



2016-2017 PPSDC Image Competition Rules

Updated effective 12/28/2016

ELIGIBILITY:

Any ACTIVE member in good standing. Members must be in one of the following categories: Active or Honorary (current and past presidents). Student and Aspiring members are not eligible to compete in Image Competition, but are encouraged to attend as part of their continuing education and professional growth.

ENTRIES ALLOWED:

You may submit up to three (3) digital photographic entries in the competition. However, the maker is required to be present to be eligible to receive any "Best Of" honors. The only exceptions to this rule is if the maker cannot be present due to teaching obligations (i.e. speaking engagements for other affiliates, teaching a seminar for a professional photography organization.) or illness.

Any image previously entered may not be entered a second time in local competition unless significant changes to enhance the entry, which originally scored 79 or below, have been made.

Images created under the direction of an instructor, as with private classes, workshops, or at West Coast School, are not eligible to enter into Image Competition. All works must be the sole concept, execution, and creation of the maker.

If an image Merits in any category of PPSDC photo competition, it may not be entered again in any other category at any time by any entrant. No photo that receives a Merit may be entered more than once under any condition. This includes images submitted as a collection (album).

Since the purpose of PPSDC image competition is to prepare the maker for regional and national competition, an image that has already Merited in a State, Regional or National PPA image Competition may not be entered. Images that have merited at other affiliate competitions may be entered if within the same PPC image comp year. Images that have merited in other affiliates in previous competition years are not eligible for entry. If violated the maker may be disqualified from any and all PPSDC merit, best of, or awards on all images for the period of that competition year

ENTRY FEE (digital):

\$15.00 for each image. Fee must be paid online during submission. Non-payment may result in image not being entered into the competition. It is the responsibility of the entrant / maker to ensure that payment was received in a timely manner.

DEADLINE (digital):

All files are to be SUBMITTED by midnight 1 week PRIOR TO COMPETITION. Files will be submitted via the PPSDC website at <http://ppsd.com/image-comp-entry-form/>.

Due to the required set-up of digital competition, there will be NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED. NO EXCEPTIONS.

IDENTIFICATION/SPECIFICATIONS FOR DIGITAL:

All entries **MUST** comply with the following otherwise it will not be considered for entry.

Files **MUST** be in sRGB Color Space.

Files shall be sized so that the longest dimension is 4000 pixels at 300dpi. It must be saved as JPG format and may not exceed 3.5MB in size

Naming must be as follows: category_titleofphoto_firstname_lastname.jpg

CLASSIFICATION OF ENTRIES

Entries must be designated by the entrant in one of the following classifications:

ALBUM (Digital Submission) – EVENT:

All Albums must house a minimum of 16 pages.

Document the cover and note the number of pages in the album.

All photographs must be from the same social function.

An image that is part of an album that has received a score of 80 or higher in a PPSDC image competition may NOT be entered in any category as an individual entry.

Images that are part of an album that has received a score of 79 or less in a PPSDC image competition may be entered as an individual entry in the appropriate category. However it may NOT be entered within the same PPSDC image competition year as the album.

ALBUM – NON-EVENT:

All Albums must house a minimum of 16 pages.

Document the cover and note the number of pages in the album.

An image that is part of an album that has received a score of 80 or higher in a PPSDC image competition may NOT be entered in any category as an individual entry.

Images that are part of an album /image box that has received a score of 79 or less in a PPSDC image competition may be entered as an individual entry in the appropriate category. However it may NOT be entered within the same PPSDC image competition year as the album.

CHILDREN:

Individual or groups of children (10) years old and younger.

Photographs of Children taken during weddings may NOT be entered in this category.

COMMERCIAL:

Industrial, tabletop, advertising, stock, aerial images and other commercial images may be included in this category.

Architecture fits this category.

Cityscapes fits this category.

NOTE: A tear sheet or statement of purpose is requested but not required.

DIGITAL/ELECTRONIC IMAGING:

Any compositions that have been digitally created by compositing more than one photograph primarily in a computer and software.

Images that have been overly processed, painterly and/or special effects.

Images predominantly created from multiple images (except HDR/Focus stacking).

NOTE: High Dynamic Range (HDR) images are to be included in this category if the images are overly processed and or have painterly qualities.

NOTE: Source images in the creation of the final image **MUST BE SUBMITTED**. They can either be submitted on a separate sheet or as thumbnails around the final image. ***Submit your sources images to printcomp@ppsd.com. Do not submit them in the "Enter Your Image" portion of the website.***

ILLUSTRATIVE:

Includes any commercial, people or photojournalistic image that does not fall into the other categories.

NATURE/LANDSCAPE

Wildlife or mother nature. There should be no prominent man-made structures. Manmade objects may appear in the image but may not constitute the main body of the image (i.e. a mountain landscape with a small cottage nestled in the woods would be admissible. A close-up of a barn with animals next to it would be entered into "illustrative" category.

Images where the flora and/or fauna are the dominant subject. Animals not considered pets are included in this category.

The following are NOT eligible nature subjects;

- domestic animals

- pets

- mounted specimens

- floral arrangements

- or any image in which humans and man-made objects appear, unless of archaeological significance, or the natural habitat of the species.

Any outdoor / natural environment.

Image(s) must show predominantly land scenes as the focus of the image with the rest of the image being the sky and or water.

Image(s) where man-made objects are the prominent are not suitable for this category.

NOTE: HDR / Focus Stacking of nature images are allowed to be entered into this category.

PET:

Domesticated animals; reptiles, birds, pigs, etc. This category is intended for non-human “family members” and excludes wild animals and those contained in zoos.

Images may be portrait or candid in composition.

Photographs of family groups or individuals with animals should be entered in “portrait category”.

PHOTOJOURNALISM:

Purpose of Classification: Capturing a compelling composition as it happens with photographic expertise.

No studio-produced images or digitally manipulated subject matter will be allowed in this category.

This category is for an image captured on the spur of the moment that tells a story as it happens.

Traditional darkroom techniques are permissible but limited to cropping, dodging and burning. Sports (in action) fall into this category.

PORTRAIT:

Individuals, families, children over ten (10) years old.

Photographs of weddings may not be entered in this category, but bridal portraits (bride/groom) taken on a day other than the wedding day are acceptable.

SENIOR:

Individuals who are Juniors or Seniors in high school.

WEDDING:

Wedding portraits and wedding photojournalism.

All photographs must be from an actual client wedding on the day(s) of the event.

Every part of the image must be taken on the wedding day, but composite images are not allowed (a dramatic sky dropped in behind a couple, for instance). Composite images should be entered into Digital Imaging.

Staged images with models should be entered into portrait or commercial category (if used for commercial purposes).

THE MODERATOR:

The moderator will be responsible for explaining the judging system to the audience and let the judges know about challenges and other rules for the Photo Competition.

JUDGING PROCEDURES

SCORING: The point system is used with scores from 100 to 1. They are as follows

95-100 Exceptional

90-94 Superior

85-89 Excellent

80-84 Deserving of a Merit

75-79 Above Average

70-74 Acceptable

65-69 Below Exhibition Standard

All entries receiving initial scores of 79 are reviewed. And shall be reviewed at the end of the category. On the review, the change to the score of 80 is by majority vote. The final score will be the official score on these and any other challenged images.

JUDGING RESULTS**BEST OF CLASS:**

Will be determined by a review of all the images that merited in the class after all images in that class have been viewed and all judging has been completed. The entry that is awarded Best in Class is eligible for the Best of Show award. If there is only one entry in any one category and the sole entry does not score 80+, there will be no Best of Class award given in the category.

BEST OF SHOW:

All entries receiving “Best of Class” honors and/or a single entry in a class (with a score of 80 or greater) will then compete for “Best of Show” honors. A single photo will represent albums. The Maker must be present to receive these awards, unless they have been excused because they are teaching a photography workshop or are too ill to attend, as explained under “ENTRIES ALLOWED.” .

As Best of Show winner, the maker will be featured in the next issue of FOCUS and will be asked to write a “behind the scenes” article describing the creation of the entry, which should be submitted for the magazine within one week.

ANNUAL AWARDS

ELIGIBILITY:

At the end-of-the-year banquet, awards will be given in the following categories. To be eligible, you must have entered at least three (3) of the five (5) total Image Competitions throughout the current competition year, and a maker must enter at least four times in a specific category to win a Best of ___ Award..

CATEGORY AWARDS AND CRITERIA:

Best of: Album – Event

Best of: Album – Non Event

Best of: Children’s Photography

Best of: Commercial Photography

Best of: Illustrative Photography

Best of: Digital / Electronic Imaging

Best of: Nature / Landscape Photography

Best of: Pet Photography

Best of: Photojournalism

Best of: Portrait Photography

Best of: Senior Photography

Best of: Wedding Photography

The above awards require a minimum of four (4) entries in a specific category. The award is given based on the highest aggregate score of an individual’s four (4) entries in a single category. Only the four (4) highest scores are

totalled if more than four (4) entries were submitted. (An “aggregate” score is the total score of the four highest scores, not the average), however, the average score of the four (4) entries must be 80 or above. If there is a tie between two or more photographers in any category the photographer with the highest scoring print will be the winner of that category. The award is given only if there are six (6) or more image entries competing in the particular classification throughout the year.

IMAGE OF THE YEAR:

“The Victor Award” is given to the photographer creating the image selected as the most outstanding image of the year. Selection of this image will be taken from images judged as “Best in Show” and “Alternate Best in Show” for the current competition year. A panel of five (5) or more jurors from outside our affiliate will select the image. The image competition chairperson will select the jurors.

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:

Awarded to the photographer with the highest point total for the year. Individual must enter at least four different categories. An individual must have entered at least four of the five image competitions to be eligible for this award.

1 point will be awarded for every merited image, 1 additional point will be awarded Best of Class, and one additional point will be awarded Best of Show.

Merited Image = 1 point

Best of Class = 2 points

Best of Show = 3 points

If needed, the tiebreaker will be the highest single score in any category.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT AWARD:

Awarded in recognition of an individual who, in the eyes of the Second Vice President, has made the greatest advancement in image competition entries. Consideration is primarily based on score improvement over past years, and commonly bestowed upon an individual who has not been awarded additional awards.

AWARD TIE BREAKER:

In the event of a tie breaker, it will be determined based on the second point of the aggregate score.

The PPSDC Executive Board will consider the matter and arrive at the best resolution for the tie. Their decision is final.