



## **COMPETITION RULES FOR SHUTTER BUGS OF VOLO BOG**

Revision 4Corrected-September 20, 2011

### **1. CLUB AFFILIATION**

The Shutter Bugs of Volo Bog shall be a member of the Chicago Area Camera Club Association (CACCA) and may compete as a club in Digital Projected Image (DPI) and in the Small Color Print Divisions.

### **2. GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING CLUB COMPETITIONS**

#### A. Categories:

- 1) Digital Projected Image (DPI) - Class A and B.
- 2) Small Prints – Class A and B.

#### B. Classes

- 1) Class A – For members with advanced skills and/or who have achieved an average score of 20 or more points in competitions. Anyone competing in Class A with an average score for the year of less than 20 points may elect to transfer to Class B.
- 2) Class B – Any club member who has not previously participated in club competitions may elect to compete in this class.
  - a. Anyone competing in Class B who achieves an average score of 20 or more points may advance to Class A if they wish.
  - b. Advancement from Class B to Class A is mandatory only for the Class B Exhibitor of the Year, provided that person has achieved a minimum 20 points average.

c. An individual must have submitted a minimum of six entries in a season and entered at least two competitions in a category in order for an average to be established in that category. The maximum number of scores used to compute an average in each category is the competitor's nine (9) best scores for prints and twelve (12) best scores for DPI. Note: the second decimal place in any fractional score attained of 5 or higher is rounded up to the next one-tenth of a point, e.g. 18.35 is rounded up to 18.4.

#### C. Frequency of Competitions

- 1) The club shall conduct four competitions each year beginning in September and ending in June. See Section 4 for information on the year-end competition.
  
- 2) There must be at least three (3) competitors in any given Category (Prints and DPI or Class (A or B) and there must be a minimum of 6 entries per competition in any given category or class. If these minimums are not met in any Class B competition, any submitted Class B entries will be scored as Class A entries for that particular competition. If these minimums are not met when Class A & B are combined, there will be no competition for that category. There will be no minimum number of entries for the end of the year competition.

#### D. Judging

- 1) Three judges shall be present at each competition.
  - a) If necessary, one in-club judge may accompany two outside judges to preside at the club competitions. At least two judges must be non-club members. Whenever possible, three outside judges shall preside.
  
- 2) Each judge will evaluate entries on the basis of composition, technique, and impact. Points will be assigned one to three points for each category.
  - a) An aggregate score of less than six points per judge is below average.
  - b) An aggregate score of six points per judge is average.
  - c) An aggregate score of more than six points per judge is above average.

### **3. RULES GOVERNING ENTRIES FOR IN-CLUB COMPETITIONS**

- A. In DPI Competition four (4) entries may be submitted at each competition.

All DPI entries must be submitted via email no later than 8 A.M. the morning before a competition, e.g. 8 A.M. Tuesday for a Wednesday competition. Since the cutoff applies to corrections as well, it would be prudent to send photos before then so you can make corrections if necessary. Please refer to the separate instructions on DPI submissions attached for guidance.

B. In Print Competition three (3) entries may be submitted at each competition. A small print up to 11 x 14" may be either printed by the maker or commercially printed. In either case, the maker personally making the decisions as to content, print size, cropping, appearance and image quality. Prints mounted on 11" x 14" black boards may include a single white border surrounding the picture. This includes single pre-cut mats. Double mats will not be accepted. All prints submitted for competition must have the official club label filled out and placed on the back of the mounting board in the upper left-hand corner.

C. Competitions are open only to members who have paid their dues.

D. Works previously entered in a CACCA interclub competition on behalf of any affiliated club must be clearly identified as such on the entry form. Any submission that has previously won honorarium is not eligible to enter competition.

E. Images entered into competitions may depict observations from any branch of natural history, and must do so in a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject matter and to certify to its honest presentation. Any view may be used, including micro and macro photographs.

Ineligible are images of artificially produced hybrid plants (e.g. garden flowers) or domesticated animals, mounted specimens, obviously set arrangements, derivations or any form of photographic manipulation that creates a false or misleading impression of the natural history subject.

Obviously recognizable man-made elements shall not be present except for scientific wildlife banding and in the rare instances where man-made elements enhance the story (e.g., where wildlife adopts a man-made location). Even in those instances, the man-made elements should be unobtrusive.

The works of man (i.e. roads, structures, cultivated fields, cut grass, domestic animals or plants) shall not be evident in the image in any way. Ineligible entries include images of artificially produced hybrid plants (e.g. garden flowers) or mounted specimens, obviously set arrangements, derivations or any form of photographic manipulation that creates a false or misleading impression of the natural history subject. Exceptions may be made for animals which naturally inhabit man-made structures or environments or in certain competitions in which waiver of this rule has been announced in advanced. Images violating this rule will receive zero points and may not be made up.

F. Any member or judge may challenge a nature competition image. In order to better protect an entry from an erroneous or compromised score, a challenge will be announced only after the judges have initially scored the image. The challenge may subsequently be discussed for clarification. The Vice President of Competitions or designee will make the final determination of whether an entry will be disqualified or be allowed as a qualified exemption. Disqualified entries are not eligible for make-ups in subsequent competitions.

G. An entry, or one similar to it, which has previously won an award or honorable mention shall not be submitted by the maker again. Any entry is considered similar if it is almost identical in subject matter, composition, lighting, and technique. All entries must be the work of the individual submitting them. The Competition Officer shall resolve any questions concerning similarity and originality.

H. An entry, or one similar to it, which has previously won an award or honorable mention shall not be submitted by the maker again in the same category. Any entry is considered similar if it is almost identical in subject matter, composition, lighting, and technique. All entries must be the work of the individual submitting them. The Competition Vice-President shall resolve any questions concerning similarity and originality. An entry receiving an award or honorable mention in one division may be entered in another division, e.g. honorable mention or award in print may be entered in the DPI Division; or honorable mention or award in DPI may be entered as a print. Any submission that has previously won CACCA honorarium in the same category through any club is not eligible to enter competition.

Members may compete in DPI and Print Categories. The same image may be entered in both DPI Category format and Print Category format.

I. Make-ups are entries submitted by a member for competitions in which they have not been or will not be able to participate, or for works a member does not wish to have eligible for awards and honorable mentions. A maximum of four make-ups may be submitted in DPI and three make-ups in prints. Entries intended as make-ups must be so designated and will be eligible for point scores only.

J. A member must compete in a minimum of two out of four competitions to be eligible for year-end awards and must have submitted a minimum of six entries in a season.

K. Members acting as in-club judges may not submit entries as well. They may submit up to four extra DPI entries and three extra print entries at any other competition. These entries are not considered make-ups, and are eligible for honors, and may be counted towards satisfying the requirement to participate in two out of four competitions to be eligible for year-end awards. They may not be entered in addition to make-ups.

L. All print and entry forms must be submitted no later than 7:00 p.m. on the night of competition.

M. DPI images must be submitted in accordance with the attached DPI Competition Guidelines.

#### **4. SPECIAL AWARDS**

A. At the end of the year, based on points, awards will be given to highest scoring first, second and third place photographers in the following categories: 1- Overall, 2 – Prints, 3 – DPI. Only one award will be given if the member receiving the highest score in Overall also is eligible to receive a first place in either DPI or Print. Also Class B Top Overall First and Second place will be awarded.

#### **B. END OF THE YEAR- MEMBER'S CHOICE AWARD**

Subsequent to the last competition, a special Member's Choice Competition will be scheduled to determine the Best Print of the Year and Best DPI of the Year. By use of a secret written ballot, members may vote for their one favorite DPI and Print from those entered in the Year-End Competition. Votes will be counted the same evening. The entry receiving the most votes in each category will receive the Member's Choice award in that category. To be eligible an entry must have received either an award or honorable mention or 23 points or greater in a regular competition.

1) A member must compete in a minimum of two out of four competitions to be eligible for year-end awards and must have submitted a minimum of six entries in a season.

2) Two Honorable Mentions will be awarded in each class.

Attachments -2 Shutter Bugs of Volo Bog DPI Competitions Guidance  
Instructions for Preparing CACCA DPI Entries  
Instructions for Preparing Prints for Competition

## **SHUTTER BUGS OF VOLO BOG**

### **It is understood that . . .**

- a. Images shall be defined as any viewable rendition submitted by the original photographer in the form of original transparencies, duplicate transparencies, digital images or prints of any size or format.
- b. All images and copyrights shall remain the sole and exclusive property of the originating photographer.
- c. Images submitted to the Shutterbugs of Volo Bog for photographic competition are also eligible for photographic competitions with the Chicago Area Camera Club Association (CACCA), unless otherwise stated by the original photographer.
- d. Images eligible for presentation to CACCA for competitions are automatically retained and reasonably safeguarded by the Shutterbugs of Volo Bog for a said period of time that for which to satisfy CCACCA rules for presentation unless otherwise stated by the original photographer.
- e. The originating photographer agrees to waiver any claims of liability toward the Shutterbugs of Volo Bog, its members, affiliates, or associates in any capacity for the loss, damage, or reproduction by any means of any image in the safeguard of the Shutterbugs of Volo Bog, unless otherwise stated, IN WRITING, by the original photographer.

f. Images that have satisfied the rules for CACCA competitions shall be returned to the original photographer.

g. Images that have not been claimed after six (6) months, or are unable to be returned, shall become the property of the Shutterbugs of Volo Bog.

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