

BYLAWS

PRESCOTT CAMERA CLUB

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1 -- Name: Our name is the PRESCOTT CAMERA CLUB, which is a non-profit organization.

SECTION 2 -- Affiliation: Affiliation with the Arizona Camera Club Council (ACCC) or other organizations may occur depending on the desires of the Club membership.

SECTION 3 -- Purpose and Objectives: We join together to promote the mutual enjoyment of photography; to make mutual contributions to the progress of photography; to provide the opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences; to enjoy group fellowship and to give members an opportunity to display their work in monthly competitions and displays.

ARTICLE II: MEETINGS

SECTION 1 -- Regular meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of each month, at a place and time to be determined by the Board and communicated to the members.

SECTION 2 -- Regular meetings are intended to cover the broad interests of all Club members, including camera work, creating images, prints, and computer usage in the photographic process.

SECTION 3 -- Board meetings are on the first Tuesday of the first month of each quarter, unless otherwise directed by the Board, at a time and location to be announced. A report shall be made to the membership of business transacted at Board meetings.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS AND DUTIES

SECTION 1 -- BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The Board shall consist of the elected officers (President, Vice President/Programs, Secretary, and Treasurer/Membership Chair), and the appointed officers (the Competition Co-Chairs, the ACCC Representative [when an ACCC affiliate], Field Trip Chair, Newsletter Editor, the Annual Awards Chairperson, the Notification Chair, Technical Advisor, Webmaster, and Master of Ceremonies). The duties of the Board shall be to take care of the normal business necessary to keep the Club running smoothly in order to free the regular meetings for the uninterrupted enjoyment of photography. The Board members have the responsibility to lead the club search for ways to attract new members.

SECTION 2 -- SPECIFIC DUTIES

2.1 PRESIDENT: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer, shall preside at all meetings of the Club and the Board, and shall have general control and management responsibility of the Club's affairs subject to the approval of the Board; shall appoint members to fill all non-elected Board positions and fill any Board positions that become vacant with the approval of the Board. The President also greets new members and guests.

2.2 VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall serve as the Program Chairman with the approval of the President, and arrange for the programs that are part of the regular meeting. The Vice President is responsible for securing programs that will broaden the photographic knowledge of the

members, and monitoring the programs to keep them within the 45 minute preferred time limit. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President.

2.3 SECRETARY: The Secretary shall record business transacted at Board meetings and shall handle correspondence and publicity necessary for the operation of the club. At each Board meeting the Secretary shall present the minutes from the previous meeting for correction or approval.

2.4 TREASURER / MEMBERSHIP: All Club funds shall be kept in the Club's bank account, accessible by either the Treasurer or the President. The Treasurer shall pay all bills contracted and authorized by the Board, keep an accurate account of all financial transactions, and present a report at regular Club meetings when requested by the President. The Treasurer shall collect all dues, and deposit them in a timely fashion in the Club bank account. The Treasurer shall apprise the President of the location of the checkbook and the Club's bank account.

The Treasurer shall give a report at each quarterly Board meeting, detailing income for the quarter and listing to whom checks have been written and for what purpose. All decisions regarding spending Club money shall be made by the Board and expenditures limited to those pre-authorized by the Board. Standing pre-authorizations include:

- A. Payment for meals and/or travel stipends for judges and program presenters.
- B. Funeral flowers for a member or member's spouse (not to exceed \$50).
- C. Normal operating expenses such as ACCC dues, ACCC mileage for representatives, awards, printing, lamination, postage, get-well cards, competition cards, copies, etc.

No reimbursements shall be made to any person for expenses incurred in the name of the Club, nor shall any commitment be recognized by the Board except as listed above.

At the January Board meeting, the Treasurer shall present, in addition to the fourth quarter report, a detailed summary of all income and expenditures for the year with expenditures categorized and totaled.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for contacting any members who have not renewed their membership by the January meeting and arrange collection of their dues.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR (a duty combined with the Treasurer's position): The Membership Chair shall keep track of prospective, new, and old members and shall prepare a new membership list annually by March 1st or as the President shall direct. The record of membership shall be kept current by coordinating with the Treasurer. The Chairperson shall create nametags for new members and bring the members' nametags to all regular meetings. The Membership Chairperson shall also obtain names, addresses, and phone numbers of all guests at meetings and make such guest-lists available to the Notification Chair.

2.5 COMPETITION CO-CHAIRS: The Competition Co-Chairs shall obtain judging and awards for each monthly competition, whether digital or print competitions. They shall also ensure that scoring and tallying functions are performed.

2.6 ACCC REPRESENTATIVE: When the Club is affiliated with the ACCC, the ACCC Representative shall represent the Club at all Arizona Camera Club Council (ACCC) meetings, convey to the ACCC any concerns the Club may have regarding ACCC policy, and keep the Club informed of all ACCC activities.

2.7 FIELD TRIP/OUTINGS CHAIR: This Chair shall plan and/or coordinate outings for the Club so that we may enjoy photographing together.

2.8 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: The Newsletter Editor shall compile, organize, print, and distribute the Club newsletter on a quarterly basis. Distribution shall be either at regular meetings (to save mailing costs), email, or by first class mail.

2.9 ANNUAL AWARDS CHAIR: The Annual Awards Chair shall obtain all awards for the Annual Awards Presentation in coordination with the Competition Chair, and shall present the awards at the Annual Meeting/Banquet.

2.10 NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Nominating Committee shall be selected by the President no later than June of election years to obtain nominations to be ready in November for the election of Club Officers.

2.11 NOTIFICATION CHAIR: The Notification Chair shall be selected by the President and shall advise the membership of club-related activities at the discretion of the President.

2.12 Master of Ceremonies is responsible for conducting the competition portions of the monthly meetings.

2.13 Technical Advisor will research and make periodic short presentations of new technologies of interest to club members.

2.14 Webmaster is responsible for establishing, updating, and maintaining the Club's website. Club members are encouraged to submit digital images for inclusion on the website.

ARTICLE IV: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1 -- NOMINATIONS: At the regular meeting in November of every other year, a Nominating Committee of three Club members shall announce the candidates for elections. The Committee shall make nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Their report shall be made to the Club at the regular meeting in December. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at that time. All candidates nominated must be present or their written consent be submitted at the time of nomination.

SECTION 2 -- ELECTIONS: Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting in January.

SECTION 3 -- TERMS: -- The term of office for all Board Members shall be for two (2) years beginning February 1.

SECTION 4 -- REPLACEMENTS: Should a Board member be unable or unwilling to complete their term, the President shall appoint a replacement with the approval of the Board. If, in the opinion of the President, a Board member is not satisfactorily performing his/her duties, the President can replace the member with the approval of the Board. The President may be removed by a vote of two-thirds of the Board.

ARTICLE V: MEETING FORMAT

Meeting format shall normally be as follows:

Print or Digital Competition judging

Meeting announcements and periodic technical presentations may be made during the scoring and tallying.

Discussion of the entries and awarding of ribbons

Intermission

Program

ARTICLE VI: DISPLAYS

When feasible, arrangements will be made with a local (preferably photography) business to prepare and/or display a print of the Image of the Month selected in the monthly competitions.

ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 - Membership is open to all persons with an interest in photography from novice to professional.

SECTION 2 - Annual Dues will be determined by the Board based on a calendar year. Renewals are requested at the January meeting, and are due by the first Tuesday in February, when mailed to the Treasurer. After July 1 reduced rates will be in effect. After November 1, dues are credited to the following year.

ARTICLE VIII: VISITORS AND GUESTS

Visitors and guests are always welcome and encouraged. In order to encourage visitors, we will publicize our meetings and programs on our web site.

ARTICLE IX: ANNUAL COMPETITION

Annual competition awards (Image of the Year) are presented at the January meeting.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1 – PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT: Any proposed amendment to these by-laws may be submitted by any club member and must be approved by the Board. Then it shall be submitted to the membership by email at least one meeting before the meeting at which it is to be voted upon. Copies of the proposed change will be made available at the first meeting after the emailing.

SECTION 2 - VOTING REQUIREMENTS: Amendments ~~may~~ will be enacted ~~by the approval of a simple majority of the members present~~ in accordance with the following procedures. PLEASE DELETE THE ABOVE WORDS IN BLUE (THEY DO NOT MAKE IT CLEAR WHEN THE MEMBERS WOULD VOTE AND THEY ARE REPEATED IN B. BELOW). AND PLEASE REPLACE THE WORD “MAY” WITH THE WORD “WILL” (USING THE WORD “MAY” IMPLIES THERE ARE OTHER PROCEDURES FOR ENACTING ADMENDMENTS TO THE BY LAWS).

- A. Month 1 Meeting. Proposed changes shall be submitted to the membership in accordance with Section 1, above.
- B. Month 2 Meeting. Take the vote of those members present. The vote is decided by a simple majority of members present at that time. The result of this vote is final.

Revised 10-08

RULES FOR COMPETITION

The Club conducts a monthly competition in either print or digital formats.

Only members in good standing may participate in monthly competitions. Members in good standing are those who have paid their dues by the cutoff date of the first Tuesday of February each year. New members who join the club after that date may compete as soon as they pay their dues.

Prints. Each member may enter two prints in each monthly competition. The prints should be mounted, but not framed, and fit within standard size restrictions – measuring the long side, its length should be no less than 10" and no longer than 20", exclusive of matting. The category for all print competitions will be determined by the Board after asking for suggestions from the membership before making their decision. A list of the special categories shall be distributed as soon as possible after the first of the year. There will be no restrictions as to image contents for "Open" category. Prints entered in the monthly competitions will be judged by all members present at the meeting.

Digital Photos Each member may enter two images in digital competitions. The entries may be judged by an outside judge who shall generally be an impartial, qualified person (usually not a Club member) to be selected by the Competition Co-Chairs or they may be judged by the club members present at a meeting. Another alternative would be to have a panel of three (3) Club members judge. The choice of judges shall be at the discretion of the Competition Co-Chairs.

To participate, hand in digital images (open or designated category) on a CD, or email your images to the designated club member, by the date of the prior month's meeting or any other date designated by the Competition Co-Chairs. Members may submit up to two JPEG images, no larger than 1024 pixels wide and/or 768 pixels high.

In January of each year, in addition to the monthly competition prints and digital photos, each Club member who has entered prints or digital photos in one or more competitions during the year may submit up to two prints, representing 2 prints or digital photos that he/she has entered in monthly competitions during the previous twelve months (only) to compete for "Image of the Year." Prints entered in this Annual Competition need NOT have won any awards during the year, but MAY have been "winners."

Club members currently compete in a single class with no distinction between beginners and experienced members.

No photograph (print or digital photo) should be entered into competition that is essentially the same as another photograph that has been awarded any ribbon (i.e., a First, Second, or Third place or Honorable Mention) in a monthly competition. An example of this would be a picture taken of the same subject at close to the same location and/or time of day, though the photographer slightly changed position.

Any photograph that does NOT earn a ribbon (i.e., a First, Second, or Third place or Honorable Mention) in a monthly competition may be re-entered in a subsequent monthly competition ONE time only.

We encourage competition photographs to have been made within the last 24 months or no later than 5 years old.

(This article is included in the hope it might help you to select "winners" for your next competition.)

Evaluating Pictures with an Open Mind

How to Evaluate Your Own Pictures for Entry in Competitions

Use the same method or technique a qualified judge would use. Do this before entering them in competition or better yet, do it before taking the picture!

What do we see in pictures?

Some people look but don't see. Photography is a UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE. When we write or speak, we must first have something to say. The quality of a photographic message lies in its clarity and organization. The camera and its accessories are the tools of the photographer, to bring the picture from mind to film, so others can enjoy it. The film is the canvas upon which the photographer brings from his mind the picture it sees, and selects those things he wishes to say. The mind of the photographer mixes, tints, and tones, to paint the picture as he sees it.

Some thoughts to keep in mind when evaluating your pictures or other photographer's work, is to make an impartial evaluation of each entry, without aversion to or prejudice against any class or type of subject matter. Not only must we know what we call rules of photography, but we must know when they can be broken. For instance, that sheer impact may carry the picture even though a different composition may be desired. It is here that evaluating the overall quality of a picture in its entirety, rather than attempting a breakdown by categories, will manifest itself as the fairest evaluation of a given picture.

The successful picture is the one that tells the viewer what the photographer wanted to say and why the picture was taken, but we must be capable of "tuning in".

The three very important things to look for when evaluating are:

- 1. Subject Interest or Impact,**
- 2. Composition, and**
- 3. Technique.**

IMPACT

Good composition or a pleasing arrangement will help to create interest and "Impact." A very important part of the picture is how well you, the photographer succeeded in showing what you had in mind? Is it beauty, factual information, fear, love, hate, or mood? A picture should say something to the viewer. It is that something that makes us take notice. Whether mildly or forcefully, it is that zing that reaches out and draws us into the picture; that emotional feeling that makes us a part of the scene. It takes hard work and much thought to be able to convey your personal feelings into a picture so that others can readily see what you wished to convey. The more simply this is done; the faster it carries itself to the viewer's eye.

The successful photographer will use all of the emotional values possible in order to emphasize the subject of interest. If it is a simple blossom, the photographer will use all emotional values of beauty and color to emphasize it, but unless it generates a reaction or stimulates the interest of the viewer, it is a failure.

COMPOSITION

This is perhaps the most misunderstood part of our evaluating system. The rules of composition are many. A photographer should know them but must not be so enmeshed in the rules as not to realize that any of them can on occasion be broken, and many times should be broken. "Composition" simply stated, is arrangement. The goal is merely an interesting or pleasing arrangement. Perhaps the basic rule of composition is the "thirds" position; that is, if the frame is divided into thirds vertically and horizontally, then the ideal place for the point of interest would be where one of the lines crosses another. When the subject is placed dead center in the frame, then it becomes static and our eye fights for a direction in which to move. One's eye should be able to move about in the scene towards a "center of interest." Strong lines that immediately lead out of the picture are not good. However, good framing, such as a tree or other mass at the edges of the scene will prevent the eye from moving out of the frame.

It is the pleasing arrangement (or artistic form) and how well the maker has emphasized a feeling that makes the picture. The impact could be so great that the composition could be ignored if the maker was successful in breaking all of the rules and has used an artistic approach. Then we should consider that in our evaluation. Rules of which the maker is aware can be broken if the maker is familiar with photography. One should not be a slave to the rules of composition, as there are often reasons for violating them, and the photographer should have the ability to recognize and utilize such situations.

TECHNIQUE

There are many different definitions of "Technique." In photography, we think of this as methods of skill used in producing the final picture. These methods include exposure, focus, handling camera angle, lenses, filters, film, papers, mounting, printing, toning, spotting, shutter speed, imagination, and common sense. First, is it good, mediocre, or poor? More importantly than that, does the technique do something to enhance the final results?

Lighting can make or break a picture. If because of poor lighting a maker has produced a mediocre slide or print, they should be penalized. Examples: lack of strong texture rendition when texture is called for, can often be blamed on flat lighting. Things such as eyes hidden in deep shadows or hair blending with background should be recognized as faults. Focus and exposure are two things that the experienced photographer assumes should be correct. Only properly exposed and focused pictures should be selected for competition.

Adapted from an article by Norman E. Weber, FPSA

(These are the instructions given to our judges. Use them to help you choose winning images, using the same criteria they use.)

JUDGING RECOMMENDATIONS

Prescott Camera Club Digital Competitions

We turn to you as a professional to help us become better photographers. Please know that we appreciate your effort in this endeavor. Your time is valuable and we appreciate your generosity. We hope this experience is enjoyable to you.

For evaluation:

- Start criticism with positive statement. Bring out the positive aspects of the picture.
- We want valid criticism but please be tactful. No sarcastic or demeaning remarks.
- Use the “rule of thirds” to help in your evaluation, understanding that the maker might have broken the rules but has succeeded using a more artistic approach, resulting in a pleasing arrangement.
- Don’t nitpick!
- Touch on the most important flaws or shortcomings, give a score and move on. (Horizon straight, subject centered, merges, etc)
- Offer suggestions for future consideration such as:
 - Different angle of view or change of photographer’s position.
 - Different position for light.
 - Use of polarizer, or other filters, such as split-neutral density, etc.
 - Possible need for bracketing.
- Please judge each image on its own merits even if you have seen many similar images.

Images are evaluated on three categories.

IMPACT: One’s initial reaction – the WOW! Factor.

COMPOSITION: An interesting or pleasing arrangement.

TECHNIQUE: Lighting, exposure, focus, cleanliness, condition of the image, etc.

Here is how to score:

2 = below average (Two points is the minimum score per category).

3 = average.

4 = above average.

5 = exceptional.

For example: An image that is average in each category would score 3-3-3 for a total of 9 points (Usually, images do not receive the same scores in all three categories).

Any image that does not fit the competition topic for the month **MUST** be given a **TOTAL** score of only 3 points. No image shall get a zero score. All images that fit in the category must be judged and given at least a 2-2-2. Images in an OPEN category automatically fit the topic.

Your presence at the club meeting for presentation of your remarks is appreciated but not mandatory, but does allow for questions to be answered or to give members additional advice.

NOTE: Please do a short test recording on the tape, and then listen to it to make sure the volume is sufficient. Note that a sample tape is provided to give you a feel for the format, but please do not record on this tape. And remember that everybody likes positive comment so please balance any negative comment with positive.

AGAIN, THANK YOU! We appreciate and respect your honesty and tact.

PROCEDURES FOR JUDGING

1. Please read the Judging Recommendations as well as the information at the top of the competition Scoring Sheet.
2. View the images several times to get a feel for them.
3. Study each image and evaluate it for impact, composition, and technical. Write the scores for each image on the Scoring Sheet.
4. You may now uncover the makers' names. Names of makers and titles of slides are for identification only and should not influence your decisions.
5. For the top scoring, winning images, please write the makers' names, titles and scores in the marked spaces provided at the end of the list of images on the Scoring Sheet. Please do not award any more winners than there are spaces. The highest scoring images should be the biggest winners. In case of a tie (e.g., three 15's) you choose which are 1st, 2nd, & 3rd. In case of multiple identical total scores (e.g., four 14's), some non-winners may have the same score as some honorable mentions. The choice as to which images win and which do not is yours.
6. You are now ready to record your commentary.
 - a. Plug in the recorder and set both dials at 5.
 - b. Make a test recording, listen to it, and adjust the dials if necessary. Use either the lapel mike or the hand mike.
 - c. Start your commentary by introducing yourself. You might include a brief discussion of your background in photography, your name, and any other introductory material that you wish to say.
 - d. Then for each, image, dictate the image's title and the three scores, total score (e.g., 5-4-4=13), and a brief summary of your reasons for assigning that score. The makers' names should be given only on the winning images.
 - e. Explain why you gave the above scores, but please keep your remarks brief, remembering that your total presentation should be no more than 30 minutes. So if you are judging 20, images, you may allow a little less than one minute per image. We also ask you to balance praise with problems. And please be consistent. If you criticize an image for a particular problem, then do the same for all images that have a similar problem. Non-winners are discussed before the winners. For winners, give the maker's name plus title and scores.
 - f. Rewind the tape and listen to at least part of it to be sure there are no problems. We need a tape even if you're 100% sure you will attend the meeting and plan to do a live commentary.

We thank you and hope this has been a pleasant experience for you.

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