



Competition Guidelines 2018

Monthly competition judges are selected by the Competition Committee, members who coordinate entry collection and return. Judges are not club members, and judges do not have access to names or other information about those who submit images.

Competition Committee members for 2018 are co-chairs Julie Delio and Shawn Gibson, plus Jeff Heyer, Brian Fesko and Ken Spencer.

Entry deadlines

Images must be submitted by the beginning of the first Thursday meeting of each month. Results and judges' comments are presented at the club's third Thursday meeting.

Eligibility

Only members age 10 and older who have paid current year dues are eligible to enter.

Titles

All submitted work should bear a title unlike any other by the same photographer. A common title such as "Untitled" should also include a sequential number.

Identification

All work must be identified with the entrant's assigned membership number. The photographer's name must not appear on any material submitted. All prints must be labeled on the back, in the upper left corner, with title, membership number (no name) and the orientation of the print, if not obvious.

Processing

Commercial processing of images, including mounts, is permissible. Otherwise, the creation of the image must be solely the work of the entrant.

Judging

Entries will be collected at the first meeting of the month. Judging results and critiquing will take place on the second meeting of each month, or as otherwise announced. Judges are encouraged to attend and give constructive critiques.

Re-entry

You can re-enter any image up to two times for monthly competition (for a total of three entries) or until it places 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place. Once the image places or has been entered three times you cannot enter it again in monthly competition. Once an image has won 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place, the winning photographer may not enter subsequent photographs of the same subject, even in another category unless they differ significantly in perspective, lighting or composition. All entries are to be reviewed by the competition committee.

Closed Subject Contest

Entries in “closed” or “assigned subject” contest must conform to the assigned theme either literally or in a readily apparent, figurative sense. Only those images taken after the assigned subjects have been announced will be eligible for entry. The Competition Committee shall review all closed contest entries for compliance before the close of the turn-in meeting.

Compliance

Once an image has won 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place the winning photographer may not enter subsequent photographs of the same subject, even in another category, unless they differ significantly in perspective, lighting, or composition. All entries are to be reviewed by the competition committee. Any entry determined to be unacceptable under the above-mentioned criteria will not be submitted for judging. Tasteful nudity is acceptable.

Awards

Ribbons will normally be awarded for 1st, 2nd, or 3rd and Honorable Mention places in each class. When there is a limited turn-in, ribbons will be awarded as follows:

- 7 or more entries: all four ribbons
- 5 or 6 entries: top three ribbons
- 3 or 4 entries: top two ribbons
- 1 or 2 entries: 1st place ribbon

In a contest with unusually high turn-ins, one additional Honorable Mention will be added for each increment of 10 entries over 20.

The judge will award a “Best in Show” each month from all the submitted images, print and digital.

Award Points

A cumulative point system is maintained by the competition committee. Each entry will be assigned a numerical score from 6 to 15 points. The effort of submitting merits a score of no less than 6.

- A “fair” entry should receive a score of 7-9
- A “good” entry should receive a score of 10-12
- An “excellent” entry should receive 13-15 points.

In addition to scoring the entries, the judge will assign 1st, 2nd, or 3rd and Honorable Mention awards.

Annual Awards

At year's end, the club member accumulating the largest number of award points from his/her top 10 scores in each class will be Photographer of the Year in that class and awarded a plaque. Second place, third place and Honorable Mention Photographers of the Year will be awarded rosettes. In the event of a tie, the number of original entries submitted during the year will determine the winner. For the purpose of tie-breaking, an original entry is one that has not been previously entered in this contest year. If a further tie breaker is needed, the member with the greatest number of first places in the class will be declared the winner; and then, if needed, second places and so on.

Year End Contest

Entries winning 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in monthly contest are eligible for the year end contest. Awards will be given for the top four places in each class. The 1st place in each class will be declared the Photograph of the Year in that class and awarded a plaque. 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mentions will be awarded rosettes.

Retirement

Any entry winning 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in a regular scheduled monthly contest will be retired from scheduled monthly competitions but will be eligible for the year end contest in the current year as well as any other club-sponsored competitions, such as competition with the Dallas Camera Club.

Competing in Classes

Members may choose to compete in the B (beginner), or A (advanced) classes of prints and/or digital. Members may enter the Master's classes after winning Class A Photographer of the Year or by invitation of the board of directors. If a member chooses to change class mid-year, any points awarded in the original class competed in do not transfer to the second class.

Progression

Class B Photographers of the Year will be required to move to Class A. Class A Photographers of the Year may, at their discretion, move to the Master's Class. Anyone winning Class A Photographer of the Year two times will be required to move to the Master's Class. Progression will be within the print and digital classes. If someone is promoted to Class A prints, for instance, they must also compete in Class A digital.

Number of Entries

A member may enter no more than two (2) images in each monthly competition and no more than one (1) image per category.

Rules and Procedures for Prints

Color and monochrome prints will be judged together in one category, Prints. Monochrome prints may be toned.

Number

Members may enter one (1) print in color or monochrome.

Mounts

All prints must be mounted on substantial backing or mat board. Framed prints or those with hanging devices attached are not permitted. Maximum print size and/or mat size is 20-by-24 inches. Maximum mat board thickness is 5/16 inch. No prints will be accepted in plastic bags or with paper attached. Care should be taken that the mat/backing is secured properly and sturdy enough for competition judging.

Markings

All prints must be labeled on the back, in the upper left corner, with title, membership number (no name) and the orientation of the print, if not obvious.

Rules and Procedures for Digital

Color and monochrome digital images will be judged together in one category, Digital.

Number

Members may enter one (1) digital file.

Size

The maximum resolution allowed for digital entries is 1920 pixels wide and 1280 pixels high. Images submitted that are smaller will not be disqualified but will be at a disadvantage during judging and when projected.

Format

Files must be JPEG. File name extension must be .jpg.

Color Space

For accurate color display, sRGB is recommended.

File Naming

The following file naming convention is important to ensure proper automatic sorting of our digital entries. Each file name will contain Class (A, B or M), Member Number, and Title as shown below. Use an underscore (NOT a dash or hyphen) to separate each item. Title names shall contain spaces. To support the automation of our file gathering process, it is important NOT to add an underscore within your title names. Avoid the use of unsupported special characters such as \ / : * ? < > | in title names.

Some GOOD examples:

- M_1233_Tinkering Around.jpg
- B_1459_Colorado River.jpg
- A_1229_Plane In Flight.jpg
- B_1234_River Walk.jpg

Some BAD examples:

- m-1233_Tinkering_Around.jpeg
- 233_m-TinkeringAround123.jpg
- 233-A-fall_sunrise.jpg - a great example because it's not clear if the entry is for class A or the name of the photograph is "A Fall Sunrise."

Submitting Digital File(s)

You may email your files as attachments to submit.digital@gmail.com any time prior to the turn-in meeting, which usually begins at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month. Please include "FWCC Digital Submission" in the subject line. You will receive a confirmation reply when your files are received and checked in. If you prefer, in lieu of email, you may bring a CD to the turn-in meeting.