

**GUIDELINES FOR
PERSONALIZED CHEVROLET CHAPTER
CLASS JUDGING**



Guidelines for Personalized Chevrolet Class Judging

Participation at Area Meets

The Personalized Chevrolet Chapter (PCC) can participate at a nationally sanctioned Area or Anniversary Meet with the invitation of the hosting region. The invitation must be made to and accepted by the Director or Judging Chair of the Personalized Chevrolet Chapter. It is expected that those PCC members attending an area meet would manage the judging process for the PCC vehicles utilizing PCC judging forms at a location provided by the host region. This would include field checks, judging, tabulation and notification of awards. As this process is further developed, the details will be provided in updates to these Guidelines.

Only PCC members' Chevrolets and GMCs are eligible for being judged and receiving awards and those vehicles must be at least 25 years old. Only national VCCA members may join the PCC. Information on joining the PCC and the latest judging guidelines and forms are available on the PCC website, <http://pccvcca.org>.

Judging Philosophy

The judging philosophy was based on discussions with VCCA members and with members of clubs that judge modified vehicles. The process is that each vehicle starts with a 900 point total, with points deducted for quality/condition issues much in the same manner as VCCA class judging. The main difference is that personalized class judging does not deduct points for any "incorrect" features. If no deductions are made for quality issues, the vehicle would retain all 900 points. In addition to "quality" judging, the vehicle is also subject to "personalization" judging. This provides the opportunity to "add" up to 100 points for creativity, fabrication and engineering. Thus, a perfect vehicle can score 1000 points. Refer to the section on Personalization.

Judging Process Positions

Several "positions" are defined for administering PCC judging for an event. These positions are essentially the same as those listed in the VCCA Judging Manual, but for PCC application. Any unassigned positions will default to the PCC Director or PCC Board for action.

- PCC Judging Chair/Committee: Responsible for (1) authorizing PCC participation in any VCCA event to which our Chapter has been invited, (2) continually evaluating the judging guidelines and forms and making revisions as needed, (3) developing and disseminating training materials

for PCC judging, (4) distributing sufficient quantities of forms to a meet, (5) receiving completed judging forms (or copies) and reviewing them for accuracy and (6) maintaining mechanized records of PCC participants, vehicles, scores and awards.

- PCC Awards Coordinator: Responsible for (1) inventorying award tabs and periodically notifying the PCC Judging Chair of quantities and (2) providing sufficient quantities of award tabs to the PCC Meet Chief Judge based on PCC registrations.
- PCC Meet Chief Judge: Responsible for (1) providing judging seminar, (2) requesting awards from the PCC Awards Coordinator, (3) receiving judging forms/guidelines, (4) assembling judging teams, (5) confirming accuracy of completed judging forms, (6) releasing cars from field, (7) providing a tabulation area and selecting a Tabulator, (8) retaining record of judges, (9) presenting awards and (10) sending completed judging forms or copies to PCC Judging Chair.
- PCC Tabulator: Responsible for (1) insuring the math is correct on the judging forms (including mandatory deductions & minimum Personalization adder points for junior award) and (2) noting earned award on judging form.

Certification Awards

The Personalized Chevrolet Chapter (PCC) currently provides two levels of certification. Vehicles scoring over 950 points (951 – 1000) are awarded a senior tab¹ that may be affixed behind the PCC grille badge (oval). Vehicles scoring 901 to 950 points are awarded a junior tab. In order to receive a junior award, the point total must include at least 25 personalization points. The PCC does not offer “1st/2nd/3rd” junior or senior awards. That is, the vehicle is scored against the judging form and not against other members. Thus, a vehicle can be certified as a junior or senior the first time judged. No PCC member should judge his own or his spouse’s vehicle in order to avoid the appearance of impropriety. PCC awards are not currently recognized by the national VCCA organization.

The hosting PCC membership at an Area Meet may establish additional judging and/or participation awards (such as conventional 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies) but these would not be recognized as official or recorded by the Personalized Chevrolet Chapter.

Personalization

“Personalization” is intended to describe a vehicle’s modifications that provide interesting or pleasing visual effects to the vehicle. These modifications provide the opportunity for the owner to express individuality and creativity. Engineering and fabrication should also be a factor in personalization. Yet, the visual integrity of the original exterior should be maintained. That is, a personalized vehicle should retain all of its original body panels although some modifications are acceptable. For example, the only acceptable cuts to a hood would be louvers or chopped roof since they were commonly used for customization. Any “special purpose” vehicles, such as those modified

¹ Only the tabs are awarded; grille badges must be purchased separately.

exclusively for racing, would not likely do well in judging. Each of the four judging areas (Exterior, Engine Bay, Interior and Chassis) provides an opportunity to add points for personalization. A total of 100 points can be added for all areas together. If a perfectly restored VCCA senior oval “1000 point” vehicle were judged in the PCC class, it could potentially receive a maximum of 900 points, since none of the 100 points reserved for personalization should be awarded. Thus, the vehicle would not be eligible for a PCC award.

It is understood that the process for judging personalization is largely subjective. However, it is necessary to distinguish among several vehicles with varying levels of creativity, fabrication and consistency across the four judged areas. The awarding of full personalization points in any particular area should be reserved for those vehicles where no major components were overlooked and where existing modifications were impressive and in good taste. It is important that PCC vehicles sporting a junior or senior award winner tab be deserving of PCC certification and representative of the best of the Personalized Class. Any compromises made by the judging team potentially tarnish the integrity of both the award and those members who own legitimate PCC certified vehicles.

Relationship of PCC Judging Awards to VCCA Judging Awards and Certifications

The most direct way to describe the relationship between VCCA and PCC judging is that PCC judging is the counterpart to VCCA Class judging, but for “personalized” vehicles. Both awards serve to acknowledge the condition of a well-restored vehicle. However, where VCCA Class judging evaluates “correctness”, PCC judging evaluates “personalization”.

Perhaps a more subtle distinction exists between PCC judging and Chevrolet Drivers Participation Class (CDPC) certification. Chevrolets which were not intended by their owners to be show cars are described as “drivers” and would be eligible for CDPC certification. According to the VCCA Judging Manual, “This class is for Chevrolet vehicles with limited upgrades for driving enjoyment.” The PCC judging process does not award personalization points for most CDPC-approved modifications. It is thus unlikely that a CDPC-certified vehicle would do well in PCC judging.

Field Entrance Check

All PCC vehicles registered for an Area or Anniversary Meet (whether judged or displayed) must pass a field entrance check (including an operational fire extinguisher of VCCA standards). All PCC vehicles must be driven onto the field. The Personalized Class Detailed Judging Form lists a number of items that should be inspected during the field entrance check (FEC). No points are reserved within the initial 900 point judging for this check. That is, passing all field entrance items does not contribute to the point total. However, any point deductions will reduce the total points received. The philosophy is that the vehicle should pass the inspection before entering the judging field. Safety items are especially important, such as all exterior lights, horn, turn signals, e-brake, etc. Other items such as radio, clock and heater/air conditioner are not tested since they are discretionary options in a modified vehicle –

whether physically in place or not. Certain items may be inspected by asking the driver if they operate correctly. These will be specified on the Judging Form. No more than one point deduction may be entered on each line. An approved fire extinguisher is required for any vehicle to enter the judging field. The fire extinguisher requirements specified in the VCCA Judging Manual apply. Approval of the FEC means that the proper fire extinguisher is in place (front passenger floor) and the listed items were tested with appropriate deductions noted.

Judging the Vehicle

It is required that the most current Personalized Class Detailed Judging Form be used to judge all vehicles. The form provides a column where an explanation should be entered for any deductions. It is not required that an explanation be provided for personalization points added. (See also the section Personalized Class Judging Forms.)

Judging the Exterior (285 Point Total)

PANELS: This is where deductions are made for any missing or modified panels. Each missing or modified panel is a mandatory 50 point deduction. This includes cuts in hood or raised hood to accommodate engine components and “radiused” or flared wheel wells for example. Lowering of the roof (chopping) and louvers are acceptable and are not panel deductions.

1. **BODY:** check the finish of the metal work. The straightness of the body is important here. This is also where deductions are made for any dents or body damage.
2. **PAINT:** Check for overall uniformity of the paint, “orange peel”, sanding scratches, nicks or chips in the finish. Check also for overspray particularly on rubber seals, bolts, screws, latches & plates.
3. **BODY ALIGNMENT:** Check for uniform gaps between the body and the hood, doors and trunk. Check the bumper alignment with respect to fenders and quarters.
4. **BRIGHT STAINLESS:** Check for general condition of the stainless. Check for dents and dings and the alignment of the mouldings on the fenders, doors and quarters. Check the grille for condition and detail.
5. **CHROME PLATING:** Check the condition of all exterior chrome plating and window frames.
6. **GLASS, MIRRORS & WEATHERSTRIP:** Check the general condition of the glass including cracks, scratches, stone chips and plate separation (fogging along edges). Check mirrors for clarity and condition. Check condition and fit of weatherstrip and seals around doors, trunk, headlight/taillight bezels, mirrors, antennas, etc.
7. **LAMPS, LENSES & EMBLEMS:** Check general condition of these items including attaching screws.
8. **CLEANLINESS:** Check the complete exterior for proper preparation.
9. **TOTAL POINTS DEDUCTED:** Sum and enter the total points deducted and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

Judging the Engine Bay Area (240 Point Total)

NON-CHEVROLET/GM ENGINE: Check that the engine is of Chevrolet or GMC manufacture (otherwise mandatory 100 point deduction).

1. **ENGINE PAINT/CHROME:** Check the general condition of these items noting the high temperature areas.
2. **CARB/FI, INTAKE & AIR CLEANER:** Check the general condition of the carburetor or fuel injection assembly and the workmanship of associated items such as linkage, air cleaner, etc.
3. **EXHAUST MANIFOLDS/HEADERS:** Check the general condition and routing.
4. **RADIATOR, HOSES & CLAMPS:** Check the general condition of these items including top tank and core.
5. **WIRING & CABLES:** Check the general condition of the wiring, clips and grommets including routing. Check the general condition of the battery and battery box if visible.
6. **FIREWALL:** Check the general condition of the firewall noting the quality of paint and plated items. Check for dents or damage. Check the condition of any items normally attached to the firewall such as master cylinder and windshield wiper motor.
7. **INNER FENDERS & INSIDE OF HOOD:** Check the overall condition of these items including paint and plating.
8. **CLEANLINESS:** Check the engine and engine compartment for proper preparation, noting those hard to reach areas.
9. **TOTAL POINTS DEDUCTED:** Sum and enter the total points deducted and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

Judging the Interior (190 Point Total)

1. **FRONT/REAR UPHOSTERY:** Check the general condition and fit including the quality of work around the corners and beading. Check for uniformity of the padding.
2. **DOOR/KICK PANELS, ETC:** Check the general condition of the door panels including arm rests and handles, cranks or switches. Check how well they fit the door. Check the overall condition of the carpet noting how the carpet lays on the floor and tunnel area, including fit around the kick panels and rear inside quarter panels. Check the condition of the kick panels, rear package tray and glove box/console, if equipped.
3. **DASH AREA, ETC:** Check the condition of the dash area including dash trim for condition and polish. Check the garnish mouldings, sill plates, whisker strips and window channels for paint, fit and condition. Check any additional the interior stainless or chrome.
4. **INSTRUMENTATION, ETC:** Check instrument faces for condition, cracking and scratches including radio and clock. Check the steering wheel and column for general condition and paint/chrome.

5. **HEADLINER OR CONVERTIBLE TOP:** Check the sun visors for general condition. EITHER check the condition of the headliner including any bows (if installed) OR check the condition and fit of the convertible top including rear plastic window, bows handles and latches.
6. **TRUNK/CARGO AREA:** Check any visible sheet metal inside the trunk area including deck lid for paint, damage and rust. Check the condition of any lining material installed in the trunk or cargo area. Check the condition and appearance of the spare tire and wheel if provided.
7. **CLEANLINESS:** Check the interior for proper preparation including under the seat and ash trays. Check the trunk/cargo area for proper preparation.
8. **TOTAL POINTS DEDUCTED:** Sum and enter the total points deducted and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

Judging the Chassis (185 Point Total)

1. **FRAME:** Check the frame for overall metal condition or damage. Check the paint/chrome for condition.
2. **FLOOR PANS/WHEEL WELLS:** Check these items for condition, paint and rust.
3. **FUEL/BRAKE LINES:** Check these items for condition, routing and retaining clips.
4. **GAS TANK:** Check the gas tank, mounting straps, filler pipes and hoses for condition.
5. **EXHAUST SYSTEM:** Check the exhaust system for condition, including mufflers, pipes, hangers, brackets and associated hardware.
6. **OIL PAN, FRONT SUSPENSION AND STEERING:** Check the condition of the oil pan, front suspension and steering including rods, links, bushings, spring/shocks, etc. Check the paint/chrome.
7. **TRANSMISSION, DIFFERENTIAL, ETC:** Check the condition and paint/chrome of the transmission, rear end assembly, driveshaft and rear spring/shocks.
8. **WHEELS & TIRES:** Check the wheels/covers and tires for condition.
9. **CLEANLINESS:** Check the undercarriage and wheels for proper preparation, noting those hard to reach areas.
10. **TOTAL POINTS DEDUCTED:** Sum and enter the total points deducted and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

Mandatory Deductions

There are only two types of mandatory deductions. First, all PCC judged vehicles are expected to be powered by a Chevrolet engine (or by another GM division if so delivered). Violations of this requirement result in a mandatory 100 point deduction. Second, the personalized class requires that the exterior of the vehicle remains visually representative of the original body. As such, each missing or cut panel is subject to a 50 point deduction. This includes cuts in hood to accommodate engine components and “radiused” or flared wheel wells for example. (Louvers and chopped hoods are acceptable as traditional areas of personalization.)

Adding Personalization Points (100 Point Total)

All VCCA members have, at one time or another attended a car show and spotted one or two “standout” modified vehicles within a show field among dozens of competitors. Clearly, these would be the most likely candidates for awards. What is it about such vehicles that make them stand out? This is the essence of the judges’ responsibility in assigning personalization points.

For the purpose of adding points for personalization, it would be helpful to categorize them into two major types: (1) Improved Drivability and (2) Visual Enhancements. This is far from a simple distinction as some modifications may serve both purposes.

IMPROVED DRIVABILITY: Many VCCA members wish to improve their driving experience by making certain modifications that improve the vehicle’s acceleration, braking, handling, comfort, gas mileage and/or listening pleasure. These modifications typically are not as noticeable as those selected specifically to garner attention. Also, these modifications are generally acceptable for CDPC (driver’s class) certification. Generally speaking, modifications made for improved drivability will not qualify for personalization points unless they involve engineering or fabrication challenges. No points may be added for drivetrain upgrades except engine.

VISUAL ENHANCEMENTS: This refers to any modification that provides an interesting or pleasing visual effect to the vehicle. These modifications provide the opportunity for the owner to express individuality and creativity. Engineering and fabrication should also be a factor in adding points. The concepts of Improved Drivability (ID) and Visual Enhancements (VE) will be addressed in the below explanations. No points may be added for features that were available as options in that model year, except as noted in the below sections. Also, no points may be added for simple add-ons as fuzzy dice, foxtails, blue dot lenses, custom license plates/frames and tire valve stem covers. No points may be added for drivetrain upgrades except engine replacement. No points may be added for altered road height, chopped top or fender skirts. Other modifications that do not qualify for personalization points are listed on page 4 of the Detailed Judging Form.

EXTERIOR PERSONALIZATION POINTS ADDED (15 MAX.): One of the basic tenets of a personalized vehicle is that it must remain visually representative of the original exterior. Thus, there are limited opportunities for exterior modifications and only 15 personalization points have been reserved for this area. Look for how the modifications to the body enhance its appearance or functionality. All exterior modifications are considered VE mods and are worthy of personalization points except for adding a passenger side outside mirror or upgraded lights for example, as they are ID mods. Points should not be awarded for any visible body cuts to accommodate larger tires or engine. Points may be awarded for:

1. Non-standard (custom) paints including those with clear coat may add 5 points. Exceptional paint colors including pearlescent or metal flake paint or subtle paint effects (ghost flames) may instead add 10 points. Points should not be awarded for bold paint schemes.
2. Removal of external emblems or trim (e.g., nosed/decked) or louvers - may add UP TO 3 points.
3. Custom grille, trim work or exhaust outlet - may add 2 points.
4. Frenched headlights and/or antenna(s) - may add 2 points.
5. Removal of external door handles (shaved) – may add 3 points.
6. Self-closing doors or trunk – may add 2 points.
7. Scissor/gullwing/suicide doors – may add 3 points.
8. Reverse opening hood/front clip – may add 2 points.
9. Other modifications if they serve to tastefully modernize or customize the vehicle (with consideration given to fabrication). Chief Judge approval required.

Enter the points added and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

ENGINE BAY PERSONALIZATION POINTS ADDED (35 MAX.): Look at the selection of the engine and its components. See how the complete set-up goes together as a unit. Look for items that were developed and fabricated for this specific engine compartment and vehicle. Points may be added for:

1. Replacement (GM) engine – may add 10 points if little to no fabrication required (i.e., swap 283 or 327 for crate 350) as this is considered an ID mod. Engine swaps that require a greater degree of fabrication i.e., small block V8 in a six cylinder era vehicle; big block V8 in a tri-5 or earlier vehicle; or a “tall deck” crate 572 or modern fuel-injected motor in any year vehicle may be awarded 20 points². Installation of a turbocharger or supercharger on any engine in any year vehicle may be awarded 20 points. In order to receive personalization points in this category, the engine must be fully contained within the stock hood. No points may be added for “equivalent replacement” engines or for internal engine modifications.
2. Dress-up kits including chrome valve covers/ air cleaner/PS/alternator/compressor/battery cover/master cylinder, polished aluminum/multi-carb intake, coated exhaust manifolds, hose/clamp cover kits, etc. - may add UP TO 15 points. (2 points per item)
3. Serpentine belt system (unless standard on engine) - may add 5 points.
4. “Show” aluminum radiator module that includes coolant & power steering reservoirs - may add UP TO 5 points. No points may be added for radiator replacement unless visually impressive.

² The small block V8 was introduced in 1955 and the big block in 1958 for the full size Chevrolet but not for other models. When assessing the 10 or 20 point personalization, the judge must consider the year AND MODEL. So for example, the Corvette was introduced in 1953 with only a six cylinder engine available. The small block V8 was offered in 1955 and the big block in 1965. The Chevy II/Nova was introduced in 1962 with only a six cylinder engine available. The small block V8 was offered in 1964 and the big block in 1969. The Chevelle was introduced in 1964 with a six cylinder and small block V8 but the big block was available the following year in 1965. The Camaro was introduced in 1967 with the six, small block V8 & big block V8 all available. So the judge must consider the year & model when determining whether to add 10 or 20 points.

5. Relocated battery and/or master cylinder from engine bay - may add 5 points total.
6. Other modifications if they serve to tastefully modernize or customize the vehicle (with consideration given to fabrication). Chief Judge approval required.

Enter the points added and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

INTERIOR PERSONALIZATION POINTS ADDED (35 MAX.): Look at the design, color and material of any custom seating and note how well it coordinates with the rest of the interior and exterior. Look for custom instrumentation, console, seatbelts and any comfort/convenience upgrades and see how well they were integrated into the vehicle. Look for items that were developed and fabricated uniquely for this specific vehicle. No personalization points should be awarded for an interior dedicated exclusively to racing (e.g., roll cage, spartan interior, etc. (Allow 25 maximum points for cabin area.) Points may be added for:

1. Bucket seats (unless as optional) - may add 5 points. May add 1 point per functional power seat.
2. Redesigned rear seat – may add 2 points.
3. Front & rear seat upscale fabric – may add 5 points. May add additional point for matching fabric on door panels, kick panels, headliner, rear package shelf and dash UP TO 10 points total.
4. Custom integrated console (unless as optional) - may add UP TO 5 points. (Points affected by fabric covering and the integration of such features as shifter, radio, power window switches, speakers, lighting & A/C vents.) No points may be added for aftermarket consoles.
5. Aftermarket gauges if integrated in dash or console - may add UP TO 5 points. (One point for each gauge.) No points may be added for clamp-on, bolt-on or under-dash gauges.
6. Power windows and/or door locks (unless optional) – may add UP TO 2 points total (1 point for each).
7. Aftermarket steering column – may add 2 points.
8. A/C (not under dash unit) with dash controls and vents - may add 2 points (unless optional). (A/C is considered an Improved Drivability upgrade and only worthy of personalization points if integrated into the dash.)
9. Other modifications if they serve to tastefully modernize or customize the vehicle (with consideration given to fabrication). Chief Judge approval required. No points may be added for upgraded radio system as largely an ID mod.

Check the design, color and materials used in the trunk/cargo area and note how well they coordinate with the rest of the interior. (Allow 10 maximum points for trunk/cargo area.)

Points may be added for:

10. Custom painting of trunk area including trunk lid – may add 5 points. Alternatively, partitioning of trunk area to produce storage or improve appearance - may add UP TO 10 points (depending on design, fabric, lid treatment & carpeting).
11. For truck cargo area, the use of custom wood finishes, tool boxes, tail gate, etc. - may add UP TO 10 points.

12. Other modifications if they serve to tastefully modernize or customize the vehicle (with consideration given to fabrication). Chief Judge approval required.

Enter the points added (for both cabin area and trunk/cargo area) and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

CHASSIS PERSONALIZATION POINTS ADDED (15 MAX.): Look at the items that were selected for this vehicle including wheels, custom fabrication and installation. Points may be added for:

1. Custom wheels - may add 5 points for custom hubcaps or rallye wheels or may add 10 points for mag-style or chromed aftermarket wheels. No points for painted wheels.
2. Custom chassis - may add 10 points for complete chassis replacement. No points may be added for upgraded brakes, suspension components or steering (ID mods). Alternatively, 10 points may be added for a complete “show” chassis with liberal application of chrome & stainless on suspension, brakes, differential, gas tank, exhaust, etc.
3. Other modifications if they serve to tastefully modernize or customize the vehicle (with consideration given to fabrication). Chief Judge approval required.

Enter the points added and also enter in the Judging Results Summary table.

Personalized Class Judging Forms

Two forms have been developed to facilitate the judging of personalized vehicles. The Personalized Class Detailed Judging Form is used by the judge(s) to itemize the deductions for quality/condition issues and to summarize all the deductions and personalization “adder” points in order to determine the vehicle’s point total and eligibility for an award. All PCC members that are registered for judging must fill out the upper section of that form. The Personalized Class Personalization Checklist is a part of the Detailed Judging Form (pages 3 & 4) and used by the Judge(s) to itemize the personalization adder points. This checklist provides a summary of the guidelines detailed in this document and is intended as a guide to insure the assignment of the appropriate amount of adder points in a fair and consistent manner. The checklist is to be completed and remain attached to the Detailed Judging Form when submitting forms to Tabulator.

The second form is to be completed by the PCC member before judging. PCC members will be provided a Personalization Summary Form where the owner may provide a brief list of noteworthy modifications. This form may be useful to the Judge(s) in their assessment of Personalization “adder” points. It is recommended that the Personalization Checklist (pages 3 & 4 of the PCC Judging Form) be used as a guide when completing the Personalization Summary Form. The Detailed Judging Form (including the Personalization Checklist) and Personalization Summary Form must be made available to the judging team in advance.

Updates to the Judging Guidelines and Forms

Over time these guidelines will be updated to reflect the feedback received by those members using them for PCC judging. As these guidelines and/or the judging form are updated, the date of issue will be provided in the document footer. The latest version will be posted on the PCC website (<http://pccvcca.org>).