



Interclub Competition Rules

Last Modified 14 October 2018

Effective 1 January 2019

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)

Or Sub Division Authentic Wildlife Prints

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

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 XI, Paragraph C). It is the responsibility of each club to submit their images to the N4C competition.
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.

7. Judges for interclub competitions should not be selected more than twice per calendar year in each Competition Division in which they are 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.
8. 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.
9. 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).

The two best Authentic Wildlife images in the Nature Projected Image Division and the two best Authentic Wildlife images in the Nature Print Division, will receive additional awards.

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.

10. 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.
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.

4. 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

- Images should be scaled as appropriate to fit within a maximum of 1920 pixels horizontal and 1200 pixels vertical.
- The resolution should be ignored.
- The image must be in JPEG format
- Specifying the Maximum JPEG quality is recommended.
- The title of any entry must be 200 characters or less, including spaces. The following characters are not allowed in the title:
 - < (less than)
 - > (greater than)
 - : (colon)
 - ~ (tilde)
 - " (double quote)
 - * (asterisk)
 - ? (question mark)
 - / (forward slash)
 - \ (backslash)
 - | (vertical bar or pipe)
- Sequence entries for nature or journalism should contain the format below:
 - <Main Title of the Sequence>[<Number in Sequence >]<Sub Title, if Desired>

The number in sequences should be between brackets.

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

Entry Rules – Prints

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.

IMAGES

- All images must be printed on photographic paper. Images printed directly on metal or acrylic are not allowed.
- 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.

MOUNTING & MATTING

- A print submitted for competition must be matted or mounted so that is self-supporting.
- Minimum outside measurement is 11×14 inches including matting or mounting board.
- Maximum outside measurement is 16×20 inches including matting or mounting board.

- Maximum thickness of the print and board and matting is 5/16 inch.
- The print itself, inside the mat, may be any size.
- Prints that are mounted or matted must be securely assembled or they will be rejected.
- The print should not be framed or enclosed in protective envelope.

COMPETITION LABEL

- Prints entered into competition must have a computer printed label affixed to the back of the print with the following information: title, maker's name, club name, division, competition level, competition date, and a small picture of the print.
- [Editor's note: For clubs that use Photoclubservices (aka Visual Pursuits) to set up competitions, when defining a Competition Type, the "Type Code" *must* be set to the letter in parenthesis after the Division name. For example, the Type Code for Pictorial Color Prints is "P". This will cause the appropriate Division to be indicated in the yellow box on the print label.]
- *(Exception to computer printed label) If a hand-written label is necessary it must be legible to the hosting club or it will be disqualified. In this case a small image is not required*
- The label must be placed on the back of each entry in the upper left-hand corner such that the correct orientation of the print is easily determined.
- Any and all labels from previous competitions (if the backing is being reused) must be either covered over or clearly marked over to not be mistaken as the current competition label.
- The Title is limited to 200 characters.

Sample Club Print Label designed by club

Contra Costa Camera Club		
Pictorial Prints	March 01, 2018	
Masters		
Rainbow Ladies		
AUTHOR: Doe, Jane	ID: 3016889	
	Score	Award
	P - M	


Sample N4C Interclub Competition Label

FR




Date _____ Award _____

Example of a printed club label from Visual Pursuits

Diablo Valley Camera Club			
PRINTS-Nature Prints			
Advanced			
Competition Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2015			
A baby hummingbird at the feeder.			
JOHN DOE			
	Author Id:	1234567	
	Image Id:	7891011	
Score	Award	#	N/A

Example of an incorrect, handwritten, club label

~~Category: Creative Print~~
~~Advanced Club~~



~~Title: Fusion of Colors~~

~~Photographer: [Redacted]~~

~~Date: August 26, 2015~~

~~Place: 2SD~~

PS
PI
PA
SA
MB
MI
ML
MM
TB
TA
JB
JA
CB
CA
NA
SG

Example of a printed club label from Visual Pursuits for Authentic Wildlife

Fremont Photographic Society			
Nature Prints			
Advanced			
Competition Date: Monday, October 22, 2018			
Burrowing Owls (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>), a California Species of Special Concern, find rail yards a suitable substitute for their natural habitat			
	John Doe		Wild
	Author Id:	123456	
Image Id:	2135825		
Score	Award	#	N-A