

Supplement to 2006-2007 N4C Handbook and Directory

Digital Pictorial Slides --Provisional Rules

OVERVIEW OF NEW DIGITAL TRIAL CONTEST

1. This contest is for digital images based on the definition of "Pictorial Photography". Entries are to be submitted in digital jpg format and they will be projected on a screen for judging.
2. During the 2006-2007 Trial Period for this new contest, all general rules apply with the exception that NO POINTS will be awarded toward Clubs of the Year or Photographer of the Year.
3. The yearlong trial period will be used to learn and refine the electronic system for recording entries and results of judging.
4. Suggestions and evaluation of the contest should be directed to the Contest Chair, Ken Johnson at kandsjohnson@mchsi.com.

RULES

1. **General** -- All the General Rules of Section J of the N4C Handbook and Directory apply (excluding points during the trial period). Also, the method of naming image files eliminates the use of entry forms for this contest.
2. **Theme** -- Digital imaging based on the definition of "Pictorial Photography" in the N4C Handbook.
3. **Entrant's Work** -- Entries must originate as photographs (image captures of objects via light sensitivity) made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or acquired digitally. Images from a digital camera or scanned from film taken by the entrant are allowed. By submitting an entry, the entrant certifies the work as their own and permits the N4C to reproduce all or part of the entered material. This may include low resolution posting on a web site.
4. **Image Format** -- Image files must be in JPG file format. Saving your JPG file using Adobe sRGB color space standard is recommended for consistent color under the projection conditions used for judging the contest.
5. **Image Size** -- Maximum image width (horizontal) is 1024 pixels. Maximum image height (vertical) is 768 pixels. Smaller images are acceptable. Please keep file size to no more than 500 KB.
6. **Naming Your Image Files** -- Example: 01,CE028,DP,Beautiful Sunset.JPG
Following this naming convention is vital as this information takes the place of any further entry forms.
 - a. 01, = to be used on all entries. It may be changed later and used to sequence the judging. The N4C Contact of the entrant's camera club will use this number to sequentially number the filenames being submitted -- normally from 01 up to 08.
 - b. CE028, = entrant's personal N4C Member Number. : (CE is the designation of the entrant's camera club -- See the section on "N4C Member Numbers" later in this Supplement; 028, = entrant's personal ID Number within their club assigned by the entrant's camera club. Get a personal ID Number from the N4C Contact of the entrant's camera club)
 - c. DP, = the contest category (Digital Pictorial for this contest)
 - d. Beautiful Sunset = the entrant's title for the image.
 - e. JPG = the file extension indicating the format of the file (.jpg)
 - f. Commas are used to populate the electronic record keeping system for tracking and judging..

ENTERING THE CONTEST

1. Entrants are to send their digital image entries (jpg files -- sent preferably by Email based on the rules above), to their own club N4C Contact who is responsible for the N4C Digital Contests. The N4C Contact will consolidate all the entries from their club and forward them to the month's Digital Contest judging club.

CLUB N4C CONTACT RESPONSIBILITY

1. **Encourage participation** by club members.
2. **Member Numbers.** Assign and maintain a list of Member Numbers for club members. See the section on "N4C Member Numbers" later in this Supplement.
3. **Send Member Numbers to N4C.** Periodically, send an updated list of member numbers to the N4C Digital Contest Chair for identifying contest entries.
4. **Collect monthly entries** from club members and verify that they qualify under the contest rules.
5. **Change the Sequence Number** (first two digits) in the image filename of each member's entry to number the club entries to run from 01 up to 08 (or up to 16 when the general rules allow double entries). See section above on "Naming Your Image Files"
6. **Emailing of Files by Club N4C Contact**-- The images may be sent to the monthly N4C Judging Club Contest Chair one-at-a-time, or in groups provided the group does not exceed 10 MB. One transmission rather than individual transmissions is preferable. Sending files by Email is preferred, however files by CD are acceptable if received by the 15th of the month.

7. Content of the Email Message:

- a. Subject Line of the Email should say “N4C Contest Entries”.
- b. Specify which monthly contest and how many images are attached to the Email.
- c. List the Member Numbers and corresponding member names to ensure that the Judging Club has that information. See the section on “N4C Member Numbers” later in this Supplement.
- d. Give the Club Name and your full name.
- e. Attach the image files

N4C MEMBER NUMBERS

Member Number assignment is the responsibility of each Club’s N4C Contact. A system of Member Numbers will simplify and reduce errors in identifying and tracking contest entries and points. Member Numbers must be used for all Digital Slide contest entries as a concise and consistent way of identifying the camera club and entrant. The judges may see image filenames and this coded number prevents recognition of entrants and clubs by name. Member Numbers may ultimately offer record keeping advantages to all contests.

Member Number Format – Example: CE028

The Member Number will identify the N4C club as well as the individual club member.

- CE = the Club Code of the entrant’s camera club – See the N4C Handbook & Directory.
- 028 = entrant’s ID Number assigned sequentially by the entrant’s camera club.

Master Member Number List

The Club N4C Contact will maintain their club list of Member Number assignments that will include Member Name, Address, Phone Number, and Email address.

The Club N4C Contact will Email (preferably on a spreadsheet form to be supplied by N4C) all revisions of Member Number assignments to the Digital Contest Chair who will maintain the Master Member Number List.

CLUB CODES

Club Code	Club Name	Location
AA	Ames Camera Club	Ames, IA
AE	Albert Lea Lens & Shutter Photography Club	Albert Lea, MN
AJ	Anamosa Camera Club	Anamosa, IA
BA	Boone Y Camera Club	Boone, IA
CA	Cheyenne Camera Club	Cheyenne, WY
CE	Central Iowa Camera Club	Marshalltown, IA
CJ	Cedar Rapids Camera Club	Cedar Rapids, IA
CN	Color Shooters Camera Club	Moline, IL
DA	Dubuque Camera Club	Dubuque, IA
DE	Des Moines Camera Club	Des Moines, IA
DJ	Duluth-Superior Camera Club	Duluth, MN
FA	Fort Dodge Camera Club	Fort Dodge, IA
FE	Fargo-Moorhead Camera Club	Fargo, ND
GA	Grand Island Camera Club	Grand Island, NE
HA	Huron Area Photography Club	Huron, SD
HE	Heart O’Lakes Camera Club	Fergus Falls, MN
MM	Individual Member	
JA	Iowa City Camera Club	Iowa City, IA
KA	Kaposia Kamera Club	So. St. Paul, MN

Club Code	Club Name	Location
LE	La Crosse Area Camera Club	La Crosse, WI
LJ	Lamar Camera Club	Lamar, MO
LN	Lidgerwood Camera Club	Lidgerwood, ND
LR	Lincoln Camera Club	Lincoln, NE
LW	Linn Area Photo Club	Cedar Rapids, IA
MA	Minot Camera Club	Minot, ND
ME	Mitchell Camera Club	Mitchell, SD
MJ	Minnesota Valley Photography Club	Burnsville, MN
NA	North Metro Photo Club	Fridley, MN
NE	Omaha Camera Club	Omaha, NE
RA	RV Digital Camera Club	Dewar, IA
SA	Shutterbug Camera Club	Burlington, IA
SE	Sioux City Camera Club	Sioux City, IA
SK	Sioux Falls Camera Club	Sioux Falls, SD
SN	Saint Paul Camera Club	St. Paul, MN
TA	Topeka Camera Club	Topeka, KS
TE	TCI Camera Club	Bagley, IA
UA	Upper Missouri Camera Club	Williston, ND
WA	Wichita Area Camera Club	Wichita, KS
WE	Wyandotte Camera Club	Kansas City, KS
WJ	Women’s Color Photo Club	Minneapolis, MN

JUDGING CLUBS –REQUIREMENTS FOR DIGITAL SLIDE CONTESTS

The N4C Digital Slide Contest will require preparation by the judging club, primarily in learning the electronic software to record entries and the results of judging. The use of electronic record keeping will, however, reduce the overall effort to keep records when compared to other N4C contests. The N4C Digital Slide Contest Chair will give the judging clubs an Excel spreadsheet form to automate many of the record keeping tasks (easily utilizing preprogrammed macro buttons on the form). Also a Word document uses "Mail Merge" to summarize the results from the spreadsheet for sending to the entrants. The judging club must complete a successful test of the judging software at least one month prior to the contest. The software system is also available to clubs for use in local club contests. Contact the N4C Digital Contest Chair for further information with screen-prints of the software applications.

1. Software Requirements:

- Image Viewing Software
- Microsoft Excel, spreadsheet software (version 2000 or later recommended) or 100% compatible.
- Microsoft Word, word processing software.
- Utility to generate a text file listing of image filenames in a directory or folder.
- Email service capable of receiving image files, and communicating contest results

2. Hardware Requirements:

- Digital Projector (resolution should be XGA – native 1024x768 pixels or better) & Screen
- Laptop Computers - two are strongly recommended for efficiency; one for image projection, and another for tabulating results on a spreadsheet. Both Windows PC and Macintosh are supported.

3. Image Viewing Software Requirements:

Digital Slides are to be judged by projection on a screen (not on a computer monitor). Computer software used to display the images will meet the following requirements:

- a. Be compatible with a digital projector
- b. Show images full screen within the bounds of 1024x768 or the projector standard.
- c. Black background for areas not filled by the image
- d. No visible software window borders, no buttons, no cursors, no filenames visible while judging a given entry. In other words only the image on a black background will be on the screen.
- e. No Photographer name or club name shall be displayed or communicated to the judges during the judging.
- f. Capability to select individual slides for viewing (example - to see several slides to break tied scores)
- g. The quality of the image (color and sharpness) on the projection screen should be very close to its appearance on a good computer screen.

The entries for a contest class will all be in a single directory or folder to be sorted in alphanumeric sequence by filename.

Possibilities for viewing software include (additions to this list are welcomed):

Mac platform

- iPhoto
- osX10.4.3 "view as a slide show"

Windows PC's

- XP option to "View as a Slide Show"
- Picasa (Free from Google at <http://picasa.google.com/>)
- PicPerk (an older version is free to distribute and adequate for this use).

4. **Supplies.** Obtain the Award Ribbons, Excel Spreadsheet and Word forms with instructions from the Digital Slide Contest Chair.

5. Entry and Judging Process Flow

- a. Receive entries from clubs and reply with Email to sender confirming that images were received.
- b. Save them to a single folder or directory on a computer.
- c. Transfer the image filenames to the judging computer's spreadsheet, and the image files to the projecting computer.
- d. Judge the contest and Email the CLUBS results to the club N4C Contacts.
- e. Mail N4C Ribbon Awards to the club N4C Contact for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & HM winners.
- f. Mail a Judges Report to the Contest Chair, Contest Recording Chair, and N4C Bulletin Editor by the 26th of the contest month.
- g. Email the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & HM image files and final judging spreadsheet to the DIGITAL CONTEST CHAIR.