those models
12. Current Series Rolls-Royce Phantom and derivatives
13. Current Series Bentley Continental, Flying Spur and derivatives

### **3.0 Perpetual Trophies**

#### **3.1 The David Jones Trophy – Overall Concours d'Elegance Winner (see 3.8 Note A)**

Awarded to the eligible motor car, being either a Rolls-Royce or a Bentley, pre-war or post war, which received the highest point score in the Concours d'Elegance Judging, without allowance for age, other than a Masters Class Entrant by virtue of its being a previous Overall Winner, providing that this score shall reach or exceed 95% of the available points for the motor car.

#### **3.2 Garnet Alsop Enthusiasts Award**

Awarded to a Member for "Best owner-restored or maintained car" and is chosen by the Chief Judge and the Branch President. The object of the Award is to encourage Members in the maintenance or restoration of their eligible motor car. The points gained in the Concours d'Elegance will not necessarily be regarded as the final basis for this award.

#### **3.3 Maisie Dodd Award**

Awarded to an eligible motor car as the best Post War Car in daily use, and is chosen by the Chief Judge and the Branch President. The object of the Award is to encourage members in the day to day use of their eligible motor car. The points gained in the Concours d'Elegance will not necessarily be regarded as the final basis for the award.

### **3.4 The V8 Trophy**

Awarded to the eligible V8 powered motor car which receives the highest point score in the Concours d'Elegance judging not adjusted for age or previous winnings, not being the Overall or Master Class Winners.

### **3.5 The President's Trophy**

Awarded to the 'Best Restoration of the Year' being either a Rolls-Royce or Bentley motor car, and is chosen by the Branch President. The object of the Award is to encourage the preservation and presentation of Members' motor cars. It is subject to the following:

- Any eligible motor car.
- The motor car is at least 15 years old.
- The restoration was substantially completed in the twelve months immediately preceding the Rally at which it is entered for judging.
- The motor car has not previously been entered for the restoration award. Unless the motor car has subsequently been restored to such a significant degree that, in the opinion of the Chief Judge, the motor car was eligible for entry.
- That the motor car is the subject of the restoration regardless of during whose ownership the restoration was carried out.
- The points gained in the Concours d'Elegance not necessarily be regarded as the final basis for the award.
- The President has complete discretion in relation to all matters concerning equal scores between motor cars, condition of the motor car or its authenticity or any other matters relating to the condition of the motor car. In all other respects the President shall be the final arbiter.
- To be classified as a 'Restoration' a motor car must be generally in excellent condition and have undergone, within the period specified, major or complete dismantling and extensive or complete overhaul and return to original condition, or as close as possible to original appearance, specification, material specification and finish in at least FOUR (4) of the following SIX (6) major component groups:
  - Chassis and suspension
  - Engine
  - Gearbox and rear axle
  - External panels and paintwork
  - Internal upholstery and woodwork
  - External trimming and plating

### **3.7 Preservation Award**

Awarded to recognise and encourage the preservation of the original components and finishes of Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor vehicles to preserve their originality. This Award shall be decided by the application of the Judging Criteria which are part of the document: RROCA Victoria Branch Preservation Award, which forms part of this document.

### **3.8 Note A**

The winner of any of the following trophy is automatically "elevated" and removed from judging for other Awards, except that it remain eligible, where applicable, for the Garnet Alsop Enthusiasts Award, Maisie Dodd Award, V8 Trophy and President's Trophy.  
- Overall Winner

## **4.0 Class Trophies**

Class trophies shall be awarded to the highest scoring eligible car in that Class providing that the car achieves a score in excess of the minimum requirements as specified in these Guidelines. Where all eligible cars in a particular Class have been elevated to major awards in accordance with these Guidelines and the Class Trophy would not otherwise be awarded, then the Trophy shall be awarded to the last eligible car so elevated.

### **4.1 Points Score**

The points score is out of a maximum of 100 subject to adjustments for age allowance and previous winning for Class Trophies. Points are awarded in the following categories:

#### **Engine - Chassis - Coachwork Interior - Coachwork Exterior - Operations**

#### **Age Allowance**

A bonus of ¼ (one quarter) point per year of the age of the chassis is allowed. Thus a 1929 model in 2014 would receive 21.25 points and a 1988 model 6.5 points. (Current year, minus age of chassis, divided by 4)

#### **Previous Winner's Adjustment**

Points awarded to motor cars for Class Trophies shall be adjusted if the motor car is a previous winner of its Class.

Points to be deducted shall be 25 for the previous year's winner, 10 points for 2 years previous and 5 points for 3 years previous.

## **5.0 Minimum Standards**

In order for a trophy to be awarded in accordance with the foregoing guidelines, the winning motor car in each of the categories indicated must reach or exceed the following minimum scores, before age or previous winner's adjustments:

**Class Trophy** 80% of the available points

**Overall Winner** 95% of the available points

**While these Judging Guidelines are current as at the date of this publication, they are liable to change by decision of the Branch Committee at any time and members are advised to obtain a copy of the applicable guidelines from the Chief Judge prior to entering any Branch Concours d'Elegance.**

## **RROCA Victoria Branch Preservation Award**

Vehicles covered by this award:

- Rolls-Royce and Bentley vehicles with an original standard steel or coachbuilt body, 50 years or older.

The applicable vehicles are Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith, Silver Dawn, Phantoms IV, V, VI. Silver Cloud, II, III and Silver Shadow, and Bentley MKVI, R Type and S, S2, S3 and, T and all derivatives to 1968.

Pre-1945 vehicles are currently not covered by this award. Rolls-Royce pre-1945 were in the business of making vehicle chassis. The Age & Authenticity Award covers this area in relation to completeness and cleanliness of the chassis, however there could be a future award or an extension of the Age & Authenticity Award to include Preservation and Conservation.

In summary: if your vehicle was built in the period 1945-1968, has had no cosmetic major works and has been lovingly cared for and conserved, then the new Preservation Award could be your opportunity for a trophy at the 2018 Victoria Branch Concours.

### **What is the difference between the Age & Authenticity Award and a Preservation Award?**

An Age & Authenticity Award winning vehicle can have authentic and or correct parts that results in the vehicle being an example of a particular Rolls-Royce or Bentley model. But it is not the vehicle as originally manufactured by the Rolls-Royce Company.

Concours awards traditionally assess motor vehicles in what is effectively as-new condition (or sometimes better than the manufacturer originally produced) and often they have been completely repainted externally and the interiors, the leather or cloth seats, carpets, roof lining and woodwork finish have all been completely replaced in an authentic/reasonably authentic manner, but they are not in original condition as they have been replaced. Once the original components and finishes are lost, and they can never be regained - what replaces them is at best imitations, not the original thing installed by Rolls-Royce and the coachbuilder.

The basic purpose of the Preservation Award is to recognise and encourage the preservation of Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor vehicles that are in original condition, as first manufactured by Rolls-Royce and Bentley and their original coachbuilder.

Ideally the Preservation Award applies to the entire vehicle in original condition. However, it can also encompass all major components, such as surviving: original exterior paint, upholstery, roof lining, carpets, woodwork finish, cabinetwork, other interior fittings and the vehicle's chassis and its components.

Motor vehicles are machines designed to be used, having components which wear out and need to be replaced, as part of servicing intended by the manufacturer. Thus there are probably very few, if any, Rolls-Royce or Bentley vehicles in the world that are in totally original condition, where nothing has ever been replaced. But occasionally motor vehicles in very original condition appear, often with low odometer readings having been in a long-term ownership, which has resulted in few changes having been made.

The aim of the Preservation Award is to recognise this originality and encourage its preservation and conservation.

## **PRESERVATION AWARD JUDGING CRITERIA**

### **Purpose of this Preservation Award**

The fundamental purpose of the Preservation Award is to recognise and encourage the preservation of the original components and finishes, particularly those commonly replaced when they age, their preserve their originality (the actual state that they were in when delivered by Rolls-Royce and their coachbuilder).

The common practice in preparing old vehicles for Concours (and also in general use) is to replace anything that looks old or is worn or decayed to give the vehicle an as-new looking appearance. Original seat upholstery, carpets and so on are replaced with brand new materials. Woodwork is refinished to look brand new. This results in the replacement of the original fabrics and finishes with all-new components and/or finishes. While the vehicle, or its components, then look new, they are not using materials or displaying the finishes that Rolls-Royce or the coachbuilder supplied.

### **Definitions of Preservation and Conservation - what the Preservation Award is all about**

The Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter) defines Preservation (and conservation) as:

- Preservation means ...maintaining the fabric ... in its existing state and retarding deterioration
- Conservation means .....all the processes of looking after ... so as to maintain its significance. It includes maintenance and may include preservation ... and other things

### **Primary judgment in this award is the recognition of the preservation of the original fabric and finishes**

Vehicles being considered for the Preservation Award will be judged on the extent of the preservation of the original fabric and original finishes (applying to all components of the motor vehicle), as well as an appropriate preservation (and if necessary also conservation) approach being taken if relevant (such as protection from moisture, feeding leather with hide food, protecting cloth from insects, dealing with localized metal corrosion, and so on).

### **Cleanliness**

Vehicles being considered for the Preservation Award should be in clean condition, but the primary judging consideration shall be preservation, and if relevant other conservation matters.

### **Original fabric and finishes - basis of the judging**

The criteria for determining original fabric and finishes is the state of the motor vehicle when it was delivered by Rolls-Royce and/ or its coachbuilder.

In the case of vehicles with coachbuilt bodies, the criteria shall be:

- Chassis as delivered by Rolls-Royce (assuming that no modifications were made to the chassis to install the later body), and
- Body as delivered by the coachbuilder.

### **Worn fabric**

The basis of this Preservation Award is the preservation of original fabric, fittings and finishes. Inevitably original fabric and finishes will have some wear, and the older a vehicle is, then logically the greater the degree of wear that is likely, consequently wear in

original fabric and finishes is to be expected and quite acceptable (and is preferable to the replacement of original fabric or finishes with new fabric or finishes).

Examples of this are as follows:

- An original leather seat with its original colouring (that has never been refinished) in worn condition will be well scored.

In contrast:

- An all-new finish, matching the original colour of the original leather, has much less preservation value (because it is not the original finish).
- A different, all-new colour from the original leather has far less preservation value (because it is not the original finish or the original colour).
- An all-new colour on all-new leather, or all-new cloth, has no preservation value, (because nothing is as the original).

Original timber with its original finish, even if in worn/decayed condition, has preservation value. Completely refinishing the original woodwork or all-new finish on all-new timber have no preservation value.

In the case of original finishes on original fabric that have suffered small areas of damage or decay, including corrosion, may well be acceptable in terms of the Preservation Award if the affected areas are of a small percentage of the whole (such as less than 10% of the whole finish or fabric in the area) so that significant parts of the original are preserved.

### **Replacement components, fabric or finishes**

Components and other fabric that are subject to wear during driving and use and must be replaced to ensure safe driving, or to prevent damage to a component or the vehicle as a whole. Items such as tyres, some mechanical components, some rubber components, shall be disregarded in judging the Preservation Award, providing that the replacement items replicate what the original or likely original items that they replaced were and they are generally in accordance with Rolls-Royce practice or the coachbuilder's practice.

Replacement for cosmetic or arbitrary reasons shall not be well regarded in the judging.

### **Exterior paint**

The older a vehicle is, the more likely it is that the original exterior paint will not survive, particularly if the vehicle has been in regular use. This is in contrast to the interior, where an original interior may survive in a very old vehicle.

While some vehicles from the 1960s retain their original paint, it is probably unrealistic to expect that any vehicle will retain its original paint in completely original condition.

Vehicles that have been completely repainted (which has no preservation value) can still be entered for the Preservation Award for other components.

### **Age allowance**

No specific age allowance applies to the Preservation Award.

However, the Judges shall have regard to the relative age of the vehicles entered and the extent of original fabric and finishes conserved. Ordinarily, the younger a vehicle is, the higher its degree of actual originality is likely to be. Consequently, in the case of two vehicles of very different ages that have the same or a comparable degree of originality and are similar in other respects, the older vehicle would be better regarded in the judging due its greater age and the greater rarity of older vehicles in original condition.

### **Specific original parts of a motor vehicle can be entered for the Preservation Award**

Members are encouraged to consider entering their vehicles for particular original components, even if the motor vehicle as a whole is not in largely original condition, providing that the original components are a reasonably major component of the motor vehicle. This applies particularly to vehicles from the first decades after the Second World War.

### **Originality of chassis**

The fundamental intention of this Preservation Award is to encourage and promote the preservation of a motor vehicle's components that have survived unchanged in original condition, thus the Award recognises chassis that have survived in original condition where that can be established (or in appropriate cases where it is judged, to be highly likely).

### **Judges can give different weight to the scoring of the different components of the motor vehicles.**

The judging will ascribe particular values to the individual components of the motor vehicles that are presented to be judged in the Preservation Award. Judges will generally give preference to more complete, original motor vehicles.

However, depending on the type of entries being made each year and the overall aim of the Preservation Award to encourage and promote the preservation of original and early components, the Judges have the option to give different weights to particular components depending on the entries each year.

The Judges shall advise the entrants of any such changes at the start or very early in their assessment.

**\*Please Note:** the above criteria are subject to change at the discretion of the Chief Judge, but such changes will be advised to entrants before judging occurs should they be required.