

TOPICS Camera Club
Rules for Digital Projection Competitions
(Adopted March 5, 2018)

1. Only members whose dues are paid for the current year are eligible to enter Digital Projection Competitions.
2. There are three levels of competition within the Digital Projection Competition (DPC) division: Class A (beginner), Class AA (intermediate) and Class AAA (advanced).
3. After 15 wins (First, Second or Third place) or at the discretion of the DPC Chair: a Class A member may move to Class AA and a Class AA member may move to Class AAA.
4. New members who feel they are misplaced in the lower class, may petition the DPC Chair requesting they be permitted to move to the higher class. The move may be made with the approval of the DPC Chair and club President.
5. If a Class A member is eligible to move to Class AA, or a Class AA member is eligible to move to Class AAA but feels he or she needs more experience before moving to the higher class, the member may petition the DPC Chair to remain in the lower class. The final decision will be made by the DPC Chair and President. If permission to remain in the lower class is granted, the member retains all wins and is eligible to advance to the higher class at the beginning of the following competition year.
6. If, after competing in a higher class for a minimum of one year, a member feels he or she needs more experience in a lower class, the member may petition the DPC Chair to be placed in a lower class. The decision to allow the member to change to a lower class will be made by the DPC Chair and the President. If permission to change is granted, the member starts over with no wins in the class to which he or she moves.
7. During the club year (September through May), there will be five competitions. Each competition will have an assigned topic and a general topic. An image entered in the Assignment must have as its main subject the assigned topic. Any image of the member's choice may be entered in the General category without regard to theme.
8. A maximum of four images may be entered in any competition. All four images may be entered in the Assignment category, or the General category, or may be divided between the Assignment and General categories in any combination.
9. Every competition has an assigned topic or theme. The assigned topics are chosen by the TOPICS Board of Directors and are announced at the April meeting each year. Images taken for the Assignment after the April meeting in which they are announced earn one additional point in competition.
10. Digital images to be entered in competition are to be delivered to a designated person by a specified date. The date and place of delivery is selected by the DPC Chair. Delivery of the images, on time, is the responsibility of the member. Normally, information about competitions will be conveyed to club members at club meetings and via the club newsletter.
11. Images for entry in club competitions may be submitted to the chair via e-mail, on a USB flash drive or by means approved by the DPC Chair. A USB flash drive must be readable by a Windows based PC.
12. Images submitted for competition should be placed in a folder containing no other files.
13. Members are to prepare their images for projection in accordance with requirements outlined in *Preparing Images for Digital Projection Competition*. Copies may be obtained from the DPC Chair or the club secretary.

14. There will be no restrictions placed on the editing of any digital image. The maker is free to use his or her creativity, using any of the tools and techniques available in image editing.
15. All content included in a digital image must have been originally created by the maker.
16. Digital entries will be judged by a panel of three non-member judges. The judges will select First, Second and Third place images and Acceptances in both the Assignment and General categories.
17. Images which are deemed not to fit the assigned category by the judges or competition chair may be moved to the General category.
18. Winning digital images (First, Second or Third place) may not be reentered in any future Digital Projection Competition. They are considered "retired" and may not resurface sporting a new title. Non-winning images, however, may be reentered as many times as desired, or until they achieve a win.
19. Winning digital images (First, Second or Third place) may be reentered in the print division. However, a winning digital image may not be reentered in another division in the competition year in which the win occurred. It may only be reentered in a future competition year.
20. Competition entries will be shown on regular club meeting nights. Images will be shown in random order, ending with the Acceptances, Third place, Second place and First place in each category (Assignment and General). Constructive comments may be made by club members or other competent photographers during the presentation of the images.
21. All winning digital images (First, Second, Third or Acceptances) are eligible for the Image-of-the-Year competition at the end of the club year. These images, collected at the April club meeting each year, are re-judged by a new panel of judges and are shown at the annual Awards Banquet.
22. The winning digital images of the Image-of-the-Year competition receive awards which are presented at the annual Awards Banquet in May. In addition, awards for the most points earned in Classes A and AA are also presented to the winning club members.
23. Digital-Image-of-the-Year winners (First, Second or Third place) are not eligible for entry in future digital image competitions, see paragraph 18. Digital-Image-of-the-Year winners (First, Second or Third place) are eligible for entry in the print division as per paragraph 16.
24. Points awarded for digital image competition entries are as follows:

Place	F	AS	GN
1 st	6	5	5
2 nd	5	4	4
3 rd	4	3	3
Acc	3	2	2
Entry	2	1	1

F = For Assignment: Image taken after the April meeting at which assigned topics were announced.

AS = Assignment: Image taken before the April meeting at which assigned topics were announced.

GN = General: Competition category without assigned topic.

ACC = Acceptance awards.

Entry = Points awarded non-winning images.