

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO THE 2021 GTOAA NATIONAL CONVENTION*

* this guide is specific to 2021 because of date changes

REGISTRATION:

You have two methods to register for the GTOAA National Conventions.

The preferred method is to register online by going to www.gtoaa.org and clicking the “GTOAA Convention” link.

The other method is the printed form found in our monthly magazine, The Legend or you can download the form at www.gtoaa.org and click on GTOAA Convention and selecting the “registration form” link.

You will need some information available in order to complete your registration so you may want to gather the info below before starting.

You will need:

- 1) Your GTOAA Member number. This can be found on the address label on your copy of The Legend. If you have a GTO or 1964-72 A-body, you must be a member of GTOAA. Otherwise you can leave the GTOAA number blank.
- 2) If you are going to register a car you will need to decide which show or class you would like to be in. There are 2 shows:

Concours which is our renown Points Judged show that is held on Wednesday in 2021 and our large **Popular Vote Show** that is held on Thursday for 2021. (These show days are usually Thursday and Friday in most years.)

Concours: You will have to decide if you want to be in the **Original, Restored, or Modified** class. See the Concours Judging Standards tab on www.gtoaa.org for more info.

Popular Vote: You will have to decide if you want your car in the **Popular Vote Class** where participants will vote for your car, the **Street Legends Class** where your car will be on display but not voted on, or the **Original Owners Class** where your car has already been awarded an Original Owners Award or you are to receive your award at this Convention. For more info on Original Owners contact Tom Oxler at toxler@prodigy.net If you are in the Popular Vote class, you will also need to determine if your car is **Stock** or **Modified**. For Stock/Mod descriptions, see the Popular Vote Info tab on www.gtoaa.org

The GTOAA PV Staff will create the Voting Classes (usually 22 – 28) depending upon the number of GTOs, A-bodies, and other Pontiacs registered.

3) If you are bringing a car, you will need the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) if you are entering a GTO or Judge. GTOAA verifies these for authenticity. Other Pontiacs need not provide VIN info.

4) If you are bringing a trailer to haul your car, you will need the license plate number of the trailer and will have to pay the trailer fee so there will be a spot for you to store your trailer while at the Convention.

5) Research available activities, dates and times you will want to attend. These can be found at www.gtoaa.org and clicking the GTOAA Convention tab and then clicking the Convention Information, Tentative Schedule of Events, or Fee Schedule tabs. Please note that all awards from our Concours and Popular Vote Shows are presented at the Awards Banquet Held on Friday evening. (Normally Saturday but Friday for 2021.)

6) Names of those attending. This is needed so everyone in your party has the necessary Identification badges needed to enter the shows, seminars, and activities.

With all of this information, you are now ready to register. With either online or paper registrations, you will receive a confirmation e-mail if you have supplied an e-mail address with your registration. If you register online, in your confirmation e-mail there will be a secure link that allows you to change or modify your registration, so save this e-mail and link.

ARRIVAL AT THE CONVENTION:

Upon arrival at the host hotel, there will be signs and club members to direct you. If you are bringing your car on a trailer, there will be a place to unload your car, then you will be given a map with directions to the trailer parking. You must have signed up for a trailer spot on your registration and will receive a tag to place on the trailer.

Back at the host hotel, you will proceed to registration, where you will pick up your registration packet, which will include your ID badges, tickets to any activities you signed up for, and any merchandise you paid for ahead of time. Then you will take your car to Tech, which will be tent located in the parking lot.

EVERY CAR MUST TECH:

Every car registered must go through Tech. At the Tech Check- In, Concours cars will be verified that they are in the correct class (Original, Restored, or Modified) and that the electrical items are working such as turn signals, brake lights, radio, etc. Popular Vote cars will be verified that they truly are either Stock or Modified.

Upon completing Tech, you will receive your dash card which will have your name, registration number, the show (Concours, Popular Vote, Original Owner, or Street Legends) and your class. If you are in the Popular Vote show, your dash card will display a class letter based upon your specific car. GTOAA divides the Popular Vote show by vehicle year, body style, and stock / modified so there is an even distribution of cars in each class.

You will also receive your designated parking area in the Popular Vote show field or the Concours display area. If you plan on being in Concours, you should arrive no later than Tuesday to get through Tech before the Concours Show on Wednesday. If you are in Popular Vote, you should arrive no later than Wednesday to get through Tech before the Popular Vote Show on Thursday. There is no day-of-show tech.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Every car must get photographed prior to entering their designated parking space either in Concours, Popular Vote, Original Owner, or Street Legends. The photographer will be located near the Tech area. The photos are used to show your car when you win an award at the Awards Ceremony and will be used to show your car in the Awards Edition of *The Legend*, usually in September following the Convention. The photographer will have photos of your car available to purchase if you so choose.

SHOW FIELD PARKING:

The dash card given to you at Tech Check-In must be posted where it can be seen by the parking attendants, and if in Popular Vote by the attendees voting for their favorite cars during the Popular Vote Show on Thursday. Indoor Concours cars must remain in place during the entire show, until Saturday morning. Outdoor cars may leave and return as needed.

All Concours Car Owners must attend the Concours Owners Meeting on Tuesday, and **all** Concours cars must be in the Concours Show field by Tuesday evening or as specified in the Schedule of Activities. Concours Judging begins early Wednesday morning and may run well into the late evening depending on the number of Concours cars attending. Owners should remain with their cars to assist the judges in opening doors, etc., and to answer any questions they may have. The Judging Sheets will be available to each Concours participant at the end of the Awards Ceremony. These sheets will show you where there are deficiencies in your car.

All Popular Vote Show Cars should be in their designated parking spaces area as much as possible but especially on Thursday during the Popular Vote Show. Every registration will receive a Popular Vote Ballot and each registrant is required to vote for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd for at least 50% of the classes in order to have their ballot counted. Keeping your car on the Popular Vote show field as much as possible assures that the majority of registrants have had an opportunity to see and vote for your car.

ACTIVITIES & SEMINARS:

The annual GTOAA National Convention is more than just a Car Show. It is our annual get together where our members can learn new things about the GTO hobby and to enjoy each other's company.

During the Convention, there will be many Seminars put on by some of our Pontiac dignitaries or by some very qualified technical experts on Pontiac performance parts and restorations. The Tech Seminars are very valuable to our members and are always well attended.

Since our annual GTOAA National Convention is usually five days long and is held in various locations throughout the country, this gives our GTOAA member families an opportunity to partake in some sight-seeing activities that they may never have had the opportunity to do without attending the GTOAA Convention. Most activities include the tickets and transportation to and from the activity. Many activities are also self-guided or include driving your car. There is usually plenty of time to schedule all of the activities that will give your family a taste of the history and flavor of the location.

Check the Schedule of Events for exact dates and time and check the Convention Information at www.gtoaa.org for a detailed description of each seminar or activity.

AWARDS CEREMONY & BANQUET:

The Awards Ceremony is held with a Banquet meal on Friday evening. Check the Schedule of Events for exact dates and times. Here, all of the GTOAA awards will be presented including Concours Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards and Popular Vote first, second, third and Honorable Mention awards. There will also be presentations for the Best of Show in Concours and in Popular Vote for 1964-74 and 2004-06. If you cannot attend the Awards Ceremony, you should try to have a friend or relative accept any award you may receive. This helps the Host Chapter in shipping costs for awards not picked up. Also at the Awards Ceremony, the Host Chapter for the next GTOAA National Convention will make their presentation hoping to get you to attend their Convention the following year.

QUESTIONS???? If you still have questions please do not hesitate to call one of our GTOAA Staff members:

Convention Coordinator:	John Owoc	412-373-0325	convention@gtoaa.org
Registration Coordinator:	Beth Butcher	970-493-3932	membership@gtoaa.org
Concours Chairman:	Bill Markowski	716-652-1911	wmarkowski@gtoaa.org
Popular Vote Coordinator:	Bob Alexander	970-214-4234	bob06gto@lpbroadband.net
Popular Vote Coordinator:	Tom Szymczyk	856-524-2588	goatguytom@aol.com