

Minnesota Valley Photography Club Competition Rules

Effective: February 1, 2017

SECTION 1. General Rules and Eligibility

1. **Members only:** The competition is open to any member who has paid their current year dues to the Minnesota Valley Photography Club (MVPC).
2. **Original work by the member:**
 - The original image must be made by the competitor on photographic emulsion or acquired with a digital camera (or electronically recorded). All images (or image montages) must be original and may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else.
 - Any modification of the original image must be made by the competitor. All other processing, matting, or mounting may be commercially done, if desired.
 - Any photograph where subject, lighting, arranging, etc., are not primarily the work of the member entering the competition shall not be eligible for competition.
3. **Image modification:** Image modification, manipulation, or enhancement by the competitor is allowed, unless restricted by a particular topic definition. (For example, image manipulation is often restricted for photojournalism or nature photographic competitions.)
4. **Promotional use:** Permission to copy or publish images submitted for competitions for promotional use by the MVPC is assumed unless otherwise stated. The original maker retains the copyright to their submissions.
5. **Interpretation and Application of These Rules:** The Salon committee will interpret and apply these rules at each competition and has the right to reject any entry not properly presented or labeled.

SECTION 2. Salon Competitions:

1. **Salon:** Competition will be held in six separate salons as follows:
 - Monochrome Prints
 - Color Prints
 - Novice Prints
 - Color Digital Projection
 - Monochrome Digital Projection
 - Novice Digital Projection
2. **Salon schedule:** The print salons will alternate with the digital projection salons at regular monthly club meetings, except for the December and June meetings.
3. **Topic selection process:** The Salon Committee shall maintain a master list of topics. Each year the salon committee shall solicit the addition of topic recommendations to this master list from the club membership. The salon committee shall make the list available to the membership. The salon committee shall prepare ballots and/or determine the process to be used for the membership to vote on the topics for the following year. Voting shall be done during the month of February. The Salon Committee shall tabulate the votes and present the results to the Board of Directors.

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The Board of Directors shall:

- Resolve any ties.
- Decide which topics will be print or projected image (digital) salons.
- Assign the topics to a monthly salon.

The results will be made available to the membership in March.

4. Open and Topic definitions: Each monthly salon will consist of an **Open** and a **Topic category**.

- **Open category:** Any subject may be entered in the Open category.
- **Topic category:** The subject for the Topic category is selected via the methodology identified in paragraph 3 above. Each entry in the Topic category will be judged partially on how well it adheres to the topic.

5. Number of entries: Each member may submit up to four entries each month.

- **Two entries** in the color salon and
- **Two entries** in the monochrome salon
or for novice members
- **Four entries** in the Novice Salon

The allowed number of entries in each salon may be divided between the open and topic categories.

6. A NOVICE member may NOT submit entries in the Color or Monochrome salons and Novice salons in the same month. I.e., if a NOVICE member elects to submit one or more entries in a monthly NON-Novice salon, he/she is NOT eligible to enter the Novice salon for that month.

7. Class A Photographers are not eligible to enter the Novice Salons. The definition of a Class A Photographer is an MVPC member who accumulated 160 or more points in any salon based on year-end totals. Once qualifying as a Class A photographer, that photographer is not eligible to enter Novice salons in subsequent years.

8. Entry due dates: Competition entries are to be submitted at the monthly general MVPC meeting one month before the competition judging. For example; Entries for the November Salon are due at the general meeting in October, unless the Salon Committee announces otherwise.

9. Re-entering images:

- Images that have not previously received an Award in MVPC's salon competitions may be re-entered as often as the competitor desires.
- Any image receiving an Award in a Minnesota Valley Photography Club salon is ineligible for future competition in this club. This is regardless of variations or changes made, including color and monochrome versions of the image. Any image receiving Honorable Mention is prohibited from being entered again in the current salon season, but may be entered in subsequent seasons.
- The same or similar image may not be entered as both a color and monochrome image in the same month.

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SECTION 3. Print Salon Rules

1. The following table, defines the image and mount size requirements for print salons. These may be either horizontal or vertical format.

Print Salon	Print Size Minimum	Print Size Maximum	Mat/Mount Size Minimum	Mat/Mount Size Maximum
Color and Monochrome Salons	None	16 x 20 inches	8 x 10 inches	16 x 20 inches
Novice Salons	None	8 x 12 inches	8 x 10 inches	11 x 14 inches

2. All prints shall be submitted in a manner that protects them from damage or causing damage to other entries. (example - NO exposed sticky glue or loose tape) .
- A backing must be provided (example: mat board or foam core). If not in a clear/transparent protective envelope, then the print shall be firmly attached to the backing.
 - A mat is optional, but recommended.
 - Competitor's entry information (See 3 below) shall be placed on the back of the backing in a manner that is clearly visible, legible and oriented to determine the top of the image.
 - The print may optionally be submitted in a clear/transparent protective envelope.
 - No frames of any kind are allowed.

3. All prints must have the following written on the back side of the backing:

- The title of the entry
- Competitor's MVPC member number
- Salon type (color, mono or novice)
- Open or Topic

The competitor's name must **NOT** appear anywhere on the entry.

4. Toned or hand-tinted/colored prints may be entered in the Monochrome Print salon if they meet the size requirements and have a maximum of one color in addition to the gray or other dominant hue. If two or more colors are present, the print may **NOT** be entered in Monochrome Prints; however, it can be entered in the Color Print salon.
5. The Novice Print salon includes all prints (color, monochrome, and/or hand-tinted/colored) that fall into the Novice Print size range as given in the table (# 1) above.
6. A digital copy is required for all print entries. This copy will be used for the salon display and critique. If no digital image is provided, that entry will not be critiqued at the meeting. These digital images are due with the print entry and must follow the size and naming conventions listed in Section 4.

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Section 4. Digital Projection Salon Rules

1. File Format:

- Digital images shall be submitted in JPEG format.
- The image can be no more than 1,024 pixels in the longest dimension (Horizontal or Vertical).
- The JPEG image should be in the sRGB color space (for best possible rendition of colors).
- File size is limited to 500 kilobytes.

2. File Naming: All image filenames shall be less than 64 characters and contain the following identifiers in this order:

- Members 3 digit salon number
- A Comma (,)
- Salon Code (see table below)
- A Comma (,)
- The image title (may have spaces including commas or other characters that are accepted by Windows file naming conventions).
- A period (.)
- The file extension (jpg)

Salon codes for Digital Projected Image Salons

DCO - Digital (Projected Image) Color OPEN

DCT – Digital (Projected Image) Color TOPIC

DMO – Digital (Projected Image) Monochrome OPEN

DMT – Digital (Projected Image) Monochrome TOPIC

DNO – Digital (Projected Image) Novice OPEN

DNT – Digital (Projected Image) Novice TOPIC

Salon codes for Digital images of Prints

PCO – Print Color OPEN

PCT – Print Color TOPIC

PMO – Print Monochrome OPEN

PMT – Print Monochrome TOPIC

PNO– Print Novice OPEN

PNT – Print Novice TOPIC

For example:

123,DCT,Clear Water.jpg

123,DCT,Clear, Cool Water.jpg

These examples show that member with salon number 123, is entering two digital color images in the topic salon. One is titled “Clear Water” the other is titled “Clear, Cool Water” (note that a comma is permitted in a title)

3. The competitor’s name must NOT appear anywhere within the file name or within the image itself.

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Section 5. Competition Point System and Monthly Awards

1. All entries will be judged on a 1 to 15 point scale. More than one entry may be given the same score.
2. Entries receiving 15, 14 or 13 points from the judge will be considered an "Award". (There are NO First, Second, or Third Place distinctions). Honorable Mention is retained for entries receiving 12 points.
3. Topic entries will receive an additional three (3) points for calculating End of Year and the new Distinguished Photographer awards.

Section 6. Year-End Awards

1. **Photographer of the Year.** The scores given by the judge are accumulated throughout the competition year (September through May). Topic entries will be given three more points than open entries, i.e. topic entries will be judged 1 – 15 but will receive 4 – 18 points for computing year end awards. Medals will be awarded for the Photographer of the Year, first runner-up and second runner-up in each salon based on the total points accumulated.
2. **Distinguished Photographer (Shutter-Bug) Award** This award is non-competitive and may or may not be awarded yearly. It is based entirely on an individual's performance. This award may be earned by more than one individual during a salon year (September through May) if he/she meets the requirements. Novice members are not eligible to earn this award.
 - Qualification Criteria (Requirements)** (all must be met.)
 - Receives an Award in Color or Monochrome Topic Salons in five (5) different months during the salon year.
 - Points earned include both Topic and Open salons. The three point differential of Topic vs Open will apply.
 - The Member must have competed in and received a minimum of 75 points in each of the four Color and Monochrome salons.
 - A minimum of 400 points must be earned.
3. **Photograph of the Year.** Awards will be presented at the annual banquet where a judge or panel of judges will select the Photograph of the Year from each salon as well as first runner-up and second runner-up in each salon. All monthly salon entries that received an award are eligible to be entered into the Photograph of the Year salon. The salon committee shall monitor the number of awards eligible for the End of Year Salon. If the size of the Year End Salon exceeds what can be reasonably expected for a judge, the salon committee may limit the number of entries per member. In the event that a member has more "Awards" than allowable entries, the member may choose which of their "Awards" to submit for the Year End Salon.
4. **Dick Sheidler Memorial Award:** The Dick Sheidler Memorial Award is to recognize the club member who has best demonstrated exemplary skill in their photographic capabilities in composition, story, and technical skill. The award is given to the club member who accumulates the highest point total, measured as the sum of judging scores in four MVPC salon categories during the current program year: Color Prints, Monochrome Prints, Color Projected Images, Monochrome Projected Images. The award will be given to multiple club members only in the event of a tie in salon point totals.