Twin Cities Camera Club of Western New York
Rules and Procedures for Competition

Monthly competitions will take place in four image categories: Color prints, monochrome prints, color digital images, and monochrome digital images. Except where indicated, the following rules apply to each of these four categories.

1. ***Division:*** For each image category, members are classified into one or four divisions, based on their ability. New members may join at an equal rank if they are members of another camera club. Once they are members of TCCC, their advancement will be based solely on their performance at TCCC, regardless of their performance in any other camera club.

   A) *Bronze Division* - Beginner photographers- new members will begin competition in the Bronze Division unless they request a different division because of prior experience (Requires board approval).
   B) *Silver Division* - Experienced photographers
   C) *Gold Division* - Advanced photographers
   D) *Diamond Division* - Exceptional photographers
   E) *Masters Division* - Expert photographers

2. ***Division Participation:*** Advancement to another division is based on the performance of the member in competitions. The Vote of the Board can also award advancement. A minimum of 8 images entered in the current year's competition is required for a 1st, 2nd or 3rd Place award. Advancement also requires receiving a certain number of honor awards of the next division:

   A) ***Bronze to Silver***

      1) Advancement requires a minimum of two images with honor points of the Silver Division. (Scores of 11 - 15)
      2) The top three members, based on an average point system, which meet Rule #1, will advance to the Silver Division.
      3) On the vote of the Board.
      4) Member may refuse advancement except if Rules #1 and 2 apply.

   B) ***Silver to Gold***

      1) Advancement requires a minimum of three images with honor points of the Gold Division. (Scores of 12 - 15)
      2) The top three members, based on an average point system, which meet Rule #1, will advance to the Gold Division.
      3) On the vote of the Board.
      4) Any member may refuse advancement except if Rules #1 and 2 apply.

   C) ***Gold to Diamond***

      1) Advancement requires a minimum of four images with honor points of the Diamond Division. (Scores of 13 - 15)
      2) The top three members, based on an average point system, which meet Rule #1, will advance to the Diamond Division.
      3) On the vote of the Board.
      4) Any member may refuse advancement except if Rules #1 and 2 apply.

D) ***Diamond to Masters (optional):*** No competition, but for displaying of work only.
   1) Three years minimum in the Diamond Division
   2) On the vote of the Board.

   Those persons entering the Masters Division must remain in this division until the next club year when they may return to the Diamond Division and resume regular competition.

E) ***Division Reclassification***

   Any member in a division above their experience level may be transferred back to their previous division on recommendation of the Chairperson based on current competition scores.

F) Any difference of opinion in A, B, C, D or E above, will be resolved by a majority vote of a quorum of the Executive Board. The Chairperson/involved member will abstain from voting.

3. ***Eligibility of Work:***

A) Images must be originally photographed by the submitting member.
B) Images made in training sessions, where the subject has been setup by an instructor, are not eligible, since they are not considered truly and entirely the work of the member.
C) Images created on club outings or for special club assignment competitions are eligible for regular competition.

4. ***Monthly Competition Rules:***

There are no restrictions regarding subject matter. Each image in all image categories may be presented either as a "traditional" image or a "creative" image." Entering an image as "creative" would allow the image, presumably made with editing tools and tricks (either in the darkroom or in a computer), to be judged and critiqued on the premise that it is not representative of traditional photographs but represents the creative bent of the maker. The titles for all "creative" entries will be announced pre-critique to allow the maker the opportunity to share with the judge the creativity used in making the photo in advance of critique by including it in the title.

Any image receiving a score of 12 will receive some form of recognition: bronze, silver and gold divisions will receive an honor award; the diamond division will receive an honorable mention. Any image that did not receive an honor award in the current club year may be re-entered again into competition in the same club year. Images that have received an honor award may not be re-entered into regular club competition, even in future years.

Images will be judged and comments made by persons noted for their ability in the medium that is being judged.

Members will be allowed two competition make-ups each year if one or two competitions were *totally* missed. Up to 2 images may be entered in each category in each make-up. No make-ups will be allowed if a competition was entered but the member did not enter 2 images. Make-ups are for *totally missed competitions only*! The two make-ups cannot be spread out over more than two competitions; they must be done in one or two competitions only. There will be no holdovers or make-ups allowed after the final scheduled monthly competition for the club year.

There may be special assignment competitions for which rules will be provided to the members. Images for these special competitions must have been originally photographed after March 1 of the current club year (beginning September).

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Rules specific for PRINTS

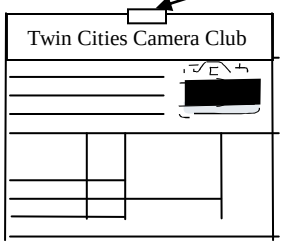
A) Two monochrome prints and two color prints may be entered into each monthly competition.

B) Prints must be turned in between 6:45 & 7:00 on the night of the competition..
C) Prints may be any size between 4 x 6 and 16 x 20..
D) All prints must be presented on no smaller than 8 x 10, and no larger than 16 x 20 rigid matboards. Mounts may be of any desired color. A competition card must be included for each print submitted.

E) Prints do not need to be processed and printed by the maker.
F) Only monochrome prints are eligible for Monochrome competitions. Single toning may be used in Monochrome competitions, however, multi-toning or hand colored Monochrome prints must be entered in the Color Division.
G) Prints must have proper identification and indication of *top* of print. Prints will be presented for competition in the direction of the arrow pointing up. Labeling on the backside of the print must be clear and legible.

On the back of each print, in the upper left-hand corner, the following information must be included:

TOP OF PRINT (show arrow for top of print)
Your Name here
Title of the print
The group you are competing in (ie…bronze, gold,stc…)
Your home address



PLEASE USE ONLY **ONE SMALL PIECE** OF TAPE ON THE BACKSIDE OF THE PRINT TO HOLD A COMPETITION CARD IN PLACE. Make sure each line of the card is filled in and that the category (monochrome print or color print) as well as "traditional" or "creative" is circled. Also circle your division (bronze, silver etc.) for this image category.

Rules specific for DIGITAL IMAGES

A) Two color images and two monochrome images may be entered into each monthly competition.
B) Images must be turned in no later than the meeting prior to the night of the competition..
C) Images must be sized at 768 pixels on the longest side & the file size should be no larger than approximately 400kb. The working space must be sRGB & the image saved as a jpg. Image files should be named in this format: FirstnameLastname.title.jpg
D) All images must be submitted on CDs (or DVDs) with no more than 2 images on each (use one CD for color images, one for monochrome images. One competition card for each submitted image must be handed in with the CD(s). Make sure each line of each card is filled in and that the category (monochrome digital image or color digital image) as well as "traditional" or "creative" is circled. Also circle your division (bronze, silver etc.) for this image category.
E) The CD(s) may be made by others.

5. ***Responsibilities:***

A) Lost or damaged prints are not the responsibility of the Twin Cities Camera Club or its Officers.
B) Prints must be picked up from the Print Chairs immediately after the competition.
C) Disks containing digital images will not be returned.

6. ***Awards and Prizes:***

A) Awards will not be made to any non-member until dues are paid. Persons are considered non-members until dues are paid for the current club year.

B) Honor Awards earned (ribbons or cards) from the beginning of the current club year will not be handed out until the first club meeting in November to give sufficient time for membership dues to be paid.

C) Honor Awards are given for the following range of scores :

Bronze:	10 - 15 points for Honors	Silver:	11 - 15 points for Honors
Gold:	12 - 15 points for Honors	Diamond:	13 - 15 points for Honors

D) Highest Average: At the end of the club year, for all four image categories, awards will be given for First Place, Second Place and Third Place in each of the divisions (bronze, silver, etc.). A Top 8 Average is required for a 1st, 2nd or 3rd Place award. In the event of a tie, the highest number of Honor awards received will determine the winner. If the number of Honor awards is equal then a tie will be declared. The 8 highest scores will be used to determine the point average. A member must have submitted a minimum of 8 images in a category into competition to qualify. A 1st, 2nd or 3rd Place award does not guarantee advancement to the next division since advancement also requires having received a certain number of honor awards during the current club year. (See rule #2: *Division Participation.*)

7. ***Print and Digital Images of the Year:***

Annually, at the last regular meeting in April, the club will hold a competition to select the most outstanding monochrome and color prints, and monochrome and color digital images of the Year. Members may enter up to four images in each image category. Rules are as follows:

A) Prints shall be submitted to the Print Chairs prior to the meeting on the night of the competition.

B) Members will notify the Digital Chair of the images they wish to be entered into this competition at least one week before the competition. (The Chair will already have the images from the monthly competitions during the year.)

C) Competition cards are not required.

D) Members may enter up to four images in each category for this competition. They must be images that were entered into competition during the current club year without changes.

E) Competition shall be divided into two divisions; Bronze/Silver and Gold/Diamond. Each division will compete within their own division. Any competitor in the Bronze/Silver division may choose to compete in the Gold/Diamond division; however no competitor in the Gold/Diamond division may compete in the Bronze/Silver division.

F) A panel of three judges selected by the Program Director will score the images.

- Round 1: All entries (up to four images in each category) are submitted into this round. Images scoring 12 or higher will advance to Round 2.
- Round 2: Images which have received a score of 12 or higher. A minimum of three images will advance to subsequent rounds for a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place Print or Image of the Year.
- Subsequent Rounds: Images will be judged on an "in" or "out" basis until First, Second and Third Place is determined.