

# Wise Guy Wednesday

**.Q:** Hey Wise Guy! I went to Bloomington Gold a couple weeks ago. I wanted to spend time watching the judging process, since I plan on getting my '73 big block convertible judged next year. I had read and heard a lot about the judging, but to watch the judges as they reviewed the cars was amazing! I saw how they would look at a group of parts on the Corvette and then jot down on the judging sheets things that were not correct.

I didn't want to interrupt them in the middle of their judging. So, can you tell me what they were looking for and what kind of things they wrote down?

**Bob**



**A: Big Block Bob :** Thanks for being courteous and letting the judges do their job. What you observed was a team of four judges reviewing a car. Each judge reviews one section of the car; Exterior, Interior, Engine Compartment, and Chassis. Each judge is an expert in his/her particular section and can immediately identify what they expect to see as *Typical Factory Production*. Remember that the basis of Bloomington Gold Certification Judging® is to determine how closely the components are as to when the car left the factory. To do so, the judges use five criteria for any deviation; Finish, Date, Installation, Configuration, & Completeness. If a judge determines a component to have a deviation, he will record it as *Easily Detectable*, *Only a Fair Fascimile*, or *Missing/ Totally Unlike*. The judge will also make a notation using F D I C C to identify where/ how the component deviates.

**For example;** a judge may observe a component to have a painted finish when *TFP* would be expected to be natural. This would likely receive an *Easily Detectable* score and be notated with an F , for Finish deviation. **For example;** a judge may observe exhaust components to be joined and clamped when *TFP* would be expected to be a weld joint. This would likely receive an *Easily Detectable* score and be notated with an I , for Installation deviation. As you observed, the judges often review a group of components and using their years of experience, then notate any deviations. This is done quickly. ***This year's team of judges had an average of 18.92 years of judging at Bloomington Gold, with 13 judges having more than 20 years experience!*** The judges also review the Damage / Deterioration (condition) of each component and note that each component is *Typical Factory*(condition) or *Light, Moderate, or Heavy Damage*.

Any questions..... contact **Wise Guy** [guy@bloomingtongold.com](mailto:guy@bloomingtongold.com)