

Flagpole Photographers Club Bylaws

Membership

The Flagpole Photographers' Camera Club is a non-profit organization. Any person interested in pursuing photography as an art, hobby or by sharing of knowledge and experience shall be admitted to membership upon payment of dues.

Dues

Dues are \$30 per person or \$50 for a family membership payable at the first meeting each September. Dues shall be reduced to \$25 for individual or \$40 for family membership for those joining at or after the March meeting. Students may join at no charge.

Meetings

Regular meeting of the club shall be held on the third Thursday of the month, unless otherwise noted starting at 7:30 PM. The season starts in September and ends in June.

Officers

President

The President conducts the club and Executive Committee meetings and administers all club affairs. S/he appoints all representatives, committees and chairpersons. The President may serve a maximum of 3 consecutive years in this office.

Vice-President

The Vice-President performs all duties of the President in the event of his/her absence or inability to continue in office. The Vice-President oversees the operation of all aspects of the monthly competitions, including the registration of prints, announcement of image titles during the judging sessions, recording of scores, and return of the members' prints.

Treasurer

The Treasurer collects members' dues, maintains records of all dues received, conducts the monthly 50-50 raffle, has the care and custody of all funds of the club, deposits said funds in the name of the club in such bank as the Executive Committee may designate, signs all checks, drafts, notes, and order of payment of money, and submits a financial statement to the Executive Committee at the end of each club season. S/he maintains and updates records containing the contact information of all members and the name tags.

Secretary

The Secretary emails to the club members information and notices as directed by the President. S/he writes, publishes, and distributes the club monthly electronic newsletter to the membership once approved by the President. The Secretary reserves the meeting room at Cyrenius Booth Library in January/February for the upcoming September to June season for all monthly meetings and the Annual Competition and Exhibit in April.

Webmaster

The Webmaster is responsible for the set-up, maintenance, and ongoing updating of the club website.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster and others as the President designates. Executive Committee meetings are called by the President or by the agreement of 3 or more members of said committee. The presence of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Committee constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business. Any motion of two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of those present is required for passage. The Committee advises the President in matters of operation of the activities of the Club. It approves the appointments to all other committees. It is the final authority in the approval of the Club bylaws and the annual program and assigned subjects calendar.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, appointed by the President, consists of a chairperson and two other members knowledgeable in the aims and operation of the Club, not more than 1 of whom must be a current officer. This committee, after canvassing the membership for persons willing to serve, shall present nominations to the members, with a call for further nomination from the floor, at the June meeting.

Representatives

The NECCC Representative serves as the liaison between Flagpole Photographers Club and the New England Camera Club Council. S/he chooses and submits members' images to the NECCC competitions and distributes awards at the club meetings.

The PSA Representative serves as the liaison between Flagpole Photographers Club and the Photographic Society of America. S/he chooses and submits members' images to the PSA competitions, distributes awards at the club meetings, and coordinates club participation in various PSA activities.

Standing Committees

Judges for Flagpole Photographers Competitions

Procures judges for the monthly club competitions, introduces the judges to the membership prior to the start of the competitions, and explains the numerical range of scoring and other pertinent information to the judges.

Judges for other clubs

Attends to requests from other clubs for judges from Flagpole Photographers.

Programs

Researches and chooses programs for the club, coordinates with presenters, and introduces the presenters to the club.

Exhibits

Researches possibilities for members to exhibit their images and organizes all aspects of the exhibits.

Other

Digital Images

Receives, organizes, manages, and preserves members' winning digital image files sent to flagpolephotographers@yahoo.com for the newsletter and NECCC, PSA, and other inter-club competitions.

Refreshments

Sets up coffee, tea, and hot water for the monthly meetings and contacts and schedules volunteers to bring in foods to the meetings. Responsible for coordination of food and drink for holiday parties and any other special gatherings.

Equipment Manager

Responsible for the timely availability of equipment, set-up, and storage of all equipment necessary for the monthly competitions.

Communications

Writes monthly articles for the *Newtown Bee* and updates the club brochure prior to the first meeting of the season in September.

Monthly Competitions

Each month there is a print competition. To enter a competition the following conditions must be met:

- Photographs must be taken and entered by a member.
- Photographs must have been taken in the preceding 24 months to be entered in the month of competition, except the annual "Best of Summer" competition which must have been taken the previous summer.
- Entries which win a ribbon in a competition may not be entered in subsequent monthly competitions. They may be entered in the club's annual competition.

Print Competitions:

A member may enter up to four prints each month as described below:

- One entry may be entered in each of the following categories: "Assigned Subject" (Color or Black and White), "Color Open," and "Black and White Open."
- One additional print may be entered in any category - no more than two prints in any single category.
- Each entry must have a club label affixed in the upper left corner on the back of the print. Printable labels are available here:
<http://www.flagpolephotographers.com/PrintLabels.pdf>

- Each entry must be either matted or mounted (no frames).
- The maximum overall size for an entry is 16" x 20".
- If mounted, the minimum one side dimension is 10".
- If matted, the minimum one side exposed dimension is 9.5".
- The maker's signature may not appear on the print.

Categories

All Categories Except Nature

Digital editing is allowed on prints in all categories with the exception of Nature. Composite photographs are acceptable as long as all elements included are the entering photographer's own work. Commercial clip art, parts of commercial photographic collections, or the work of another photographer may not be included.

Nature

Nature is a special category with competitions at the September meeting and the annual competition (Dave Kriger Nature Award).

Entries submitted in "Nature" competitions must meet the PSA Nature Division's definition of "Nature Photography" reprinted here:

Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archeology, in such a fashion that a well informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify as to its honest presentation. The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality. Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements enhance the nature story. The presence of scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals is permissible. Photographs of artificially produced hybrid plants or animals, mounted specimens, or obviously set arrangements, are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement. No techniques that add to, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the nature story or the pictorial content are permitted. All adjustments must appear natural. The removal, or manipulation, of colors contained within the original image to enable the production of monochrome images is permitted.

Authentic Wildlife is defined as one or more organisms, living free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Therefore landscapes, photographs of zoo animals, game farm animals, or any living subject taken under controlled conditions are **not** eligible for entry in Wildlife competitions.

(Source: <http://psa-photo.org/divisions/nature/basics-and-background/>)

Additional information is available from a PSA article here:
http://www.flagpolephotographers.com/psa_rules.pdf

Annual Competition and Exhibition

Each spring the club holds an annual print exhibition and competition. The rules for this competition differ from regular meeting print competitions as follows:

- A maximum of six prints of which three may be color and three black and white may be entered.

All other rules for monthly competitions apply, including the “24 month” rule.

The following awards are presented at the annual competition:

- First, Second, Third place and Honorable Mention for the “Color” category.
- First, Second, Third place and Honorable Mention for the “Black and White” category.
- Judges’ Best in Show.
- Dave Kriger Nature Award (Best Nature category print).
- Jeannette Talarino Flower Award (Best flower print).
- Bruce Allen Open Print Award.
- Peoples Choice Award (as voted by visitors).

(Revised 10/23/11)