

COUNTRY IMAGES CAMERA CLUB

NEWMARKET

COMPETITION GUIDELINES as of 2014

Note: As of the competition season 2013/14 all references to level and level advancement, in this document, are no longer applicable. Levels may be re-instated at some point in the future, if enough competition participation warrants it.

GENERAL

1. The competitions are intended to be a learning experience for all Club Members, from Amateur to Masters. We have tried to keep the rules and procedures as simple and fair as possible to encourage participation at all levels. It takes perseverance to become comfortable with others' commentary of personal work, but it can be fun and an excellent opportunity to advance skill levels. Photography is an art form and as such, is very subjective. Judges' comments are meant as guidelines for improvement.
2. **Five Year Limitation:** In all competitions, all of the original images, i.e. negatives, transparencies and digital files must have been taken after January 1st five years prior to the start of the Club's current year. This means that in the 2010/2011 competitions only images taken after January 1, 2005 will be accepted. In following years, this date will change to ensure the 5-year limitation. We must trust that members will honour this rule.
3. **Open and Closed Judging:** Most of the judging sessions throughout the year are open to the Club's members. It is a great learning experience to see the entries and to hear the judges' comments. However, the last judging session of the year is not open to the Club's members. The results of this judging are revealed at the Club's Banquet where trophies are presented to the winners. This closed judging is executed in a professional manner by accredited judges.
4. At the beginning of the Club's year, five topics will be announced and all entries must adhere to these topics. Two of the topics are Photographer's Choice (anything goes), one projected and one prints only, plus three other topics that will change from year to year. See the Club Program or our web site for the current year's subjects.
5. Each image entered in a competition must be the work of the entrant. Photographs made in workshops, other than workshops sponsored by the Country Images Camera Club, may be rejected from the competition, unless there is significant ownership by the entrant.
6. Each competition will consist entirely of either projected digital images or prints. Check the program or club web site for the format of each competition.

7. Projected Image Competition - each member may submit **up to 3 digital images**.
8. Print competition - each member may submit **up to 3 prints**. Prints may be colour or black and white, commercially or home processed.
9. Image and print manipulations, digital or otherwise, **are allowed** but must be made by the entrant.
10. All entries will be pre-screened for adherence to a competition Topic and print size by the Competition Directors, and may be withdrawn from the competition if deemed out of Topic, too small or too improperly presented (i.e. no framed or placqued prints will be accepted).
11. Images submitted in one club competition **may not** be submitted in subsequent club competitions from year to year. They can, however be submitted in the inter-club competitions such as the GTCCC annual competition. Also, the same image submitted in a digital competition is not eligible for print competition and vice versa. Please avoid submission of near identical images, even if the originals are on a separate negative, slide or digital. It is impossible to remember and compare minute differences and your work may be rejected.
12. New members may compete at a level of their choosing, however once chosen, this level must be retained until the requisite number of points, for that level, are earned to move to the next level.
13. The levels are: Amateur, Intermediate, Advanced and Masters, with points from both projected and print competitions contributing to the members points total.
14. Ribbons are awarded in each competition level for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Ties in judges points awarded at any level are not resolved, and it is possible multiple images will receive the same number of competition points or the same ribbons.
15. All competition points count toward the member's accumulated score at each Image Competition level, and to move from one level to the next for the following year's competition, a member requires the following:
From Amateur to Intermediate - forty (40) amateur level points.
From Intermediate to Advanced - eighty (80) intermediate level points.
From Advanced to Masters - One hundred and twenty (120) advanced level points.
16. All judging points given by the judges for all entries for each competition year are recorded and totalled. Trophies for "Photographer of the Year" for images are awarded to the individuals with the highest yearly competition total points at each specific level.
17. Entries should be brought to the meetings previous to the competition; however they may be accepted later at the discretion of the Competitions Director. It is preferable that the Digital Images and the Entry Form are e-mailed to the Competition Director before the submission deadline. Digital Images on CD or other common media are also allowed. Generally, the judging takes place one week after the monthly meeting, at 7:30 pm, at the

regular club meeting place. Members' attendance at these judgings is highly encouraged as a good learning experience.

18. A completed entry form must accompany all entries. Please submit a separate submission form per category: digital images and prints.
19. At the meeting after the judging, entries are shown and the judges' comments are read, time permitting. The entry form with the judge's comments, and prints will be returned to members at this time.
20. By submitting images and prints, you are permitting the Club to display low-resolution images of your work on the Country Images Camera Club web site. If you disagree, please notify the Competition Director on the submission form where indicated.
21. All care and precautions are used in handling of the submissions.
22. Decision of the judges is final.

SLIDES

Slides are no longer accepted. Digital scans of slides are permissible as digital images.

DIGITAL IMAGES

1. Entries should be **1200 pixels** on the longest side and saved as a jpeg.
2. Please use the following naming convention for your submitted images:
Maker Last Name - Maker First Name - competition level - Title.jpg.
For example an advanced image by John Doe titled Rock Formation should be submitted as:
Doe - John - AD - Rock Formation.jpg

AM - amateur, IN - intermediate, AD- advanced, MA - masters
3. The associated Entry Form should then be named:
Doe John-Entry Form.doc
4. Entries are to be emailed to countryimagescompetition@gmail.com

PRINTS

1. The display area of a print (i.e. the area showing through the matt, not the total picture size) must be a minimum of 35 square inches. Note: a 5" X 7" print when matted will be too small as the mats are usually 0.5" smaller.
2. The maximum size of a print, including the mat is generally 20" x 24". Exception is given for prints where larger size is important, such as panoramic prints. Here, the maximum dimension, including the mat, is 40"x 16".
3. All prints **must be mounted** on a sufficiently thick backing, such as mounting board or foamcore.
4. Prints should also be matted, if possible. No frames or plaque-mounted prints will be accepted.
5. Your name and title of the image **must appear** on the back of the print along with the word "top" indicating how the print should be viewed.

6. Both colour and black and white prints are allowed and are judged together on each level.
7. Wet processed, computer generated or commercially processed prints are allowed.
8. No commercial (or other person's) image manipulation is allowed.

NATURE DEFINITION

For any competition defined as NATURE, the following is the generally accepted guideline.

Nature photographs are restricted to all things that are wild. Accepted is any type of wild plant or part of it, insects, fish or animals; land or seascapes, rock, fossils, stars or planets. No subject should show, "the hand of man", i.e. roads, buildings, cultivated plants, domestic animals or man himself. Exceptions to this, (and this is where it can get tricky), could be something such as a wire on which a bird is perched and this item should be a small percentage of the total picture.

Interpretative or "cute" names should not be used to label Nature Photographs: use the common or scientific name. Photographs with an interpretative or pictorial treatment should be submitted in other categories.

CLUB AWARDS

Photographer Of The Year Award

This is awarded to the highest scoring individual in each of the four levels.

The second and third highest scoring individuals in each of the four levels will be awarded certificates.

Pauline Brunner Nature Award

This is awarded to the best Nature Image of The Year. Each member is allowed to enter 3 digital images for this separate competition. This judging is closed to club members.

Harry Cartner Award

This is awarded to the Best Projected Images Of The Year.

Projected Images receiving a ribbon during the year are re-judged at the year end to determine the winner. This judging is closed to club members.

Jiri Polak Digital Competition Award

This is awarded to the Digital Image of The Year.

Projected Images receiving a ribbon during the year are re-judged at the year end to determine the winner. This judging is closed to club members.

Bob Dargent Award

This is awarded to the Creative Digital Print of The Year.

This is a separate print competition held at the end of each year. Club members are allowed to submit up to 3 entries for this competition. The idea of this competition is to take one or more images and creatively manipulate them in some way to create a final creative print. Anything goes. All manipulation must be the work of the maker.

Each entry must consist of the final creative print and a 4"x6" print of the original image(s). This will allow the judges to determine the extent of the manipulation involved to produce the final print. This judging is closed to club members.

All award results will be announced and trophies presented at the club's annual banquet.