

Camera Naturalist Photo Club
2023-2024
JUDGES INSTRUCTIONS

1. Images must be Nature only

- a) **No** hand-of-man or man-made objects are permitted – no paths, roads, bridges, wires, fences etc.
- b) **No** people or sign of people are permitted- no footprints, mowed grass, swept beaches, cut tree stumps etc.
- c) Cultivated flowers are permitted.
- d) Zoo animals are permitted in Zoology as long as no man-made objects are visible.
- e) **No Obvious** post-processing manipulation. Adding an element to an image that was not in the original is not allowed.
- f) **If there are images that do not adhere to these rules, it is the judges call to disqualify. If you are unsure, please ask! If an infraction is missed, the club president or other officer will make the call.**

2. Competitions categories

- a) **Ornithology** – Birds dominant
- b) **Botany** – Plants, Flowers, Fungi dominant
- c) **Zoology** – Animals, insects, butterflies, reptiles dominant
- d) **General Nature** –Includes anything that does not fit into the categories listed above
- e) **Special Assigned Categories** – For Special Assignment category contests, additional information specific to each type of contest will be provided.

3. Three Member Classes: B-Beginner, A–Advanced and Salon. The B group can submit a total of 3 images; A Class and Salon are limited to 2 images.

4. Images are to be judged on technical merit as well as compositional and artistic impact. Storytelling is an added bonus but does not take priority over technical merit, compositional and artistic impact.

5. Scoring

Images are reviewed in two passe

- a) **first pass**: images are scored from 5 to 7.
 - 5's or 6's are out
 - 7's move onto the second pass.
- b) **second pass**: images are scored from 7 to 9:
 - 7's are out
 - 8's = Honorable Mention
 - 9's = Equal Merit
 - There are no limits to the number of 8s or 9s that can be awarded.

6. Commentary Please provide comments for the images on the first pass, especially for the B class.

7. Communicating with the maker of the image is not allowed. Any questions must be directed to the president or club officers.

8. **In Person Competition Meetings 7:30-9:30.** Competitions usually begin with a short meeting to discuss club business. Should time become a concern the projectionist or club officer will let you know.
9. **Zoom** - judges will be asked to sign in at 7:15 to make sure everything is running correctly.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask, even during the judging.