

SOUTHEAST QUEENS CAMERA CLUB

COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE 2016/2017 SEASON

Competitions

The Southeast Queens Camera Club holds up to six (6) regular competitions during the period from September through April in four categories: Black and White Prints, Color Prints, Digital Projection and Creative Digital. Both digital category images can be Black and White or Color. The competition schedule will be issued at the first program meeting in September (or before) and published in our newsletter. A "Best of the Best" competition will be held in May.

1. The number of images a member may submit per category will be 3 Black and White prints, 3 Color prints, 3 Digital Images and 3 Creative Digital Images. A total of 18 images per category per season.
2. **A.** All prints must be submitted no later than 7:15 P.M. on the night of competition, digital images on the Friday before competition.
B. Competition scores will range from six (6) to nine (9) points.

Points for club standing will be calculated as follows:

9 score = 3 points

8 score = 2 points

7 score = 1 point

6 (or lower) score = 0 points

The judge(s) will also select an image as "Image of the Month" in each category from among the top rated photographs scoring at least eight points. An additional bonus point, one (1) point, will be awarded providing there is more than one entry in that category.

C. Winning photographs may not be entered in any future Southeast Queens Camera Club competition except for the current season's "Print and Digital Best of the Best" competition.

Winning photographs in one medium may not be re-entered in a different medium.

Non-winning photographs earning a score of 6 may be re-entered in one competition in any current or future season.

D. Competition Standings scores for each medium will be tabulated during the season for each member and posted in SEQCC Newsletter. The sum of the points earned

during the regular club season will determine the “Photographer of the Year” award winner in the “A” (advanced), “B” (beginning/intermediate), and “H” Honor classes.

Any photograph entered into competition may be temporarily retained by the club for entry into other competitions such as the Photographic Federation of Long Island (PFLI), or may be duplicated at the club’s expense for exhibition purposes.

Allowance for make-up entries may be made due to special circumstances for a missed competition, but not more than twice per season. NOTE: If a new member joins after the first competition and before the 3rd competition (month of 3rd competition) the maker has the option of making up the competition(s) missed before he/she became a member.

The most entries one can enter when doing a make-up will be four (3 regular entries, plus the one make-up entry), in any one competition.

Previous “PFLI Competition” winning photos entered through other camera clubs may not be entered in Southeast Queens Camera Club’s competition.

Only those members whose dues are paid for the year may compete. Dues must be paid at least one week prior to the competition entry date.

Prints and Digital Standards

All prints and digital images must be the sole work of the entrant except for film processing (not counting Black & White and non-commercial Color prints).

Any photographs taken of someone else’s artistic efforts if said photos are just “as is” are not eligible for competition.

Prints may be Black and White, Color or toned in monochromatic tint. Hand colored prints are not acceptable. Commercial prints (prints where the film was developed at a commercial lab, and printed & mounted at a commercial lab) may be entered by photographers in their respective group.

Prints may be exhibited in horizontal, square or vertical format in any size mount from 5” x 7” (without mask) up to 16” x 20” (including mask). Prints must be properly mounted on a board, with no glass and no folded paper over the print.

Prints must be properly marked for competition. A title for identification purposes must be printed clearly on each entry.

The back of each print must bear the photographer’s name and a title. Label templates for this purpose are available for download on the SEQCC website.

The word “TOP” must be written on the back along the top edge of the mount.

The back of each print must be smooth and clean and free of tape or other debris, otherwise the print will be disqualified.

Any photo which is EXACTLY alike in every way, shape, and form to any previous winner of the same maker may be brought to the attention of the Competition Chair for possible disqualification. The determination of the Chair will be final.

1. Only photographs which conform to the specifications above will be accepted for entry into competition.
2. Digital Images: Digital images are to be emailed to "DigitalComp@seqcc.org" the Friday prior to the competition date. Image resolution must be 72 ppi and image size must be 750 pixels on the longest side. They should be named: C35-name(alias)-A1-title of image (if you are an A worker) or if you are a B worker change the A1 to B1, Honors change A1 to S1. Example: C35-RonM-A1-Windmill.jpg

Classification

Class "B" – Prints, or digital images – Beginners, new members and intermediate photographers.

Class "A" – Prints, or digital images – Advanced photographers.

Class "H" – Prints or digital images – Honors photographers.

All new members will compete in Class "B" for the first season of club membership unless they have competed in a higher class at another club. New members may present reasonable evidence to the Competition Committee to warrant placement in Class "A". Placement in Class "H" must be earned (see below) unless said member has competed in a similar class at another club.

Any Class "B" photographer who, at the end of the season, has earned at least 27 points in a given year, shall be placed in the "A" group in their competing medium the next time he/she finishes in 1st place, even if the winning point total is less than 27 points.

Any Class "A" photographer who has earned at least 38 points in one medium at the end of the season, shall be placed in the "H" group during the following season the next time he/she finishes in 1st place in that same medium, even though their winning point total will be less than 38 points.

Once promoted, a photographer may not revert to his/her previous classification.

All entries in a competition must be scored and scores must count. No images are to be submitted for critique only during a competition.

1. **A.** All PFLI entries must have competed in the SEQCC prior to being entered at the PFLI.
B. All SEQCC competition entries shall be considered for possible entry in the PFLI competition at the discretion of the Competition Committee or the Selection Committee.

2. All competition entries from a particular competition will be returned at the following meeting. No entries will be returned on the night of the competition, no exceptions.
3. Any member advancing in any one class shall advance to that class in all categories.

Annual Awards

A. “Photographer of the Year” First and Second place awards will be given (depending upon the number of entrants in a category) to the photographers earning the highest cumulative points in competitions throughout the season in all classes. To qualify for awards, a photographer must not finish lower than 2nd Place (or tied for 2nd) **and** receive at least 18 points.

1. Ties will be broken using the criteria of fewest-number of total entries and most wins earned, in that order. If there is still a tie, then all tied competitors shall receive awards.

B. “Best of the Best” A special competition for “Best of the Best” (prints and digital images of the year) in each class will be held at the end of the competition season. Up to three (3) winning entries per medium FROM THE CURRENT SEASON ONLY are eligible. Images MUST be in the original competition mount (for prints, this mean original label with score must still be affixed to the back).

Awards in the form of plaques, for Photographers of the Year, Images of the year and Advancement Certificates, will be presented at the “End of Season” celebration in June.

Cancellations

While it is intended that competitions be held as scheduled, circumstances may arise causing the cancellation of one or more competition(s). The decision to change the same rests with the Executive Committee.

Should such a decision affect any aspect of the yearly scoring, the Executive Committee may amend or suspend the rules to achieve the most equitable results for the whole membership.

Duration

Except as stated above, all rules will remain in effect during the entire season of competition and may not be amended until after the final competition and prior to the first competition of the following season.

Judging Etiquette

A judge may revise his or her original score for a photograph at any time during the competition but prior to the announcement of the maker’s name.

At no time during the competition will any member of the audience make comments audible to the judge. Any questions by the audience will be answered by the Competition Chairperson prior to or after the competition.

Courtesy must be shown to the judge, and he or she must not be influenced in any way.

Each photograph should be scored in accordance with the way the maker has “marked” it for competition presentation as outlined in **Prints and Digital Standards**.

The judges must be given all instructions and fully informed of the time allotment **before** and not during the competition.

APPENDIX

Label Examples:

Prints –

On the back of the mat board:

Place the word “TOP” in bold letters along the top edge on the back of the mat.

Fill out the SEQCC print label and attach to the lower right corner on the rear of the mat.

Label templates for this purpose are available for download on the SEQCC website.