



Champaign County Camera Club

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

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Section 1. **Competition Divisions and Categories.**

- A. **Divisions.** The Champaign County Camera Club (hereinafter CCCC or the Club) has two divisions in which members may compete: the Projected Image Division and the Print Division. A projected image means a digitized image that is projected using a modern digital projector, and not a traditional slide projector such as a Kodak Carousel. Digitized means either an image captured with a digital camera or an analog (film or slide) image which has been digitized via a film/slide scanning process.
- B. **Print Categories.** For both the regular competitions held throughout the year and the Annual Salon held in April, there are just two print categories, Large and Small, both of which include monochrome (which includes B&W) and color prints.
- C. **Projected Image Categories.** In the regular competitions held throughout the year, there are generally three (3) projected image categories, which will be determined and defined during the Annual Business meeting held in May of each year.

In the Annual Salon held in April of each year, there are nine (9) categories which are defined below.

1. **Category A - Landscapes.** These images may include the visible features of an area of land or water, including the physical elements of landforms, water bodies such as rivers, lakes and the sea, living elements of land cover including indigenous vegetation, human elements including land and or water uses, buildings and structures, and transitory elements such as lighting and weather conditions.
2. **Category B - People.** Any aspect of human activity featuring one or more persons. This category includes portraits of people.
3. **Category C - Fauna.** Includes both wild and domesticated fauna.
4. **Category D - Flora.** Includes both wild and domesticated flora. Note that wild fauna and wild flora can be entered in the new Nature category.
5. **Category E - Architecture.** Can be an image showing small architectural details up to a large number of structures, including buildings and bridges and other man-made structures.
6. **Category F - General.** Anything.

7. **Category G - Nature.** Nature photography embraces the entire physical and natural world and thus encompasses nature in all its forms. There should be no evidence of the influence of man in a nature photograph except when nature in the form of animal or plant life invades the realm of man and this relationship of co-existence is shown. The photograph then becomes an example of nature photography. However, photographs depicting cultivated plants, domestic animals, mounted, museum or zoo specimens are not eligible and should not be submitted as nature photographs. Exception: scientific banding visible on wild animals is acceptable.
8. **Category H - Monochrome:** A monochrome image is defined as an image in one color or different shades of one color; a single-tone image. This category includes black and white images.
9. **Category I - Contemporary/Creative.** Images should have a contemporary or creative feeling. This is the primary category for strongly manipulated, very drastically altered projected images, although such images may also be entered in Category F, General.

Section 2. **Selection of Images for External Competitions**

- A. CCCC currently competes in two “club level” competitions, the CICC Annual Fall Salon and the I-74 Challenge, a competition with the Koda Roamers Camera Club in Bloomington, IL. In these “club level” competitions, the projected images and/or prints are entered by the club rather than by individuals.
- B. The Executive Committee of the CCCC is responsible for determining the method to be used in selecting the projected images and/or prints to be entered into these two competitions, and for disseminating such methodology to the CCCC membership at least 30 days in advance of the meeting in which such images will be selected.

Section 3. **Projected Image Preparation (Photo-Realistic vs Open).**

- A. Competition in the various Projected Image Categories may at times be restricted to Photo-Realistic Images or to Open Images. For these purposes, when a category is restricted to Photo-Realistic Images, the emphasis will be on aesthetics and crafting a fine image with great impact while maintaining a realistic quality. A photo-realistic image is defined as an image that appears to have been captured by a single exposure from a camera without any “special effect” filters (e.g., infrared filters would not be allowed, but neutral density, graduated neutral density or polarizing filters would be). There are no restrictions for manipulating the image or blending of images from different scenes or exposures, i.e., HDR, extended depth of field or focus, as long as the image appears realistic.

When a category may allow images that are considered open images to be entered, the emphasis will be on crafting a fine image without any restrictions on image manipulation. Therefore, in addition to the image editing techniques permitted for photo-realistic images, techniques to create painterly, surreal or other special effects are permitted. When Images are entered in a category that allows open images, they may be highly manipulated or not manipulated at all. Multiple images may be used and blended into one image. The only requirement is that the source image(s) must have been captured with a film or digital camera by the image maker. Finally, non-photographic elements may be added to open images as long as they were created by the image maker (e.g. borders, vignettes, graphic elements, etc).

- B. Image Preparation for Categories.** In preparing images for entry into the CCCC Annual Salon, Open images are only permitted in Categories F. General and I. Contemporary / Creative. The permitted preparation of images in the regular competitions will be designated at the Annual Business Meeting when the regular competition categories are agreed to.

Section 4. **Number of Entries Permitted.**

A. Projected Image Division.

1. **Regular Competitions.** In the regular competitions held throughout the year, each member is limited to entering three (3) images into a single category.
2. **Annual Salon.** In the club's annual salon, a member is limited to entering a maximum of three (3) images in a single category and a maximum of fifteen (15) images in all categories combined.

B. Print Division.

1. **Regular Competitions.** In the regular print competitions held throughout the year, each member is limited to entering four (4) prints into a single category.
2. **Annual Salon.** In the club's annual salon, a member is limited to entering a maximum of eight (8) prints into a single category.

Section 5. **Entry Eligibility.**

- A. Regular Competitions.** Once a projected image has been "accepted" in a regular competition, it is no longer eligible to be entered into any other regular competition in the projected image division. Such prohibition applies to any derivation of the accepted image (i.e., as a black and white image, if it was originally accepted as a color image or vice versa; as an open image, if it was originally accepted as a photo-realistic image or vice versa; in a cropped version, if it was originally entered full-frame, or vice versa; etc.). However, this does not preclude an accepted image from being entered in the print division. An image may be entered in either division in the Annual Salon as long as it has not been accepted in a previous Salon in the same Division.

The same eligibility rules apply to prints. Specifically, if a print is accepted in a regular print competition, it is no longer eligible to be entered in any other regular print competition in any form (e.g., color vs B/W; photo-realistic vs open; cropped vs uncropped; etc). However, this does not preclude an accepted print image from being entered in the projected image division. An image may be entered in either division in the Annual Salon as long as it has not been accepted in a previous Salon in the same Division.

- B. **Annual Salon.** Once an image or print has been “accepted” in an Annual Salon, it is no longer eligible to be entered into any other Annual Salon or into a regular competition. As with the regular competitions above, such prohibition applies to any derivation of the accepted image or print. However, such prohibition does not apply to entering an image in the opposite Division (i.e., an accepted projected image is eligible to be entered as a print in another Annual Salon or regular competition, and an accepted print is eligible to be entered as a projected image in another Annual Salon or regular competition).
- C. **Honor System.** The image eligibility and prohibitions noted above will be enforced under the “honor” system. In other words, it is up to the individual club members to adhere to the eligibility requirements noted above.

Section 6. **Entry Sizes and Labeling.**

A. **Projected Images.**

1. **Size.** The maximum size for a projected image is 1024 x 768 pixels. Images should be sized so they do not exceed 1024 pixels in the horizontal direction or 768 pixels in the vertical direction. For example, an image that is 1024 x 740 pixels is acceptable, but one that is 1024 x 790 pixels is not. Also remember when entering an image in a vertical orientation, that the vertical dimension cannot exceed 768 pixels.
2. **Labeling.** A projected image file should be labeled as follows:
A-B-C-D.jpg where:
A is the subject category letter (e.g., A or B)
B is the image number starting with 1 and increasing sequentially for the number of images you are entering in the category (e.g., if three images are being entered into category A, then the first would be A-1 and the second would be A-2).
C is the entrants competition number (e.g., 03, 37, 63, 99; it should have two digits, so entrant with competition number 3 should be noted as “03”)
D is the title of the image with no spaces and the first letter of each word in upper case (e.g., AllertonBark, LamarBridge, ARiverRunsThrough, etc.)

Note that each image identifier in the label is separated by a dash (minus sign) character (**do not** use the underscore / underline “_” character)

Examples of acceptable file names / labels include:

A-1-37-LuskCreekSunrise.jpg

B-3-37-InYourFace.jpg

C-1-03-HereWeGo.jpg

B. Prints.

1. **Print Size.** Prints can be entered in one of two sizes, Small or Large. Small Prints must be no larger than 8” x 12”. A Large Print is any print which exceeds 8” x 12” in any dimension, but cannot exceed 16” x 20”.
2. **Mount Size.** Small prints should be mounted on 11” x 14” mounts. Large prints should be mounted on 16” x 20” mounts. Note that large prints may be flush mounted, while small prints may not. This is because a large print can have dimensions up to 16” x 20” and must be mounted on a 16” x 20” mount, which would therefore require flush mounting (i.e., where the print extends to the edge of the mount). However, since the maximum size for a small print is 8” x 12” and they must be mounted on 11” x 14” mounts, they physically cannot be flush mounted.
3. **Print Labeling.** The following information must be included on the back of a print mount near the upper left-hand corner:
 - A. Maker’s name and competition number.
 - B. Category letter and print number.
 - C. Title of PrintPlease note that the maker’s name should not appear on the front of the print.

The label below is a copy of the official CCCC Print Sticker than can be place in the upper left-hand corner of a print:

CCCC		
OFFICIAL PRINT STICKER		
<u>Maker’s #</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Print #</u>
_____	_____	_____
Maker’s Name:		
Title: _____		

However, it is also acceptable to enter the required information onto a 30-per-sheet print label, such as an Avery 8160 Address Label as in the example below:

CCCC Annual Salon 4/16/2011
Barry Brehm
40 – A – 1
Lock and Latch

In the example above, the first line identifies the competition the print is being entered in; the second line identifies the maker's name; the third line identifies the maker's competition number (40), the print category (A), and the print number (1); and the fourth line identifies the print title (Lock and Latch).

Section 7. Entry Forms. Entry forms are not required for the regular competitions held throughout the year. Entry forms are only required for the prints for the CCCC Annual Salon and the CICC Spring Salon. Filling out forms for the Projected images is optional. Note that while an entry form is also needed for the CICC Fall Salon, only one form is needed in each Division for the club as a whole, and those entry forms will be prepared by the Projected Image or Print Chairs, as applicable. Examples of a Projected Image Entry Form and a Print Entry Form for the CCCC Annual Salon are shown on the next two pages. Also note that an example of the CICC Spring Salon Entry Form is not included herein.

**Champaign County Camera Club
ANNUAL SALON
Projected Image Entry Form**

Entry #: _____			P O I N T S	A C C E P T	I N / O U T	P L A C E
Last Name _____		First Name _____				
CATEGORY	IMG #	IMAGE TITLE				
A - Landscapes						
B - People						
C - Fauna						
D - Flora						
E - Architecture						
F - General						
G - Nature						
H - Monochrome						
I - Creative						

**Champaign County Camera Club
ANNUAL SALON
Print Entry Form**

Entry #: _____			P O I N T S	A C C E P T	I N T E R M E D I A T E	P L A C E
Last Name _____		First Name _____				
CATEGORY	PRINT #	PRINT TITLE				
A - Small Prints						
B - Large Prints						

Section 8. **Judging Scale and Guidelines.**

- A. **Judging Scale.** All projected images and prints will be judged on a 5-4-3-2-1 scale with “5” being the highest score and “1” being the lowest score.
- B. **Guidelines.** The assignment of scores to projected images and prints should be made using the following Guidelines.

Score Assignment Guideline

- 5 An outstanding image from both an artistic and technical standpoint with no noticeable flaws
- 4 A very good image both artistically and technically, which doesn't quite measure up to a “5” rated image
- 3 A good image with perhaps only a minor flaw, but lacking the artistic and technical qualities of a “5” or “4” rated image
- 2 A below-average image with one or more flaws and/or having little artistic merit
- 1 A well-below average image with significant flaws and/or minimal artistic merit (note that an image which the judges determine does not fit the category should be given a score of “1”)

Section 9. **Entry Acceptances and Placements.**

- A. **Acceptance.** An entry scoring in the top one-third of scored entries in a category in a regular or annual salon competition is defined as an “accepted” entry.
- B. **Placement.** Judges will choose first through fourth place entries from all “accepted” entries in a category through a process of elimination without regard to the original scores awarded to the individual entries. Those accepted entries not designated as one of the top four in a category will be designated as Honorable Mention entries.