

Camera Naturalist Photo Club
2022-2023
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) **No Obvious** post-processing manipulation. Adding an element to an image that was not in the original is not allowed.
- d) **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. **Competition categories**

- a) **Ornithology** – Bird dominant. Pet birds such as parakeets and cockatiels are not allowed unless photographed in their natural environment.
- b) **Botany** – Plants, Flowers, Fungi dominant. Cultivated flowers are allowed.
- c) **Zoology** – Animals, insects, butterflies, reptiles dominant. Domestic animals are not allowed – no cats, dogs, horses, chickens, cows etc. **Wild** horses are allowed. Zoo animals are allowed **but it can't be obvious** that they are in a zoo – the photos must look as if they were photographed in the wild... the same applies to photos taken in aquariums.
- d) **General Nature** – includes anything that does not fit into the categories listed above

3. **Three Member Classes: B-Beginner, A-Advanced and Salon.**

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 passes.

- a) **first pass:** images are scored from 5 to 7.
 - o 5's or 6's are out
 - o 7's move onto the second pass.
- b) **second pass:** images are scored from 7 to 9:
 - o 7's are out
 - o 8's = Honorable Mention
 - o 9's = Equal Merit
 - o **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. **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.

8. **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 competition