

NOTE: Refer to the notes below regarding DIGITAL entries and the Photo Uploader. Promptly contact us if you have any difficulty understanding. We prefer a telephone call or an early email so that we can help you meet the deadline.

The **Contest Rules** are for internal contests held during club meetings. For Annual Contest rules, please refer to the Annual Contest menu item to the left of your screen. The purpose of the contest is to WIN of course!

One more thing...it is suggested that if you do not intend to be at the meeting that night, please do not enter your image. We prefer that the winning entrant's be there to accept the credit and pick up their image.

The judge may or may not provide feedback, but we encourage them to do so for our education and benefit. If you disagree with their judgment, good for you! We are known as a club that allows good interactive discussions, but remember, the contest is NOT an Interactive Critique or a Challenge & Feedback program. They should not know who entered the image until the judge's decision is announced. First place participants do not announce their names until BEST OF SHOW is decided.

The following guidelines are presented to facilitate and improve upon our experience as a club, not rules to limit it. Any minor infractions that may arise can be over-ridden by the presiding officer at the meeting.

Eligibility - Open to members who have paid their current dues.

Media: Color prints, monochrome prints and digitally-uploaded images. We have eliminated the slide projector. Individuals with slides should have their images scanned or printed for the Contest sessions. If you do not know how to get your images scanned, please use the Contact Us link at the bottom left corner of this website. We have members who can assist in scanning for no charge. If you need a significant number of images scanned, please contact and visit your local photo store for these services.

Post-processing manipulation is allowed but honesty is expected regarding the extent of the digital adjustment if asked. The contest allows digital manipulation unless stated in the contest announcement. All images received should be generated from your original photographs (not a composite of elements of other images which are not your work).

Number of Entries: Due to the growth of our club, and time constraints, it's been agreed to allow up to TWO (2) entries for each member. In the past we had OPEN and THEMED categories where you would split your two entries and place one in each category or enter your two images in one category. If you have more than two (2) entered, we reserve the right to remove any additional images.

NOTE: In 2012-13 we eliminated the OPEN category. We decided to shake it up a bit and make you work for your ribbon. You have to submit two images, however, you must submit one into each themed category.

Interpretation of a contest "category": The judge may reject an image that he/she may feel does not suitably fit within the category. For example, Stars may be expected to be celestial images, but Hollywood notables or a Christmas tree ornament may be entered. We allow flexibility unless it is stated otherwise; the final decision is made by the judge.

DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS

Your digital files must be renamed, resized, and formatted as a JPG. Remember to save your image on your computer by using 'Save As' and saving it into a different folder. I create a PROJECTION folder on my computer, named "Projection 1024x768" so I never have to ask what size do I save my image. Saving into this folder and renaming will save guard you from overwriting your original image. Follow the naming protocol which will be provided in a CPC UPDATE email prior to the meeting. You will find the PHOTO UPLOADER under the MEMBERS ONLY link which is protected from public access. You will need to LOG IN with your member username. When you are finished, please remember to LOG OUT.

Upload deadline - Digital images must be uploaded to the site no later than 5:00 pm the Saturday before the Contest. It is possible that if you submit your image after that time, the image may not make it into the Contest.

Notification for sending in your digital submission - You will be notified by our e-mail newsletter, CPC News Update, on how to name your image and start your upload. Generally this email is sent to the membership within 10-14 days prior to our meeting.

Resizing: Resize your images before you upload. Any oversize images may require special handling by our web staff and it is possible that they will not have time to make the changes needed. In this case, your image may either be deleted from the Contest or it will not show properly on projection.

Digital images must be sized correctly - you use EITHER vertical or horizontal instructions; your images generally start with your file at a resolution of @72dpi.

- Vertical images are no taller than 768 pixels (px). If your image is somewhat square, use the vertical pixel height.
- Horizontal images are no wider than 1024 px.
- Images should be renamed and 'saved as' in JPG format.

Naming your image:

IMPORTANT: Use ONLY letters, numbers, spaces, dashes or underscore. Any other use of any other symbol or punctuation (commas, exclamation or apostrophes etc) can corrupt the file during transfer and your image may not be downloaded. It also requires that we contact the host site to delete the offending image since we cannot fix the problem, or delete the image.

- When naming your image, place the category name FIRST; this helps us sort through the images quickly and place them in the correct category folder for projection.

- Next insert three (3) initials or use your last name. The three initials should prevent your image from overwriting someone else's image.
- Next add a description - briefly describe what we see. This will help our secretary with cataloging the winning images correctly.
- Example: Motion-JLH-boat on shore

COLLECTION OF IMAGES: For the digital submissions, two individuals are assigned to download from a remote FTP folder on either Saturday after 5:00 pm or at the latest, Sunday before the Contest. We require that you upload image no later than Saturday 5:00 pm. The extra time is required as we check the sizes and naming. If they do not follow guidelines, they may be either renamed, resized or deleted. Please do not bring your flash drive to the meeting for uploading; we prefer that you use the Photo Uploader to avoid delaying the start of our meeting.

PRINT SUBMISSIONS:

- Bring your print to the club; a table is set up for the prints.
- Place your print in the proper category.
- Submitted prints must be matted or mounted.
- Prints must be able to stand upright on their own in the light box groove.
- An image can be clipped or attached to foam board for viewing.
- Any color mat board may be used, though neutral colors tend to be viewed more favorably by the judge.
- Framed images are not permitted; no glass or plastic.
- Minimum image size: 8" x 10" - smaller images are difficult for the judge or members to view from a distance.
- Maximum finished size: 16" x 20" (either matted or mounted)
- All prints must indicate the "TOP" of the print on the back, and be labeled with the member's name and title of the image.

Pick up your prints at the end of the meeting.

AND FINALLY...

Awards for contests will include first, second, third, and at least one honorable mention (or 10% of the entries for the category.) Please see the club secretary before the end of the evening to pick up your ribbon(s). Our secretary is a very busy lady. You will have to chase her down and get your ribbon before she leaves the building. If you forgot your ribbon, you can send her an email via the Contact Us link on the website and she can hold it for you.

The Winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd) will be posted to the website. Honorable mentions may or may not be posted, or they will have the image description and winning photographer's name. If you submitted a print, and you want your image posted to the website, please forward a downsized digital image to our Secretary/Publisher (Dianne Rose). Downsize your image for the website: EITHER vertical 360px or horizontal 480px; JPG format.

If we have scheduled an outside judge for a Contest and they do not appear, a club member who does not have a photo submission will be chosen as a judge for that Contest session.