



Emerald Photographic Society

**Standing Rules:
Competition
2015**

Table of Contents

Monthly Competition Rules	3
<i>Eligibility</i>	3
<i>Categories</i>	3
<i>Pictorial</i>	3
<i>Nature</i>	3
<i>People</i>	3
<i>Abstract/Experimental</i>	3
<i>Prints</i>	3
Scoring System and Judging	4
<i>Judging</i>	4
<i>Critique</i>	4
<i>Scoring One's Own or a Family Member's Image</i>	4
<i>Images Judged To Be in an Inappropriate Category</i>	5
<i>Images Disqualified for Having Been Previously Entered</i>	5
<i>Ties</i>	5
<i>Awards</i>	5
<i>Display</i>	5
<i>Records</i>	5
Annual Awards	6
<i>Eligibility</i>	6
<i>Submission Due Date</i>	6
<i>Annual Judging</i>	6
<i>Cumulative Points Awards</i>	6
<i>Image Awards</i>	6
<i>Nyquist Best New Photographer Awards</i>	6
<i>President's Award</i>	7
<i>EPS Membership Awards, Lane County Fair</i>	7
Entry Guidelines	7
<i>Number of Entries</i>	7
<i>Entries by Category</i>	7
<i>Title Formats</i>	7
<i>Makeups</i>	8
<i>Digital and Print Submissions</i>	8

Monthly Competition Rules

Competition among photographic images comprises ten competition months (January to June and September to December), with five categories (pictorial, nature, people, abstract/experimental, and prints).

Eligibility

Eligible images must be photographed by an EPS member in good standing. Members will be ineligible to enter competitions while suspended.

Categories

The five categories for competition are defined as follows:

- **Pictorial**

All images accepted including altered images.

- **Nature**

A nature image is one that is unmistakably of nature in its natural state, which has limited man-made content. Photographic techniques, using both equipment and software, are permitted if undetectable. Adding elements from a different image is prohibited.

- **People**

Images including a whole or part of a real person.

- **Abstract/Experimental**

Depicting subjects in a way that is a departure from reality through the use of various techniques. The subject need not be unrecognizable, but where the subject is recognizable, the emphasis is on line, form, pattern, color, or experimental technique. Examples could include, but are not limited to: diffraction, distortion, black light, impressionism, symbolism, montage, dye coloring, multiple exposures, solarization, surrealism, unreal color, multiple images, patterns, zoomed exposure, sandwiches, or other manipulation that significantly alters the original image.

- **Prints**

All subject matter that qualifies for any of the other four categories is acceptable in this category. A digital copy of all entered print images, using club file name convention, must be uploaded to Score27 for scoring purposes. This digital copy must be uploaded for the same month that the print will be entered. The digital copy will not be shown during the competition.

Scoring System and Judging

The following system was adopted to give judges guidelines in assigning scores:

- **Score 0** Disqualifies a judge from scoring his or her own image or that of a family member. The scorekeeper will average the other two judges' scores.
- **Score 1** The image is entered in an inappropriate category and may be re-entered in another category.
- **Score 2** The image is disqualified for having been previously entered.
- **Score 3** The image's technical imperfections overwhelm the content.
- **Score 4** The image has more than one distracting element.
- **Score 5** The image has unclear subject matter, restricted content, or technical weakness.
- **Score 6** The image has interesting content and technical competence.
- **Score 7** The image has strong content and technical expertise.
- **Score 8** The image has unique content, strong design elements, and technical excellence.
- **Score 9** The image is worthy of being considered for an award in annual competition. No design or technical fault can be found.

Judging

Entries will be judged by three EPS members, each scoring an entry from 0 to 9 points according to the parameters listed above. Thus, an entry may receive a maximum of 27 points.

A monthly competition may be judged by a single guest judge if the occasion arises and if approved by the EPS board.

Critique

The judges will offer a critique of the entries, to the extent possible and as time allows. The judges may comment on the positive attributes of each image and be constructive about any image problems, and make suggestions to enhance the image.

Scoring One's Own or a Family Member's Image

In the event a judge or a family member of a judge is the photographer of an entry, the judge will score a zero; however, that judge's score will be replaced by the average of the

other two scores. If fractional scores result from averaging, the score will be raised to the next whole number. No more than one member per family may judge in each competition if any family member has entries in that competition.

Images Judged To Be in an Inappropriate Category

The total score of an entry judged to not fit within a category's parameters in at least one judge's opinion will be discarded. The same image may be resubmitted in an appropriate category in a subsequent competition in the same year, or in the same competition if the appropriate category has not previously been judged or if the image is originally entered in the last competition of the year. The image may be entered in addition to the allowed maximum number of regular entries and any allowed makeups.

Images Disqualified for Having Been Previously Entered

An image that is a duplicate of an image previously entered in monthly competition will be disqualified and its total score will be discarded. A duplicate image is one that is judged to be the same as or too similar to a previously submitted image. A color, monochrome, or black-and-white rendition of the same image is considered to be a duplicate.

Ties

Ties are allowed. For each category, the highest three scores win. For example, if the highest-scoring entries were 22, 21, 19, and 19, the winner of first place would be 22, second place 21, and third place for both 19s. If five entries scored 22 each, all of them would receive first place, with the next lowest scores receiving second, and the next lowest third.

Awards

Honorable mentions are awarded to all entries scoring 18 points and higher that do not receive a designation of first, second, or third place in monthly competitions. Images earning first, second, third place, and honorable mention scores will be acknowledged during the competition.

Display

First and second place images are eligible for publication in *The Bellows* and display on the EPS website.

Records

A detailed competition record shall be maintained by the competition committee for each member, including member name, each entry title with category, point score, and award won. In addition, a cumulative record of year-to-date points toward photographer-of-the-year awards shall be maintained. Monthly records, including the names of judges, members' names and image titles, categories, point scores, awards won, and cumulative points earned shall be sent to the webmaster for timely monthly publication.

Annual Awards

Eligibility

Only images entered in a year's monthly competitions are eligible for that year's annual awards.

Qualifying images must be entered in the same category in which they were initially entered. Each photographer is limited to submitting a total of no more than 15 for the annual awards competition; however, the competition committee chair and past president may adjust this number at their discretion.

Submission Due Date

Qualifying images are due by the second meeting in January of the next competition year or at the discretion of the competition committee chair.

Annual Judging

Three guest judges (non-EPS members) are selected by the competition committee chair. In the event the chair cannot secure three judges, the president or the board of directors will select the judges.

Judging is conducted at least three weeks prior to the annual banquet. In order to keep the results secret, the competition committee chair will select a minimum number of EPS members to assist in the competition judging process.

Cumulative Points Awards

The Photographer of the Year is awarded to the EPS member scoring the highest total competition points for the year. A runner-up award may also be presented.

Pictorial Photographer of the Year, Nature Photographer of the Year, People Photographer of the Year, Abstract/Experimental Photographer of the Year, and Print Photographer of the Year are awarded to the photographers who accumulate the most total competition points in the respective categories. Runner-up awards may also be presented.

Image Awards

The guest judges shall select Image of the Year and Runner-Up Image of the Year in each category: Best Pictorial, Best Nature, Best People, Best Abstract/Experimental, and Best Print of the Year; runner-up and honorable mention awards in these categories; and Judge's Choice, one per judge.

Nyquist Best New Photographer Awards

New EPS members, those who joined during the current competition year, may be selected as Best New Photographer at the discretion of the competition committee chair.

President's Award

The President's Award is selected and bestowed at the annual banquet by the past president to recognize an EPS member who has contributed exceptional time and effort to benefit EPS.

EPS Membership Awards, Lane County Fair

The EPS president plus two additional members chosen by the president may select two photographs from the Lane County Fair adult entries that show potential talent. The photographers of the selected images will each be awarded a free EPS membership from September of the current year through December of the following year. This membership cannot be transferred to anyone else unless approved by the board.

Entry Guidelines

Images may be either color or monochrome. When entering images in both digital and print formats, each entry must be a unique image that meets the category parameters.

Number of Entries

A member may enter a maximum of two images, either digital or print or one of each per monthly competition as desired, with the exception that duplicate submissions will not be allowed. For example, an image entered in digital format cannot also be entered in print format.

Entries by Category

Each entry must be designated for a judging category, either pictorial, nature, people, abstract/experimental, or print.

Title Formats

Each image title must be unique. A title that is descriptive of the subject or theme helps the scorekeeper identify the image being judged with the title on the score sheet and helps the photographer recall the image at a later date. The title must be unique insofar as each member's images are concerned; it is of no consequence that someone else may have used the title.

To reuse a title, append a qualifying number, letter, or word. For example, "Sunset" is sufficient for the first sunset image. The second sunset image might be titled "Sunset No. 2," or might be further qualified as "Winter Sunset," or changed completely to "Day's End" or any other desired title. Using only a number, such as a filing system number, to identify an image is discouraged because it introduces difficulties for scorekeepers. A typographical error in a number sequence is harder to identify than a misspelled word.

Makeups

Each member will be limited to six makeup images per year but may not submit more than two makeup images per monthly competition.

If a member is unable to attend a competition, he or she may have another person submit the entries on the member's behalf. If this is not possible, each member will be allowed up to three months' worth of makeups per year.

Makeups in competitions are counted separately. No more than two images (digital or print) can be submitted as makeups, in addition to regular submissions, in one competition.

Makeups must be made in the year for which they apply and cannot be carried over to the following year. The entry should be marked "Makeup" and the month in which it applies.

Example of a maximum monthly entry with makeups (example month of June):

<i>Nature</i>	<i>Title of June Nature image</i>	
<i>Pictorial</i>	<i>Title of June Pictorial image</i>	
<i>A/E</i>	<i>Title of May A/E image</i>	<i>Makeup May</i>
<i>Print</i>	<i>Title of May Print image</i>	<i>Makeup May</i>

Digital and Print Submissions

Specific instructions for submissions of competition images will be provided by the competition committee chair to appear in EPS publications. These "how to" documents for image submissions that specify image size, file naming conventions, submission process, submission deadlines, and contact information may be updated as needed by a majority vote of board members.