

Valley Viewfinders Camera Club

Members' Handbook

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Print and Electronic Competitions

Valley Viewfinders Monthly Print Competitions – Prints are judged by club members during the second meeting of the month. Each member may vote for as many as three images in each competition area. Images with the most votes in each competition area are awarded first, second, and third place. Members are encouraged to follow the club's *Judging Guidelines* when casting votes.

Prints entered into competition must comply with the club's *Print Competition Guidelines*.

Since the prints that win first and second place may be sent to the 4Cs for further competition, members are asked to leave these prints with the Print Chair. The Chair and the selection committee will select prints from this group to be sent out to the 4Cs judging club. The Print Chair will hold these prints until it is determined they are no longer needed for 4Cs competitions, and then the prints are returned to the creator. It may be necessary for the Print Chair to keep prints several months until judging is complete.

Valley Viewfinders Print of the Year– Club members select the Print of the Year from the monthly first place winners of the just completed competition year (September through June). Prints are judged, and awards presented, during the second meeting in June.

Valley Viewfinders Print Photographer of the Year – Awarded for participation in the club's monthly print competitions. The club member with the most competition points accumulated during the just-completed competition year is declared the Print Photographer of the Year. One point is awarded for every print entered in a monthly competition; three points for a first place winner; two points for second place; and one point for third place. The award is presented during the second June meeting.

Valley Viewfinders Monthly Electronic Image Competitions – Electronic images entered into competition must comply with the club's *Electronic Image Competition Guidelines*. Electronic images are judged monthly, generally during the second meeting of each month. In November and December they are generally judged during the first meeting of the month. Judging is done by a three-judge panel selected by the club President or Electronic Image Chair. A 27-point scoring system is used, with each judge awarding from a low of one point to a high of 9 points for each image. The three images in each competition area with the most points are declared first, second, and third-place winners.

Valley Viewfinders Electronic Image of the Year Award – The Electronic Image of the Year in the Traditional and Creative categories are selected from the monthly first-place winners of the just-completed competition year (September through June). Images are judged, and awards presented, during the second June meeting.

Valley Viewfinders Electronic Image Photographer of the Year – Awarded for participation in the club's competitions throughout the year. The club member with the most competition points accumulated during the just-completed competition year (September through June) is

declared Electronic Image Photographer of the Year. One point is awarded for every image entered in a competition, three points for a first-place winner, two points for second place, and one point for third. This award is presented during the second June meeting.

NOTE: Subject matter must take into consideration the family atmosphere of this club.

- A. No nude photos will be accepted for any Valley Viewfinders Camera Club competitions (see details C and D below).
- B. If a member wants to submit a photo of a nude person, do so directly to 4C's quarterly competition or other competitive venues.
- C. For photos of female subjects/models, breasts and genitalia must be covered.
- D. For male subjects/models, genitals must be covered.

Print Competition Guidelines

1. All prints must be mounted on a rigid backing (e.g., foam core, gator board, mat board).
2. No print can be framed.
3. Double or single matting, or no top mat, are allowed.
4. Anything affixed to the mount's back that may cause damage to other prints when stacked will not be accepted (like hanging devices or Velcro tabs).
5. Any protective packaging (like plastic, transparent bags, etc.), while recommended for shipping, will be removed for judging purposes. Shrink-wrap will not be removed.
6. NO writing or markings (titles, signatures, etc.) are allowed on the print/mount/mat's face/front.
7. The photograph must have been captured and digitally or otherwise manipulated only by the person entering it into the competition. The print may have been commercially printed. There is no distinction made between images captured with film or with digital devices.
8. To enter the club competition you must be a member of the Valley Viewfinders Camera Club.
9. Every print entered into competition must have the following information listed on the back of the mounting board (This identification should be written in alignment with the viewing position—top side up):
 - a. The Division the image will compete in (“Color” or “Monochrome”)
 - b. The Size Class the image will compete in (“Large” or “96-Square”)
 - c. The image Title (example: *Nice Tree*)

- d. The entrant's name and address
- e. "Valley Viewfinders Camera Club" (This is needed if the print is sent to another 4Cs club for judging)
- f. "TOP" at the top

10. Each member may enter up to two (2) prints in every competition area.

11. Competition Areas—First, Second, and Third places are awarded in each competition area. The competition areas are listed in the following table:

12.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>
Print	Color	Large	Open
Print	Color	Large	Theme
Print	Color	96-Square	Open
Print	Color	96-Square	Theme
Print	Monochrome	Large	Open
Print	Monochrome	Large	Theme
Print	Monochrome	96-Square	Open
Print	Monochrome	96-Square	Theme

13. Divisions

- a. **Color:** All prints not categorized as monochrome are considered to be part of the Color Print Division
- b. **Monochrome:** Monochrome prints are defined to consist of only white and black, as well as all shades of gray in between. Toning is allowed, but must cover the entire image and be of a single color, e.g., sepia toning. Prints with spot color, selective color or that are colored with two or more colors must be entered in the Color Print Division.

14. Sizes

- a. Large – To be included in Large size the print must be;
 - i. At least 80 square inches,
 - ii. The mount size must be larger than 96 square inches,
 - iii. The mount size must be equal to or less than 320 square inches (e.g., 16" x 20"), and
 - iv. The longest dimension cannot exceed 20 inches.
- b. Small – To be included in the Small size the print must be:
 - i. At least 35 square inches,
 - ii. The mount size must be no larger than 96 square inches,
 - iii. The longest dimension cannot exceed 20 inches.

15. Subject Matter

- a. **Open** – Any subject matter.
- b. **Theme** – The primary subject matter must be related to the club's theme of the month. The themes for the current year are listed on the *Meeting Schedule* calendar on this website. (Go to *Home Page* and click on *Meeting Schedule*). Theme photos must have been taken within two years of entry.

Electronic Image Competition Guidelines

1. Entry e-mail procedures and deadline.

- a. When making your image submissions, your e-mail *is* your entry form. You are required to do the following when entering:
 - i. In the subject line of your e-mail put only the complete filename (see #3 below on image file naming conventions) of your image.
 - ii. Attach your entries. A maximum of two images may be submitted per entrant, per competition..
- b. Send e-mail with image(s) attached to the Valley Viewfinders Electronic Images Chair at eidimages@gmail.com.
- c. Entries must be received no later than midnight the Saturday immediately preceding the competition date.

2. Image Files

- a. The images must be in jpg (jpeg) format.
- b. The maximum lengths are 1024 pixels on the horizontal side and 1024 pixels on the vertical side.
- c. Images may not be larger than 1 MB (effective September 2017).

3. Image File Naming Conventions

- a. The image filenames shall use the following convention:
 - i. For Traditional Class Entries (T)
FirstnameLastname_VVCC_Title_T.jpg
(example: JohnDoe_VVCC_PrettyFlower_T.jpg)
 - ii. For Creative Class Entries (C)
FirstnameLastname_VVCC_Title_C.jpg
(example: JohnDoe_VVCC_FunnyFlower_C.jpg)

- b. Change each of your entry's file names before attaching and sending as per above convention (each file you send must have a different title). "T" designates the image as a Traditional Class and "C" as a Creative Class.

4. **Class Definitions**

There are two classes available to enter: Traditional and Creative. The following definitions of each class should be followed but the final determination of which class to enter is up to the entrant. The entrant should keep in mind that under this rule they are free to choose which class.

- a. **Traditional Class** depicts a subject based on a reasonable fidelity to reality. It is, for example, a landscape, portrait, street scene, still life, nature photograph, etc., where manipulation, if any, artfully or delicately enhances reality.

- b. **Creative Class** depicts subjects in a substantial departure from realism through the use of various non-standard techniques and controls. Examples are abstracts, derivations, diffraction, distortions, black light, bas-relief, impressionism, symbolism, montage, dye coloring, color key, multiple exposures, solarization, posterization, tone separation, surrealism, and unreal color. In essence, when the obvious purpose of such techniques are to alter reality to the point where the picture is non-objective or abstract in quality.