

Nassau County Camera Club

Image Competition Rules & Procedures for Digital Images

Categories and Classes:

Black & White digital image category (Class A, B, & Salon).

Color digital image category (Class A, B, & Salon).

- Class B: Images by beginner / novice photographers.
- Class A: Images by advanced photographers.
- Class S: Images by advanced photographers that have been recognized by the club for their ability to score consistently high in competition.

Creative digital image category (no class designation, i.e. open to A, B, & Salon class).

New club members will normally be assigned to Class B. If the review committee deems the new member's work fitting to compete in "A" category the new member will be placed in "A."

If a new member has previously competed in class A at another club, they must submit 6 images in the desired category for evaluation. There will be a committee of the top 3 Class A workers from the previous year who will determine which class the member should enter.

Transfers to a higher Class may not be made during the current year. Transfers to a lower Class are not permitted at any time.

- A member will compete in their assigned class of "b", "a", or "s" in both digital color and digital B&W. Creative ("c") combines "a", "b", "s" together as per PFLI rules.
- Class B entrants will remain in Class B until eligible to be moved up to Class A.
- At the end of the competition year, the member with the highest cumulative score in Class B will automatically advance to Class A the following year, provided they have obtained a minimum point score of 70 in the cumulative standings.
- At the end of the competition year, the member with the highest cumulative score in Class A will automatically advance to Salon the following year, provided they have obtained a minimum point score of 76 in the cumulative standings. There is no advancement past Salon.
- Additionally Class B workers will automatically move to Class A as determined by their year-end scores from PFLI competitions. PFLI provides a list of various club members, at year's end, who move up a Class at their respective club.
- In years when a class is too small, it may be necessary to move additional members up from a lower class to a higher class. These moves will be determined every year by the executive board at the summer break. The decision will be based on the number of people in the group at the end of the previous competition year.

Monthly Competitions:

1. Competitions are held monthly from September through May. A maximum of 6 digital entries are allowed monthly. 2 per category may be submitted in each monthly competition/critique. Should a member submit only one entry in a category, such single entry, shall be considered a full entry in that category. The other entries may not be made up later.

- 2 entries into digital color
- 2 entries into digital B&W
- 2 entries into Creative

2. Images may be horizontal, vertical or square. All images must be original and created by the maker by using a light sensitive device. Acceptable light sensitive devices are the following: scanned film, digital camera, copier, or flatbed scanner. Images that were NOT created with a light sensitive device are NOT photographs and are NOT permitted (you cannot enter a purely computer generated image just as you cannot enter an oil or watercolor painting). Montages are permitted as long as all of the images used are the maker's original imagery. The work may be altered by any means, including the use of a computer, as long as the final result is still a photographic image. Copies of others' two-dimensional works are NOT permitted unless the work is purely incidental to your composition.

3. Should a member miss a competition, a maximum of two months makeup submissions will be allowed per category. Members are allowed only one month's makeup per competition night.

Additionally, members competing in more than one category do not have to submit all makeup categories within the same competition. Makeups may not be entered in May's mandated subject competition; therefore April is the last month make-ups will be accepted.

For makeups, send a separate email with your makeups and indicate such in the subject line of the email. Do not add 'MU' or 'makeup' anywhere with the image's file tag. The Chairperson will then add "MU" to the image. The Chairperson will not decide which emailed images are makeups

4. During the Club Year an image for competition/critique may only be entered in one category. You cannot for example, enter a color digital image and then also enter that same image in the B&W category after converting to a desaturated image.

5. The score point range for all categories and classes shall be from six to nine (6-9) points inclusive in 1/2 point increments. Ribbons, if requested, will be awarded as follows: Star Award Ribbon (blue ribbon) for a 9 Point score. An Awards Ribbon (red ribbon) for 8.5 Point score. For all categories and classes, an image of the month shall be chosen by the judge and awarded an extra point.

6. The Higher of the two monthly entry scores will be credited to the entrant's cumulative score for the year. At the end of the competition year, the three competitors having the highest cumulative scores in each class and category will receive awards, provided the minimum point score of (63 pts.) is obtained.

IN THE EVENT OF A TIE, THE TOTAL CUMULATIVE SCORE OF THE 2nd HIGHEST MONTHLY ENTRIES WILL BE USED. IF A TIE STILL EXISTS, THE SCORE OF EACH MONTH'S 2 ENTRIES, STARTING WITH MAY'S COMPETITION WORKING BACKWARDS, WILL BE TOTALED UNTIL THE TIE IS BROKEN. (All scores are to be maintained by the digital chairperson)

7. Any member choosing NOT to have their scores accumulated for the year must indicate their wish. However, they are still eligible for the Image of the Year Competition, and for the monthly PFLI selection.

8. With the exception of the 'End of Year Competition', no entry regardless of score can be resubmitted in the same year; however, entries that score 7 or less can be resubmitted ONE additional time the following year.

9. The "End of Year Competition" will be held on the last month of the competition year (June.) Only previously submitted work for the current competition year can be entered. The number of entries allowed is dependent on the number of regular monthly competitions entered, according to the below table.

Regular monthly competitions entered: 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Allowed End of Year submissions: 5 4 4 3 3 2 2 1 1

10. Any image entered in monthly competition/critique may be retained by the PFLI Selection Committee for submission in club competitions held by other organizations unless the member notifies the PFLI selection chair BEFORE the first NCCC monthly competition that they do not wish to compete at PFLI through NCCC.

Once a member elects to participate with another club at PFLI, they will not be able to compete with the NCCC at PFLI for the remainder of that season. If a member would like to return to PFLI competition with the NCCC in a future season, they must notify the club's PFLI selection chair BEFORE the NCCC's September competition of that season.

11. The images entered in the previous year's May competition will be held for selection consideration into the first PFLI competition of the following year only. After the first PFLI competition, the digital Chairperson will delete the previous year's May digital images.

12. Images that have been submitted to PFLI through any other camera club may not be submitted to NCCC Competition/Critique.

13. The Digital Chairperson will not - under any circumstances - use members' submitted images for any purpose other than intended.

14. Images of an objectionable nature will not be accepted. The Digital Chairperson will determine acceptability. Decisions regarding acceptability are final.

Regular Color Digital Image Category:

A maximum of 2 images may be entered, not counting makeups. Images are color.

Creative Digital Image Category:

A maximum of 2 images may be entered, not counting makeups. Creative images are the maker's artistic interpretations of their original photograph(s) or simply an image taken from an unusual, creative perspective. Complete abstract images that no longer resemble any portion of the original photographic subject, or incorporate significant graphic designs (clip art, etc.), should not be submitted.

NCCC Digital Submission for B&W Format:

A maximum of 2 B&W images may be submitted to this category. No color images will be accepted into this category. Your classification will be the same as your classification you currently compete in. If you are currently "a, b", or Salon in competition, you will use the same designation in the B&W category.

Black & White Images shall be either:

- 1: Conventional monochromatic Black and White images
- 2: Conventional Black and White images toned with a single overall color (i.e. sepia)
- 3: Conventional Black and White images colored with a single color in specific areas. (I.e. an owl with the eyes colored yellow).

NCCC Digital Submission Format (as set by PFLI)

Images will be submitted via email to the Digital Chairperson. A confirmation email will be sent to the maker verifying that the images are in the correct format and saved. Any images, which do not conform to the format required, as stated below, will be returned for re-submission.

Images need to be sized as follows:

- **The largest dimension is to be 900 pixels at 72 dpi (The larger side of the photo is 900).**
- **All images are to be saved in the 8-bit sRGB color space & all are to be .JPG**

- Name: Your name is limited to 9 characters. Once you choose your abbreviated name it will remain & be used as such in the future.
- The file tag for the image should be submitted as per the following example: C22-willsmith-a1-title.jpg (Use this format when “Saving As”)
 - C22 is the club number (NCCC club number is always 22. The C is required as a capital C.
 - “willsmith” is an example (Use your 9 character name with no spaces in lower case).
- For the digital image category, example “a1” is your competition class. (Use a1, b1, or s1 depending on which class you compete in).
- For the creative digital image category, there is no competition class so all members will use ‘c’ in place of the ‘a1’ or ‘b1’ or ‘s1’. (I.e. C22-willsmith-c1-title.jpg).
- “1” is a subject designator (For our purposes always use 1). The digital chairperson will change the 1 to a letter for PFLI competition submissions.
- “Title” is the image title and limited to 36 characters in length including spaces. Use spaces in the title only if needed, with no underscores, dashes or punctuation. (Spaces are allowed in title only).
- Each word in the title begins with an upper case letter. No half words followed by a long series of numbers. Note: There is no hyphen at the end of the title.
- JPG is the image format & must appear at the end.

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