

# Winnebagoland Division/NMRA

## Raffle Layout Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in helping the Winnebagoland Division of the NMRA spread "The World's Greatest Hobby"! As of August 2006, proceeds from the raffle layout have been used for costs associated with our newsletter, *The Winnebagoland Whistle*, for donations to various groups including children's museums with railroad themes or layouts included in their exhibits, and other needs that the WLD Board of Directors feel would increase the popularity of our hobby. We need volunteers like yourself in order to succeed with this mission and welcome any ideas you may have as well as your talents as a modeler. The basic ideas that the WLD would like to see in the raffle layout are listed below, but the division is flexible. Don't hesitate to ask the WLD Superintendent or a Board member about YOUR ideas. We have partnered with the Green Bay Area Model Railroad Club, TTS, and You to make the raffle layout a reality. The WLD has an approved "split" of the proceeds between the above groups. No one is getting rich off of this venture, yet the WLD would like to recognize and reimburse those who help us. Please contact the WLD Superintendent for the particulars and percentages.

The layout is raffled off annually at the Titledown Train Show (TTS) which is held in April or at the discretion of the WLD Board of Directors. Several methods have been used in past TTS shows regarding the raffle layout including one year when the layout was built on-site. However at this time the WLD would ask the following from anyone interested or involved in building the layout:

- 1. The layout is to be 4x8 feet or smaller with continuous running (i.e. a loop). A series of sidings and industries for operation is also required.**
- 2. The scale of the layout will be approved by the Board.**
- 3. Persons interested should attend a Board meeting with their plans.**
- 4. The layout should be "easy" to transport. Removable legs, handles, etc. Benchwork should match common modeling practices (i.e. L-girder, etc)**
- 5. Builder can use DCC or DC to control the layout. Keep in mind the cost.**
- 6. Whenever possible, try to use donated materials. The WLD and the builder will solicit items from hobby shops and individuals. Credit for donations shall appear on signage around the layout at TTS. We have a collection of items from past layout projects. They will be given to you for use on the layout.**
- 7. The layout will be completed with scenery and operation one month before TTS. A member of the WLD will approve the layout as built at that time.**
- 8. Mid-level rolling stock (i.e. Athearn) is recommended. The name and theme of the layout is your choice, but will need to be approved by the WLD BOD.**
- 9. All material purchased other than "benchwork lumber" will need approval from the WLD Superintendent or an assigned WLD representative if the builder expects to be reimbursed for the purchase. When in doubt, ask.**

The last statement is the most important, ask and communicate with the WLD via e-mail and by attending Board meetings. Keep the Superintendent informed of your progress and your needs as you build the layout. The entire process should be fun and free of major issues for you. Working together, you will be able to showcase your talents at a major train Show, the WLD will be able to continue spreading the hobby, and TTS will gain a nice display for their show.