



## Competition Rules

*(Taken from the Official Focus Constitution)*

- Section 1:** There shall be a monthly competition at the regular monthly club meeting from July through May of each year.
- Section 2:** Each Regular Monthly competition categories shall be:
- Small Print – Open and Theme
  - Black & White Print – Open and Theme
  - Color Print – Open and Theme
  - Extended Photography – Open and Theme
  - Projected – Open and Theme
  - Novice – Open and Theme
- Section 3:** Regular Monthly Competition Rules:
- Entries in all categories, except the Extended Photography category, must be of 35mm or less or digital

media and on photographic, ink jet or laser paper. Digital images may be altered or enhanced if they do not depart from realism. The following rules shall apply to digital images being entered in all categories except Extended and Projected:

- (1) Cropping and sharpening of the image are allowed.
  - (2) Tools such as levels, curves, dodge, burn, brightness and contrast may be used as long as the image does not depart from realism.
  - (3) Color enhancements such as color balance, hue, and saturation may be used as long as the image does not depart from realism.
  - (4) Additions and deletions of subject matter are prohibited.
  - (5) The use of the clone tool or other similar tools will be limited to removing dust and scratches. Additions and deletions of subject matter are prohibited.
- b. Entries in the Extended Photography category may be of any photographic process and taken by any size format camera. These entries may include special effects, computer enhanced images, hand-coloring, multi-images in darkroom, sandwiching, collages, more than

- one image on a print, darkroom alterations, solarization, medium and large-format camera images, and any other photographic techniques beyond a basic 35mm product. Maximum dimension of entries may not exceed 22" high x 28" wide in order to fit in the light box. Entries in this category may be mounted and/or framed in any fashion, however, the frame cannot be the sole reason for entering a print into the Extended category.
- c. All entries must be solely the creativity and work of the exhibitor with regard to inspiration, composition, technical setup, and shooting.
  - d. Entries may be either processed and printed by the photographer or commercially processed and printed.
  - e. Small Prints must not exceed 5" x 7" in size and must be matted or mounted.
  - f. All print entries must have the name of exhibitor and a title placed on the back in the bottom left-hand corner
  - g. Black & white print and color print entries must be at least 8" x 10". These prints must be mounted or matted (not framed). Maximum dimension of entries may not exceed 22" high by 28" wide in order to fit in the competition light box.

- h. Black & White entries shall include all monochromatic images on photographic, inkjet or laser paper.
- i. Projected images must be in JPEG format, sized up to 1024 pixels on longest side, and submitted to Focus Photo Club website by Monday midnight of the week of competition. Any manipulation is permitted. Entrants must sign in and follow other regular rules of competition.
- j. No nude or suggestive materials will be accepted for display or competition. Judgement of acceptability is completely up to the Competition Vice President and, although he/she should confirm his/her decision with another club officer and/or a judge, his/her decision is final.
- k. Once a work has placed First, Second, or Third, it shall not be resubmitted for future monthly competitions.
- l. A work which has not placed First, Second, or Third, may be put into competition up to a maximum of three times. Such work may be submitted for competition only once in any one club-calendar year.
- m. Each entry should be unique and in-camera dupes or other reproductions in different formats of the same image are not eligible for competition.
- n. Each club member in good standing may enter up to three (3) entries per competition night with no more than two (2) in any one category.
- o. Members shall receive the following points for competition:
 

For entering	1 point
First Place	9 points
Second Place	7 points
Third Place	5 points
Honorable Mention	3 points
- p. Points will be accumulated throughout the year for awards to be presented at the Annual Awards Night in June.
- q. All entries shall be judged on composition, technical merit and impact.
- r. Each competition evening shall have three judges from among the membership and/or invited guest judges who are highly qualified to judge the photographic work of others. Any active member may be asked to judge if he/she has been a member for six continuing months and did not judge in the previous month.
- s. Judges shall not evaluate their own or members of their family's work. They will enter a 0, and an average of the two other scores will be taken and added to the total of the other two judges.
- t. No ties shall be broken.
- u. Honorable Mention(s) shall be given in each category. Ties for Honorable Mention need not be broken. If there are more than two entries tied for Honorable Mention, additional ribbons may be awarded.
- v. If number of entries in any one category exceeds 16 entries, additional Honorable Mentions shall be awarded as one additional Honorable Mention for every additional four entries.
- w. All competitors must be present to enter their own work and must be present to receive their awards. If competitor is not present when awards are given, the award will be forfeited and the next highest entry will receive the award.

**Section 4: Novice Category:**

- a. Novice entries will be entered with small print and small print theme categories.
- b. Novice entries will follow the same competition/category rules as small print and small print theme.
- c. Novice entries DO count towards the maximum number of three (3) entries per night.
- d. An extra column will be added to the small print and small print theme sign-in sheets where the entrant can check that they are entering "novice."

- e. A blue ribbon will be awarded to the highest scoring novice print(s) in each of the two categories.
- f. Novice ties are not broken.
- g. Ribbons are worth one (1) point towards novice photographer of the year.
- h. Novice points will not count towards regular competition standings.
- i. Members may choose to enter competition as a "novice" photographer.
- j. A novice photographer is someone who is new to photography.
- k. Novice prints will be eligible for regular competition awards.

**Section 5:** Other competitions may be established by decision of the Executive Board.

Amended 7/1/10