

IPMS Niagara Frontier Policy for Donated Items

On occasion, IPMS Niagara Frontier receives donations of kits and other modeling related stuff. Usually, these donations are from club members in response to specific requests to support the Kid's Classes or to pass on to our troops overseas. Sometimes we get donations from non-members as well. We are very fortunate that we have such generous club members and friends.

Usually, we use the donated things as intended, but in some cases, the items are unsuitable or even unusable. The kits may be too complicated for the kids to build, have missing parts or instructions or have bad decals. Sometimes we just have too many to store. The difficulty is in deciding what to do with these "leftovers".

The E-Board recently had a lengthy discussion to develop a policy about what we do with donated items. Here's what we decided.

Any donated item that is accepted becomes the property of IPMS Niagara Frontier Chapter. All items are accepted with our thanks but with no strings attached.

The E-Board is responsible for determining where the items will be used. If donations are requested for a specific purpose, the E-Board will make every effort to use the items for the intended purpose.

All donations will be evaluated for suitability for the intended purpose. If, for example, a kit is too complicated for use in our six week Kid's Class, it will be set aside. It may well be appropriate to use such kits in our donations to overseas troop or similar programs.

Similarly, damaged or incomplete kits will be set aside. Sometimes we can provide substitutes for bad decals and use the kits, but not often.

We are reliant on the good graces of a very few members to store these items, so we must really be aware of what we keep.

Options for unusable items are to sell, raffle or auction them as-is to club members, sell them as-is on E-Bay or, worst case, to trash them. Possibilities for excess usable kits are to use them as BuffCon raffle items, sell, raffle or auction them to club members, sell them at a club table at BuffCon or sell them on E-Bay.

Any cash we raise from sales of these items will be earmarked to cover expenses associated with the programs that we requested the kits for.

Don't get the wrong idea. We need and value your donations. They get us through the Kids Classes with the minimum of financial pain and allow us to share the hobby with service people overseas.

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