

ESSEX PHOTO CLUB COMPETITION RULES

Competition Divisions

- **Two Print Divisions**
 - Small Prints
 - Beginners only
 - Large Prints
 - Class B - Beginner
 - Class A – Advanced

- **Two Projected Image Divisions**
 - Nature
 - Class B - Beginner
 - Class A - Advanced
 - Pictorial
 - Class B - Beginner
 - Class A - Advanced

Monthly Competitions

Monthly Competitions

- During each club year (September to June), members are eligible to compete in eight monthly competitions held during September through April in Print and Projected Image divisions.
- During the year one or two “Designated Topic” competitions will replace Large Prints and Projected Pictorial competition.
- A member may enter in either Class A or Class B in a division, but not both.
- A member is eligible to enter **two** images in a division with a maximum of **six** images per competition night.
- If a member exceeds the allowable entries on a competition night, he or she will be *ineligible* to compete in the following month’s competition.

Eligibility to Compete

- Club members must pay dues by the second meeting in September.
- New members must pay dues on the date of joining the club.

Definitions

- **Image**
 - All images entered in the Essex Photo Club competitions must originate with one or more photographic images recorded with a camera by the member. 100% computer generated images are not eligible for entry.
 - Images may originate from film or digital capture.

- **Large Prints Division**
 - *Maker* may perform any enhancements, modifications and/or alterations to the image.

- **Nature – Projected Image Division**
 - Nature is restricted to the use of photographic process to depict all observations of facts and phenomena from all branches of natural history including botany, zoology, ornithology, geology, physics, chemistry, meteorology, paleontology, etc., in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify its honest presentation.
 - No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged or combined. No manipulation or modification is permitted except sharpening, resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color to the scene. No special effects filters can be applied. Any adjustments must appear natural.
 - Human elements, if present, should be unobtrusive and enhance the nature story.
 - Detailed macro images are acceptable.
 - Scientific banding on wild animals is acceptable.
 - Artificially produced hybrid plants or animals, or horticultural varieties of plants are *not* acceptable.

- **Pictorial – Projected Image Division**
 - All images, including Nature images, qualify as Pictorial.
 - *Maker* may perform any enhancements, modifications and/or alterations to the image.

Scoring & Awards for Monthly Competitions

- **Minimum Entries per Division**
 - Three members must compete in a particular division for there to be awards.
 - If an insufficient number of members enter a division, the images will be scored; however, no awards in that division will be given for that month. Points scored will be included in the cumulative scoring.

- **One judge will score.**
 - On the first viewing in a division, the judge will award the image a score from *five to seven*.
 - The image must receive a score of *seven* to qualify for a second viewing. On the second viewing, the judge may re-score the image from *seven to nine*.
 - **Honorable Mention** applies if the final score for the image in the division is *seven*. No ribbon is awarded.
 - **Merit Award** applies if the final score for the image in the division is *eight or nine*. Awards are given.
 - **Top Award** applies to one Top image in the division

Re-Entry Of Images

- Permissible re-entry.
 - If an image in any division does not receive a score of *seven or above* at a monthly competition during the club year, the same image may be re-entered **once** in the **same** division.

- No re-entry
 - If an image is entered in one division, the same image may **not** be re-entered in another division.
 - If an image is entered in one division, the same image may **not** be resized and/or changed from a print and/or projected image and then re-entered in a different division.

Cumulative Standings for Club Year

- The competition chairperson maintains a record of points scored on a cumulative basis during the club year in each division for the purpose of honoring a member scoring the most number of points during the monthly competitions in each division.

Promotion Points and/or Advancement

- Promotion points are accumulated on a lifetime basis.
- If a member in Small Prints enters one or more images in Large Prints, the member may no longer enter in Small Prints, with the promotion going into effect in September of the following year.
- If a member in Class B enters *one or more* images in Class A in that division, the member automatically advances to Class A in that division, with the promotion going into effect in September of the following year.
- To advance from Class B to Class A in any division, the following promotion points will be awarded:
 - *Top Award* – three points
 - *Merit Award* – two points
 - *Honorable Mention* – one point
- A member who accumulates thirty points in Class B in a division automatically advances to Class A in that division, with the promotion going into effect in September of the following year.
- A member who accumulates thirty points in Small Prints automatically advances to Large Prints Class B, with the promotion going into effect in September of the following year.
- A member who has advanced to Class A in any division except Nature may still compete in Nature Class B Projected Image.
- Announcement – The competition chairman will announce advancement from Class B to Class A in September of the club year.
- A member may *voluntarily* elect to advance from Class B to Class A, with the promotion going into effect in September of the following year.
- The competition chairperson has the discretion to request that a member advance from Class B to Class A immediately.
- Once an advancement occurs, it is permanent.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

ALL PRINTS

Identification

- The rear side of the image must indicate at the top *right hand* corner:
 - Name of maker
 - Title of Print
 - Print Division
 - The direction of the top of the image with an arrow.

SMALL PRINTS

Eligibility

- This division is only open to beginner photographers.
- The member will be considered a beginner if the member has never taken part in a camera club competition before joining the Essex Photo Club.
- A new member who previously competed at another camera club in Small Prints may continue to compete as a beginner at Essex Photo Club.
- The member in this division may also compete in the Nature – Projected Image (Class B) division.

Form

- The image must be sized at least 4” x 6” and it cannot exceed 5” x 7”.
- It is *not* permissible to mount and/or mat and/or frame the image.

LARGE PRINTS

Form

- The image must be sized at least 8” x 10” (or 80 square inches).
- The *image and the mat combined* cannot exceed 16” x 20”.
- Pre-cut mats that limit the visible image surface to 7 ½” x 9 ½” are permitted.
- The rear side of the image must be mounted on mat or foam board that is no smaller than the print itself.
- The front side of the image may be matted or un-matted.
- If the image is matted on the front, the mat board or foam board on the rear side must be *equal* in size to the mat on the front.
- The image must be *securely* attached to the rear of the board and to the mat.

- It is *not* permissible to frame the image.

UPLOADING DIGITAL PHOTOS

For a clearer version go to:

<http://essexphotoclub.org/files/Upload%20Photos.pdf>



Essex Photo Club

Last Updated: 09.03.08

HOW TO UPLOAD PHOTOS USING PHOTO CONTEST PRO

New User Setup

Any member who wishes to participate in the digital competitions needs to have a unique e-mail address. You cannot share one that is already in use. An admin will create your account for you.

- ▶ Once an account is created, launch a web browser and go to: www.photocontestpro.com [You'll see that "Upload Pictures" is grayed out. That means you are not logged in yet.]
- ▶ Click the "Log In" button found in the upper right of the screen.
- ▶ Click on the "Forgot your password? Click Here" button at the bottom of the screen.
- ▶ Input your e-mail and choose "Essex Photo Club" as the organization. Then click "Proceed." This will send a password reset e-mail to your inbox. Check your e-mail to see your new password. Copy it and return to www.photocontestpro.com.
- ▶ Click the "Log In" button found in the upper right of the screen.
- ▶ Now, input your e-mail and the password that was provided to you in the e-mail. Also make sure you choose "Essex Photo Club" for the organization. Then click "Login." You are now logged into the system.

Change Password

Of course the first thing we want to do is change the password to something more meaningful. In order to do this, you need to be logged in.

- ▶ Click the "Change Password" button in the upper right of the screen.
- ▶ Input a new password that you can remember. *It's recommended to avoid single words for security purposes. Usually a mix of letters and numbers is best.* Input the password again and click "Change Password." Your new password is set! Use your e-mail address and this new password to log in from now on. You can also discard the e-mail that had the temporary password if you haven't already.

QUICK TIPS	Website	www.photocontestpro.com
	Video Demo	www.pasarin.com/essexupload
	Max Width	1024 px
	Max Height	768 px
	Resolution	72 dpi
	Color Gamut	sRGB
	No usernames in filename	
Last day to submit photos: Sunday before meeting		

Uploading Pictures

Okay, now to the meat and potatoes. Once you've logged in, you'll notice that "Upload Pictures" is now highlighted and is an active link at the top of the page. Click on this to go to the contest listing page.

You'll notice a listing of available contests. There will usually be one contest for each category and class that is offered on the day of the meeting. They will be labeled in a similar format every month: YYYY-MM CATEGORY CLASS (ex. 2008-09 Nature Class B)

- ▶ Click the "Select" button next to the contest you want to enter. You'll notice that it will be selected.
- ▶ On the right hand side you will see all contest info. Of important note is the "Final Entry Date." This is the last day you can submit photos online. Below this date you will see a timer countdown showing down to the minute, the time left before submissions are closed. *Because our meetings are typically on Thursdays, the last day that you will be able to submit photos will be the Sunday before the meeting.*
- ▶ Under "Picture to Upload," enter a title for your photo. The "Photographer" and "Organization" will be filled out automatically.
- ▶ Where it says "File" click the "Browse" button and locate the file you want to upload. Pixel size of the photo should be no greater than 1024 px width, or 768 px height. The resolution should be 72dpi. The color gamut should be sRGB. Also, when naming your files, please do NOT put your name in them. The contests are meant to be anonymous. When you have selected your photo, click the "Upload Picture" button.

You will notice your photo will be placed in a list to the left. You can click the "Delete" button next to the photo to delete it from the server or click "Show" to show a thumbnail of the photo for reference. It will also show the pixel dimensions of the photo.

- ▶ In order to submit to a different category or class, simply select one from the list in the top left corner. Click "Select" next to the category you want to submit in. You can then repeat the steps above to submit your photo.

You will only see your photos submitted for each category, not others.

No Internet and Other Information

- ▶ If you do not have access to the Internet but would like to submit a digital photo, bring your photos in early on the day of the meeting [following size guidelines] on a USB key and we will upload them.
- ▶ To view a video demo of these instructions, please go to: www.pasarin.com/essexupload
- ▶ Any questions? E-mail Eric Pasarin: eric@pasarin.com

SLIDES

Slide Mounting

- The image may be presented in the original slide mount or remounted.

Marking and Spotting Slide Images

- The slide image must identify whether it is classified as “**Nature**” or “**Pictorial**” “**Class A**” or “**Class B**” on the mount.
- To spot the slide image, hold it upright so that you view it **as taken**.
- Place a **white-gummed spot** on the mount in the **lower left hand corner as shown**.
- Place the required **Title** of the slide **alongside** the **white spot** as shown.
- Put the **entrant’s full name** on the side opposite the title.
- **Vertical Format** contains **Title** on the left side and **Name** on the right side.
- **Horizontal Format** contains **Title** at the Bottom and **Name** on the Top as shown.
- It is advisable to present slide images free of dust and in clean glass, if used.
- Please refer to the slide images pictured below when preparing each slide for competition so that the photo is not shown upside down or sideways.

Vertical Format



SPOT

Horizontal Format



SPOT

Annual Competition

Eligibility

- **A member must have entered that particular division during the Monthly Competition to qualify for entry in that particular division in the Annual Competition.**

Entries

- All eligible members may enter up to **three** of their monthly competition entries in each division that they have entered during the year.
- The annual entry must be the **identical** entry submitted during the club year and must be entered in the same division and in the same class.
 - The image must be entered in the same size and form that it was entered in the Monthly Competitions.
 - The image must be submitted with the **original** mat or foam board that it was attached at the time of entry in the Monthly Competition.
 - The image must contain the Monthly Competition **sticker** on the rear side of the photograph to qualify for entry.
 - **Print matting.** If the photograph was originally matted during the Monthly Competition, the photograph must be submitted with the original matting. If the photograph was not originally matted during the Monthly Competition, it may not now be matted.
- The same rules that applied during the Monthly Competitions for the form and size of the image apply.

Judging and Scoring

- A three-judge panel shall score entries.
- Entries will be judged on a cumulative scale of fifteen to twenty-seven points.
- **Honors** - In each division approximately 25% of the entries or no fewer than three shall receive an Honors award. A ribbon will be issued to the Honor award winners.
- **Top** - In each division a Top Award will be chosen. A medal will be issued to the Top entry.