



# COMPETITION RULES of the BOWIE-CROFTON CAMERA CLUB

Effective Sept. 1, 2018

## **1. General**

The purpose of these rules is to establish a clear understanding of acceptable standards for photographic competition in the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club.

A contestant must be a member in good standing of the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club as defined in the Constitution. [Art. III, Sec. 2]

There are three categories of competition: Digital Projection, Monochrome Print and Color Print. For each category there are two classes, *Novice* and *Advanced*. [See Sec. 3] A member may enter up to two (2) photographs in each of the three categories. An entrant may compete in only one class per category.

Any and all entered images must have been created by the entrant using a camera or generally accepted photographic device or method, whether contemporary or historical.

All entries must conform to the rules as provided herein and to all supplemental guidelines as published annually. [Competition topics will be developed by the Competition Committee and published in the newsletter for the upcoming club year.] All entries must bear a unique title and must be logged in with the Competition Committee prior to the start of the meeting. [Refer to the Annual Rules Supplement for times and place of submission.] Once an image has won either a First, Second, or Third Place award, that image may not be reentered in competition except as provided in paragraph 6e, *End-of-Year Competition*.

A photograph that receives an Honorable Mention or that receives no award may be reentered in one additional monthly competition, in any category. A re-entered photo may be edited from the original submission but its title may not be changed.

Under no circumstances may an image be entered more than two times except as provided in paragraph 6e, *End-of-Year Competition*. An entrant's image that is substantially the same as another entry that had won 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or had already appeared in two monthly competitions may not be entered again in competition, even with a different title. Such an entry may be disqualified by the Competition Committee.

The same photo may not be entered in more than one category in the same competition.

## **2. Competition Specifics**

**Full Competition** - Nine or more entries in any one class and category shall constitute a Full Competition. The judge will select a First, a Second, a Third, and Honorable Mention Awards so that a total of 25% of the entries receive an award.

**Mini-Competition** – Five to eight entries by at least three entrants shall constitute a Mini-Competition. The judge will select only a second and third place photograph.

When fewer than 5 entries are submitted in any one Novice category, entrant(s) may elect to compete in the Advanced category for that particular event and not affect their Novice standing.

## **3. Class Distinction**

Within each category there shall be two classes designated *Novice* and *Advanced*. A new competitor will be assigned a class based on an initial interview.

Promotion from Novice to Advanced class in any one category is based on a member's progress within that category; thus a member may be a Novice in one category and Advanced in another. A competitor may choose to move from Novice to Advanced in any category at any time but having done so chosen, may not return to Novice class. Automatic promotion in any one category occurs at the end of that club year in which a member earns the Class Photographer of the Year first- and second-highest scores in that category. A competitor who is automatically promoted from Novice to Advanced may appeal that promotion to the Executive Board (XB) by so notifying any member of the XB. The XB's decision on such an appeal is final.

## **4. Categories**

### **4a. General**

Film and print processing need not have been done by the entrant. **Image preparation for all digital source images must be done by the competitor.** The subject of each entry in all categories must conform to the criteria set forth in the annual competition rules supplement. The judge and/or the Competition Committee may disqualify an entry when it fails to meet the supplement's criteria. No marks identifying the contestant may appear in any image or on the fronts of any mount or mat that may be seen during the normal course of the competition display.



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**4b. Prints – Monochrome and Color**

The maximum size of any mounted print entry shall be no greater than 24 inches in either dimension for both Novice and Advanced classes. The lightbox will accommodate prints only up to 24 inches.

At a minimum, all prints must be mounted securely to a standard mount board made of non-abrasive material, free of wall-hanging and fastening devices, exposed adhesive, or other foreign items or material that could damage another print during routine handling. Maximum size of mount boards is 24x24 inches. **A single-window matte may be attached to the mount board. Multiple mattes and/or framing are prohibited.**

Prints must be identified at the upper left on the back of the mount board with the photographer's class and name, and the photograph's category and unique title. (Please see the Rules Supplement for further details.) An arrow pointing in the direction of the top of the image must also be placed on the back of the mount, to the right of the other information. **Any labels MUST be firmly attached so as not to expose any adhesive.**

**4c. Digital**

Images must be submitted according to the Annual Rules Supplement. Following completion of the competition, all images are deleted and any submitted CDs are destroyed after the End-of-Year competition.

All submissions must be sized to fit the club screen/projector. Modification of files to meet requirements of the equipment is the responsibility of the competitor. If the files do not work, they will be deleted. Please ask for help from the Competition Committee well ahead of time if you are in doubt of the correct procedure.

**5. Monthly Point Awards**

Entry Points – One point is awarded for each valid entry into regular competition regardless of whether competition takes place. Entry points are accumulated along with all other competition points toward annual Photographer of the Year awards.

Award Points – Points are awarded to all winning photographs in all categories according to the following schedule:

First Place	10 points
Second Place	8 points
Third Place	6 points
Honorable Mention	3 points

**6. Special Awards**

**6a. Ernie Nagy Memorial Travel Award** This prestigious award was established by Julia Nagy in 1986 in memory of her husband, Ernie. It is bestowed by the judge of the regular monthly competition having the theme travel. The theme applies to all categories (Digital Projection, Monochrome Prints and Color Prints) and all classes (Novice and Advanced). The entries must, in the opinion of the judge, comply with the theme as defined in the annual rules supplement.

The highest eligible winning entry in each class of the regular monthly competition (Honorable Mention winners are ineligible) will form a pool of entries for this trophy competition. From the pool the judge shall select the Best-of-Show image, which will earn the award. The winner shall receive a personalized certificate to keep in addition to the trophy, which is passed along, year-by-year, to subsequent winners.

Winners are precluded from winning this award in two (2) consecutive years. Therefore, any otherwise qualified entries by the previous year's winner, although valid for the underlying monthly competition, are not eligible for this specific award competition.

**6b. Novice Nature Award**

Jeannette Duffy established this award in 1989 to provide members with a best-of-show trophy limited to Novice class photographers. The judge of the regular monthly competition with the theme Nature bestows the award.

This particular award applies only to the Novice Class in the three categories: Digital Display, Monochrome Prints and Color Prints. The entries must, in the opinion of the judge, comply with the theme as defined in the annual rules supplement.

The highest eligible winning entry in each Novice category of the regular monthly competition (Honorable Mention winners are ineligible) will form a pool of entries for this trophy competition. From the pool the judge shall select the Novice class Best-of-Show image. The winner shall receive a personalized certificate to keep in addition to the trophy, which is passed along, year-by-year, to subsequent winners.

Winners are precluded from winning this trophy two (2) consecutive years. Therefore, any otherwise qualified entries by the previous year's winner, although valid for the underlying monthly competition, are not eligible for this specific trophy competition.



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**6c. Class Photographer of the Year (POY)**

An award is presented in each class of each category to the photographer with the highest point total (entry plus award points) for the Club Year. A member's class standing in a given category at the last regular competition for the club year determines their eligibility for a particular POY award.

Points accumulated while competing in a lower class during the club year may not be applied toward recognition as Club Photographer of the Year.

Runner-up awards may also be given to the second- and third-highest point scores.

**6d. Club Photographer of the Year (POY)**

This prestigious award is presented to the Advanced Class Photographer who accumulates the greatest total of advanced class entry points *plus* advanced class award points across all categories for the Club Year.

Runner-up awards may also be given to the second- and third-highest point scores.

**6e. End-Of-Year Competition**

At a special session following the last regular monthly competition, non-member judges selected by the Competition V.P. or designee will judge and select a Picture of the Year in each class of each category. Runner up awards may also be presented. All First, Second and Third Place winners and Honorable Mentions from the club year's monthly competitions are eligible. No points are awarded to contestants.

**6f. Star Award**

All award points, but not entry points, earned in the club's monthly competitions are credited to the member's Star Award account. The point accumulation record, starting with the 1987/88 club year, is not time limited, i.e., points continue to accumulate for the member's lifetime.

When a member attains 100 points, the photographer is awarded a plaque along with their first star. For each additional 100 points, the member receives an additional star, which can be attached to their plaque for up to a total of five stars (500 points). All such awards will be presented at the annual awards ceremony.

**6g. Masters Award**

When a member accumulates a grand total of 700 award points, they are to be presented a Masters Award attesting to their significant accomplishment. All such awards will be presented at the annual awards banquet.

A Master Photographer may continue to compete, accumulate points and participate in all Special Awards competitions but may not compete against other members for Class Photographer of the Year or Club Photographer of the Year.

**6h. Grand Masters Award**

When a member accumulates a total of 1400 award points, he or she will be recognized and presented a Grand Master Award. This award represents the highest recognition a member may receive for his competition efforts. All such awards will be presented at the annual awards banquet. A Grand Master Photographer may continue to compete, accumulate points and participate in all Special Awards competitions but may not compete against other members for Class Photographer of the Year or Club Photographer of the Year.

**7. Conditions of Entry**

All possible care of prints will be exercised but no responsibility can be assumed by the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club for loss or damage by the Club or any of its agents or assigns.

These rules may be changed from time to time by the Executive Committee and published prior to the club year in which they are to become effective.

By entering competition, all members acknowledge familiarity with these rules. Failure to adhere to the rules as written may result in disqualification of entries.

The Competition Committee will have the responsibility and authority to interpret these rules and/or the associated annual rules supplement and to resolve any issues not addressed by the rules in order to prevent a delay in the competition or award process.

The Competition Committee is composed of the Competition VP and any other club members appointed by him or her. This committee may be represented by any one of its members.