



Enriching the North Carolina Sandhills through Photography

COMPETITION MANUAL: MEMBER SECTION

APPROVED: 03/18/10 – REVISED: MAY 2010

CLUB COMPETITIONS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Competition events provide our club members with an opportunity to display their photographs as well as have them impartially judged and critiqued. Constructive critique provides an opportunity for improving the skills of not only the individual photographer but of all attending club members.

COMPETITION SUBJECTS & SCHEDULES

Subjects for competition and the number and type of competitions per year are the responsibility of the Competition Committee and the Board. Every effort should be made to provide the subject topics and any specific rules well in advance of the competition. The following guidelines shall be used with regard to establishing the competition program.

1. Not later than each September, the Board shall have the subject of “competitions” scheduled on the month’s Board meeting agenda. At that time the Competition Committee Chairperson and the Board shall discuss a plan for the next two calendar year’s competitions. Items to be determined are the total number of competitions to be held and the number of print vs. digital competitions. This may influence the selection of topics.
2. Not later than each October the Competition Chairperson should recommend to the Board for approval a list of subjects, dates and any special rules (see below) for the following year’s competitions, and the subjects for the second year. A final list should be approved at the October Board meeting and published in the club newsletter no later than November for the benefit of the members’ planning. The publishing of subjects for the next two years will better provide members with image planning.
3. Special rules for any specific subject are at the discretion of the Competition Committee, and should be communicated to the membership by the Chairman with the schedule and list of topics. An example of special rules is the set of restrictions normally associated with the subject of *Nature*. Special rules may include restricting the type of images and/or the method(s) used to acquire and produce them.
4. Notification of any changes to the approved competition subjects and schedule shall be made to the membership at least 60 days prior to the earliest affected date.
5. Additional notices should be provided as follows:
 - a. PDF file posted on the website of the information from the November newsletter with the next year’s schedule and subjects and the subjects for the following year.

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- b. Three newsletter issues prior to competition, the following will be provided: Notice of competition Subject, Date, Number of Entries Permitted, and All Special Rules.
 - c. Two newsletter issues prior to competition, the following will be provided: Reminder of Competition Subject, Date, and Name(s) of Judge(s), if known.
 - d. Newsletter immediately prior to competition, the following will be provided: Complete Details.

COMPETITION CLASSES

Class B (Novice) should be only for members with little or no experience in photography and/or who are new to competitions. Class B members will be moved into the Class A when they have accumulated 15 award points in competitions.

Class A (Advanced) is for members who have advanced through Class B or for new members who have already had prior photography experience and elect to be in Class A.

The competition committee will maintain records from the competition events of each member's competition results and provide notification when a Class B member moves into Class A. Records will include: Dates of Competing, Titles Entered, Winning points awarded, and Class.

COMPETITION POINTS

Places awarded in competition will be 20% of the total number of entries for each class, always rounded up (1 for every 5 images competing). For example, if there are 31 entries in Class A, there should be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place and 4 honorable Mentions ($31 \times 0.20 = 6.2$, which rounds up to 7).

Points are awarded as follows:

- 1st Place5 points
- 2nd Place3 points
- 3rd Place.....2 points
- Honorable Mention1 point

ANNUAL AWARDS:

Annual awards will be presented at the end of the year to the two members who have accumulated the highest number of award points, one in Class A and one in Class B. Anyone starting the year in Class B is eligible to receive the Class B award even if they moved to Class A during the year. All points for an award must have been scored in the same class as the award. Although improbable, it is possible that a member may win both awards.

RULES FOR ENTRY

ENTERING PHOTOGRAPHS IN COMPETITION

Only SPC members who have paid dues for the current year are eligible to enter photographs in Club Competitions. The image must meet the published specifications of the competition and regardless of the competition subject must never depict explicit human sexual acts or scenes.

The member will enter images in either Class A or Class B. See the section entitled Competition Classes for details on class assignment.

Competitions are held throughout the year. A schedule is published by the Competition Committee that shows the dates and subjects for the competitions for one calendar year and list of just the subjects for the following year. The schedule for one calendar year will also identify the strict definitions of the subjects and any additional restrictions or modifications that might impact the content of the images for that specific competition. The competition chairperson or committee member will review all images entered into competition and reserves the right to reject any images that do not meet the competition guidelines and rules for entries or are not in good taste.

GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR ENTRY

The following standard guidelines will apply to all competitions and subjects categories, unless specifically modified and published on the competition schedule by the Competition Committee.

1. Photographs should be taken within 3 years prior to the date of the competition.
2. The number of entries will be determined by the Competition Committee and announced prior to a competition event.
3. The photograph may not be entered if it has previously won an SPC competition award (1st, 2nd, 3rd or HM).
4. Images entered must have originated as a photograph (image-captures of objects via light sensitivity) made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or acquired digitally.
5. Images may be altered, either electronically or otherwise, only by the maker, so long as the alteration does not alter the truth of the photographic statement. This includes minor manipulations (such as cloning to remove insignificant but unsightly items in the background) so long as they do not affect the subject of the image. You may not add or introduce additional items or objects which were not part of the original image when captured. Multiple exposures digitally combined to create an effect equivalent to multiple exposures of a single composition on a frame of film is also permitted; however all images being combined must be the entire width and height of the image and made

visible by reducing opacity. Stitching of multiple images to form a panoramic image is also acceptable.

By virtue of submitting an entry, the entrant certifies the work as his own and permits the SPC to reproduce the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the competition or exhibition. This may include low resolution posting on a website. The SPC assumes no liability for any misuse of copyright.

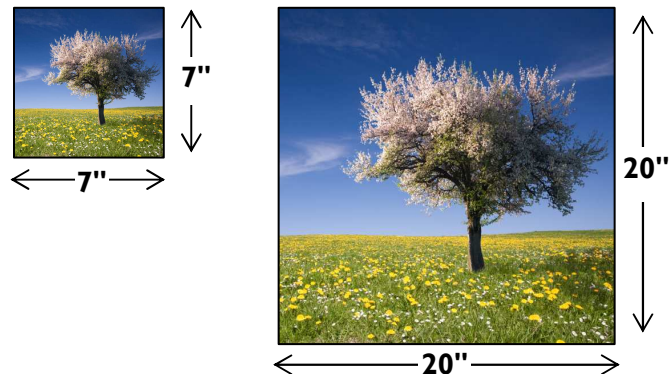
SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND RULES

Prints

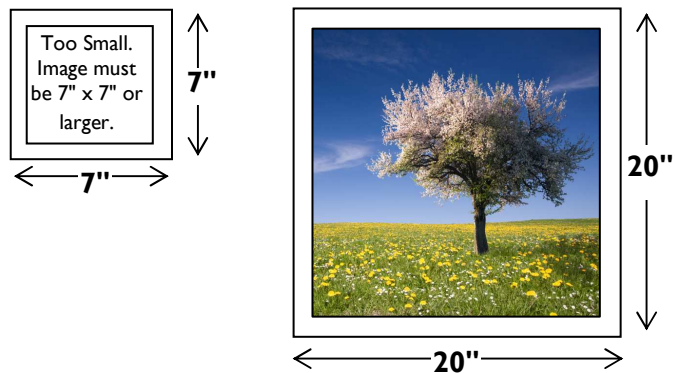
1. Prints must be mounted on foam core board or substantial poster board or whatever method that will keep the print rigid, not floppy. Optionally, a mat may be used to enhance the appearance, but must be used in conjunction with the mounting board.
2. Prints that are matted must be single matted with plain white or off white mat material.
3. Images must be a minimum of 7 inches in either axis. The entire entry (print and mounting board) must not exceed 20 X 20 inches.

Examples:

Without mat:



With mat:



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- All entries in PRINT competitions must be pre-registered before midnight on the 8th day before the competition. To register, the name of the photographer, class being entered, and titles of images being submitted should be emailed to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org. Entrants will receive an email acknowledgement along with their entries' randomly generated **competition numbers**.
 - Prints must be identified on the back **ONLY**; no identification, title or lettering should be showing on the front of the entry. The identification on the back must include: 1) Name of the photographer; 2) Title of the print; 3) Class of the entry; and 4) The assigned competition number. This identification should be placed in the upper left corner of the print mount (as viewed from the backside of the mount). This Information should be printed large enough and dark enough so that it can be easily visible in low light.

Example:

<p>Name: Ansel Adams Title: Tetons and the Snake River Class: B Competition Number: 38</p> <p>[Back of mount]</p>

- On the night of the competition, members will drop off their entries at the Sign-In Table prior to the meeting. Competition Committee members will verify that the entries have been pre-registered and meet the rules of that day's competition. They will also verify that the entries are of the correct size, satisfactorily mounted, and properly identified on the back. Entries that do not meet these requirements will be rejected.
- After the competition, the Sandhills Photography Club will post all entries on its website and forward the winners to local media for publication. To facilitate this, all contestants are asked to submit digital images of their prints prior to the day of the competition. Digital images should be identified with the photographer's name, image title, and entry class (and competition number if available) and sent to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org. If this presents a problem (e.g. an entry that was shot on film), the club can arrange to get a digital image taken of the print(s) in question. Please notify the Competition Chairman before the day of the competition if this is required.

Digital Images

- Digital images can be entered in competitions by emailing them to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org or submitted on digital media (e.g. CD or flash drive) to the designated Competition Committee member. Entries must be received

before midnight on the 8th day before the competition (for example, entries for a February 8th competition must be received by 11:59PM on January 31st).

2. You must include in your email or printed on the outside case of your digital media:
1) Name of the photographer; 2) Title of the print; and 3) Class of the entry.
3. Images must be sized according to the following guidelines:

- a. File format should be JPEG and should not exceed 2 MB.
- b. The filename must be titled in the following manner including the correct order with underscoring and/or spaces between each item:

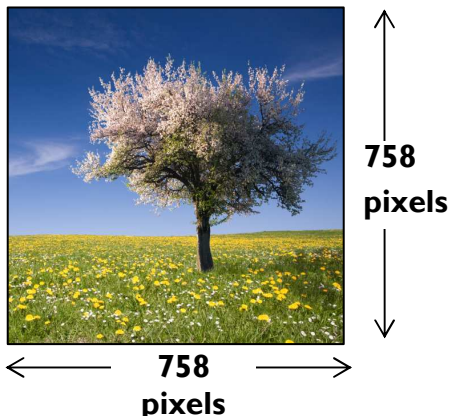
COMPETITION_CLASS_LastName_FirstName_Title.jpg

For example: MAC_B_Doe_John_my best picture.jpg

<u>Competition</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Photo Title</u>	<u>File Format</u>
MAC-Macro	A	All lower case	save as .jpg
NAT-Nature	B	with spaces	
POR-Portrait		No underscores	

- c. The shortest dimension of the image should be a minimum of 758 pixels.

Example:



4. Color space should be sRGB for best compatibility with our projector.