

1. Log into the digital entry system:

<http://www.stlcameracub.com/digital-entry/index.php>

2. Logging in will take you to a listing of future competitions. Above that listing you will find a box showing you the interclub competitions that are open for voting. If the voting closes at 11:59 PM on Sunday, the computer shuts down the voting at 12:00 AM the following day. Same procedure as we use for entering.

3. When you click on the link, you will be taken to a voting page. The images will be displayed by the random number assigned to the image when it was entered. Entering early, or late, or in the middle, or at any specific time has no effect on the random number generation. It is luck of the draw.

4. Three images will be shown on each row and there will be as many rows as necessary. Beneath each image you will see the maker's title for the image and a drop down box.

5. After reviewing the images, you pick a 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th choice. The voting system knows which image is yours and you will not be able to vote on that image. Previously each maker had to identify his/her image. This is being done for you now.

6. The voting system "has some brains" . . . if you select two images to be your 1st choice, it will tell you and clear out your votes for the 1st choice. This process is followed for each of the 6 places.

7. If you want to change your vote on "Red Barn" from 4th place to 5th place, for example . . . if you have already voted for a 5th place, change that vote to a blank and then change "Red Barn" to 5th from 4th.

8. If you would like to see the image in its original size, click on the image. The image will appear and in a few seconds if you mouse over toward the image's upper right side, "next" will appear. Click and you will go to the next picture. If you would like to view a previous image, move the mouse toward the upper left and you will see a "prev". Click and see the new image.

9. If you want to return to the voting page you have three options: (1) Move your mouse outside the picture and click; (2) Move your mouse to the bottom of the image and click on "close" or (3) do a CTRL C.

10. When you are through voting, the web page will advise you that you are ready to cast your ballot. If you are ready, go to the bottom of the page and click on "vote now".

11. If you cast your vote accidentally or you have 2nd thoughts, just return to the starting point and repeat the process. Your 2nd vote will "write over" your 1st vote.

12. You will not receive an email acknowledging your vote.

13. When the voting is closed, Mike Jeffries will go into the system and get the vote totals. He will give them to me and I will prepare the regular web display play as well as announce the results to the club.

14. Why the changes? During the course of this club year, our membership has made known what they would like to have as a voting page and they have indicated a desire to be able see full size images. In displaying the full size image we wanted to prevent right-click copy opportunities (thus preventing theft) and we wanted to hide the maker's name. This process accomplishes both.

Once we had the basic system design in place we wanted to have the computer do the basic clerical exercise of creating web pages, tallies, etc.

Participation in the club's interclub activity is enjoying more participation than ever and if we are to keep the process manageable week-in and week-out, then we needed to employ a little innovative automation.

15. To my knowledge, there is no other camera club in the world which uses a sophisticated and extremely democratic process like we do for selecting member images to represent the club.

Wade Clutton, FPSA - Webmaster