



FIVA

Position paper:

We Protect
We Preserve
We Promote

FIVA Definition of a Youngtimer Vehicle

Background

November 2021

For many decades, the transition of a vehicle to a “historic vehicle” has been determined by the passage of time. While most vehicles would end up being scrapped after their period of use, some would survive to be enjoyed as a part of history and to pass them on to future generations as a rolling museum.

But from the use period and until the vehicle reaches the status of a historic vehicle there is a range of years where protection and preservation is equally important if the vehicle is to survive to become a historic vehicle. This is the “youngtimer” period.

FIVA defines a Youngtimer vehicle as:

A mechanically propelled road vehicle:

- ***which is between 20 and 29 years of age;***
- ***which is in good condition and preservation;***
- ***which is usually used during leisure time;***
- ***and may become eligible for a FIVA Identity Card upon reaching 30 years of age.***

The classification of “youngtimers” is essential to ensure the continuity of the historic vehicle park and of our motoring heritage.

There might also be countries needing to have vehicles in the category in line with the FIVA definition of a Youngtimer vehicle but they could be called differently in order to follow national law.

To aid this process, FIVA recommends that owners secure all vehicle data and apply for a FIVA Youngtimer Registration Card in order to ensure the history of the vehicle and thereby also protect our cultural heritage for the future.

National scrappage schemes, designed to promote the introduction of more efficient vehicles which causes less emission of environmental harmful substances, may threaten the survival of Youngtimers. It is the view of FIVA that it is the sole right of the vehicle owner to determine the end-of-life of any vehicle.

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