GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- In order to participate in a competition you must be a member in good standing with membership dues paid in full.
- Images submitted must be taken by the photographer.
- A maximum of 3 images may be submitted to a competition.
- Repeat submittals. No images that have ever received Honors may be resubmitted.

IMAGE CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

- Images must not have visible signatures or copyright notices with the photographer's name.
- Images must not have visible image titles.
- Images must not contain nudity.

REGULAR COMPETITIONS

Regular Competitions are held during the last meeting of the month and usually alternate between Open Subject Competitions and Assigned Subject Competitions.

OPEN SUBJECT COMPETITION

Any subject matter can be submitted.

The Competitions Manager will review all of the images in Open Subject Competitions before the competition. If the Competitions Manager determines that any images do not meet the Image Content Requirements the photographers will provided with the reason the images do not meet the Image Content Requirements and be given the opportunity to replace the images before the competition.

ASSIGNED SUBJECT COMPETITION

All submitted images for Assigned Subject Competitions must meet the subject matter and/or processing requirements of the competition. Details of the Assigned Subject will be posted on the website and in the competition description.

If you have any doubts about an image that you wish to enter into an Assigned Subject Competition we suggest that you bring it to a Photo Critique and/or show it to someone who has not seen your entry before. If someone cannot identify the Assigned Subject in the image within 5 seconds of viewing, it might be worthwhile to consider a different image.

The Competitions Manager will review all of the images in Assigned Subject Competitions before the competition. If the Competitions Manager determines that any images do not meet the Image Content Requirements or Assigned Subject the photographer will be provided with the reason the images do not meet the Image Content Requirements or Assigned Subject and be given the opportunity to replace the images before the competition.

SPECIAL COMPETITIONS

During the year there may be Special Competitions in addition to the monthly Regular Competitions.

- Special Competitions have their own set of annual awards.
- Special Competitions may have their own set of rules that override the normal rules for image submittal. This might include changes to the number of images that can be submitted, image processing that is allowed and other special conditions.

FINAL COMPETITION OF HONORS IMAGES

This competition is held near the end of the competition year and is open to images that received "Honors" during regular competitions in the current competition year.

- Each photographer may submit up to 5 honors images to the competition.
- The images may be in any combination of digital and print images.
- Images must be submitted as the exact same image as when they won honors. For example: Images must be in the same format (digital or print) and digital images must be submitted from the competitors Image Library showing the previous submission.
- Images must not be altered or changed from when they won honors.
- Digital images must be submitted from the competitor's Image Library.
- The awards for Images of the Year will be determined by highest scoring images in this competition.

IMAGE PREPARATION

IMAGE PROCESSING

All forms of Image Processing are allowed, unless specifically restricted in an Assigned Subject or Special Competition.

PROJECTED IMAGE REQUIREMENTS

- All projected images are digital images. DCCC no longer allows submittal of slides for competition.
- Digital images may be created directly from a digital camera, scanned from a slide or negative, scanned from a print, or any combination of these.
  - Digital images must be submitted by uploading to the website.
  - Digital images uploaded to the website must be submitted before Midnight on the Sunday 1 week before the Competition.
- Maximum images size is 1920x1000. This is the maximum area of the projector, minus the score row at the bottom of the screen.
  - During competitions the images are automatically resized by the software to fill the screen. If the image submitted is smaller than the maximum image size then it will be scaled up during projection to fill the screen. Be warned this may reduce the sharpness of the image and can make the image look pixelated.

- We encourage Photographers to submit digital images where the image height or the image width matches the projected image size and the other direction matches or is less than the projected image size. This will prevent images from being resized when presented.

- Images must be submitted as JPEG images.
- Images must use the sRGB color space. If you do not know what this means then your images are most likely already in sRGB. Most cameras default to this color space and most image processing software defaults to this color space. Note: The website will automatically convert the image to sRGB if it uses a different color space which might cause undesirable color shifts.

  Disclaimer: In the projection of members' digital images for competitions and photo critiques DCCC will make reasonable effort to ensure that its digital projector is properly adjusted and calibrated so the image color and brightness are accurately depicted on the screen. However, we cannot guarantee that all members' images will look precisely the way they do on the member's home monitors. This is due to the fact that members use different computers, monitors and platforms that may not be calibrated the same as the digital projector. We recommend that members calibrate their monitors regularly.

  If you have any doubts about how a particular image will appear on the digital projector we recommend that you first bring it to one of the photo critiques.

  If time permits digital images may be projected onto the large screen on regular meeting nights before or after the meeting so that Photographers can see how the image will look on the monitor. For this, images must be emailed to the Competitions Manager at least one day before the meeting or brought to the meeting on a thumb drive. There is no guarantee that time will be available because the meeting times are governed by the Church.

PRINT IMAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Shortest dimension of image must be at least 8 inches.
- The maximum dimensions of the image and mat is 16x20 inches.
- Prints may be submitted on any material (paper, metal, canvas, etc.) and with any surface (glossy, matte, etc.)
- Prints must be mounted on a firm mat or backing. The purpose of the mat is to support the image during judging.
- Prints must have Competition Forms attached to the back of the mat and the Photographer Summary Form must be filled out.
- Prints must be submitted no later than 7:05 pm on the night of the Competition.
- Images submitted at a meeting before the competition must be accompanied by the required forms. These prints will be stored by the Board in the club closet in the church and will be entered into the competition by the Board for the photographer.
- Prints cannot be framed or have attached hangers. For example: metal prints with hangers attached and canvas prints mounted to metal or wooden frames are not allowed.
- Prints cannot be presented behind any material. For example: glass, plastic, etc.

- Prints and mats cannot have sharp edges, corners or fittings that could potentially damage other prints. For example: metal prints cannot have exposed sharp corners and images cannot be secured to mat boards using clips.
- Judges are instructed that mats are to support the image during the competition and ARE NOT intended to be "gallery presentations" of the images. Judges are instructed to not deduct points from images because of how they are presented. Be aware that some judges have in the past and some will in the future score prints lower for poor presentation even though they are instructed to not do this.

  Disclaimer: In the presentation of member's prints for competition and photo critiques DCCC uses a "daylight" balanced lightbulb so the colors will be presented as accurately as possible.

  If you have any doubts about how a particular image will appear under the "daylight" balance lightbulb we recommend that you first bring it to one of the photo critiques.

IMAGE SUBMISSION

PROJECTED IMAGE ONLINE SUBMISSION

Our website host, PhotoClub Services, has an extensive library of useful instruction videos on the club website. The videos can be found in the club website at dccc.photoclubservices.com under "Videos" in the "Help" pull down menu. We encourage you to view the video for Uploading Images to a Competition. A step-by-step document covering uploading images can be found under "Member Files" in the "Documents and Files to Download" section on the website.

If you have any difficulties submitting images to a competition feel free to contact the Competition Manager, Rod Sutherland by e-mail at rsuther28@yahoo.com and he will help you submit images to the competition.

PRINT IMAGE SUBMISSION

Prints may only be submitted to competitions that specifically allow prints. Unless otherwise indicated all competitions are projected images only.

An area will be designated for Print Submissions on Competition Nights to allow for submission and organization of the prints for the competition.

- All print images must have a fully filled in "Print Image Submission" form attached to the back of the mat. The form must be near the upper right hand corner so the print will be oriented correctly during the competition.
- Each competitor must also fill in a "Print Competitor" form and include it with their prints. Both of these forms can be found under "Member Files" in the "Documents and Files to Download" section on the website.
- Prints being submitted for competition must be placed face down on the submission table. Each competitor needs to have their images in a single stack.
- Members must not look through the images prior to the competition.

When the submission for prints is closed the Competition Manager will organize the prints into the pseudo-random order they will be judged.

ABSENCE FROM COMPETITION

If a Photographer cannot attend the Competition for whatever reason they can still compete.

For Projected Images the images must be submitted normally.

For prints submissions the prints may be brought in by another person to the competition or brought to a meeting prior to the competition. Prints brought before the competition will be stored in the Club closet in the church and will be entered normally for the photographer at the competition.

COMPETITION NIGHT

Competition nights are usually busy and if there are a large number of images time will be very tight. Please be courteous to the schedule and the need to keep the meeting and competition proceeding on-time.
All cell phones must be silenced during the competition.
Prints must be submitted by 7:05 pm on competition night. Late entries will not be allowed into the competition.
No food or beverages will be allowed near prints on any competition night.

PREVIEWING IMAGES

- Prior to judging the images will be previewed for the Judge.
- All persons in the audience must remain quiet during the Previewing of images. There cannot be any talking or commenting during the previewing.
- For projected images this will usually be done by projecting the images in a slideshow on the large screen
- For prints this will usually be done by displaying the images in sequence on the display easel.

JUDGING

- All persons in the audience must remain quiet during Judging. There cannot be any talking and commenting during the competition.
- Judges are not to ask questions of the photographer during judging and photographers must not comment or contradict judges during the competition.
- Each Competition will be judged by a single judge or a multiple judge panel.
- The club attempts to bring in an independent judge from outside the club for every competition. When an independent judge is not available the competition will be judged by a panel of club members qualified to judge competitions.
- The club evaluates the qualifications of all judges. Before club members can be a judge they must pass a qualification course administered by the Board.

- Images are scored on a scale from 4 (lowest) to 9 (highest). For information on scoring, see the "Judging Guidelines and Scoring Criteria" on the Club website under Competitions. This document covers in detail the relationship between scores and image quality.
- The scoring by the judge is final. The only exception is if the Board determines that an image does not meet the requirements of an Assigned Subject it will be rescored to a 3.
- The judge will be asked to provide a brief critique of each image after giving the score.
- The highest 35% scoring images will be awarded "Honors" in each competition. In the event of ties the judge will select which images will receive honors. The tiebreaking will not change the score of any images.

- Members who serve as a judge must not score their own images.
  - Members who are on a judging panel may submit images to the competition but must abstain from judging and critiquing their own images. The missing score will be accounted for by averaging only the scores from the other judges.
  - Members who judge a competition as a single judge must not submit any images to the competition. In this case the judge may submit double (6 images) to the next competition. If a member judges the last competition before the "Final Competition of Honors Images" the judge may not enter any additional images to the "Final Competition of Honors Images".

Examples of scores given by a 3 judge panel are:

7, 9 and 8	The score will be 8	(7 + 9 + 8) / 3 = 8
7, 7 and 8	The score will be 7.33	(7 + 7 + 8) / 3 = 7.33
7, 8 and 8	The score will be 7.66	(7 + 8 + 8) / 3 = 7.66
7, -- and 8	The score will be 7.5	(7 + 8) / 2 = 7.5

Examples of scores given by a 2 judge panel are:

7 and 8	The score will be 7.5	(7 + 8) / 2 = 7.5
7 and 9	The score will be 8	(7 + 9) / 2 = 8
7 and --	The score will be 7	(7) = 7

COMPETITION YEAR ANNUAL AWARDS

The following awards will be presented at the Annual Awards Ceremony during the End of Year Banquet:

REGULAR COMPETITION AWARDS

Jacob Santa Maria Award (Photographer of the Year)

This award is given to the photographer that has the highest number of Honors Images in Regular Competitions.

If there is a tie then the award will be given to the photographer with the highest total points awarded to Honors Images in Regular Competitions. If there is still a tie then the award will be given to the photographer with the higher total points of all images in Regular Competitions. If there is still a tie then the Board will address the award.

High Points Awards (1st, 2nd Place, 3rd Place and Honorable Mention)

These awards are given to the 4 photographers with the highest total points for images in all Regular Competitions.

If there is a tie then the award will be given to the photographer with the higher number of Honors Images in Regular Competitions. If there is still a tie then the award will be given to the photographer with the higher total points awarded to Honors Images in Regular Competitions. If there is still a tie then the Board will address the award.

High Points in Assigned Subjects Award (1st, 2nd Place, 3rd Place and Honorable Mention) This award is given to the 4 photographers with the highest total points for images in Assigned Subject Regular Competitions.

If there is a tie then the award will be given to the photographer with the higher number of Honors Images in Assigned Subject Regular Competitions. If there is still a tie then the award will be given to the photographer with the higher total points awarded to Honors Images in Assigned Subject Regular Competitions. If there is still a tie then the Board will address the award.

Images of the Year (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6 Honorable Mention)

These awards are given to the 10 highest scoring projected images in the “Final Competition of Honors Images”.

If there is a tie then the judge for the competition will determine the tiebreaker.

SPECIAL COMPETITION AWARDS

Special Competition Images (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 3 Honorable Mentions)

These awards are given to the 6 highest scoring images in the Special Competition.

If there is a tie then the award will be given to the photographer with the higher number of total points for images in the Special Competitions. If there is still a tie then the Board will address the award.