



Interclub Competition Rules

Last Modified 4 May 2018

Purpose: The purpose of these rules is to offer a common ground for competition among the member clubs of the Council.

Rule Changes:

- Changes in these rules may be made by a 2/3 majority vote at a regular scheduled meeting of the Council delegates after receiving notice of the proposed changes in writing at least 30 days prior to said vote. (See Article XI of the By-Laws.)
Proposed competition rule changes should be submitted no later than June 1st for changes to the following year's competition.
- Competition Rules may only be modified once in a calendar year (except for minor administrative corrections). All changes to competition rules will become effective with the next competition year.
- All competition rule changes must be completed no later than September 30th of each year to allow time for distribution to club members

Restrictions: These rules shall in no way interfere with the right of the member clubs to determine the requirements for participation in their club competitions. However, for N4C competitions, if using the Photoclub Services' Image Competition Manager (ICM) system, there are certain requirements for titling (maximum length of 200 characters, etc. that must be fulfilled. (See below).

General Rules

1. There shall be the following Competition Divisions:

Prints:

Pictorial Monochrome Print (M)

Pictorial Color Print (P)

Special Prints:

(Both Color and Monochrome prints are allowed in Special Prints)

Nature (N)

Travel (T)

Journalism (J)

Creative (C)

Sequence (S)

Projected Images:

Pictorial (P)

(Both Color and Monochrome images are allowed in Pictorial Projected Images)

Pictorial Monochrome Projected Images (M)

Special Projected Images:

Nature Projected Images (N)

Or Sub Division Authentic Wildlife Projected Images (W)

Creative Projected Images (C)

Travel Projected Images (T)

Journalism Projected Images (J)

2. There shall be no more than four Competition Levels in any Projected Image or Print Competition Division.

All Projected Image competitions for all Divisions (e.g. Pictorial Color, Monochrome and Special Divisions, which include Nature, Travel, Journalism and Creative) will consist of the following competition four levels:

Basic (B), Intermediate (I), Advanced (A), and Masters (M).

The Pictorial Monochrome and Pictorial Color Printed Image competitions will consist of the following four competition levels:

Basic (B), Intermediate (I), Advanced (A) and Masters (M).

The Special Print Divisions of Nature, Travel, Journalism, and Creative will consist of the following two levels of competition:

Basic (B) and Advanced (A).

The Special Print category of Sequence will consist of one competition level only, and the designation will be the letter "S" for Sequence.

3. Interclub competition shall be held in each Competition Division based on a schedule adopted by the Council at its regular December meeting. Changes in the schedule may be made upon recommendation of the competition committee and the approval of the Council by 2/3 vote.
4. Monthly interclub competitions shall occur at a time and place determined by the Council or by those people involved in a particular judging.
5. All prints and projected images entered shall be entered according to the competition rules of each club. (See By-Laws, Article X, Paragraph C). Most club members of N4C are using the ICM program for submitting electronic images and JPEGs of entered prints.
6. One or more judges may be used for interclub competitions and the judge(s) may or may not be an active member of a competing club. If the judge(s) has pictures in the competition, the pictures will be removed and judged in the next regular interclub competition.

Judges for interclub competitions should not be selected more than twice per calendar year in each Competition Division in which s/he is qualified. Interclub competition judges shall be

selected from the interclub judges' roster by the Judges Chair. The judge(s) so selected for any interclub competition shall be the sole person(s) to critique Projected Images or Prints and to select winners.

7. Judges are selected for the interclub judges' roster by a "judge's selection committee," which can be composed of the entire N4C Board acting as a committee of the whole.
8. The number of awards in a Competition Division and Level is limited to 1/3 of the total number of entries, rounded up, and a maximum of eight (first through fifth and three honorable mentions).

In the Nature Projected Image Division, additional awards will be given to the two best Authentic Wildlife images.

When there are fewer than three entries in a Competition Level, those entries will be moved up or down between levels in their division. All those who place at any level and division shall receive a certificate, which shows the winning photo, if the JPEG equivalent of the Print image is provided by the maker.

9. Any Projected Image or Print which has placed first through fifth or honorable mention in interclub competition may not be reentered in the same Competition Division.
10. Any Print entered in any competition sponsored by the Council shall be entered exclusively at the risk of the exhibitor and neither the Council nor any of its officers or representatives shall be under any liability whatsoever for damage to, or loss of, any image while in their custody. It shall be the responsibility of each member club to inform its members of this condition to participate in Council activities.
11. Prior to the annual awards banquet, an annual interclub competition in all levels of each division shall be held in the month of January following that month's Council meeting. All monthly interclub competition winners, first through fifth and the honorable mention, in all levels of each division, are eligible to be entered in the annual competition.

Annual awards shall consist of first through fifth place, plus five honorable mentions in each level of each division. Annual judges shall select a Picture of the Year from among all the first place winners in the Projected Images Divisions.

There will be an additional three Pictures of the Year in Prints; one for Pictorial Color, one for Pictorial Monochrome, and one for all Special Prints.

Awards will consist of plaques for the Pictures of the Year, medals for first place in each level of each division, and certificates for the remaining winners.

Entry Rules

Entry Rules - General

1. Each member club entering Prints and/or Projected Images in a monthly interclub competition will be eligible to enter a maximum of three Prints and three Projected Images in each competition level in all divisions.
2. All Prints and Projected Images entered in interclub competition must have titles. Competitors should not use the same title more than once. The use of the phrase "Untitled" (or variations thereof, such as "Untitled #2") as a title is not allowed.

3. Projected Images and the front of Prints submitted for competition must be free of any maker identifying information that would be seen during the competition. This includes copyright information, watermarks, logos, maker's name, image title, or date.

The correct file name and other pertinent data for a Projected Image must match the submission requirements for each club. (There are no filename standard formats for the file name when submitting through the ICM.).

4. The back of Prints should have the following information on a label: The print title, entrant's name, club name, name of print division (or division abbreviation), competitor's level (or level abbreviation), and competition date. The label must be placed on the back upper left corner of the mounted or matted print.
5. Completed entry forms, furnished by the Council shall accompany all Prints and PIs entered in competition depending on the method of supplying images to the PI and Print Chairs. (In the case of submitting entries through ICM no entry forms are required.)
6. The PI or Print Chair may disqualify any print or PI not conforming to these rules. A disqualified image may be resubmitted within 60 days, if it has been changed to conform to the rules.

Entry Rules – Projected Images

1. All projected images should be appropriately sized in Photoshop or other applicable program to a maximum of 1920 pixels horizontal and a maximum of 1200 pixels vertical. The resolution should be ignored. The format should be sRGB for best rendering on the N4C monitor, and the image should be saved in the JPEG format. (This is taken care of automatically by the ICM system if the file size is less than 4 MB.) The sRGB format is the recommended color profile, but if the maker has used another one, it will be automatically converted to sRGB by the ICM system. The image should be saved in the JPEG format. Specifying the Maximum JPEG quality is recommended.

2. In addition, the title of any entry must be 200 characters or less, including spaces. The following characters are not allowed in the title:

< (less than)	" (double quote)	/ (forward slash)
> (greater than)	* (asterisk)	\ (backslash)
: (colon)	? (question mark)	(vertical bar or pipe)
~ (tilde)		

3. Sequence entries for nature or journalism should contain the format below:

<Overall Title of the Image>[<Number of Sequence >]<SubTitle, if Desired>

The number of sequence should be between brackets.

Example: *Skate Board Champion [3] Turning somersault*

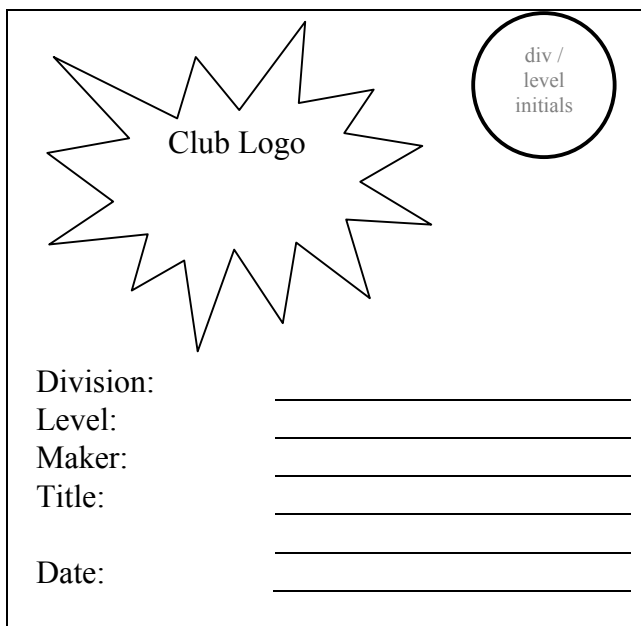
Entry Rules – Prints

1. Entries in all print divisions and competition levels (including Panoramic print entries) shall be mounted such that the entry is self- supporting (e.g. 2- or 4-ply mount board, foam core board, styrene, or other semi-rigid material excluding metal and acrylic). No entry, including mount, may exceed 16" X 20", or be less than 11" X 14" in overall size, and may not exceed

5/16-inch in thickness. Prints that are mounted or matted must be securely assembled or they will be rejected.

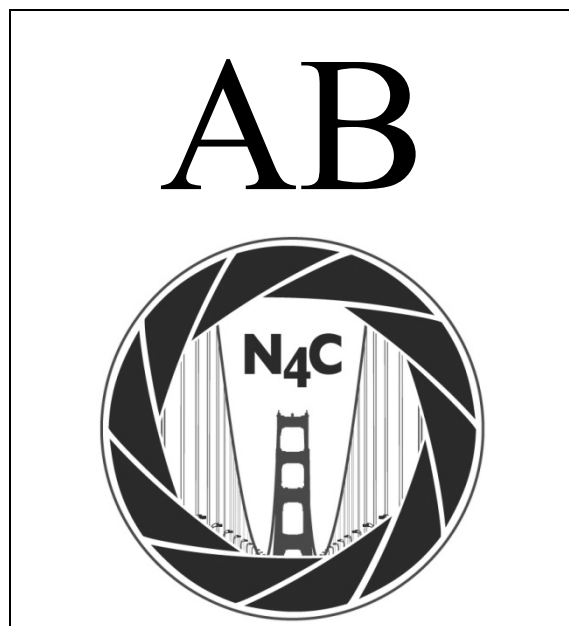
- All entries should have a label with the following information filled in by a printer (machine): club name, competition division, competition level, month of club competition, print title, and print maker (name of entrant). The label should be placed on the back of each entry in the upper left hand corner. Note: labels with hand written information may be disqualified.

Sample Club Print Label



A rectangular form for a club print label. On the left is a jagged starburst shape labeled "Club Logo". To its right is a circle labeled "div / level initials". Below the logo area are five horizontal lines for text, labeled "Division:", "Level:", "Maker:", "Title:", and "Date:".

Sample N4C Interclub Competition Label



Example of a correct club label



A printed label from the Diablo Valley Camera Club. It includes the text: "PRINTS-Nature Prints", "Advanced", "Competition Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2015", "A baby hummingbird at the feeder.", "JOHN DOE", a small image of a hummingbird, "Author Id: 1234567", "Image Id: 7891011", and a table with columns "Score", "Award", and "P" containing the value "N/A".

Example of an incorrect, handwritten, club label



A handwritten label that has been crossed out with a large 'X'. The text is illegible due to the handwriting and the crossing out. It appears to contain fields for "Category", "Club", "Title", "Photographer", "Date", and "Place".