

# WANTAGH CAMERA CLUB

## COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES

September, 2013

**1 - OVERVIEW** - The Wantagh Camera Club conducts monthly photography competitions for the benefit, education and enjoyment of our members. The competition year consists of 10 competitions starting in September and ending in June. Members are grouped according to skill level “AA” for the top photographers from the previous season, “A” for advanced photographers and “B” for beginners.

**COMPETITIONS** are held in the 4 photographic categories of: **COLOR PRINTS, BLACK AND WHITE PRINTS and DIGITALLY PROJECTED IMAGES (the digital competition has two categories: regular images and creative images)**. There are 8 **REGULAR COMPETITIONS** (which are not limited as to subject matter), one **THEME COMPETITION** (in which all entries must conform to a specific theme), and one **PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION** (which is limited to entries which have been previously submitted during the current competition year).

### 2 - GENERAL RULES

**A. GOOD STANDING** - You must be a member in good standing to compete in any club competition. Annual Dues (\$50 per member and \$25 per additional family member) must be paid up by the first meeting in November of that year. Members not paid-up by then will be prohibited from competing.

**B. JUDGING** - Decisions of the judges are final.

**C. IMAGES** - All photographs must be created by the maker using conventional film or digital technology. Photographs may be altered by any means, including the use of a computer. Original products of the computer which did not start out as either a conventional film or digital photograph are not permitted. All alterations to prints or digital images must be made under the direct supervision and control of the maker. Copies of other 2 dimensional works (i.e. paintings) are not permitted unless the maker has created an original work from it. If you are combining 2 or more images into a montage they all must be your own images (i.e. no stock images, or parts of stock images, are permitted). Once you enter an image in a given category (i.e. a color print, a B&W print or a digital image) you may not convert it to another category and re-enter it. You may not enter a Black and White print then simply add a tone such as sepia or hand color it and re-enter it.

**D. COMPETITION ENTRIES** - Each member may enter up to **2 images in each category** at every competition.

**E. LATE ENTRIES** - All entries must be submitted to the scoring table by **7:45 P.M.** Late entries may be disqualified.

### 3 - COMPETITION GROUPS

**A. GENERAL** - Members are grouped according to photographic skill and experience so as to make the competition as fair as possible. Your placement in these groups will be determined when you initially join the club and again prior to the start of each competition season. Every effort will be made to keep the groupings as equitable as possible. Should you feel that your placement is not fair contact the Vice President/Operations. In the interest of fairness and accurate record keeping no request for a change will be permitted during the competition season.

**B. The “AA” GROUP** - The “AA” group is for members that finished at the top of the “A” group scoring averages the previous season.

**C. THE “A” GROUP** - The “A” group is for members who have attained an advanced level of skill and competitive photography experience.

**D. THE “B” GROUP** - The “B” group is for people new to competitive photography or who have not attained a level of skill and experience necessary to compete in company with the more advanced members. Unless extenuating circumstances exist, all new members will initially be placed in the “B” group.

**E. ADVANCEMENT** - Prior to the start of each competition season the Executive Committee will evaluate and determine which "B" group members merit advancement and which "A" group members will compete in the "AA" group during the upcoming season. Once you advance to the "A" group you may not return to the "B" group. However you may compete in split groups (i.e. "A" digital projection and "B" color prints.) Since placement in the "AA" group depends on your scores attained in the previous season the membership in this group may change from year to year.

**F. COMBINING GROUPS** - Two members are the minimum to create a group at any given competition. In the event that only one member of a group is present at a competition that member will have the option of combining his or her work with the other group or waiting for a make-up opportunity at a later competition.

#### **4 - THE BLACK AND WHITE PRINT CATEGORY**

**A. DEFINITION** - The Black and White print category consists of:

1. Conventional Mono-chromatic Black and White prints, or
2. Black and White prints toned with a single overall color (i.e. Sepia), or
3. Black and White prints colored with a single color in a specific area.

**B. MOUNTING** - Prints must be mounted. Minimum image size is 8" X 10". Maximum mount size is 16" X 20". No frames are permitted.

**C. IDENTIFICATION** - A **Wantagh Camera Club** label must be affixed to the upper right corner on the back of the print's mounting board, and an arrow drawn on the back of the mounting board pointing to the top of image.

**D. DISQUALIFICATION** - The Vice President/Operations reserves the right to reject any print that has glue, tape or any foreign substance on the back of the mount which may damage another worker's print in the stack.

#### **5 - THE DIGITAL (projected) IMAGE CATEGORY**

**A. DEFINITION** - Color, black and white, and/or creative images that will be displayed via a digital projector.

**A creative image as defined by the PFLI:** Creative photography is an extension of conventional photography into creative art. Its purpose is to stimulate creative thoughts and encourage experimentation with new ideas going beyond a simple photograph. The final result must be based on and have some resemblance to the maker's original photographic work, modified exclusively by the photographer.

**B. IMAGE SIZE** - Each image MUST be 750 pixels in its longest dimension (the other dimension will be automatically determined by its aspect ratio). The image must then be saved as JPG high quality, color space sRGB and resolution 72 pixels per inch.

**C. IDENTIFICATION** - Each Digital Image must be named as follows: **C27-code-group-image title.jpg**

**C27** is our club number (the C is required), code is your **9 character name (no spaces)**, **A1** or **B1** or **CR** is your group (the 1 doesn't mean anything, but is required) title is the **image title** (up to 36 characters - it can have spaces), dot jpg. The hyphens are required.

**Sample:** C27-johnsmith-B1-look at the birdie.jpg

**D. Delivery of image:** At least one week before the competition date your digital images must be sent (via e-mail) to Dick Hunt (raaah@juno.com).

#### **6. THE COLOR PRINT CATEGORY**

**A. DEFINITION** - The Color Print category consists of:

1. Conventional Color Prints or
2. Black and White prints which have been colored with more than one color.

**B. MOUNTING** - Prints must be mounted. Minimum image size is 8" X 10." Maximum mount size is 16" X 20." No frames are permitted.

**C. IDENTIFICATION** - A Wantagh Camera Club label must be affixed to the upper right corner on the back of the print's mounting board, and an arrow drawn on the back of the mounting board pointing to the top of the image.

**D. DISQUALIFICATION** - The Vice President/Operations reserves the right to reject any print that has glue, tape or any foreign substance on the back of the mount which may damage another worker's print in the stack.

## **7 - RULES FOR THE REGULAR COMPETITIONS**

**A. SCHEDULING** - The REGULAR COMPETITION series begins in September and ends in April for a total of 8 competitions.

**B. JUDGING** - Judging for the REGULAR COMPETITION is conducted by one judge selected by the Vice President.

**C. NUMBER OF ENTRIES** - You may submit up to 2 entries in each of the 4 competition categories (COLOR PRINTS, B&W PRINTS and DIGITALLY PROJECTED IMAGES and DIGITALLY PROJECTED CREATIVE IMAGES).

**D. SCORING** - Scoring for the REGULAR COMPETITION is based on a point system with 6 being the minimum and 9 being the maximum, with half-point increments.

**E. ELIGIBILITY** - In order to be eligible, photographs must not have been shown any at previous competition including any previous years. There is one exception to this rule. If the entry scored an 6 or below at a previous competition it may be re-submitted one more time in a future competition.

**G. PRINT and DIGITAL IMAGE OF THE MONTH** - The judge will be instructed to select a PRINT and DIGITAL IMAGE OF THE MONTH in each group and category. **One additional point** will be awarded to the entry selected as DIGITAL IMAGE or PRINT OF THE MONTH.

**H. MAKEUPS** - If you miss a competition you may make it up at a subsequent competition. However, you may make up only one competition month per competition (in each category). As an example assume you miss both September and October. You may submit 2 makeup images (in each category) in November representing September. You may then submit 2 makeup images (in each category) in December representing October. The makeups must be clearly marked as makeups (and for what month) in advance of the scoring.

## **8 - RULES FOR THE THEME COMPETITION**

**A. GENERAL** - The THEME COMPETITION is held in May and is identical to the REGULAR COMPETITION in every respect (judging, scoring, eligibility, etc) except that the subject of the entry must conform to a particular theme. The judge will be instructed to disqualify any entry, which in his sole opinion, does not conform to the theme.

**B. PREVIOUS MAKEUPS** - If you are using the THEME COMPETITION to make up a REGULAR COMPETITION all of the makeup entries must also conform to the theme.

**C. THEME** - The theme will be announced at the start of the season.

**D. MAKEUPS** - You cannot make-up the THEME COMPETITION.

**E. SCORING** - The scores of the theme competition WILL count towards determining the Photographer of the Year.

## **9 - RULES FOR THE PRINT AND DIGITAL IMAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION**

**A. SCHEDULING** - The PRINT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION will be held in June.

**B. JUDGING** - Will be conducted by three judges selected by the Vice President.

**C. NUMBER OF ENTRIES** - You may enter up to 5 entries in each category. (See E.)

**D. SCORING** - The highest score will be designated PRINT or DIGITAL IMAGE OF THE YEAR in each group and category. In the event of a tie score the judges will be required to re-score the ties until a single winner is produced.

**E. ELIGIBILITY** - To be eligible the entry must have been shown at a previous competition during the current competition year. The original score does not matter.

## **10 - AWARDS**

**A. REGULAR COMPETITIONS** - Certificates will be awarded to all “B” entries which receive 8 points and up.

**B. THEME COMPETITION** – A certificate will be awarded to the winner in each group and category.

**C. PRINT AND DIGITAL IMAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION** - A certificate will be awarded to the PRINT and DIGITAL IMAGE OF THE YEAR winners in each group and category.

**D. PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR** - A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR in each group and category. This award is determined by adding the 12 highest scores from the REGULAR and THEME competitions. You must have entered a minimum of 9 photographs per group and category to be eligible for this award.

## **11 - DISPUTES**

Disputes will be decided by majority vote of the executive committee. The Executive committee consists of the current officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer and The Flash Editor) and all previous holders of those positions.