

Photography West Camera Club
Intra-Club Competitions Definitions and Rules

I. DEFINITIONS

A. Divisions:

There are two (2) Divisions: Prints and Projected Images

- The Prints and Projected Images Division will continue to function as other clubs such as Arizona Camera Club Council and Photographic Society of America (PSA).

B. Categories:

- In the Print Division, there are five (5) Categories: Monochrome (Open); Open; Rotating Subject*; Creative Expression; and Nature.
- In the Projected Image Division, there are five (5) Categories: Monochrome (Open); Open; Rotating Subject*, Creative Expression and Nature

*Rotating Subject will change for each competition and is selected by the chairperson.

Definition of Categories:

Open: Any image, including any manipulated image, is acceptable.

Monochrome: A monochrome image is typically a black and white work, ranging from the very dark (black) to the very clear (white) with various shades of grey. Monochrome may also include works toned entirely in a single color (e.g. sepia). A black and white image modified by partial toning, or by the addition of any color to only a part of the image becomes a color image and this type of image cannot be entered in the Monochrome Category. Infrared photos are not acceptable in this category.

Creative Expression: All elements of a Creative image must be derived from the photographic images of the maker. The maker must, through their own efforts, accomplish obvious creative modifications of the original photo or photos. HDR will not be eligible for this competition.

Rotating: Rotating subjects will be defined by the Print or Digital Chairperson at the time of each competition, and announced to the membership.

Nature: Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.

Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that

directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.

The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural. Adding a vignette or blurring the background during processing is not allowed.

Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story.

Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human-created hybrid animals and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed.

Images taken with subjects under controlled conditions such as zoos are allowed. Objects of the hand of man are not allowed in the photo.

Controlling live subjects by chilling, anesthetic or any method of restricting natural movement for the purpose of a photograph is not allowed.

No modification that changes the truth of a Nature image is allowed. Images may be cropped but no other technique that removes, adds or moves any part of the image is allowed.

Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise and lens flare are allowed.

Complete conversion of color images to greyscale monochrome is allowed. Partial conversion, toning and infrared captures or conversions are not allowed.

Images of the same subject that are combined in-camera or with software by focus stacking or exposure blending are allowed. Multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively and combined in-camera or with software (image stitching) are allowed.

C. Classes:

There are three (3) Classes: Class B (Beginner), Class A (Advanced), and Class M (Masters). A person's designation is based upon the total number of points they have earned in competition.

II. Entry Limitations

A. The Chairperson may disqualify any entry that does not comply with category, subject, time limitations, or any entry rule. The chairperson may NOT disqualify an entry because he or she feels the entry or subject matter is somehow offensive as all entries must be judged; however, the club board may elect not to display the entry.

B. A maximum of two (2) entries per category. The Competition Chairperson may at his/her option increase or decrease the number of entries permitted for a given competition.

C. An identical image cannot be submitted in multiple categories for a single competition and is also ineligible in concurrent competitions (i.e., print and projected image).

D. PSA ethical practices rule (paragraph 1. b. 3. iii) will be added. The rule reads as follows: Monochrome images and color images from the same capture shall be considered different images.

E. Images submitted for competitions shall originate as photographs by the entrant. By virtue of submitting an entry, the photographer certifies the work as his/her own.

F. Once an image receives a Photography West Club award (1st, 2nd, or 3rd place), that image cannot be submitted in another print or projected image contest of Photography West Photo Club. This includes the Monthly Competition.

G. Images with water marks, text or titles, added within the image or as part of the face of the mounting medium, by the entrant will be disqualified. Text that is contained in the photograph such as a street sign or billboard is acceptable.

H. Incorrectly sized projected images will be cause for disqualification. The maximum allowable size is 1920 pixels wide by 1080 pixels high with a maximum file size of 3.0 MB. For any given crop one of the 1400 x 1050-pixel dimensions must be used.

III. COMPETITION REGULATIONS – ALL DIVISIONS

A. There will be a minimum of 2 Intra-Club Competitions per year – one in the spring and one in the fall.

B. All Prints and Digital entries are to be submitted using the current entry process on or before the announced closing date.

IV. COMPETITION AWARDS, SCORING AND RELATED RULES

A. Points and ribbons will be awarded for each Division Competition as follows:

1 st Place (Blue Ribbon).....	5 points
2 nd Place (Red Ribbon).....	4 points
3 rd Place (White Ribbon).....	3 points
Honorable Mention (Green Ribbon).....	1 point

B. For all competitions, ribbons can be awarded according to the following number of entries submitted per category and class:

6 entries.....	1 st and 2 nd Places
7-9 entries.....	1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd Places
10-14 entries.....	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , plus 1 Honorable Mention**
15-24 entries.....	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , plus 2 Honorable Mentions**
25-34 entries.....	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , plus 3 Honorable Mentions**
35-44 entries.....	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , plus 4 Honorable Mentions**
45+ entries.....	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , plus 5 Honorable Mentions**

(** Additional Honorable Mentions can be awarded should there be a tie based on scores).

C. Award points are cumulative during the member’s lifetime, with points for prints, or projected image totaling in any Division:

0-30 places that member in Class B (Beginner).

31-80 places the member in Class A (Advanced), and

81+ places the member in Masters Class M (Masters).

(New members with prior salon competition experience can, with the concurrence of the Board, start in Class A or Higher).

D. After the completion of the two Division competitions in either the fall or the spring, all persons achieving sufficient points in any Division to reach a new Class will be raised to that class prior to the next competitions.

E. Any member negatively affected by a revision in the point system, e.g., being dropped to a lower class, will be “grandfathered” into their current class unless prior to the start of a Competition Year they notify the Competition Chairpersons they want to be in the class found in the revised rules.

V. PREPARATION/PRESENTATION OF PRINT ENTRIES

A. Print Division

All prints shall adhere to the following specifications. At the discretion of the judges, any image that does not adhere to these rules may be disqualified, or have its score reduced. The judge's ruling is final.

- Strokes and Borders

Any image, in any category, can include a thin line called a "stroke", or a "border" which could be wider, to separate the image from the background.

- Name or Identifying Marks

The photographer's name, signature, watermark, or other identifying mark shall not be visible.

- Media

All prints shall be made on paper media. No other media is permitted.

- Print Sizes and Mounting

- Prints can be any size up to 16" x 20".
- Each print shall be securely mounted on a single mounting board with dimensions of 16" x 20" and from 1/16th to 1/8" in thickness (e.g. 4-ply mat board).
- Over-matting is permitted and only a single 4-ply mat may be used.
- Allowable mounting combinations are:
 - 16" x 20" mounting board + print
 - 16" x 20" mounting board + print + over-mat
- No other mounting combination may be used.
- Foam Core may not be used.
- Prints and labels shall be firmly attached (e.g. no masking tape, Post-It notes, etc.) and can be disqualified if they do not stay securely attached to the mounting board.
- Refer to the Points and Standings sheets in the Registration Book to verify your Class for entry. If you have never entered a competition before, you must enter in Class B. See section IV paragraph C above for an exception.
- Place your entries in the appropriate drawer(s) located under the Registration Drawer in the Photo Lab.

VI. PREPARATION OF PROJECTED IMAGES

A. Preparation and submission procedures of projected images will conform to what is announced by the chairperson.

B. Sizing: Incorrectly sized projected images will be cause for disqualification. The maximum allowable size is 1920 pixels wide and or 1080 pixel high with a maximum file size of 3.0 MB. For any given crop size, one of the 1920 x 1080 pixel dimensions must be used.

VII. JUDGING GUIDELINES

A. Judging shall be conducted by experienced persons other than club members and/or former club members. Three (3) judges shall be used in each competition.

B. Judging shall consist of analysis of the following three (3) Elements: Technical Excellence, Composition, and Impact.

Some factors that may impact the above three (3) Elements are: creativity, use of color, center of interest, lighting, technique and storytelling.

C. The scoring range for each judge, per image, may range from a low of “1” to a maximum of “9” points. The final image score will equal the total of each of the three (3) judge’s scores for a specific image.

Rules update: January 20, 2021