



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS TROPHY

The AALS Trophy is presented to FMES to commemorate the affiliation of the two Associations for annual competition at the Federation's MES Autumn Rally under the following rules:

The AALS Trophy shall be awarded annually to the miniature working steam locomotive judged to be the best example of a Commonwealth prototype in any gauge between and including 2½ in. and 7¼ inch.

Competition for the AALS Trophy shall be open to all members of Clubs and Societies affiliated to FMES and such members may nominate their locomotive for judging. If deemed appropriate, the Judges may include other locomotives present on the day but not nominated.

FMES shall convene a Judging Panel comprised of the previous year's winner, a representative of FMES and a person nominated by the host society.

In the event that the Judges do not consider a required standard has been attained they may decline to award the AALS Trophy.

The winner may hold the AALS Trophy for a period of twelve months or less as directed by FMES and shall subsequently receive a suitably inscribed memento of the award bearing his or her name and a brief description of the winning locomotive.

A locomotive may only win the AALS Trophy once.

Only the owner of a locomotive is eligible to compete but may nominate a driver for the event.

If not the builder, the owner shall declare ownership and identify the builder.

Professional model engineers shall not be eligible to compete

AALS shall be informed of the outcome each year, whether or not the AALS Trophy is awarded.

A photographic record of each winner shall be prepared for AALS records.

Photographs should show the builder with the AALS Trophy and views of the locomotive.

The Judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into by either FMES or AALS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q1** I did not build the locomotive, can I still enter?
- A** Yes, as long as you are the owner.
- Q2** I own the locomotive, but would like it to be operated by someone else, is this OK?
- A** Yes, however you should be in attendance to meet the judges and answer any questions that they have. The person operating the locomotive should be suitably competent to do so.
- Q3** How will the judges decide whether it is eligible?
- A** The owner should be able to describe the model's provenance (ie its history etc) in sufficient detail to explain how it is essentially amateur built and that it meets the 'commonwealth prototype' requirement.
- Q4** What gauge and scale should the locomotive be?
- A** It should run on a rail gauge of 2½, 3½, 5 and 7¼", however the scale can be anything, and so the prototype could have run on any gauge (ie broad, standard or narrow gauge) laid in the commonwealth. Note however the locomotive should match the track standards of the host club and so this should be checked for each competition.
- Q5** Must the locomotive be powered by steam?
- A** Yes, whether piston or turbine.
- Q6** What are the judges looking for?
- A** The judges are seeking the best overall model and will include the fidelity of the model to prototype and the performance of the model in operation, including it's ability haul at least one person for a reasonable time.
- Q7** How do I enter?
- A** Come to the advertised FMES Autumn rally and inform the welcoming people of your wish to enter. If you do not express this wish and you have an eligible model, the judges may ask you to enter!
- Q8** I am not a member of a club, can I enter?
- A** No, the entry is restricted to members of clubs affiliated to FMES.
- Q9** I am a member of a club not affiliated to FMES, can I enter?
- A** No, although provided your club is affiliated to a representative organisation that participates in the boiler test scheme, you can attend the rally and run your locomotive.
- Q10** Do I need a valid boiler certificate?
- A** Yes, and you must bring it with you for inspection prior to running your locomotive.

Q11 Do I need to bring evidence of insurance?

A Possibly, please refer to the host club's requirements for each event.

Q12 Are there any other restrictions to entry?

A No, although each host club may have particular requirements (eg track standards, loading etc) and you should refer to their website and announcements for each event. If in doubt, please contact the host club, or us at info@fmes.org.uk. The owner (or their parent/guardian if relevant) will be expected to agree to photographs of the model in operation and static for publicity purposes.