



Great Train Show
World's Greatest Hobby on Tour
Layout Application Packet
www.greattrainshow.com
 PO Box 117, Oswego, IL 60543
 bill@greattrainexpo.com



The **Great Train Show** is the nation's largest traveling model train show. The show is designed for the general public, modelers, hobbyists, families, and the just plain curious. Each show features hundreds of tables of trains and accessories for sale, huge operating exhibits, activities for kids, and more. Don't miss your chance to be part of these amazing shows!

The **World's Greatest Hobby on Tour** is a high-quality model railroad show designed to introduce the general public to model railroading. We target both consumers and die-hard modelers. The WGH on Tour features many exciting attractions for attendees including many of the industry's major manufactures, a FREE Thomas the Tank Engine Riding Train, play area, operating model railroad layouts, product demonstrations, hobby shops, how-to seminars and much more.

2025/2026 Show Schedule

Date	Midwest Shows		Western Shows	
October 4-5, 2025			Del Mar, CA	Del Mar Fairgrounds
October 25-26, 2025	Shakopee, MN	Canterbury Park		
November 08-09, 2025			Victorville, CA	SBC Fairgrounds
November 29-30, 2025	Collinsville, IL	Gateway Center		
December 13-14, 2025			Pleasanton, CA	Alameda Co. Fairgrounds
January 03-04, 2026	Kansas City, MO	KCI Expo Center	Boise, ID	Expo Idaho
January 10-11, 2026	Columbus, OH	Ohio Expo Center & State Fair	Ridgefield, WA	Clark County Fairgrounds
January 17-18, 2026	Novi, MI	Suburban Collection Showplace	Puyallup, WA	Washington State Fair
January 24-25, 2026	Saint Charles, MO	Saint Charles Convention Center	Kennewick, WA	Benton County Fairgrounds
Jan 31 – Feb 1, 2026			Ventura, CA	Ventura Co, Fairgrounds
February 7-8, 2026	Indianapolis, IN	Indiana State Fairground		
February 14-15, 2026	Xenia, OH	Greene County Expo Center	Costa Mesa, CA	OC Fair & Events Center
February 21-22, 2026	Girard, OH	Metroplex Expo Center	Vallejo, CA	Solano Co Fair & Event Center
Feb 28 – Mar 1, 2026			Sacramento, CA	Cal Expo
March 14-15, 2026	Fort Wayne, IN	Allen Co War Memorial Coliseum		
March 21-22, 2026	Des Moines, IA	Iowa Events Center		
March 28-29, 2026			Dallas, TX	Dallas Market Hall w/WGH

How to sign up: The easiest and quickest way is to sign up online at www.greattrainshow.com.

You can also fill out the application page in this document, sign it, and mail or scan-and-e-mail it to us. You'll receive a confirmation email or letter within a few days, and you'll receive the show information packet about 2-3 weeks prior to the show.

Scan and Sign Up



Acceptance process: A letter/email indicating the status of this contract will be sent once the contract is received. The letter will state whether the contract has been accepted, declined, or is *on-hold (pending)* while we complete the show floor plan. If placed in a “pending” status, you will receive an accepted or declined notice of this contact at least 21 days before the show. This constitutes an agreement between parties and cannot be orally modified. Modifications can only be made by written agreement.

Merchandise sales: Occasionally, clubs will ask if they can sell items at the show, often as a fundraiser for the club. This is permissible, but there are restrictions. If a club is selling specific club branded items, like a shirt with the club's name, or a club car, then there is no fee to do sell at the show. If the club is selling general merchandise, even if the items were donated, the club will need to purchase selling space. This is to be fair to the other dealers. If a club were to receive donated items, or get the space for free or discounted, they would be able to sell the items at a lower price, since they have lower costs. To keep things fair for all the exhibitors selling items, regular selling fees will apply. If you have questions regarding selling at a show, please ask.

Standard Honorarium

Display layouts will be paid a standard honorarium based on square footage and will be as follows:

\$50.00	Less than 100 ft of actual layout
\$100.00	101 to 499 ft of actual layout
\$150.00	500 or more ft of actual layout

You may request a non-standard honorarium. Please be aware we will give first preference to those who do not require an honorarium, then second preference to those who request the standard honorarium and lastly the non-standard honorarium requests. Odds are, if you are asking for something other than the standard honorarium, you will not be accepted except in rare circumstances.

Workshop presenters will be paid a \$15.00 standard honorarium per workshop.

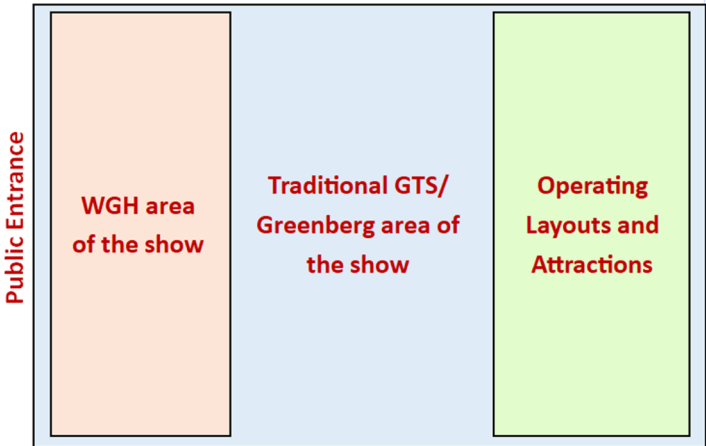


World’s Greatest Hobby on Tour: In 2025, I updated and streamlined the show format, and it will remain the same for 2026. The show will now look like a show within a show. The area at the very front of the hall will be designated for the traditional World’s Greatest Hobby on Tour style of show. This will have the look and feel of past World’s Greatest Hobby on Tour events with pipe and drape, skirted tables, etc. and is where the manufactures and dealers wishing to be in that section will be placed.

The remainder of the hall will have the look and feel of our traditional Great

Train Shows. Standard tables, as well as our 3 table booths will be available for those selling, that do not need the options of the WGH portion of the show. Because the area will not be separated, the public will be able to flow throughout the entire show, seeing all of the manufactures, sellers, layouts and attractions, and will allow us to bundle that into a very attractive package to help drive attendance.

Layouts will use the single Great Train Show layout application on the next page.





Layout Application - Great Train Show/World's Greatest Hobby on Tour

Club or Layout Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check (v) which show(s) you'd like to participate at:

	Show Date(s)	Show Location
<input type="checkbox"/>	10/25-26/2025	Shakopee, MN
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/08-09/2025	Victorville, CA
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/29-30/2025	Collinsville, IL
<input type="checkbox"/>	12/13-14/2025	Pleasanton, CA
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/03-04/2026	Kansas City, MO
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/03-04/2026	Boise, ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/10-11/2026	Columbus, OH
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/10-11/2026	Ridgefield, WA
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/17-18/2026	Novi, MI
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/17-18/2026	Puyallup, WA
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/24-25/2026	Saint Charles, MO
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/24-25/2026	Kennewick, WA

	Show Date(s)	Show Location
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/31-02/01/25	Ventura, CA
<input type="checkbox"/>	02/07-08/2026	Indianapolis, IN
<input type="checkbox"/>	02/14-15/2026	Xenia, OH
<input type="checkbox"/>	02/14-15/2026	Costa Mesa, CA
<input type="checkbox"/>	02/21-22/2026	Girard, OH
<input type="checkbox"/>	02/21-22/2026	Vallejo, CA
<input type="checkbox"/>	02/28-03/01/26	Sacramento, CA
<input type="checkbox"/>	03/14-15/2026	Fort Wayne, IN
<input type="checkbox"/>	03/21-22/2026	Des Moines, IA
<input type="checkbox"/>	03/28-29/2026	Dallas, TX

Please check (v) which of the following you'd like to offer at the show(s) and fill in the appropriate information in each section

<input type="checkbox"/>	Preferred Dimensions <i>Enter the preferred dimensions you would like to display at the show</i>	Dimensions	Length ↔	Width ↕

<input type="checkbox"/>	Alternate Dimensions <i>Rarely, but occasionally, we may need to reduce the size to fit, or we may have extra space available. If you are flexible in size, please list the min/max dimensions of your display</i>	Min/Max Dimensions Gauge/Scale:	Min Length ↔	Min Width ↕	Max Length ↔	Max Width ↕
			<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> HO <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input type="checkbox"/> LEGO <input type="checkbox"/> Other Display			

<input type="checkbox"/>	Workshop/Demonstration	Title(s) or Subject(s):	
		Preferred Time(s):	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Club/Organization Tables	Merchandise Being Sold:	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Club Merchandise <u>ONLY</u> (Complete Box Below)
		Sales Tax # or Tax Exempt #:	

Total # of Tables Requested:		Electricity Required:	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
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Does your club require an *HONORARIUM* to participate? <i>See the terms & conditions page for information about how our HONORARIUM system works</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <i>Complete Next Line</i>
If YES, is the STANDARD okay?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NO →	If standard NOT okay, what amount do you require?	\$
<i>Please be aware we will give first preference to those who do not require an honorarium, then second preference to those who request the standard honorarium, and lastly the non-standard honorarium requests.</i>			

I certify I have read the terms and conditions on all pages and agree to abide by these terms and conditions.

I reiterate that I agree to harmless Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc., its exhibition centers, and contractors, for any and all actions that may occur involving the show. I agree to indemnify Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc. for any liability that may be caused or related to my participation under this contract.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Great Train Show Contact Information &
World's Greatest Hobby on Tour Contact Information:
Bill Grove – p 224/240-8035 - bill@greattrainexpo.com
www.greattrainshow.com PO Box 117, Oswego, IL 60543

Exhibitor Terms and Conditions for shows operated by Giant Shows Inc.
Terms and Conditions for Great Train Show & World's Greatest Hobby on Tour

Terms & Conditions

The term "EXHIBITOR" applies to clubs, dealers, organizations or individuals(s) presenting exhibits, displays or demonstrations related to trains and train-related hobbies. The EXHIBITOR hereby agrees to the following regulations, which are listed in this EXHIBITOR contract and to any amendments, which may be established in consideration for the space provided by Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc.

EXHIBITOR agrees to keep his/her display operational to the public, to not remove any items from his/her display for the purpose of packing during the public show hours. Violation of this rule will lead to exclusion from future shows and may result in a claim for damages to the appearance of the show. EXHIBITOR releases Giant Shows, Inc, Great Train Show and World's Greatest Hobby on Tour from all claims arising from EXHIBITORS show occupancy, including but not limited to loss, theft, damage, destruction or injury to EXHIBITOR'S business or EXHIBITOR personnel. EXHIBITOR releases Giant Shows, Inc, Great Train Show and World's Greatest Hobby on Tour from all claims arising out of Giant Shows, Inc, Great Train Show and World's Greatest Hobby on Tour's failure to provide space, removal of exhibit, or failure to hold the show.

EXHIBITOR understands Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc., assume no responsibility for any EXHIBITOR property or for safety at the show. EXHIBITOR agrees to hold harmless Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc., its exhibition centers, and contractors for any and all actions that may occur involving the show. EXHIBITOR agrees to indemnify Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc., for any liability that may be caused by or related to their participation. This includes but is not limited to any liability caused by people EXHIBITOR provides EXHIBITOR badges to, people EXHIBITOR invites to the show, and any liability that may be caused by the EXHIBITOR'S actions.

Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc., retains the right to reject, eject or prohibit any product or exhibit in whole or in part or to reject, or eject an EXHIBITOR or his/her representative(s) with or without giving cause. If cause is not given, Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc., liability shall not exceed the return to the EXHIBITOR the amount of the license fee unearned at the time of ejection. EXHIBITOR agrees to collect and remit sales and use tax in accordance with governmental regulations. EXHIBITOR acknowledges that Great Train Show, World's Greatest Hobby on Tour and Giant Shows Inc., furnishes the name of each EXHIBITOR to the state or governmental unit(s) as legally required. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this license, or the breach thereof, shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, and judgment upon the award rendered by the Arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. It is agreed that such arbitration would occur near our offices in Illinois.

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Workshop presenters will be paid a \$15.00 standard honorarium per workshop.

We offer up to three tables at no charge since they cost us \$10.00 per table to rent. Additional tables will be provided, but are offset against payment requested.

**** This is a legally-binding agreement ****

It's understood that each party intends to be legally bound by it

Great Train Show Contact Information &
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