

Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society

CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

OVERVIEW

This competition is intended to encourage home construction for our Club Members. To qualify for entry the entrant must be a member of the Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society, and the entry must have an amateur radio context.

It could cover home construction, Kit building, and amateur radio software, but not antennas which are included as a separate club competition.

Projects can be built from kits, which can be complete, or projects using kit modules or commercial PCBs for more major projects. Obviously, you get more marks if you have to do a lot of the project yourself.

ON COMPETITION NIGHT

Entries will be assumed to be working and complete. The MKARS reserve the right to ask for a demonstration.

All exhibits will be displayed and given a number identifying them. Also noted will be their Competition Category. All exhibits must not have a label showing the call sign or name of the entrant. A one-page description of the project should accompany each exhibit, together with a circuit diagram etc. A member who enters more than one item in the same category should label each entry with his entry number and the /1, /2 etc.

For amateur radio software, there should be a description and a write-up of its utility and should include screen shots as appropriate. Entrant will be judged on the software's utility and novelty.

Members who are present on the evening do the scoring using a score sheet, which are then consolidated by the Club MKARS committee. The Committee awards the winner, and their decision is final. Members present may not vote for their own projects.

Judging will commence at 8.15 pm, so members who want to judge the competition should arrive at the club house before 8.00 pm if possible. Entrants should be at the Clubhouse by 7.30pm sharp so that their exhibits can be labelled.

As far as possible, please remove screws as necessary to enable the members to see inside your exhibit. For amateur radio software, as appropriate, a demonstration version should be available.

Even if you do not win, remember that others will have pleasure from viewing your exhibit.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

There are two categories of exhibit to choose from

- Novice

This category is aimed at the newly licensed (up to two years as a foundation or intermediate license holder), having an attempt at home construction and entering this contest for the first time.

Entrant projects will be judged on mechanical neatness, electrical neatness, general appearance, soldering and novelty/uniqueness/complexity. For computer software the principle of utility and novelty will apply.

- Advanced

This category is aimed for more experienced builders. Projects can be built from scratch to a home brew design, to the construction of kits which are complete as projects. Alternatively, they may use kit modules or commercial PCBs. Entrants' additions/modifications/enhancements to the kit and its presentation will be assessed in terms of the complexity of construction.

Exhibits will be assessed on the entrants' design efforts, complexity of construction, mechanical and electrical neatness, soldering and enclosure, including any lettering done by the builder.

As has been indicated previously, for computer software the principle of utility and novelty will apply.

Entry Fee and Prizes

There will be no entry fee for the construction competition. Prizes will be awarded for both competition categories.

Approved in committee: May 2018