

# Marin Photography Club

## Documents

### Section II: Rules of Competition

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# ARTICLE VII -RULES OF COMPETITION

The Marin Photography Club will follow the guidelines below

- Prior to the deadline set by the Print and Digital Chairs members must submit their images to the competition website. See the MPC website for specific guidelines.
- All print and projected image submissions must be of photographic origin utilizing film or digital image capture.
- As permitted in certain categories (see below), any graphic elements not of photographic origin must be a minor component of the image.
- All graphic, digital and photographic components must be generated by the entrant and not be the product of other individuals or sources.
- Digital manipulation is permitted only in those categories designated below.

Modifications to the rules may be made in accordance with the general desires of the membership by the Executive Board and published as part of the club's "Competition Rules and Guidelines."

## COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES

### I. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION

#### A. PRINT DIVISION

##### 1. MONOCHROME PICTORIAL (black, or any single tone)

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>MO/B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>MO/I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>MO/A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>MO/M</i>

##### 2. PICTORIAL

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>P-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>P-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>P-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>P-M</i>

##### 3. NATURE

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>N-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>N-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>N-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>N-M</i>

#### **4. TRAVEL**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>T-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>T-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>T-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>T-M</i>

#### **5. JOURNALISM**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>J-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>J-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>J-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>J-M</i>

#### **6. CREATIVE**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>C-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>C-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>C-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>C-M</i>

#### **7. ALTERNATE**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Basic	A-B
Intermediate	A-I
Advanced	A-A
Masters	A-M

## **B. PROJECTED IMAGE DIVISION**

### **1. PICTORIAL**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>P-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>P-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>P-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>P-M</i>

### **2. NATURE**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>N-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>N-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>N-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>N-M</i>

### **3. TRAVEL**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>T-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>T-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>T-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>T-M</i>

### **4. JOURNALISM**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>J-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>J-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>J-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>J-M</i>

### **5. CREATIVE**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>C-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>C-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>C-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>C-M</i>

### **6. ALTERNATE**

<u>Level</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<i>Basic</i>	<i>A-B</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>A-I</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>A-A</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>A-M</i>

## **II. CATEGORY DEFINITIONS**

### **1. PICTORIAL**

Pictorial photography is the use of the photographic medium as an art form. The emphasis is on interest, visual impact, composition, and technical excellence. Images in the Pictorial Division are not confined to any particular subject, type, or style of photography. Pictorial images may be manipulated in the darkroom, on the computer or in the camera in a manner consistent with the standards stated in the preamble to these definitions. The title is not read when showing the image.

### **2. NATURE**

The Nature Photography Division is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history except anthropology and archeology in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject matter and certify as to its honest presentation. The story-telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality. Sequences of not more than four (4) images are permitted in the Nature category in projected image competition only.

Human elements shall not be present except on the rare occasion where those human elements enhance the nature story. The presence of scientific bands on wild animals is acceptable. Photographs of artificially produced hybrid plants or animals (any plant or animal that has its appearance changed by breeding and selection by man), mounted specimens, or obviously set arrangements, are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.

In Nature competition the title is read when showing the image. The title should be factual and descriptive and will be read as shown. Scientific names are recommended but not required.

No manipulation or modification of Nature images is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene. No special effect filters can be applied. Any sharpening must appear natural. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged or combined. Horizontal flipping (equivalent to reversing the image) is an acceptable modification. All Nature images must be consistent with the standards stated in the preamble to these definitions. Combining multiple images to achieve High Dynamic Range (HDR) is acceptable but no special effect filters can be applied. All changes must appear natural.

Things that **ARE** Nature Photographs:

- Any wild creature that represents a nature story photographed in the wild or in a natural park setting. No evidence of a zoo-like setting may be visible in the photograph.
- All natural events such as storms, eclipses, lightning, etc.

- Rocks and minerals or any natural geological formations.
- Any wild flower, moss, or any other non-cultivated living plants.
- Any natural scene that incorporates one or more of the above categories for the purpose of telling a nature story.

What is **NOT** Nature:

- Pictures of dogs, cats, canaries, horses, cows, or any other domestic or farm animal or bird.
- Cultivated flowers, plants or trees (roses, daffodils, etc.)
- Any plant, even if found in the wild that has been altered in some way by man.

Nature Titles:

- Should be factual and descriptive.
- Listing location where image was made is advised.
- Inclusion of the Latin or scientific name of the subject is desirable but not required.

### 3. TRAVEL

A Travel picture must express the feeling of a time and place, portray a land, its people or a culture in its natural state, and has no geographic limitations. Ultra close-ups which lose their identity, studio-type model shots, or photographic manipulations which misrepresent the true situation or alter the content of the image are unacceptable in Travel competition. No manipulation or modification is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene. No special effect filters can be applied. Any sharpening must appear natural. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged or combined. In Travel competition the title is read when showing the image. The title should give the location and complement the travel story. Combining multiple images to achieve High Dynamic Range (HDR) is acceptable but no special effect filters can be applied. All changes must appear natural.

All Travel images must be consistent with the standards stated in the preamble to these definitions.

### 4. JOURNALISM

Journalism entries shall consist of pictures with informative content and emotional impact, including human interest, documentary and spot news. Sequences of not more than four (4) images are permitted in the Journalism category in projected image competition only. The journalistic value of the photograph shall be considered over pictorial quality. In the interest of credibility, photographs, which

misrepresent the truth, such as manipulation of the image, or situations which are set up for the purpose of photography, are unacceptable in Journalism competition. The primary concern is to make story-telling and/or newsworthy photographs. In competition the title is read when showing the image. Good titles are important and should add to the photo-story. No manipulation or modification of Journalism images is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene. No special effect filters can be applied. Any sharpening must appear natural. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged or combined. All Journalism images must be consistent with the standards stated in the preamble to these definitions.

## **5. CREATIVE**

Creative photography is producing an image through the use of imaginative skill or originality of thought including the altering of reality. No image should be eliminated from competition simply because it looks realistic, provided it shows originality of concept. Creative images may include modifications in the darkroom, on the computer, or in the camera, as well as unusual points of view, imaginative use of subject matter or lighting, or any other presentation that begins with the maker's photograph or collection of photographs. Creative images must be consistent with the standards stated in the preamble to these definitions. In Creative image competition the title is read when showing the image.

### **III. LABELING AND SUBMISSION OF IMAGES**

A. All entries will be reviewed by the Print and Digital committee chairs and President to determine eligibility of the entry in a category. If an entry is disqualified the entrant will receive a notification that the image was disqualified and why. The image will be eligible to be reentered in the appropriate category at a future competition.

#### **B. PRINTS (See Diagram Below)**

1. The name of the member, the print's title, the competition category and level and "Marin Photography Club" must appear on the back of the print on a sticker placed on the upper left hand corner of the back of the print. The date of the MPC competition and the presiding judge should be filled in. Member's phone number and address may be included. The abbreviations for category and level must be placed in the upper right hand corner of the sticker and circled. Makers must enter prints at their appropriate highest levels. Illegible and mislabeled images are subject to disqualification.
2. In all print categories, the minimum size (including mat) is 11" on any edge (11" x 11") and the maximum image size (including mat) is 24" on any edge (24" X 24") and shall be mounted.
3. Any submission that contains elements that could damage other prints may be rejected by the Print Chair. Examples include hooks, wires, exposed adhesives or other sticky substances.



4. Monochrome prints are defined as one color and the color of the paper; they may be toned, but not multiple toned.
5. Any photographic process may make color prints. Hand-colored prints are considered to be color prints.
6. Use of a commercial lab for printing is permitted.
7. On the night of competition the members should file their prints in the appropriate print bin sections.
8. All prints must be claimed at the end of the competition, otherwise the images will be disposed of *within a reasonable period of time*.

**a) Sample Print Label**

<b>MARIN PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB</b>		
<b>MO/B</b>		
<b>Division</b>	_____ Monochrome/ Basic _____	
<b>Title</b>	_____ Death Valley Ghosts _____	
<b>Name</b>	_____ Charlie Sheet _____	
<b>Address</b>	_____ Optional _____	
<b>Phone</b>	_____ Optional _____	
<b>COMPETITION</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Judge</b>
1. 8/8/08	_____	Winnie Justice _____
2. 10/9/08	_____	Frank Gavel _____

**C. Digital Projected Images**

1. Category, level, image title, and maker name shall be included with electronic submissions in the format designated by the competition website.. (See the MPC website for specific guidelines for Digital Competition)
2. Images must be submitted electronically by the deadline set by the Digital Chair.

## **IV. COMPETITION RULES**

1. A new member shall be placed in the basic (beginner) level of a division except that an advanced worker may be placed in a higher classification as determined by the Executive Board. Classification of new members may be adjusted as deemed appropriate by the Board. Promotion to higher groups for all other members shall be made annually at the end of the competition year, on the basis of the quantity and quality of work entered in the past year. The Executive Board shall determine all classifications. The Executive Board nominates members for advancement, but the member so nominated may decline. Once a member advances he/she is not eligible to go back to a lower level of competition except for Masters who may go back to Advanced. The Masters category shall be comprised of no more than 10% of the membership.
2. Competent and impartial judge-commentators or judging panel shall be used for each monthly competition.
3. The awarding of First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mentions are entirely at the discretion of the judge but awarding of all places is strongly encouraged in the basic level.
4. Points shall be recorded by each Division Chairman on the following basis: five points for First; four points for Second; three points for Third, two points for Honorable Mention, and one point for all other entries. Points shall be cumulative toward awards and standing for the year. Records shall be available for inspection by any member. An extra point is earned for Print or Digital Image of the Month.
5. One image may be entered in each pictorial print category - B & W and COLOR; and one image may be submitted for each special print category as scheduled in the competition calendar: Nature, , Creative, Travel, Journalism, and alternate.. The **maximum number of prints** entered each month will be determined by the Print Committee.
6. For Digital competition a maximum of two images may be submitted but not in the same category.
7. To encourage creativity, the number of times an image can be submitted to club competition is limited. An MPC **member may submit an image a maximum of two times** regardless of division (print or digital), color/monochrome status or cropping (*effective July 1, 2008*).

### **7.1. Examples:**

- 7.1.1. An image submitted once as a digital and once as a print may not be submitted again in any format.
- 7.1.2. An image submitted twice as a print may not be submitted for digital.
- 7.1.3. An image entered as Pictorial color and then as monochrome may not be submitted again; etc.

8. In December, Marin Photography Club holds its President's Theme competition. At the beginning of each year, the new President announces the topic for this competition, which replaces the Pictorial competition for that month. No special print or "non-pictorial" categories will be judged during the December competition. Points will be awarded in the alternate category.
9. Any print entered in any competition sponsored by the club shall be entered exclusively at the risk of the exhibitor and neither the club nor any of its officers or representatives shall be under any liability whatsoever for damage to or loss of any such print while in their custody.
10. Members must be present during the judging to enter prints or digital images into competition.

## ANNUAL COMPETITION

Marin Photography Club holds an annual competition with images submitted - for judging, and awards presented at the Annual Banquet.

1. A maximum of one-third of all digital entries submitted in each category and one-half of all prints submitted in each category by a member during the year should be eligible for our annual competition. In the event a member has entered less than three images in any one category during the year, the member may enter one image in the annual competition if the image received a 1<sup>st</sup> at an MPC competition during the year, The Executive Board shall determine the rules governing the annual competition and awards each year.
2. At the close of the competition year, appropriate awards shall be presented to those members who have achieved the highest total scores for their respective groups and to those who place in the annual competition in each group, as well as those winning awards for "Print of the Year" and "Projected Image of the Year". The Executive Board shall determine the design and cost of these awards. Appropriate awards shall be presented to members placing in the annual competition. If, in the opinion of the Executive Board, there is not sufficient competition in any group, the award system for that group may be altered for that year.
3. Special, named awards which are presented at the Annual Dinner include:
  - 3.1. **Bob Erickson Award** for the most points in projected images by a beginning photographer in his/her first full or partial calendar year as a club member;
  - 3.2. **Bert Hersch Award** for the most points in prints by an amateur photographer in his/her first full or partial calendar year as a club member;
  - 3.3. **Dr. Bill Eastman Award** for the best print of the year;
  - 3.4. **Leigh Abell Award** for outstanding service to the Marin Photography Club,
  - 3.5. **Lin & Maryke Hines Award** for Projected Image of the Year, and
  - 3.6. **Norm Johnson Digital Award** for service in the area of digital photography.
  - 3.7. **Ernie Zeiter Print Award** for outstanding service to the club in the area of print

photography

- 3.8. **Most Improved Photographer** award for the member that has demonstrated the greatest improvement overall in the quality of his/her images during the past year.
  - 3.9. **Presidents Theme Award** goes to the Image of the Night for the December President's Theme Competition.
4. Competition schedule will be published in the Focal Plane and on the MPC website.