

Syracuse Camera Club - Competition Guidelines

Judging Guidelines

In addition to the formal rules for competitions, we provide the following general guidelines to help make the judging process more efficient. This is important because there are usually approximately 100 images spread throughout the seven groups (three print categories, three digital image categories, and one slide category), and because we need to be out of the building by 10 pm.

Members are supposed to have all prints labeled and placed for viewing before the meeting starts at 7:30, which will provide the opportunity for the judge to view all prints before competition begins.

Assigned Topics

Competitions for the months of January, March and June have assigned topics. It is the responsibility of the judge to assure that the entries follow the assigned topic. If an entry does not follow the assigned topic then that entry should be eliminated during the competition process as per club rules.

Here are the assigned topics for this competition year:

January 2010

Motion - The action or process of moving.

March 2010

Water - Any form of water from a solid to a gas is allowed. Fog and/or steam are included as subjects.

June 2010

Night Photography - No Flash! You can use existing light only. You may not add light, use flash strobes, floodlights or headlights from a vehicle. Images should be taken one hour after to one hour before sunrise.

Once competition begins, we prefer the following process for viewing and judging the images.

Competition Process for each image format and class:

1. *Presentation phase*: A run through of each image with no comments.
2. *Comment phase*: A second run through of each image commenting the pros/cons/etc. The judge is asked to mentally note the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and HM (award) candidates.
3. *In/Out phase*: The third run through where the judge must select if the image is in or out of the competition. The judge is asked to silently refine their choice for the award candidates during this phase.
4. *Award phase*: The remaining images will be presented together (except for slides) and the judge must determine the award winners. Award announcement must be in order, either HM(s) 3-2-1 or 1-2-3 HM(s). Additional comments on the winners welcomed.