

The NZVRS 2026 AGM Competition

The NZVRS would like to hold an open competition for a broadcast band **simple radio receiver project**.

Each entry is to be of a member's own work, is open and in no way limited in design – these may be as simple or complex as desired, although simpler devices may be easier for the judges to appreciate. The entry should be capable of receiving and reproducing a modulated signal at about 1 MHz. A short, written summary and circuit sketch of the entry will assist judging but will not be directly judged on quality. The judges (at their sole discretion) may allocate “Certificates of Merit” recognizing any special attributes eg the most innovative, the smallest, the largest, best vintage look, the simplest etc, to those entries deemed worthy of such an award. There are bonus credits for using the club's VR100 / 6U7 valves but also crystal set design. Any power requirements should be provided with the entry so the judges can operate the set at the venue but this item will not be part of the judging criteria.

As usual entries are to be anonymous and presented to the Secretary before 11am on the day of the AGM. For out-of-town entries, a document with supporting photos is an entirely acceptable entry, but please supply this at least two days in advance of the AGM to allow suitable printing time.

The following judging points may be used as a guide to determine the winner or the allocation of any awards, but these points are entirely the judges' prerogative;

Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overall design (technique fit for purpose) ○ Demonstration of any innovation. ○ Elegance in design techniques ○ Degree of simplicity (complexity is not always an advantage) ○ Bonus credit for low or zero tube count ○ Adaptation of technologies 	20
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Techniques employed ○ General look and eye appeal (eg simplicity and elegance) ○ Execution skills and aesthetics ○ Interesting componentry and materials ○ Degree of difficulty 	20
Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Device performance (eg sensitivity, but may include other factors such as power efficiency, portability, etc). ○ Ease and simplicity of operation ○ Be safe in working practice 	20
Additional items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inventiveness ○ Novelty value ○ Originality ○ Breadboard construction ○ Merits of supporting documentation ○ Vintage look ○ Attractiveness ○ Exceptional features ○ Bonus credits for crystal set ○ Bonus credits for using the Club's VR100 / 6U7 valves ○ Judge's choice 	40
	Total points	100

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Closing time for the competition is at 11 am on the day of the AGM at the AGM venue, but 2 days prior for out-of-town electronic file entries please, to allow for suitable printing.
2. The supporting instructions, sketch of controls, any circuit and descriptive text will be used only to determine the judging criteria. The ‘printed quality’ of the instructions will not be directly judged however their merit (clarity, simplicity etc) may well be worth a bonus point.
3. The “testing” of the item will be entirely at the discretion of the judges and limited to their range of available instruments.
4. Any submitter's identification will be coded, obscured or otherwise deleted from the judges' copy.
5. Each member is welcome to submit up to two entries in the competition.
6. Any award of merit or recognition in any category is totally optional and the sole prerogative of the judges.
7. The judges' deemed overall winner will be awarded a free NZVRS subscription for the following year and hold the Gerry Billman Trophy until the next AGM.
8. The entries may be summarised for inclusion in the NZVRS Bulletin at the editor's discretion.
9. The judges' decisions on the day are final and binding, no correspondence nor justifications will be entertained.

Thank you for your interest and good luck to all participants.