

**SOUTHEAST QUEENS CAMERA CLUB**  
**COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**UPDATED FOR THE 2009-2010 SEASON**

**Competitions**

A. The Southeast Queens Camera Club holds nine (9) photography competitions during the period from September to May in 3 categories: Black and White Prints, Color Prints and Digital. The competition schedule will be issued at the first program meeting in September (or before) and published in our newsletter.

1. A club member may submit up to 2 entries in each category. The maximum entries anyone can enter in a given year will be 18 in each category.
2. All photographs must be submitted not later than 7:30 P.M on competition night
3. Digital images must be in sRGB color mode, JPG format and sized to 72 DPI resolution with the largest dimension set at 750 DPI.
4. Digital files must be name as follows Club ID (C35-). Makers alias (rcaldwell-), Class (A1-), title (Pretty Bird). Example: C35-rcaodwell-A1-Pretty Bird.
5. Digital images must be emailed to the digital coordinator by 7:00pm on the Sunday preceding the competition.

A. Competition scores will range from five (5) 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

B. The judge will also select a "Photograph of the Month" in each category, with 2 or more competitors from among the top rated photographs scoring at least eight points.

C. Ribbon winning photographs may not be entered in any future Southeast Queens Camera Club competitions except for the current season's "End of the Year" competition.

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

Non-winning photographs earning a score of 6 or lower may be edited and re-entered in any future season.

D. A cumulative score for each medium will be tabulated during the season for each member. The sum of the points earned during the regular club season will determine the "Photographer of the Year" and runner-up award winners in the "A" (advanced) and "B" (beginning/intermediate) classes. Ties for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place will be broken by the total "Image of the Month" awards and further by fewest entries.

E. Any photograph entered into competition may be retained by the club for entry in competitions at the Photographic Federation of Long Island (PFLI).

F. Due to special circumstances, or a missed competition make-up entries may be submitted, but not more than twice per season. No more than one competition can be made up in a given month.

G. Previous "PFLI Competition" ribbon winning photos entered through other camera clubs may not be entered in Southeast Queens Camera Club's competition.

H. Dues must be paid by the October competition to insure a member's scores will be counted for awards.

## **Print and Digital Standards**

- A. All prints and digital images must be the original work of the member.
1. Any photographs taken of someone else's artwork, are not eligible for competition, if said photos are just "as is"
  2. Photographs of nudes are permitted provided they meet the artistic and decency standards of the SEQCC as determined by the Competition Committee.
  3. Questionable works, someone else's artwork, or nudes must be presented to the Competition Committee for approval before entry into competition. If the image is rejected the maker will be allowed a free makeup. If a questionable image is entered without approval and is later disqualified, the score is forfeited and no makeup will be allowed.
  4. All disqualifications must be made before the meeting of the competition is adjourned.
  5. Computer generated or hand lettered text on an image will automatically disqualify the image from competition.
- B. A title for identification purposes must be printed clearly on each entry.
- C. Prints may be Black and White, Color, or toned in monochromatic tint. Hand colored prints are not acceptable.
- D. Prints may be exhibited in horizontal, square or vertical format; in any size mount from 5x7 (with mat) up to 16 x 20 (without mat). Prints must be properly mounted on a board, without frames, glass or folded paper over the print.
- E. Prints must be properly marked for competition.
1. The back of each print must bear the photographer's name, and a title. Labels for this purpose are available from a designated Competition Committee member.
  2. The word "TOP" must be written along the top edge of the mount.
  3. The back of each print must be smooth, clean and free of tape, otherwise the print will be disqualified.
- F. Any photo which is EXACTLY alike-- in every way, shape, and form-- to a previous ribbon winner by the same maker, may be brought to the attention of the Competition Chair for possible disqualification. The determination of the Chair will be final.
- G. Only photographs which conform to the specifications above will be accepted for entry into competition.

### **Classifications**

- A. Class "B" -- Prints and digital – Beginners: new members and those new to photography.
- B. Class "A" -- Prints and digital -- Advanced photographers.
- C. All new members will compete in Class "B" for the first season of club membership unless a portfolio of work is presented to Competition Committee to warrant Class "A" status.
- D. Any Class "B" photographer who has earned at least 30 points by the end of the season , in a particular category will be promoted to Class "A" (of that category) starting the next season.
- E. No photographer may revert back in class.
- F. "B" workers who receive a 7, 8, or 9 score will receive an actual ribbon. "A" workers will receive ribbons for scores of 8 or 9.
- G. No images are to be submitted for critique only.
- H. All PFLI entries must be displayed in the SEQCC before being entered in the PFLI.
- I. A Selection Committee will determine which images will be sent to the PFLI monthly competition.

## Annual Awards

- A. “Photographer of the Year,” first and second place awards will be given (depending on the number of members in a category) to the photographers earning the highest cumulative point totals in competitions throughout the season in all classes and categories. To qualify for an award, a photographer must finish AT LEAST in 2<sup>nd</sup> place (or tied for 2<sup>nd</sup>) AND received at least 20 points. Ties will be broken using the criteria of most images of the month earned and fewest number of total entries, in that order. If there is still a tie, then all tied competitors shall receive awards.
- B. “Prints and Digital Images of the Year”. A special End of Year Competition for “Prints and Digital Images of the Year” in each class will be held at the end of the competition season. Up to 5 (5) ribbon-winning entries per medium FROM THE CURRENT SEASON ONLY are eligible. Images MUST be in original competition mount (for prints, this means original label with score must still be affixed to the back).
1. One “in” or “out” elimination round of scoring and one round of “five” to “nine points scoring by the judge shall determine the winner.
  2. The highest rated entries in each class will be selected by the judge. There will be a runner-up award in a category if that category has a sufficient amount of entries (to be determined by the Competition Committee).
  3. All ties will be broken.
  4. Photographers who have won an award for first place in any medium will not be eligible to receive another award in the same medium.
  5. If there is one entrant in a category in the end of the year, that person will need 3 winning images during the year to qualify for an award.
- C. Awards for Photographers of the Year and Images of the Year & Advancement certificates will be presented at the annual “Awards Event” in June.

### **Cancellations**

A. While it is intended that competitions be held as scheduled, circumstances may arise causing cancellation of one or more competitions. The decision to change a competition rests with the Executive Board.

1. 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**

A. 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. 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.

B. At no time during the competition will any member of the audience make comments to the judge. Any questions by the audience will be answered by the Competition Chairman or other Competition Committee member.

C. During the competition, comments by members of the audience to each other must be kept to an absolute minimum. In a quiet room voices carry and can be heard by all including the judge.

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

E. Each photograph should be scored in accordance with the way the maker has "marked" it for competition presentation.

F. The judge 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:

1. Place the word "TOP" in bold letters at the top of the picture on the back of the mat.
2. Fill out the SEQCC print label and attach to the lower right corner at the rear of the mat.

Digital –

1 - Digital images must be in sRGB color mode, JPG format and sized to 72 DPI resolution with the largest dimension set at 750 DPI

2 – images must be emailed to the digital coordinator by 7:00pm on the Sunday preceding the competition.