

Seattle Photographic Society, Inc.

8500 14th Avenue NW Seattle, WA 98117

www.SeattlePhotographic.com

Table of Contents

Governing Body	2	Assignments defined	11
Officers	2	Scoring	12
Dates to Remember	3	Merit Points	13
Assignments	3	People's Choice Points	13
History and Purpose	4	Annual Awards and Appreciation Dinner	14
Official Publication	4	End-of-Year Competitions	15
How to Become a Member	5	Special Award Categories	16
Dues Schedule	5	Interclub Competitions	17
Meetings	6	Transfer of Ranks and Awards	17
Snow Policy	6	Disclaimer	17
Image Entry Rules	7	Membership Directory	18
Image Requirements	7		
Image Preparation	7		
Image Divisions	9		
<i>Print</i>	9		
<i>Projected - Open</i>	9		
<i>Projected - Altered Reality</i>	9		
<i>Projected - Nature</i>	10		

GOVERNING BODY

A board composed of 4 officers and up to 10 directors govern SPS. The board is elected by the membership for a staggered two-year term. Newly elected officers and directors take office on July 1st of each year. All SPS members are welcome to attend board meetings, but only board members may vote. SPS is governed by its by-laws. Members may request a copy of the by-laws from the club secretary.

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Term</u>
President	Sam Ruljancich	2009
Vice President	Robert Rutkin	2009
Secretary	vacant	
Treasurer	Douglas McArthur	2010

Board of Directors

Eugene Collias	2009	John Cornicello	2009
Margret Maria Cordts	2009	Jacque Hodgen	2009

Coordinators

Digital	James Downar
Education	John Cornicello
Membership	Eugene Collias
Newsletter	Sheri Diggins
Print Division	Alan Moodie
Projected Division (1 st Tuesday)	Julee Anne Jackson
Projected Division (4 th Tuesday)	Alicia Richards
Website	

DATES TO REMEMBER

Competition year	May 1 - April 30
Fiscal year (membership dues)	July 1 – June 30
Final acceptance date for End of Year Competitions	3rd Tuesday in May
Annual Meeting / Election of Officers and Board Members	1st Tuesday in June
Annual Awards / Appreciation Dinner	2nd Tuesday in June
Annual Potluck Dinner	1st Tuesday in December

ASSIGNMENTS

More details about assignments will be found on page 12. A detailed definition of each assignment will be provided by email and will also appear in the *Cable Releases*.

Oct. 7, 2008	Open	Low Key
Nov. 18, 2008	Print	Motion Panning
Feb. 3, 2009	Altered Reality	Long Exposures
March 24, 2009	Open	the Arboretum or UW campus
April 28, 2009	Nature	Water in liquid form

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Seattle Photographic Society (SPS) was founded on October 18, 1933 and is dedicated to the advancement of photography both as an art and as a science. SPS aims to help individual members gain a greater enjoyment from their photography, to acquire a technical knowledge of the art, and to encourage a free and unselfish exchange of ideas. Membership includes novices, amateurs, advanced amateurs, and professional photographers.

There is a liberal education in photography awaiting those who are interested. Photographic skills are developed through image critique, discussions, lectures, demonstrations, close association with experienced photographers, and practice. Visitors are always welcome at club meetings.

SPS is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs (NWCCC).

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

The official newsletter of SPS is the *Cable Releases*. It is published monthly and is distributed by the 4th Tuesday of the month. The *Cable Releases* is available in PDF format, for those who want a color edition. Results of the monthly competitions are printed in the newsletter, as are year-end summaries. Articles of photographic interest and a column describing the activities of SPS and its members are frequently included in the *Cable Releases*.

Publication of images

Application for membership authorizes SPS to publish submitted images in the *Cable Releases* and display images for other SPS promotional purposes. The member may revoke this authorization with written notification to the board.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Membership application forms are available from the Secretary, Treasurer or other board member. The application must be accompanied by payment of dues as shown in the Dues Schedule.

DUES SCHEDULE

Individual	\$ 40.00
Joint Membership	\$ 60.00

Dues cover the period from July 1 to June 30 of the next year, and are due by no later than July 31st. Members who are not current in their dues are no longer eligible to submit images, enter competitions or be included in the current membership roster.

Dues for *new* members are pro-rated as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Joint</u>
July 1 to September 30	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.00
October 1 to December 21	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00
January 1 to May 1	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00
May 1 to July 1	\$40.00	\$ 60.00*

*Members who join between May 1 and July 1 pay the full annual dues for the *following* year with the period between May 1st and July 1st included in their membership.

MEETINGS

SPS meetings are held each Tuesday evening at the Crown Hill United Methodist Church, 8500 14th Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117. Free parking is available in the church parking lot.

All meetings will be called to order at 7:30 PM unless otherwise announced. It is suggested that members arrive early to enter their images and to help with set up. Digital images should to be submitted by e-mail *before* the meeting, if possible (*see page 8*).

Meetings are held on Tuesdays of each month as follows:

1st Tuesday	Projected Division
2nd Tuesday	Board Meeting
3rd Tuesday	Print Division
4th Tuesday	Projected Division
5th Tuesday	Education Night

During meetings a commentator will discuss each image and offer constructive criticism. Three judges will evaluate the image and assign a score. The maker will then be allowed to comment. Depending on time available, limited comments from the audience may also be permitted. The audience will vote for one image in each Category for **People's Choice**.

SNOW POLICY

If the Seattle Public Schools announce a school closure for weather conditions for the day SPS meets, SPS WILL NOT meet, REGARDLESS of the weather conditions at the time of the meeting. School closures will be announced on TV and the radio, or you can go to the Seattle Public Schools website www.seattleschools.org/area/main/snow.htm.

MAGE ENTRY RULES

To enter any competition, the individual must be a current member of SPS (i.e. dues paid in full for the fiscal year). A member may enter any competition and need not be present to participate. If there is time, a visiting guest may enter an image for commentary, but no score will be entered for club competition.

Image Requirements

All images *must start* as *actual photographs* taken by the photographer, using either a film or digital camera. The image may not be completely computer generated.

The image must be the sole work of the photographer. Images are not acceptable if they are a *literal* representation of an existing work of art by another artist (a photograph of a painting, for example). If the image *is* of another work of art, but shows lighting, composition, or other such choices beyond those made for the original work, then such images may be allowed. (Examples might include architecture, sculptures or stained glass windows).

Any given image may be submitted only once to a regular SPS meeting unless altered in some way. Alterations can include changing an image from color to monochrome, or from projected to print, for example.

Image Preparation

Slides (Film) are to be mounted in plastic, cardboard or glass with an outside dimension of exactly two inches (5 cm) square and no more than 1/8 inch (3 mm) thick. The slide *must* fit in a carousel tray or it will be rejected.

Digital Images are to be in *jpeg* format and are to be emailed to *digital@seattlephotographic.com* by 5:00 PM the day of the meeting. A few images may be accepted at the meeting, provided they are properly sized and submitted on a CD or USB-readable media. (Please include only one image on the digital media).

The file name is to be as follows:

Maker's name-Category-Title of Image.jpg

John Smith-Open-This is the Place.jpg

The digital image may be either horizontal (landscape) or vertical (portrait). Digital submissions should be no more than 1050 pixels in any given dimension (width or height).

Prints - Prints must be matted or mounted so that they can stand up on their own, but not framed or covered by glass. Each print must fit the following size restrictions:

Print Category sizes:

- *Small Prints* have a minimum print size of 24 square inches (e.g. 4x6 inches) and a maximum size of 96 square inches (e.g. 8x12 inches).
- *Large Prints* have a minimum print size of 80 square inches (e.g. 8x10 inches) and a maximum size of 480 square inches (e.g. 16x30 inches).
- *In the case of multiple images, such as a triptych, add up the total number of square inches per print. For example, three 4 x 6 prints would belong in the Small Category, but three 5 x 7 prints would belong in the Large Category.*
- All prints have a size restriction (including mat) of no smaller than 80 square inches (e.g., 8x10 inches) and no larger than 30 inches wide or 24 inches tall. *Note that an image that is 30 inches wide is restricted to only 16 inches tall, not 24 inches, by the Large Print Category rules.*

IMAGE DIVISIONS

Prints

In the Print Division, a member may submit two images distributed among any of the four Categories of Small Color, Large Color, Small Monochrome, or Large Monochrome. Monochrome is defined as one color (plus white), and includes traditional black and white images, sepia toned images, or images with any other *single* color (*see page 8 for sizing details*).

Prints may be made using wet chemistry, printed by computer or commercially prepared. There are no restrictions on subject matter or manipulation.

Projected

In the Projected Division, a member may submit one image into any of the three Categories of Open, Altered Reality, or Nature.

Open –There are no restrictions on subject matter, technique, or type or amount of digital editing for this Category as long as it meets the basic requirements for all submitted images. (*see page 7*)

As this is the broadest Category, there may be some images that overlap with the other two Projected Categories.

Altered Reality - includes any image in which the subject has been altered to produce a special effect not found naturally. The final image is characterized by the originality and expressiveness of the maker to alter reality. The final image is no longer a natural, recorded-as-is subject *and would not normally be viewed as a natural image*. Any amount or type of digital editing is allowed, but the image may not be computer generated.

Nature - Nature photography includes the world of living things and the outdoors, apart from mankind. Nature and the natural world *must* be the subject of the image. *Obvious* man-made elements should be avoided.

In order to more closely match what we can see with our eyes, multiple images may be combined to extend the range of tone, depth of field, or angle of view of what the camera can capture. Such combinations must be limited to images of the same scene taken within moments of each other, and maintain the appearance of the original scene.

Some basic editing can be done, including cropping, and moderate use of color, contrast and saturation adjustments, sharpening, dodging and burning and removal of scratches or dust spots. But overall the image should remain an accurate representation of the colors and scene that existed when the image was made.

Telling a nature story and remaining true to it are important goals to keep in mind for this Category.

Acceptable

- *Non-domesticated* animals in natural, zoo, and aquarium settings
- Flowers and plants - both cultivated and hybrid allowed
- Landscapes with no obvious human elements visible
- Slow shutter speeds - in order to capture moving water, for example

Not Acceptable (*subject matter restrictions*)

- *Domesticated* animals and pets - cows, horses, goats, cats, dogs, birds, etc.
- Cut flowers or arrangements.
- Agricultural scenes such as the Palouse, fields of tulips or lavender, etc.
- Man-made elements such as buildings, roads, or fences
- People

Not Acceptable (*technique restrictions*)

- Any editing or manipulation beyond that listed, including sandwiched slides, and digital manipulation
 - Borders around the image
 - Infrared images
 - Monochrome images
-

If the Division Coordinator determines that an image does not meet the qualifications for the Category it is entered into, the image will be moved to the appropriate Category.

If for any reason a submitted image is not shown, and it is the fault of SPS, the member will be allowed to resubmit the image, in the same Category, at the next meeting for that Category. Thus the member may have more than the usual number of images allowed for that night. When resubmitting an image for this purpose, clearly mark it so that the Division Coordinator can be notified by the person who **collects the images. All images will count for that evening's awards and for the End-of-Year totals.**

ASSIGNMENTS

The purpose of an assignment is to foster technical and creative growth. These optional assignments are specific subject themes or techniques assigned by the SPS Board. It is preferable, but not necessary, that the images be made during the current competition year. In preparing the image, the assigned subject theme *must* be the dominant theme of the image. The assigned images will be judged on the best presentation of the assigned subject.

On a Print Assignment Night, the member may submit *two* prints, but only one as an assignment, and one into any of the regular Print Categories. Two non-assignment prints may not be entered.

On a Projected Assignment Night, a member may submit only *one* image. The image may either be entered into the Category that has an Assignment, or into either of the other two Projected Categories. For example, if the Assignment is in the Open Category, only Assignment images may be entered into that Category that night. Non-assignment images may be entered into the Nature or Altered Reality Categories that night.

The specific requirements for each assignment will be described in detail in advance. The image presented for the assignment must comply with the definition of the assignment and with any Category restrictions. If, by consensus of the judges, an image does not conform to the assignment theme, it will be disqualified. Any disqualified image may be resubmitted on a non-assignment night, or **moved to one of the other Categories. This year's Assignments are listed on page 3.**

SCORING

Images entered in competition will usually be judged by three SPS members. Occasionally an outside expert photographer may be invited for commentary or judging.

Judges score entries by considering each image for Impact or Interest, Composition and Technical Excellence.

Each of the judges awards up to 15 points for a given image. The *Total Score* for a particular image is the sum of the judge's scores, up to a maximum of 45 points.

Judges do not score their own work. In this case, the score for the judge is 1.5 times the *total score* awarded by the other two judges, rounded up to the nearest whole number.

The Division Coordinators keep track of each member's scores for each Category. At the end of the year, a report of all these scores and accumulated totals is published in the *Cable Releases*.

Merit Points

Print Division - one Merit Point is awarded to the maker of the image in each Category that receives 1st place and scores 40 points or above. Tied winners will all receive one Merit Point.

Projected Division - one Merit Point is awarded to the makers of the images in each Category that receive 1st and 2nd place and score 39 or above. There may be multiple 1st and 2nd place winners, and all will receive one Merit Point.

People's Choice Points

Everyone present on competition nights may vote for one image in each Category which he or she considers to be the best image in that Category. A member may not vote for their own image.

The images receiving the most votes will receive a People's Choice Point. In the event of a tie, all tying images will receive one People's Choice Point.

A ANNUAL AWARDS / APPRECIATION BANQUET

Awards and certificates are presented at the *Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet* held on the 2nd Tuesday of June of each year. A Distinguished Service Award may be presented to some deserving member.

Types of Certificates awarded to members include:

MERIT AWARD

A *Merit Award Certificate* is presented each time a member accumulates 5 Merit Points within a Division (Print) or Category (Projected). Merit Points accumulate over the lifetime of the member.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

A ***People's Choice Certificate*** is presented each time a member accumulates 5 People's Choice Points within a Division (Print) or Category (Projected). People's Choice Points accumulate over the lifetime of the member.

TOTAL POINTS ACCUMULATED

Each member's scores are totaled in each Category. The members with the highest 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place scores in each Category will receive a certificate. (*Ties are possible*).

HONORS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Honors Achievement Award was created to acknowledge photographers whose image scores consistently *average* 39.0 and above. Each Division calculates the scores for this award differently.

In the Print Division the 10 *highest scores* are averaged across the Division as a whole - all of the Categories are included into one average.

In the Projected Division the 8 *highest scores* are averaged in each separate Category of Open, Altered Reality, and Nature.

Those receiving the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd highest average annual scores *above 39.0* will receive a certificate. (*Ties are possible*). Everyone else who qualifies for the award will be acknowledged at the banquet and in the *Cable Releases*, but will not receive a certificate.

In addition, certificates are also awarded in the END OF YEAR COMPETITIONS and SPECIAL AWARD CATEGORIES:

END OF YEAR COMPETITIONS

At the end of the competition year, each member may enter images which were submitted during the current competition year to compete for End-of-Year awards. Each member is encouraged to enter these competitions.

Entries must be the same size and medium (print, slide or digitally projected) as the original entry and entered into the same original Category - Print (Small Color, Large Color, Small Monochrome, Large Monochrome) or Projected (Open, Altered Reality, or Nature.)

A member may submit *two (2)* Open Images, *two (2)* Altered Reality Images, *two (2)* Nature Images and *four (4)* Prints. The prints may be distributed among the four Print Categories as the member desires.

The images are judged by persons outside SPS and the results are announced at the *Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet*. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place images will be awarded certificates. The images that receive Honorable Mention will be acknowledged at the banquet and in the *Cable Releases*, but will not receive certificates.

From these winning images the judges will choose the *Projected Image of the Year* and the *Print of the Year*.

SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES

In addition, members can also enter images into the Special Awards Categories. Entries submitted for these awards need not be shown or accepted during the current competition year, and are eligible for future regular competitions. No image may be used in more than one Special Award Category. Winners will receive a monetary award.

Each member may enter one print and one projected image into each of the following Special Awards Categories:

<u>Category</u>	<u>In honor of</u>
Travel	<i>The Andersons</i>
Originality	
Design (patterns)	<i>Florence Turner</i>
Frost (<i>and/ or</i>)	<i>Howard and Sadie Wilder</i>
Snow	<i>George Manwaring</i>
Macro (<i>projected only</i>)	<i>Millie Kellie</i>
Zoo (<i>print only</i>)	<i>Richard I. Birchfield</i>

I INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS

Interclub competitions are sponsored by NWCCC and by PSA, a national organization fostering photographic excellence among its individual members and camera clubs throughout the country. All members are encouraged to enter these competitions, and are urged to submit their best works for these activities. Competitions will be announced at various meetings and in the *Cable Releases*.

T RANSFER OF RANKS AND AWARDS

Ranks and awards given by the Seattle Photographic Society are not transferable to any other photographic club or for standings in the Photographic Society of America. Likewise, ranks and awards received while a member of another photographic club are not transferable to SPS.

D ISCLAIMER

All possible care will be taken to safeguard the slides, prints, and digital media submitted to any SPS sponsored event or other competition. However, SPS and those persons assigned to handle the entries will not assume responsibility for loss or damage to entries while in their possession or while in transit to or from the various competitions.

E NDOWMENT FUND

SPS established an endowment fund in 1992 to support the continued activity of SPS. All gifts must be unrestricted in their use. Contact the treasurer for more details.

This handbook is dedicated to all those individuals who have found enjoyment in photography through their membership in SPS. This handbook is for use by club members only unless prior approval has been obtained from the Board of Directors.

Prepared by Sheri Diggins, with help and input from Sam Ruljancich, Alicia Richards, and Jim Downar.