

JUDGING PROCEDURE AND SUGGESTIONS

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The following suggestions have been made by some of the best and most experienced judges in the club. They are not intended to eliminate the various perspectives or styles that come from having numerous judges during the club year. It is hoped that these comments will be helpful to both new and experienced judges.

THE PROCESS

There are three competition classes of images (B-new club member {may be experienced photographer or inexperienced}) A-more experienced, and S-Salon which is most advanced Each entrant may enter one image (except in special competitions as announced) The number of entries and the number of acceptances is announced

ROUND ONE

Each image in a class is shown one at a time and the judge makes a brief comment for each image. This commentary should consist of one or two positive descriptions of what the image maker has done well; followed by one or two constructive, descriptive critiques about what the image maker can do (or could have done) to make the image stronger or to improve the image. However, time will not allow lengthy commentary so being brief is also important. Using descriptive terms about how the photographer can improve in composition, technique, lighting, framing, background, etc is essential to helping him or her learn how to become a better photographer and therefore vital to our club purpose. It goes without saying that off-color remarks are not appropriate.

It should be noted that each **SECTION** (different categories of subject matter) may have slightly different emphasis in critique as described later in this article.

At the end of the brief commentary for an image, say **"NEXT"**, to indicate you are ready for the next image

When the projector screen shows, "no more comments", it means that the remaining images are to be critiqued by the presiding judged(s) without making any commentary (the makers of those images are not in attendance)

ELIMINATION ROUNDS

No further comments are made

The judge will be told how many total images there are and how many must be eliminated (a

club prescribed percentage of images is retained for awards.)

The elimination of images begins by saying **“HOLD”** or **“PASS”** as each image is shown

Continue until you have the correct number of acceptances (this should not be reached on the first review round of all images)

SELECTING WINNERS

Choose 1st place, 2nd place, and finally 3rd place (in any order, but preferably in this usual sequence to **avoid boxing yourself in** at the end with two images and you have to give one first place and the other (almost first place) ends up with an Honorable Mention instead of 2nd place.