

3.11 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

General Policy

1. The policy of the Midwest Region Publications Committee shall be in keeping with the policy of the National Model Railroad Association and the NMRA Publications Committee.
2. The Publications Committee shall publish and distribute information of general interest to the members of the Midwest Region.
3. The Publications Committee shall communicate planned, anticipated, or actual changes to Midwest Region policy management or personnel.
4. The Publications Committee shall communicate information in support of matters requiring membership voting, to include – but not be limited to – officer and director elections and Constitution or By-Laws changes.
5. The Publications Committee shall use its various publications to serve as vehicles for the education, promotion, and encouragement of participation in the hobby of model railroading.
6. The Publications Committee will, as required, support the publications and communication needs of other Midwest Region committee activities.
7. The Publications Committee will provide a vehicle through which the member may communicate opinions, ideas, thoughts, and suggestions regarding matters of general interest to all members of the Midwest Region.

Editorial Policy

1. The Publications Committee Editor, serving at the pleasure of the Publications Chairman, shall have final editorial discretion.
2. Editorial material published shall subscribe to the general Publications Committee policies.
3. Editorial material shall not demean or criticize any individual or organization.
4. Editorial material shall not endorse any candidate for any office.
5. Editorial material shall not show undue favoritism or partiality toward any one individual, group, organization, product, or company.
6. The Midwest Region shall not compensate authors, photographers, or other contributors for the services they provide to the Committee's publications. Compensation may be provided for direct expenses such as supplies and material subject to the discretion and approval of the Publications Committee Chairman or designate.
7. The Publications Committee may reprint previously published material provided proper approval and authority has been obtained from the publication source and, if appropriate, proper recognition has been given.

8. The Publications Committee shall encourage reprinting and distribution of original Midwest Region material by other organizations, publications, or sources, provided that doing so will be in keeping with the Publications Committee policy and that proper recognition of the material source and authorship is provided.
9. Consistent with Section 3.3 III N, the Publications Committee will publish MWR convention or meet promotion information.
10. Consistent with Sections 3.4 III 2 d and 3.4 II 5 through 7, the Publications Committee will include a statement of positions open for election, biography/list of nominees, and the annual ballot in copies of the official MWR publication mailed to MWR members.

Editorial Procedure

1. Convention or meet promotion:
 - a. In coordination with the host organization, the Publications Committee will reserve a minimum of 2½ pages to a maximum of 4 pages in the issue of the official MWR publication immediately preceding the convention/meet.
 - b. The host organization will provide sufficient promotion information to the Publications Committee to fully utilize the number of pages reserved. Information provided shall include a minimum of three 5"x7" black and white photographs, one of which shall be of cover quality. The promotion information shall be furnished by the deadline date established by the Publications Committee.
 - c. The host organization will be billed only for printing cost for the pages reserved, the MWR bearing all mailing costs. The per-page printing cost shall be established annually by the Publications Committee and reported to the MWR Board of Directors.
2. Nominations/Ballots:
 - a. The Publications Committee will reserve a minimum of 1/9 page in the official MWR publication published nearest to January 1 for the appropriate notification of positions open for election.
 - b. The Publications Committee will reserve a minimum of 1 page for biographies and appropriate final list of nominees in the issue of the official MWR publication immediately preceding the election deadline.
 - c. In coordination with the Election Committee, an appropriate method of transmitting the annual ballot will be selected. If the transmittal method selected is as a printed portion of the official MWR publication, 2 pages of the official MWR publication will be reserved for this purpose: one page for the annual ballot, and the reverse page for the preprinted address of the Election Chairperson.

- d. The MWR Treasurer will be notified by the Publications Committee of the cost of including the annual ballot in the official MWR publication.

Advertising Policy

1. The Publications Committee will accept and will encourage advertising in support of products and services of general interest and value to the model railroading hobby.
2. The Publications Committee will only accept commercial advertising material from companies or businesses who have their principal place of operation within the Midwest Region area.
3. The Publications Committee will accept and will encourage advertising from NMRA members promoting model railroad associated special interest activities, organizations, clubs, or home layouts.
4. The Publications Committee Chairman, serving at the pleasure of the President, shall have final authority for the acceptance and publication of advertisements, and may for any reason deemed appropriate exercise the option of refusal.
5. Acceptance or refusal of advertisements shall not constitute an endorsement or rejection of a product or service, and the Midwest Region shall assume no responsibility for such.
6. The Midwest Region shall be promptly compensated for advertising published at the rates established and announced by the committee. The rates established are intended to generate income in excess of the cost of providing the advertising service.