

SOUTHEAST QUEENS CAMERA CLUB
COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR 2022-23

Competitions

The Southeast Queens Camera Club holds up to six(6) regular competitions during the period from September to April in five categories: Black and White Prints, Color Prints, Creative Digitals , Digital Color Images, and Digital Black and White Images. 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.

The competition schedule will be issued in September (or before) and published in our newsletter. Competitions take place on the 4th Tuesday of the months of October, November, January, February, March, and April.

Classification

All new members will compete in Class "B" for the first season of club membership.

Any Class "B" photographer who, at the end of the season, has earned at least 27 points in one medium shall be placed in the "A" group during the following season.

Any Class "A" photographer who, at the end of the season, has earned at least 38 points in one medium shall be placed in the "Salon" group during the following season.

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

The "Best of the Best" competition will be held in May.

The meetings begin at **7:00 pm**.

1. The number of images a member may submit per category will be **up to** 3 Black and White prints, 3 Color prints, 3 Creative Digital, 3 Color Digital Images and 3 Black and White Digital Images, for a total of 18 images per category per season. Black & White images may contain only 1 additional color; images that do not conform to this standard are subject to disqualification.

2. **A.** All images must be submitted via PhotoContest Pro by midnight on the Friday before competition. Selected Black & White and Color prints for the PFLI competitions must be in print format.

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 score = 0 points

The judge will select 1 image as “Image of the Month” in each category from among the top-rated photographs scoring at least eight points. 1 bonus point will be awarded to the Image of the Month.

C. Winning photographs may not be entered in any future Southeast Queens Camera Club competition except for the current season’s Best of the Best competitions.

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

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

D. Competition Standing scores for each medium will be tabulated during the season for each member and posted in the SEQCC Newsletter. The sum of the points earned during the regular club season will determine the “Photographer of the Year” award winner in all classes and across every category.

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 photographer’s expense for exhibition purposes. These images may also be posted on the Club’s social media platforms unless permission to do so is explicitly denied by the photographer.

With the implementation of PhotoContest Pro, competitions for the entire season are posted in the program’s website. This makes it possible for members to upload images to any or all of the competitions at any point prior to the contest closing deadline. For that reason, there is no longer the need for the provision of make-up submissions. Each photographer is responsible for ensuring the timely submission of his/her competition entries

The maximum number of entries a member may submit in any one category in a single competition season is 18.

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

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 ineligible for competition.

E. Print Images: Prints may be Black and White, Color or toned in monochromatic tint. Hand colored prints are not acceptable. Commercial prints (prints where the image was developed, printed, and 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 8" x 10" up to 16" x 20" (including mask). Prints must be properly mounted on a board, with no glass or 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. Labels must be affixed to the lower right corner of the mount, with the word "TOP" written on the top edge of the label. The back of each print must be smooth, clean, and free of tape; otherwise, the print will be disqualified.

F. Digital Images: Digital images are to be uploaded via **PhotoContest Pro** by midnight on the Friday prior to the competition date. Image resolution must be 72 ppi and image size must be 900 pixels on the longer side. The nomenclature should read as follows: C35-name(alias)-B1-title of image (if you are in the B group) or if you are in A group, change the B1 to A1; for the Salon group, change A1 to S1.

Please note the following examples: C35-JDoe-B1-Windmill.jpg, C35-JDoe-A1.Windmill.jpg, and C35-JDoe-S1.windmill.jpg.

G. 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.

Only photographs which conform to the specifications above will be accepted for entry into competition.

All entries in a competition must be scored and scores must count, with the exception of the Creative Digital category. Creative Digital images are for exhibition only at the club level, but they will be entered and scored in the Creative competition at PFLI.

H. 1. All PFLI entries must have been shown at the SEQCC competition prior to being entered at PFLI.

2. All SEQCC entries shall be considered for possible entry in the PFLI competition at the discretion of the Competition Committee.

I. All competition entries will be available at the end of the season. No entries will be returned on the night of the competition.

J. Any member advancing in any one class shall advance in all categories.

Annual Awards

A. "Photographer of the Year," Second, and Third 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 Photographer of the Year, a photographer must participate in at least three (3) competitions **and** receive at least 18 points in any category.

Ties will be broken using the criteria of having the 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 means original label with score must still be affixed to the back).

Awards in the form of plaques, for Photographer of the Year, Best of the Best, and advancement and other awards certificates, will be presented at the awards 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 Board.

Should such a decision affect any aspect of the yearly scoring, the Executive Board 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

For digital images, a judge may review the projected image and/or the image on the laptop before rendering a score.

At no time during the competition should the audience make comments audible to the judge. Any questions by the audience will be answered by the Competition Chairperson and/or Co-Chairs 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 for Prints

On the back of the mat board, the photographer should affix the SEQCC print label to the lower right corner on the rear of the mat with the arrow pointing in the direction in which the image should be viewed. The label should contain the photographer's name (not alias), image title, class, category, and competition date.

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