

Print and Digital Competition Submission Requirements for 2023-24 Rev 3

The main goals of the competitions are to stimulate members to take new pictures, provide an evaluation at all levels of photography, increase the skills of participants, and offer a challenge for personal growth in photography. The Club wants the competitions to be fun and exciting and to give the members a chance to show their work.

Existing members who wish to enter competitions will pay a judging/competition fee of \$30. New members will have the fee waived during the 2023-24 Club year to encourage their participation.

1. Three levels of Competition – New members will be assigned a level based on an examination of their previous work. Afterward, levels will be assigned based on the competitiveness and frequency of their entries in the previous year. The levels are not a rating of photographic skill, but rather a rating of previous competitive performance.
2. Competitions are either “Open” (any topic or subject) or “Assigned” (a specific theme or topic). Each will have a date after which the photo should have been taken.
3. The formats for entry are Print and Digital. Contestants may enter two images in each format per contest.
4. All images correctly submitted will be entered into the competitions. The judges will be asked to score down any images that do not fit any Assigned topic for that contest.
5. Borders, signatures, animations, or copyright marks are prohibited.

Prints

1. Prints must be 13 by 19 inches or smaller.
2. Prints must be securely mounted on a backer board of 16 x 20 dimensions.
3. Prints must be securely matted with an all-white, single-layer mat board with an external dimension of 16 x 20. The image opening in the mat either must equal or be smaller than the print image.
4. Prints are physically submitted to the Photo Lab by 5 PM on the Friday prior to the competition.
5. Each print will have a “Back of Print Form” attached to the top back with Level (1,2, or 3), the Photographer's Name, the Title of the Print, and the competition date.
6. A “Print Submission Form” must be completed and deposited in the appropriate bin (Level 1, 2, or 3) when prints are submitted to the Photo Lab.

Digital

1. Digital images will be submitted by email to SCOVPhotos@gmail.com by 5 PM on the Friday prior to the competition.
2. The body of the email must contain the Photographers Name, Level (1,2, or 3) and the Title of the image.
3. Images must be in JPEG format.

4. Images will be accepted for any file size, resolution, and horizontal/vertical pixel dimensions.
5. However, the projection field is a widescreen ratio of 16:9. Images to this ratio will appear the largest on screen. Other ratios will be resized to appear on the screen without clipping by the use of letterboxing.
6. It is suggested that images larger than ½ megapixel, resolutions of 72ppi or larger, and pixel dimensions between 2000 and 3000 may result in a better digital presentation.

Scoring System

1. Images will be scored from 6 (low) to 15 (high) in each of the following categories, “Composition”, “Technical”, and “Impact (wow factor)”. The three scores will be combined for a total score.
2. Based on their total scores, images will be awarded 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place which will advance their competitive scoring for the year. Ties for 3rd place may result in Honorable Mentions which will not advance their competitive scoring for the year. Honorable Mentions may be submitted a second time in another competition.
3. Judges Instructions - Judges are asked to comment on the positive aspects of the image and also with suggestions of how the image might be improved. The audience is asked to refrain from making comments or sounds regarding the images or the judge's comments.

Content Requirements

1. Photographs should be the original work of the submitter created by camera.
2. Work not completely your own is not allowed.
3. Images with elements generated by Generative Fill are not allowed.
4. Computer-assisted and camera-assisted techniques such as object/subject selection, content-aware fill, denoise, filters, sharpening, blurring, background removal, layering, composites, cloning, spot healing, color replacement, focus stacking, and other similar techniques are allowed. For example, sky replacements are allowed if you use a sky you have photographed.
5. Elements inserted into composite photographs must conform to the same date restrictions as the primary image.

Display of Winning Images

1. Winning Print images will be displayed in Catalina Vista
2. Winning Digital images may be displayed if they are converted to Prints
3. Images to be displayed must be placed in the Photo Lab by 5 PM on the 5th day of the month following the competition.