



GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, USA

MEMBERSHIP MANUAL

MARCH 2017

THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB was officially organized February 20, 1899 as reported by The Grand Rapids Herald. The first meetings were held at Gillett's photo gallery over Morse's Department Store located on Monroe at the corner of Spring Street. The Grand Rapids Camera Club (GRCC) is the oldest camera club in the United States in continuous and uninterrupted existence.

Club members held their first exhibition June 22 & 23, 1899 at the studio of O. A. Gillett. Subsequent exhibitions were held at the Grand Rapids Art Gallery, the Grand Rapids Public Museum, and Grand Rapids Ryerson Library. The club continues to display member's photographic prints at libraries, coffee shops, shopping malls, hotel lobbies and other venues in the area. GRCC photographers are recognized throughout the state and around the country for their fine art and creative photography.

The Grand Rapids Camera Club is an active member of the Southwestern Michigan Council of Camera Clubs (SWMCCC), which sponsors an annual photography school each year. GRCC is also a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) which offers conferences, workshops, and local and international competitions to its members.

The Club's continued success lies in its many unique facets. Grand Rapids Camera Club serves the needs of photographers whose interests lie in digital reproduction or in traditional photography. GRCC is the only club in our area with monthly workshops, two competitive divisions, prints and digital, with seven categories in each division.

The Grand Rapids Camera Club has many internationally and locally recognized photographers who possess a wealth of information, and are ready and willing to aid the aspiring photographer.

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THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB

MONTHLY PHOTO COMPETITION

The Grand Rapids Camera Club's digital and print competitions are meant to provide the photographic experience and stimulation necessary to raise an individual above the "point and shoot" stage to that of a qualified and creative photographer. Participating members find that the unprejudiced judging of their work is very helpful in making them see good pictures. In addition, they view the pictures that are selected as the best and can discern for themselves what makes those pictures good. Club competitions have been credited for being the best training for photographers. Club competitions are also the showplace for your work, the results of many hours of making images. A photographer does not take pictures for just his or her own viewing, but to show others how he sees the world. It expresses his ideas and emotions as an individual.

I. ENTRIES

- A. **QUALIFYING ENTRIES:** Those entering GRCC monthly photo competitions must be a member of the GRCC. Yearly dues must be paid and up to date at the time of entry to be eligible for competition. Dues are payable January 1 of each year. If dues have not been paid by the general meeting in April, he/she will be removed from the membership list and will be unable to compete in monthly competitions.
- B. **IMAGES:** All submissions must originate as photographs (image/captures of objects via light sensitivity) made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or captured digitally within a camera.
- C. **DIVISIONS:** The club holds monthly judging in two divisions. A division is defined as the type of media, Print or Digital. Each division has 8 Categories: (A) Assigned; (C) Creative; (J) Photojournalism; (M) Monochrome; (N) Nature; (O) Open; (P) Portraiture; (S) Scapes. A total of four entries are allowed in each division, three entries in any combination in Open, Creative, Monochrome, Nature, Portraiture, Photojournalism and Scapes, and one entry in the Assigned category. If a member chooses not to enter an image in the Assigned category, only three images may be entered.
- D. **NUMBER OF IMAGES:** One digital image or print per entry is allowed in all categories with the exception of Photojournalism. In the Photojournalism category, an entry can be one image or a sequence of up to four images. A member may enter in both divisions, Digital and Print. If a member enters in both divisions following the previously mentioned rules, a total of 8 entries will be allowed provided that one (1) in each division is entered in the Assigned category.

II. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES FOR COMPETITION

- A. **IMAGES:** All rules applying to the category you are entering and rules applying to titles must be followed to avoid possible disqualification.
- B. **TITLES:** A title is defined as the name you give your image. The title must be unique for each image entered and is limited to 28 characters, including spaces. The category code, underscores, your name and file format information for digital images are not part of the 28 character limit. The same EXACT title must be used on the entry and on all forms involved. A digital image and a print of the same image must share the same title. Images can be entered as a print and can also be entered in the digital division. Each print or digital image entered in competition must be able to be identified by title and therefore CANNOT have the SAME title as any entry entered by the same maker previously. Doing so may result in the entry being disqualified. If the maker cannot think of another title of an image of the same or similar subject, numbers are allowed for instance, "Rose 3" or "Balloon 4" etc.
- C. **RE-ENTRY OF IMAGES:** Once a digital image or print is entered and accepted or accepted with honors in any category within that division, it cannot be entered in a GRCC monthly competition again. For example, if an image is entered as a color open image and received an acceptance or honor, it cannot be changed or altered in any manner and reentered at a later date in another category. (Monochrome or Creative for instance) It may be entered in the other division (Digital or Print). Once it is accepted or honored in that division it may not be entered again. Only non-accepted and disqualified entries may be re-entered in a future competition. Images may be entered in the year-end competition and in competitions outside GRCC however.

III. CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

- A. **ASSIGNED:** The Grand Rapids Camera Club board members select a subject for each month of the competition year as the "assigned" subject. The assigned category is designed to challenge your photographic skills and to encourage you to photograph images that you may not have normally. Give a lot of thought to them. Be creative. The applicable subject may be one or many, but remember that the assigned subject must be the dominant feature. If entering 4 images in a division, one (1) of them MUST be of the assigned subject. Only 3 images may be entered if choosing not to enter an assigned subject. A judge should base his vote on how much creativity the photographer used in completing his or her "assignment" before voting.
- B. **CREATIVE:** The creative category is for manipulated and enhanced images and those where the maker's creativity comes into view in the final image. Images entered should be unique and different, perhaps out of the ordinary. A photographer's creativity can either be in how the photo is taken or that the final image is created using Photoshop or other image editing software. A judge should base his score on how creative the image is.

- C. **MONOCHROME:** Monochrome is defined as black and white or varying tones of only one color. An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of gray which can include pure black and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a grayscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image. (For example by Sepia, red, gold, etc.) A grayscale or multi-colored image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multi toning or by the inclusion of spot coloring does not meet the definition of monochrome and shall be disqualified.
- D. **NATURE:** Images entered in the nature category must be presented in a manner that does not depict the influence of human habitation (the hand of man). This category includes such subjects as botany, zoology, geology, etc. The addition of an element that portrays the subject's natural habitat is acceptable. Examples would include a shore bird on a piling, robin in a lawn, or a barn swallow in a barn. Subjects that do NOT qualify include domestic animals, horticultural varieties of plants or hybrid plants. This definition does not limit nature photography to wildlife subjects. Landscapes and shots taken at the zoo or nature centers are also acceptable, keeping in mind that they may not show the hand of man. Computer manipulation and enhancement of digital images should not call into question the integrity of an image. Visibly manipulated images should be entered in the Open, Creative or Monochrome categories or risk being disqualified from nature.
- E. **OPEN:** All images, regardless of the subject matter or technique are eligible in the Open category.
- F. **PHOTOJOURNALISM:** Photojournalism shall consist of images or sequences of images with informative content and emotional impact including human interest, documentary, sporting events and spot news. Human interest images depict a person or persons in an interactive, emotional, and unusual situation. An entry in the photojournalism category must tell or illustrate a story. A member can enter one image or a series of up to 4 images as one entry. When entering a series of images, the story should be presented in chronological order. The journalistic value of the image should be considered before pictorial quality. In the interest of credibility, photographs which misrepresent the truth such as manipulation to alter the subject matter or situations which are set up will result in the risk of disqualification. Visibly manipulated images should be entered in the Open, Creative or Monochrome categories.
- G. **PORTRAITURE:** Any photograph of a person in which the face or its expression is predominant may be considered. Entries in this category can be a formal studio or an environmental portrait. Images showing the entire human body are welcome as well as ones showing just the head and shoulders. This category is for human portraiture only.
- H. **SCAPES:** A landscape is defined as a wide or extensive view of a scene or scenery. It refers to all the visible features of an area of land, often considered in terms of aesthetic appeal. Many landscapes show little or no human activity, instead featuring subjects such as strongly defined landforms, weather, and ambient light. As with most forms of art, the definition is broad and may include urban settings (cityscapes), seascapes or waterscapes. It is about the overall view, a place not an object or person, although they can be present in the image. It becomes something else when the dominant part of the image is the object rather than the scenery.

IV. MANIPULATION AND ENHANCEMENT

- A. **PROCESSING:** Processing, manipulation or enhancement of an image must be performed by the photographer who created the image. Conversion of RAW digital images is considered processing an image.
- B. **ENHANCEMENT:** Enhancement is defined as “to make greater”. It also can be known as “retouching”. Use of enhancement functions to improve the natural appearance of the image is allowed in all categories. Examples of enhancement functions are adjustments of colors, contrast, white balance, sharpness, noise, levels, brightness, curves, intensity, saturation or color balance and cropping.
- C. **MANIPULATION:** Manipulation is defined as changing an image. Photo manipulation is the application of image editing techniques to photographs in order to create an illusion or deception after the original photo was taken. Photo manipulation is often much more explicit than subtle alterations to color balance or contrast and may involve replacing an object with a different one or changing a sign's text, removing elements or visible flaws on skin or materials for examples. Image editing software can be used to apply effects and warp an image until the desired result is achieved. The resulting image may have little or no resemblance to the photo (or photos in the case of compositing) from which it originated. Today, photo manipulation is widely accepted as an art form. Use of manipulation functions to change the appearance of the image is allowed in the Portraiture, Open, Monochrome, Creative and Scapes categories as well as some Assigned. The use of manipulation in Nature or Photojournalism should not call into question the integrity of the image or risk being disqualified.
- D. **IMAGE ELEMENTS NOT CREATED BY THE PHOTOGRAPHER:** Use of graphics such as backgrounds and textures found in image editing software, purchased backgrounds and textures and elements obtained from other sources not created by the photographer can be added to an image in the Creative, Open, Monochrome, Portrait and Scapes categories, as well as some Assigned, as long as the original image is their own, i.e. was made by the competitor using photographic emulsion or captured digitally within a camera. Use of these image elements are not allowed in the nature and photojournalism categories.
- E. **HDR:** The use of HDR (High Dynamic Range) is permitted. However, extreme care should be taken when using HDR to enhance images to be entered in the Nature and Photojournalism categories. Photographs which are over processed, misrepresent the truth or situations which are set up and do not appear as natural are unacceptable in Photojournalism and Nature categories and risk being disqualified.

V. DIGITAL ENTRY GUIDELINES

- A. GENERAL GUIDELINES: Digital entries are to be submitted by e-mail to the Digital Coordinator at images@grcameraclub.org according to the guidelines defined below. The deadline to submit images for any monthly competition is always the Wednesday preceding the competition at 12:00 midnight. Slides may be scanned with the scanned images e-mailed or scanned to a CD and mailed to the Digital Coordinator to be received by the deadline above. The Digital Coordinator will acknowledge all entries by e-mail. No more than 4 images may be entered in the digital division, one being the assigned subject. If a member chooses *not* to enter an image in the Assigned category, only 3 images may be entered.
- B. SIZING YOUR IMAGE: The resolution is not critical and can be set to whatever best suits your workflow. Photograph width cannot be greater than 1024 pixels but may be less than 1024 pixels. Photograph height cannot be greater than 1024 pixels, but may be less than 1024.
- C. SETTING YOUR COLOR PROFILE: It is recommended that you submit your images with an sRGB color profile.
- D. NAMING YOUR IMAGE FILE: The image file name should contain the following information in the following order. A capital letter for the category code; an underscore (_); the image title (capitalizing the 1st letter of each word with no spaces) and limited to 28 characters; an underscore (_); your name (use your first and last name both capitalized with no spaces); EXAMPLE: N_WildflowerOnThePrairie_JohnDoe.jpg. In Photojournalism, up to 4 images per category may be submitted. To identify the image presentation order and the total number of images submitted, the images should be named as follows: After the image title, add an underscore (_); a character for the image order and a character for the total number of images submitted. EXAMPLE: J_FamilyFun_12_JohnDoe or J_FamilyFun_22_JohnDoe if 2 images were submitted.
- E. CATEGORY CODES: (A) Assigned; (C) Creative; (J) Photojournalism; (M) Monochrome; (N) Nature; (O) Open; (P) Portraiture; (S) Scapes.
- F. SAVING YOUR IMAGE: When saving, select jpeg quality level of 12 if you have an internet broadband connection (cable or DSL). If you have a slower dial-up modem, select a quality level of 8 to avoid long transmission times. All images submitted for competition must be saved in jpeg format (.jpg)
- G. SENDING IMAGES: Send images as email attachments to the digital coordinator. images@grcameraclub.org.
- H. MISSED ENTRIES: Any digital images missed in error by the digital coordinator in a given month will be entered in the next regular competition. All scores will be applied to the appropriate month.

VI. PRINT ENTRY GUIDELINES

- A. **GENERAL GUIDELINES:** Prints must be given to the Print Coordinator by 7:10 PM the evening of the competition to be eligible to compete. All prints must have been photographed by the member. Commercially or otherwise prepared images are allowed in the monthly competition, as well as prints made on a member's personal computer. The back of the print must include duplicate entry labels, one that can be easily removed by the scorer and one that is attached to the top of the print. Securely attach a completed print label to the top left on the back of your print. Loosely attach a duplicate print label to be removed before the competition. Print labels can be printed from our website or are available at the monthly meetings.
- B. **SIZING:** All prints must be mounted on a sturdy backing with the maximum size including the mount no longer than 20 inches on its longest side. Prints may be matted but may not be framed. For Photojournalism sequences, the full sequence of up to four images must be presented on one mount.
- C. **JUDGING:** Prints will be judged in a light box to provide equal illumination for each entry. The proper color temperature for judging and viewing prints should be between 5000 Kelvin and 5500 Kelvin. Our print viewing box provides very accurate lighting for print evaluation. Bulbs are color balanced and color corrected. Florescent bulbs with a temperature of 5000 Kelvin and an EV (exposure value) of 9.5 at the viewing surface are used per standard viewing guidelines. The prints will be separated by the size of the mount and judged accordingly. Images that are 14" or smaller (on its longest side) including mounts will be judged as a small print (Class B) and be viewed at a distance of 6 feet. Those images measuring larger than 14" including the mount will be judged as a large print (Class A) and viewed at a distance of 9 feet. In competitions where we will be judging both large prints (Class A) and small prints (Class B), the small prints will be judged first.

VII. JUDGING AND SCORING

- A. **JUDGES:** Judging will be done by 3 club members who are either photographers of reputation who have been approved by the Competition Chairperson and the board, or are members who have attained a minimum of 400 merit points and at least 15 honors in club competition and have been trained by the Vice President of Competition. A different set of judges will be chosen by the VP of Competition for each competition month.

- B. **SCORING:** Scoring shall be accomplished on a point system using a scoring machine that shows the score given by each of the three judges and the average of the judge's scores. Each judge shall use a scoring range of 6 – 15 points. The average of the judge's scores shall be used as the final score for the entry. A judge shall vote a zero if the image is recognized as his own image or that of a family member. The zero score will be replaced by the average of the other two judge's scores.

If any of the judges scores are out of range, (over the high score of 15 or under the low score of 6), the scorer will ask that the image be re-evaluated and the resulting score will replace the original.

The judge shall vote a 99 if he feels the image does not meet the criteria for the category. The scorer will then call for a discussion among the judges. The image will then be re-evaluated. If any two judges then vote a 99 the image will be disqualified. It can then be entered in a future competition in the appropriate category.

- C. **TITLES:** Titles shall be read before the picture is judged. After it is judged, the maker's name and score shall be read if the image is accepted or honored.
- D. **POINT SYSTEM:** The point system is as follows: 6 -11 accepted; 12-14 honor; 15 top honor. The scores will be recorded by the score keepers on the print entry form or on the digital scoring sheet.
- E. **SCORING CRITERIA:** See the document "The Grand Rapids Camera Club Judging Guidelines" on our website for more detail.

The basis upon which the judges shall score an image is as follows:

15) A judge's highest score. A fifteen is an image of highest quality in all technical and compositional respects with impact. Impact is exhibited when a photograph is striking and has an immediate and strong effect on those viewing it.

14) The image is better than the previous score of 13, however not quite a 15

13) The image is better than a score of 12 (above average)

12) An above average image. An image is excellently lighted and superbly composed with no noticeable technical flaws in such things as focus, color, slanted horizon, distracting backgrounds or empty foregrounds. All elements of the image work together.

11) The image is better than the previous score of 10, however not quite a 12.

10) The image is better than a score of 9 (average).

9) An average image. This image is properly exposed, correctly focused and has good composition. It is acceptable, but does not generate any special interest or stir emotions. Technical flaws are not immediately obvious.

8) Some technical flaws are apparent in the image.

7) The image is better than a score of 6 although still shows significant technical flaws.

6) A well below average image. This image exhibits several technical flaws in such areas as exposure, focus and composition.

VIII. AWARDS

- A. **MERIT POINTS:** Merit points are earned for acceptances and honors in Grand Rapids Camera Club competition. Members are credited with the score given to their entries by the judges at the monthly meetings. These totals will be added to the members' total accumulated merit points. Merit points continue to accumulate as long as he/she is a dues paying member of the club.
- B. **MERIT POINT AWARD LEVELS:** The Merit Award System is a method of recognizing the acquired talent and skills of each photographer. As merit points are accumulated, the following awards are presented to the member when the goal is reached.
- | | |
|--------|---------------------------|
| 200 | Certificate of Excellence |
| 600 | Masters Award |
| 1,500 | Senior Masters Award |
| 3,000 | Grand Masters Award |
| 5,000 | Star Masters Award |
| 7,000 | Diamond Masters Awards |
| 10,000 | First Galaxy Award |
| 14,000 | Second Galaxy Award |
| 19,000 | Third Galaxy Award |
| 25,000 | Diamond Galaxy Award |
- C. **YEAR TO DATE SCORES:** In addition to the member's total lifetime merit points, the scores earned in the current calendar year are calculated for each division and as a whole for purposes of determining the photographer of the year and the division award winners.
- D. **PHOTOGRAPHY HALL OF FAME:** The Photography Hall of Fame was introduced in 2001. The Hall of Fame award honors members who have made significant contributions to the Grand Rapids Camera Club. Honorees are recognized for their years of participation in club activities, competition, a willingness to share their photography knowledge, and for promoting the advancement of the club. Any member can nominate someone who they feel meets the qualifications for the Hall of Fame Award. Guidelines, criteria and a nomination form can be found on our website.

IX. MEMBER GALLERY

- A. **GRCC GALLERY GUIDELINES:** The Grand Rapids Camera Club maintains a gallery of member's images on it's website for those who wish to participate. This gives you an opportunity to show other members some of your work and it also attracts new members when they see our fine galleries. You can provide up to 15 images and can change them at any time. Review the complete guidelines and instructions for submitting your images on the website by clicking on "Gallery Guidelines" at www.grccameraclub.org/documents/forms. Please do not hesitate to email our website administrator at webmaster@grccameraclub.org to get answers for any question you may have regarding the gallery.

X. OUTSIDE COMPETITIONS

- A. OUTSIDE COMPETITIONS:** The Grand Rapids Camera Club often enters our members' images, with their permission, in competitions which are sponsored by other organizations, such as PSA Interclub Competitions. When doing so, we must adhere to the competition rules of the sponsoring organization. Rules and guidelines for outside competitions that we enter can be found on the Documents and Forms page on our website.

THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB

YEAR-END PHOTO COMPETITION

The Grand Rapids Camera Club holds its year-end photo competition the last Saturday in January. Contrary to the monthly judging, the year-end competition gives members the opportunity to enter print and digital images to compete with one another for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, honorable mention and other special awards. The Awards are presented at the annual banquet which is held the 3rd Wednesday in February.

I. ELIGIBILITY

- A. **ENTRIES:** Accepted and honor images entered in the preceding competition year (January through December) are eligible in the year-end competition. Entries must be entered in the same category in which they were entered in the monthly competition with the exception of the assigned subject. Members should designate in which category they wish their assigned images to be entered. If a member does not specify a preference, assigned images will be automatically entered in the open category.
- B. **DEADLINES:** Digital images and prints must be submitted by the deadline determined by the competition chairperson and the board in order to be eligible. Digital images will not automatically be entered in year-end competition.
- C. **LIMITS:** The number of entries allowed in each category will be determined by the competition chairperson and the board on a yearly basis. You will be notified of such prior to the competition entry deadlines.

II. JUDGES

- A. **ELIGIBILITY OF JUDGES:** Three judges from outside the current club membership are selected by the Competition Chairperson or a committee appointed by the board. Members of other camera clubs or photographers of reputation may be considered for judging the year-end competition as long as they or a member of their immediate family has not been a member of the GRCC for two years prior to the competition.

III. COMPETITION CLASS

- A. **CLASSES:** There are two classes in the Open and Nature categories and one class each in the Creative, Photojournalism, Monochrome, Portraiture and Scape categories. All divisions and all categories are eligible for certificates and ribbons as mentioned below. Classes will be determined as follows: At the close of the competition year, the Competition Chairperson prepares a list, without names, showing a member's average score in each division, prints and digital. This will be computed based on all the entries entered by the competitor in the previous calendar year. The Competition Chairperson will then present the information to the board who then will determine a dividing point based on the grouping of the average scores. All members will compete in one class in the Creative, Monochrome, Portraiture, Photojournalism and Scape categories.
- B. **CLASS A:** Those members whose average score falls below the decided dividing point will compete in Class A in both the Nature and Open categories.
- C. **STAR CLASS:** Those members whose average score is above the decided dividing point will compete in Star Class in both the Nature and Open categories.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

- A. **PHOTJOURNALISM, CREATIVE, MONOCHROME, PORTRAITURE, SCAPES:** If there are insufficient entrants in any of these categories, they will be combined with open entries in the appropriate class for the competition. A minimum of four entrants is required for a separate competition to be held. Rules for the Open category will apply.
- B. **CLASSES:** If there is not a minimum of four (4) entrants in any one class, Class A or Star Class the two classes will be combined and compete as one class.

V. PROCEDURES

- A. **TIME OF JUDGING:** The Judging shall be held in one day beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing until finished, with a one hour lunch break near the noon hour. The Grand Rapids Camera Club will provide lunch for the judges and judging workers.
- B. **MINIMUM WORKERS:** Year end competition is a closed competition and not open to members. A minimum of workers is required and includes the President and Competition Chairperson to oversee the judging; Score keeper to handle the judging machine; Digital Coordinator to operate the computer and digital projector; an entry handler to handle prints and sort in/out results; a record keeper to record honorable mentions and places. The results of the competition are to be kept confidential by all present until awards are presented at the February awards ceremony.
- C. **JUDGING PROCEDURES:** All entries shall be judged with an "in/out" system to reduce the number of entries to the honorable mention quantity. Each judge shall vote

“in” or “out” on each entry. An entry is eliminated from further competition if at least two of the three judges vote “out”.

The judges shall continue to go through complete rounds of entries until approximately 20% of the total entries is reached for honorable mention. If judges have a difficult time reducing the entries to 20%, the Grand Rapids Camera Club President or the Competition Chairperson in the President’s absence, may extend the honorable mention percentage as necessary.

- D. HONORABLE MENTION: Until the judges reach the honorable mention quantity, no talking is permitted by either the judges or the workers in the judging room other than what is necessary for carrying out the judging procedure.
- E. PLACE RANKINGS: When the judges reach the honorable mention quantity, the images will be displayed for the judges to view and then discuss, thus deciding on the first place print or digital entry. The remaining honorable mention images entered by the 1st place winner will be automatically awarded honorable mention ribbons and removed from further competition. This procedure is repeated for 2nd place, if it is to be awarded. Third place, if to be awarded, shall be selected in like manner after both the 1st and 2nd place maker’s images have been removed. All remaining images are awarded honorable mention ribbons. Judging will continue in this manner for all divisions and categories in the order mentioned below until all winners have been selected. If there are no remaining images in the honorable mentions after the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place winners entries are removed from further competition, entries may not be drawn from those previously eliminated. If this occurs, no place award will be given.
- F. ORDER OF COMPETITION: Categories will be presented for judging in the following order: PRINTS: Photojournalism, Portraiture, Creative, Monochrome, Scapes, Class A Open, Star Class Open, Class A Nature and Star Class Nature. DIGITAL: Photojournalism, Portraiture, Creative, Monochrome, Scapes, Class A Open, Star Class Open, Class A Nature and Star Class Nature.

VII. AWARDS

- A. AWARD TYPES: Awards for winners of year-end competition are the trophies, ribbons and certificates presented at the annual awards ceremony held the 3rd Wednesday in February. Place award winners will receive ribbons and certificates. Ribbons will be awarded to all honorable mention winners.
- B. PLACE AWARDS: At least four (4) entrants are required in each category for a first place award and a competition to be held. A minimum of six (6) entrants are required in a category to award both 1st and 2nd place. A minimum of eight (8) entrants are required in a category to award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.
- C. DIVISION AWARDS: Division winners (Prints and Digital) will be determined by the total year to date scores. A trophy will be presented to the top scorer (or scorers in case of a tie) in each division.

D. PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR: The Photographer of the Year is the one individual who has attained the highest average score overall in all divisions. To be eligible he/she must have entered a minimum of forty (40) entries.

The average score will be determined by dividing the sum of the scores by the number of entries in both divisions combined. In the case of a tie, Co-Photographer's of the Year will be recognized.