

Coastal Photo Club

Mini Competition Rules - Updated 3/20/2015

The CPC year will include two types of competitions – **Themed Mini Competition** and **Full Club Competition**. The Talent Development Committee has defined the following rules that govern these competitions.

Reminder: Once an image has won a First, Second, or Third Place, or an Honorable Mention in a major CPC competition, such image, or substantially the same image, may not be entered again in any CPC competitions.

CPC members will use the “12 elements of a merit image” criteria to judge the mini-competition. A copy of the “12 elements” will be provided.

Only CPC members may enter photos in the mini-competition. Members of other photo clubs who are visiting may vote for the winners, but guests may not.

A. Themed Mini Competition

A themed Mini Competition will be held at most monthly meetings. The mini competitions will be structured as follows:

- There will be a specific theme for each competition (i.e. contrast, texture). The themes for the year will be set at the beginning of the CPC's fiscal year.
- The entrant must have made the original exposure(s) using traditional film or digital techniques. Photographs entered in this competition may have been made at any time during the photographer's lifetime.
- Two entries are allowed per person for each of three categories for a total of six entries per person per competition.
- The largest picture allowed (in inches) is 8.5 x 11. The 5x7, 4x6 or 3x5 prints are fine.
- The categories are defined as follows: “Color”, “Monochrome”, and “Digital Manipulation”.

Color – Photographs in this category must look like a realistic color photograph taken straight from the camera. Indeed, entries may be straight from the camera or they may be processed to any extent with any digital darkroom program. This allows for removing objects (e.g., people, clouds, trees, poles, power lines, or backgrounds). Entries in this category

should appear as realistic photographs and any manipulations should not be obvious to the viewer.

Monochrome (including black and white, duotones, and tri-tones) – Photographs in this category must look like a realistic photograph taken straight from the camera. Indeed, entries may either be straight from the camera (processed only to the extent to make them mono-, duo-, or tritones) or they may be processed to any extent with any digital darkroom program. This allows for removing objects (e.g., people, clouds, trees, poles, power lines, or backgrounds). Entries in this category should appear as realistic photographs and any manipulations should not be obvious to the viewer.

Digital Manipulation - Photographs in this category may be monochrome or color and may appear “removed from reality” or “works of art”. They should show obvious manipulations of a digital darkroom program influenced by the artistic creativity of the photographer—this includes HDR and effects that make the photo look like a painting. Entries may be entirely abstract in nature, or they may appear realistic but contain surrealistic components that would lead the viewer to believe that it could not have been captured with a camera (substitution of an Oreo cookie for the moon, fireflies as street lamps, eyes for windows, and the like). Photos to which elements have been added to the one submitted for judging are considered “visionary” as are two or more photos (color or monochrome) that have been combined to produce the one submitted for judging.

- If there is any question or challenge as to which category a photograph belongs in, the Talent Development Committee members present will make the determine (applying existing criteria established by these rules).
- In the upper right corner on the back of the mounting board, entrants are required to write the name of the image, the category and the name of the entrant. Do not write anything on the front of the photo.
- Each person will designate, on the list provided, the number of photographs entered per category. Place photographs on the table for that category for viewing and judging by those present.
- The winner in each category will be determined by a vote of all current members in attendance at that meeting. When we have a guest speaker, the speaker will be encouraged to comment on the entries. Non-members may not vote. Guests who are members of other photo clubs are invited to vote as a courtesy.

- Once an image has won a Mini competition, such image, or substantially the same image, may not be entered again in another mini competition but may be entered in a **Full Club Competition**.

B. Just-for-fun

The Just-For-Fun category is not intended as a competition. It is merely an opportunity for members to try something a little different. It is a technique or a tutorial to be followed. Each month that CPC has a mini-competition, there will also be a Just-For-Fun category. Members are encouraged to participate. Members visiting from other clubs are invited to display their just-for-fun category image.

After the winners are announced, there will be a general discussion (when time permits) of the entries to both the mini-competition and the just-for-fun category. The purpose of this discussion is to help members improve their techniques and to learn from one another.

Please remember to let the people at the mini-comp table know you are entering your prints and have the number of entries in each category recorded. At the end of the year there is a prize given to the person that has the most entries during the club calendar year.