

The "Professor Dr. Gerhard Knöchlein BMW Tradition Award"

This award honours persons from the international spectrum of BMW clubs who make an outstanding contribution to promoting BMW tradition by optimal care of their historic BMWs and making them accessible to the public by active participation in events.

The "Professor Dr Gerhard Knöchlein BMW Tradition Award" was established in 2002 by the International Council of BMW Clubs in honour of the long-standing and formative commitment of Professor Gerhard Knöchlein for BMW clubs at international level. The award is presented in commemoration of his person, his committed enthusiasm for historic BMW vehicles and his work for the global community of BMW clubs.

It was the firm conviction of Professor Dr. Gerhard Knöchlein that the issue of presenting historic BMW vehicles to the public and preserving them for future generations, as testimony of a dynamic technological-cultural development, needed international coordination that is open to any BMW enthusiast.

At national level he pursued this goal from 1976 on as Founding President of the BMW Veteranenclub Deutschland eV, which up to today has developed into the most significant amalgamation of BMW automobile and motorcycle owners in the historic sector. A globally organised BMW club membership with more than 5000 historic vehicles, the credo of the "rolling museum" and active internationalism at numerous major events are defining elements in communicating and extending the BMW heritage.

Professor Dr. Gerhard Knöchlein was particularly influential in anchoring the technological-cultural history of the BMW brand in the statutes of the International Council of BMW Clubs; thereby he lent the aspect of heritage to its earned status in the scope of the international activities of BMW clubs.

In view of the defining role which he played in the modern BMW club scenario and his 40-year contribution as active, "boundless" ambassador of a globally oriented brand, Professor Dr. Gerhard Knöchlein was predestined to give his name to this BMW Tradition Award.

The following pages show how BMW Mobile Tradition and the International Council of BMW Clubs wish to salute a special group of worldwide BMW club members and the part you can play.

Criteria for conferring the "Professor Dr. Gerhard Knöchlein BMW Tradition Award"

In honour of the far-reaching contribution of Gerhard Knöchlein to the organisation and structure of the international BMW club scene and thus to the BMW heritage, the Award is conferred on BMW club members who demonstrate exceptional commitment in optimally preserving historic BMW automobiles and motorcycles and who also enable the public to enjoy these vehicles.

1. Criteria for the Award

- The ideal preservation and public presentation of BMW vehicles under the banner of veteran car events are the two prime goals for conferring the Award. Every classical BMW automobile and BMW motorcycle may be considered for the Award.
- The Award was launched to strengthen the significance of the BMW heritage within the international club organisation, the umbrella organisations of BMW clubs and the new markets still to be developed by BMW club organisations.
- The Award is reserved for those BMW club members who belong to a national umbrella organisation or a recognized BMW Club. The latter may submit the name of one member per annum at the most for nomination.
- Following nomination by a Council member, the International Council of BMW Clubs confers the Award.
- Business interests of the vehicle owner and/or the person making the nomination disqualify a club member from nomination for the Award. This applies likewise to a one-time restoration of, respectively one-time commitment for a BMW vehicle.

2. Nomination

- Member clubs of the International Council of BMW Clubs may decide whether they wish to recommend a deserving candidate for the Award nomination in a specific year. Only one deserving candidate per member club may be proposed each year. Nomination must be submitted in writing by the Council member club to the Int. Council of BMW Clubs. Deadline for nomination for the current year is July 31.
- Names of candidates must be registered by the relevant Council member clubs by July 31 and be accompanied by an appropriate written/illustrated documentation of their activities. Evidence is welcome of participation at the listed events in support of the proposal (Concours d'Elégance, excursions, rallies, races etc.); the award of prizes should also be verified. Advisable are good quality photos to allow an assessment of the condition and age of the vehicle.
- Following submission the vehicles can be verified by the archives of BMW Mobile Tradition on the basis of suitable documents, e.g. FIVA ID card or the vehicle title document/registration papers (copies).
- Nominations must be submitted with the pertinent documents to the International BMW Club Office (D-80788 Munich) by the aforementioned deadline. Incomplete nominations will be returned.

3. Selection of Candidates

- The nomination with appropriate supporting material is put forward by the relevant delegate or observer at the Annual General Meeting of the Council.
- The International Council of BMW Clubs decides on the conferral of the Award. Nominations not considered may be resubmitted in the following year.
- A profile of those persons honoured with the Award is to be made available to BMW Mobile Tradition.

4. Example of Individual Nomination Criteria

Individual nomination criteria can include the following:

- Outstanding achievements in preserving/refurbishing BMW vehicles in combination with exceptional commitment/success in taking part with the vehicles in events.

Other achievements:

- Journeys undertaken with a vehicle, model-related book or press publications and comparable activities as enthusiast, collector or vehicle owner.