



# Interclub Competition Rules

Last Modified: 9 September 2019

Effective: 1 January 2020

**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.)
- All competition rule changes must be completed no later than September 30th of each year to allow time for distribution to club members
- All changes to competition rules will become effective with the next competition year.
- In the case of multiple change proposals, the President shall appoint an Editor who shall hold copies of the latest version of all proposals. Once all proposals have been either accepted or rejected, the Editor shall prepare a final version of the proposed Rules including all changes approved by the Board and distribute the final version to all Board Members by September 1st.

**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 images submitted to N4C competitions there are certain requirements for titling that must be fulfilled.

## **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 (WILD)

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: (WILD)

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 Advanced (A).

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 by a 2/3 vote of the Council.
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.

Annual judges shall select additional Pictures of the Year in Prints; one for Pictorial Color, one for Pictorial Monochrome, and one for each Special Print Divisions (except Sequence as there is only one level).

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.
5. Any image 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.
6. 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)		

### ***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.

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

- a. <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***

#### **PRINTED IMAGES**

- All images must be printed on paper. Images printed directly on metal or plastic, or other materials likely to cause damage to other prints are not allowed.

#### **MOUNTING & MATTING**



- A print submitted for competition must be matted or mounted so that is self-supporting.
- The mounting or matting must be mat board (made of e.g. alpha cellulose, cotton, or wood pulp), foam core, gator board or similar material. Metal, plastic, dibond, or other material likely to cause damage to other prints is not allowed.

- 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 Photo Club Services (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 print that qualifies for a monthly N4C Interclub Competition shall have their club's N4C Interclub Competition Label affixed below or to the right and in the same orientation as the Club's Print Competition Label.
- 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.

### Examples of Club Competition Label

<i>Example of a Club Print label from Visual Pursuits for</i>	<i>Example Club Print label designed by club</i>										
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Authentic Wildlife</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Fremont Photographic Society</p> <p><b>Nature Prints</b>  <b>Advanced</b>  Competition Date: Monday, October 22, 2018</p> <hr/> <p><b>Burrowing Owls (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>), a California Species of Special Concern, find rail yards a suitable substitute for their natural habitat</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>John Doe</b></p> <p>Author Id: 123456 Image Id: 2135825</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Wild</p> </div> </div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Score</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Award</td> <td style="width: 25%;">#</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center; background-color: yellow;"><b>N-A</b></td> </tr> </table> </div>	Score	Award	#	<b>N-A</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>Central Costa Camera Club</b></p> <p>Pictorial Prints <span style="float: right;">March 01, 2018</span></p> <p>Masters</p> <hr/> <p><b>Rainbow Ladies</b></p> <p>AUTHOR: Doe, Jane <span style="float: right;">ID: 3016889</span></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Score</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Award</td> <td style="width: 25%;">#</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow;"><b>P - M</b></td> </tr> </table> </div> </div>	Score	Award	#	<b>P - M</b>		
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**Example of a label added to images qualifying for interclub competitions**



**Example of a label not allowed**

