

# **RULES OF COMPETITION**

**(modified 4/2011 based on**

**modified. 7/2010 )**

## **General Provisions**

Vienna Photographic Society (VPS) shall sponsor monthly competitions. Only members of VPS with dues paid in full may enter into the competitions. The competition Classes are: Novice and Advanced. The competition categories for classes are Prints and Digital. There is a single Monochrome Prints and Digital Theme category for all classes.

Members may submit four (4) images per competition with no more than three (3) being digital. Any combination of category is allowed with the maximum of two (2) images per single category. For example: 1 Advanced Digital Image, 1 Monochrome Print and 2 Advanced Color Prints may be submitted or two Advanced Digital, one Digital Theme and one Monochrome Print.. Members cannot submit entries into two different classes.

Class	Category	Category	Category	Category
Novice	Color Print	Digital	Monochrome Print	Monthly Theme (Digital)
Advanced	Color Print	Digital		

All entries, other than digital entries, must be submitted no later than 10 minutes before the scheduled meeting time on competition night to be eligible for presentation to the judge. Digital entries must be submitted by midnight Eastern Time the Sunday before the competition. Digital entries may not be submitted earlier than the Thursday after the first meeting of the month.

Monthly Digital Theme topics will be selected by a method approved by the Board. Topics for the monthly Digital Theme will be included in the competition schedule posted on the club's Web site and will be announced in the Focal Points newsletter.

Topics for the overall competitions may be assigned. When an overall theme competition is held there will be no separate Digital Theme category. There will only be five (5) categories on those nights. Such topics will be included in the competition schedules or will be announced in the *Focal Points* newsletter.

For a monthly competition to be held in any category there must be two (2) or more participants entering that category and a minimum of three (3) images. If the minimum is not met, judging will still take place, but no awards will be given. There is no maximum number of entries in a category.

At the end of the VPS year, a final annual competition shall be held. All images having received a first, second, third or honorable mention award in any class of any category in one of that year's monthly competitions will be eligible to compete in that category for the image of the year award. For the end-of-the-year competition, it is not necessary that there be more than one participant in any class or category in order for the competition to be held in that class or category.

## **Assignment of Members to Classes**

The two (2) classes of competition are as follows:

Novice for entrants who are relatively inexperienced in still photography in the medium of exhibition or members with moderate experience who feel that they are not ready to compete at a higher level. Entrants may not have competed at the Advanced level during the current competition year.

Advanced, for the more experienced exhibitors.

Any member may elect to exhibit in the Advanced Class. However, upon doing so, the member becomes ineligible to compete in the Novice Class during the current competition year.

At the end of each year, the Vice President for Competition shall determine which members have earned fifteen (15) or more points and at least one first place award in a category. Those members will be promoted to the next higher Class. For advancement purposes, points are accumulated from year to year.

A member who has entered fifty percent or more of the scheduled contests in one year and has not earned any awards at an advanced level may return to the next lower class upon written request to the Director for Competitions and with concurrence of the Board. A member who has entered fifty percent or more of the scheduled contests in two years and has not earned more than two awards at an advanced level may return to the next lower class upon written request to the Director for Competitions and with concurrence of the Board. Any member reverting to a lower level will be promoted to the next higher class upon earning ten (10) or more points at that lower level.

All promotions based on number of points earned take place at the end of the competition year.

## **Awards**

The number of awards given is based on the number of entries in a category. If more than 11 entries are received, additional awards will be Honorable Mention awards. An honorable mention award will be added every five additional entries after the twelfth entry. Entries are unlimited. The table below illustrates, but does not limit, the awards.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> The algorithm for determining the number of honorable mentions to be awarded is: If the number of entries is greater than 11, subtract 7 from number of entries. Divide the

<b>Number of entries</b>	<b>Number of Awards</b>	<b>Awards to be given, if no ties</b>
3– 5	1	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
6 – 8	2	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Places
9 – 11	3	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places
12 – 16	4	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places and (1) Honorable Mention
17 – 21	5	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places and (2) Honorable Mentions
22 – 26	6	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places and (3) Honorable Mentions
27 – 31	7	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places and (4) Honorable Mentions
32 - 36	8	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places and (5) Honorable Mentions
37 - 41	9	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places and (6) Honorable Mentions

### **Point System**

Image competition points will be given based on the number of awards in the category as follows:

- First Place – the number of awards
- Second Place – the number of awards minus one
- Third Place – the number of awards minus two

---

resulting number by 5, ignoring any remainder or fraction. The result is the number of honorable mentions.

- Honorable Mention – the number of awards minus three

For example, if there were 20 entries in a category, the first place winner will receive five points; the second place winner will receive four points; the third place winner will receive three points and each of the winners of the honorable mention will receive two points. Thus, winning in a competition in which there are more entries will increase the number of points awarded.

#### Disqualifications after judging

If an image is disqualified after judging has taken place, the awards and points awarded for all other images remain the same. For example, if there were originally 17 entries in the competition resulting in five awards, the disqualification of an unribboned image does not change the number of awards given., i.e., all other competitors retain their ribbons and the points they were awarded. If the image disqualified is a winner, the awards given other winners in that category do not change. The points are just not awarded to that image. For example, if the image disqualified had received a second place award, the third place winner does NOT receive the points for second place. This is done because there is no ranking within honorable mention awards.

## **Rules for Categories of Competition**

Any images receiving an award may not be reentered in any other category in any subsequent competition in that year or any subsequent year except the end of year competition in the year the award was made.

### **Monochrome Prints**

#### A. Provisions:

1. All prints must be from images photographed by the entrant.
2. All prints must be mounted.
3. The name of the entrant the title of the print and arrows indicating "This End Up" must appear on the back of the print or mount. Entries should have the number corresponding with the number on the sign-up sheet written at the top right near the designation arrow with a circle around it. This can be done in pencil or on tape in order not to mar the back of the image.
4. Neither the name of the maker, nor the title of the print may appear on the face of the print or mount.
5. A mount may contain more than one image, but all of the images on the mount will be judged as a single entry.

6. Any images receiving an award may not be reentered in subsequent monthly competitions in that year or any other year, with the exception of the end of year competition.
7. Entries that are framed, or have attached hardware, or have anything that might cause damage to other images will not be eligible for competition.
8. Neither prints nor mounts may exceed 20 x 30 inches in size.
9. In addition to black and white prints, this category includes images consisting of shades of a single color.

### **Color Prints – NOVICE and ADVANCED**

#### A. Provisions:

Numbers 1 through 8 governing Monochrome Prints will also apply to Color Prints.

### **Digital – NOVICE and ADVANCED**

#### A. Provisions:

1. All images must be original work by entrant.
2. The submitted file may not exceed 1MB.
3. The image may not exceed 1024 pixels horizontally nor 768 pixels vertically in 96 point resolution.

### **Digital – Theme**

#### A. Provisions:

1. All images must be original work by entrant.
2. The submitted file may not exceed 1MB.
3. The image may not exceed 1024 pixels horizontally nor 768 pixels vertically in 96 point resolution.

B. The subject matter for this category will be announced in advance. The judge for the evening will be the final arbiter on whether the image meets the criteria of the theme.

C. There will be no monthly theme category if an overall theme has been assigned that competition night.

## **End of Year Awards**

For the end of the year competition only images that received awards during that competition year will be eligible. There will be no maximum number of entries allowed for any member. All eligible images may be entered. The number of awards in each Class/Category will be determined as in the monthly competitions.

Also to be awarded at the end of the year competition is a "Best of Show" award. All entries, Novice and Advanced, and in all categories will compete on an equal basis for this award.