

# SCC EVALUATION RULES

Effective Date, Jan. 1, 2018

1. The submission of entries in Suncoast Camera Club evaluations is limited to club members in good standing.
2. All entries must be exposed by the entrant and be made by photographic processes. With the exception of the Assigned Subjects of NATURE, TRAVEL, and PHOTOJOURNALISM, there are no restrictions upon the equipment or materials used nor upon the manipulative techniques used to produce the entry unless specifically mentioned in the definition.
3. Entries in NATURE, TRAVEL, and PHOTOJOURNALISM must depict a subject based on reasonable fidelity to reality. Any change may only subtly enhance this reality. Cropping, dodging and burning, reducing highlights, removing minor unwanted elements and the use of polarizing filters are examples of acceptable enhancement. HDR is acceptable as long as the subject maintains its natural appearance.

Manipulative techniques which produce an image that shows substantial departure from reality are not allowed in NATURE, TRAVEL, and PHOTOJOURNALISM. Manipulative techniques include: montage, multiple exposure, solarization, posterization, black-light, etc.

4. Photography is an art form and should reflect your own creative interpretation of any selected subject. Suncoast Camera Club discourages all photographic reproduction of paintings and the photographs of others as well as mere record shots of monuments, sculpture, and buildings. Such entries will not score highly in monthly evaluations.
5. CATEGORY: Suncoast Camera Club evaluations will be conducted in the following photographic categories:
  - a) Electronic Imaging (EI), Color
  - b) Electronic Imaging, Monochrome
  - c) Prints (P), Color
  - d) Prints, Monochrome
6. The principal purposes of club evaluations are:

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To encourage friendly comparison of members' current photographic efforts and to serve as a proving ground for new work. Therefore, a member's prints, or electronic images are not eligible for entry if they have received an Award or an Honorable Mention in a prior Suncoast Camera Club evaluation or the entry is substantially identical to a previous winning entry by that member in the same photographic category. This shall not, however, prohibit a Projected Image from being entered as a Print or vice versa (also see rules 11c and 12c). A color image may also be submitted as a monochrome print or vice versa. The Evaluation Review Committee recognizes the difficulty in the enforcement of this rule; therefore we rely on the personal integrity of each member to reduce the need for active enforcement.

7. CLASS: Each category shall be divided into classes based on the relative skill of the photographer, as follows:
  - Class AA - For highly effective, experienced photographers.
  - Class A - For photographers of proven ability.
  - Class B - For beginning, or relatively inexperienced photographers.
8. The Membership Chairman shall assign each new member an Evaluation Class in each Category in which the new member intends to participate.
9. An Evaluation Review Committee will annually review every member's classification and may reclassify approximately ten percent of each Class. In making reclassification decisions, the Committee will consider the following factors:
  - a) Accumulated point totals.
  - b) Ratio of successful entries to total number of entries with a minimum of 60 percent.
  - c) Consideration of previous years ratio percentage.
  - d) A minimum of six months in Class B or two years in Class A.
  - e) Exceptions may be made on an individual basis at the discretion of the Evaluation Review Committee.
10. Number of Entries
  - a) A member may submit a maximum of four entries in Electronic Imaging, and four entries in Prints.

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- b) In months without an Assigned Subject, a maximum of three Color Prints and one Monochrome Print may be entered in the General Section. This also applies to Electronic Images; e.g. you may enter three color images and one Monochrome Image in the General section.
- c) Months with an Assigned Subject shall be divided into General Subject and Assigned Subject areas. Not more than two of the maximum three entries may be submitted in any one Subject area, e.g. two entries in the General Subject and one entry in the Assigned Subject, or vice versa.
- d) The GENERAL Subject is open to all subjects. Each entry will be judged for its aesthetic value using the criteria of composition, impact and technique (including lighting).
- e) The ASSIGNED Subject will be judged to the degree that the entry meets the photographic assignment description as well as composition, impact and technique.
- f) Internet early sign-in on the SCC website is recommended. In addition entry sign-in sheets (available at the back desk) shall be submitted for each category with the exception of EI. Digital images must be submitted one week prior to evaluation night.

### 11. Electronic Imaging (EI)

- a) Electronic Imaging Evaluations for all Classes shall be held once each month.
- b) Electronic Images may originate from a digital camera or from scanned traditional film.
- c) Images will be projected onto a screen using a Electronic Projector for judging.
- d) Images must be in the JPG format.
- e) Images must be no larger than 1400 pixels (horizontal) by 1050 pixels (vertical). Maximum file size 650KB
- f) Images must be submitted electronically. Detailed instructions will be accessible from the club website.
- g) Images must be submitted at least 1 week prior to the meeting when they will be judged.

### 12. Prints

- a) Print Evaluations for all Print Categories and Classes shall be held once each month.

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- b) In print Evaluations, no print mount may be larger than 18x24 inches. Exceptions may be made for some evaluations (see assigned subject listing). Framed prints are not eligible.
  - c) Prints shall be labeled on the upper left corner of the reverse side of the print submitted. Blank labels can be printed from the SCC website. Go to the evaluation tab and scroll down to the Blank Label form. The label should contain the following information: date of competition, Class (B, A or AA), subject (assigned or general), category (monochrome or color), maker, title of print and critique request. No identification shall appear on the front of the entry.
  - d) A Monochrome print is a Black-and-White, Sepia, or other single toned hue. Hand tinted or colored mono prints will be entered in the Color Print category.
  - e) Prints may be made by the entrant or a commercial laboratory.
  - f) Prints may be made with traditional photosensitive film or be digitally printed.
  - g) Prints must be registered online up to 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting.
  - h) If not submitted online then prints must be submitted at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the regular meeting (normally by 6:15 PM).
13. Evaluations shall be performed by three judges on a mandatory nine point system. The maximum score for each entry shall be 27 points.
14. Merit points shall be awarded as follows:
- a) Each entry ----- One Point
  - b) Honorable Mention ---- Additional Three Points
  - c) Award ----- Additional Five Points
15. Merit points will be awarded on the basis of judges' scores as follows:

CLASS	HM	AWARD
B	18-19	20-27
A	19-20	21-27
AA	20-21	22-27

16. A club member serving as a judge shall score a zero for his/her own entries and any entries for which he/she has advance knowledge. The total score for

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that entry will be the sum of the scores recorded by the other two judges plus the average of these judges' scores. When this does not result in a whole number, the score will be rounded up to the next higher number.

(Example:  $5+6+((5+6)\div 2) = 16\frac{1}{2} = \text{score } 17$ ).

17. Entries submitted which either violate an evaluation rule or which do not comply with the Assigned Subject definition shall be disqualified. The disqualification shall be the result of any one or more of the judges refraining from entering a score and summoning the competition chairman. The judges and the competition chairman will discuss the possible disqualification and reach a consensus. If the entry is disqualified, the reason will be announced. Disqualified entries shall still earn a Merit point.
18. Mini essays are presented twice a year; May & December on a program night. Members entering a mini essay shall be awarded 10 points. The points shall not be added to any Category.
19. Cumulative Point Totals shall be recorded and kept by the Records Chairman.