

Coastal Camera Club

Introduction to Competition

Ways to Improve your Photography



- Take more photographs more often and review them for strengths and weaknesses. Work on both.
- Look at many photographs and consider how they were made
- Explore different photography genres, they develop new skills and improve established skills
- Interact with other photographers at all skill levels
- Create projects or themes and work at making images
- Find subjects or locations that inspire you

Benefits of Monthly Competitions



- Seeing the work other members are producing.
- Seeing new or different aspects of photography and expanding your own vision.
- Share images from Special Interest Group (SIG) participation.
- Share images from your own projects or interests.
- Asking judges to comment on images to gain from their point of view and experience.
- Hear members discuss images and lessons learned.
- Get to know other members during the premeeting open discussion.
- Experience club competitions to develop for other competitions and exhibitions.
 - Photographic Society of America (PSA), Friends of Henlopen, Inland Bays

Competition Levels



Levels provide and understanding for judges, SIG Leaders and other members on how to assist members.

- **Level 1** - Photographers who are learning camera operation, compositional approaches, and new to post processing.
- **Level 2** - Photographers with an understanding of camera operations and situational camera settings. Versed in compositional approaches. Experienced in post processing with an understanding of global and local adjustments.
- **Level 3** - Photographers utilizing the full level of camera capabilities, consistently compose and produce post process images of an elevated level. Very experienced in submitting skillfully prepared images.
- Members can only change level after the competition year is complete. Level 1 & 2 members are reviewed for elevation at the end of the year.
- Competition team can assist in level assignment by discussion and image reviews

Competition Approach



- Competitions occur monthly from September to April.
- Competition are via Zoom and Digital Images
- Zoom opens at 6:00 pm for open discussion.
- Competition starts to 6:30 and recorded for member viewing from the website.
- Images are presented by Competition Level and Category
- Competition is competed by 7:30.
- Judges are available for questions and comments after all images have been presented.

Competition Categories



Open Color – Images of any color subject, Monochromatic not allowed

Multi-Scape – Landscape photography involves capturing an image that embodies the spirit and the beauty of the outdoors. Multi-Scapes broadens the traditional definition of landscape photography to include images of the sea, sky, skylines and much more. Multi-Scape photography can include but not be limited to the following topics of Seascapes, Natural or grand landscapes, Nightscapes, Star Trails, Intimate Landscapes, Sunset and Sunrise, and Cityscape, Urban Scape, Architectural, as examples)

Open Mono – Images in monochromatic (B&W) or have Sepia (colors of browns) or Cyanotype (bluish colors)

Assigned Pictorial – Color or Monochromatic and meets the Assigned Pictorial image “TOPIC” of the competition month. Assignments for the monthly competition season are on the Main Website under Competition

Creative Artistry – Images must represent an altered reality, meaning an image is noticeably different from a scene normally viewed through a camera lens. These images should display skill in imagination and originality.

Open Wildlife – Emphasis on authentic wildlife photography and ethical treatment of animals. The welfare of the animal always comes before creating a photograph. What qualifies: Wildlife photographed free and unrestrained in natural habitats or places they have naturally chosen to live.

How to Evaluate Your Own Images



Probably the MOST difficult thing to do in photography

CCC Main Site / Competitions / How to Evaluate Your Own Images

Best Approaches

- Join a Special Interest Group – All share images in some way
- Join Monthly Speakers Zoom
- Submit Images to the Critique Zoom (NEW)
- Find a mentor(s)
- Take many images, find your interest areas, build on success, work on weaknesses.
- Remember Digital Film is Free – Shoot Shoot Shoot BUT Review

General Rules (Highlights)



- All elements need to be the photographer's own work.
Except for Assigned Pictorial, see rules.
- Vignettes are allowed.
- Borders/digital frames are not allowed except a thin white border may be added to separate the background of a dark image and the boundaries of an image from the black background of the competition software.
- The final image must begin with an original image or series of images that were captured or made by the maker either digitally or on film.

Competition Judging



- Competitions have three judges who are all members of the club.
- Competition judge training is performed as a SIG and is a multi year commitment
- Judges provide a score for each image and the three scores are summed to a total score.
- Judges do not know the photographer OR the Competition Level.
“Blind Scoring”
- Judging is offering on **opinion** of an image based on many factors, some factors can weigh heavier than other based on the image.
- Judges who recognize an image to a member must score a zero, total score is based on the average of scoring judges
- Judges who see potential rules violation or images not meeting a theme will score downward.

Competition Scoring



5.0-5.5 - Score is considered a "baseline" score, the one that separates the acceptable from the unacceptable.

6.0-6.5 - Good solid image. The image is technically correct and more. The elements of the image work together. If there are flaws, they are minor and compensated for by other elements in the image.

7.0-7.5 - Effective image that exemplifies skillful understanding of photographic principles (composition, presentation of subject) and use of technique to convey an effective message without any significant flaws.

8.0-8.5 - This is a very strong image. This image is technically correct and much more. The elements of the image must work together. If there are flaws, they are minor and hard to find.

9.0 - This image demonstrates true photographic excellence.

Competition Awards



- Awards are for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place
- Awards are by competition level and by competition category
- Awards can be a tie and receive multiple place awards in a level and category
- Award Minimum Scores
 - 1st Place 22 points
 - 2nd Place 20 points
 - 3rd Place 18 points

Monthly Competition Schedule



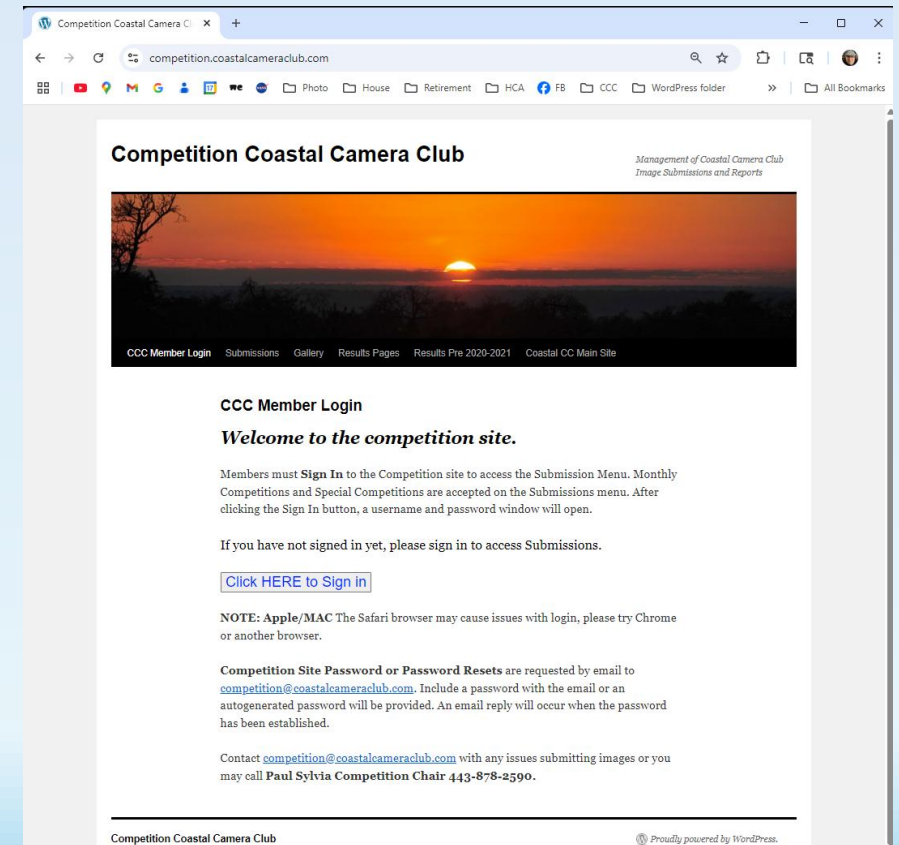
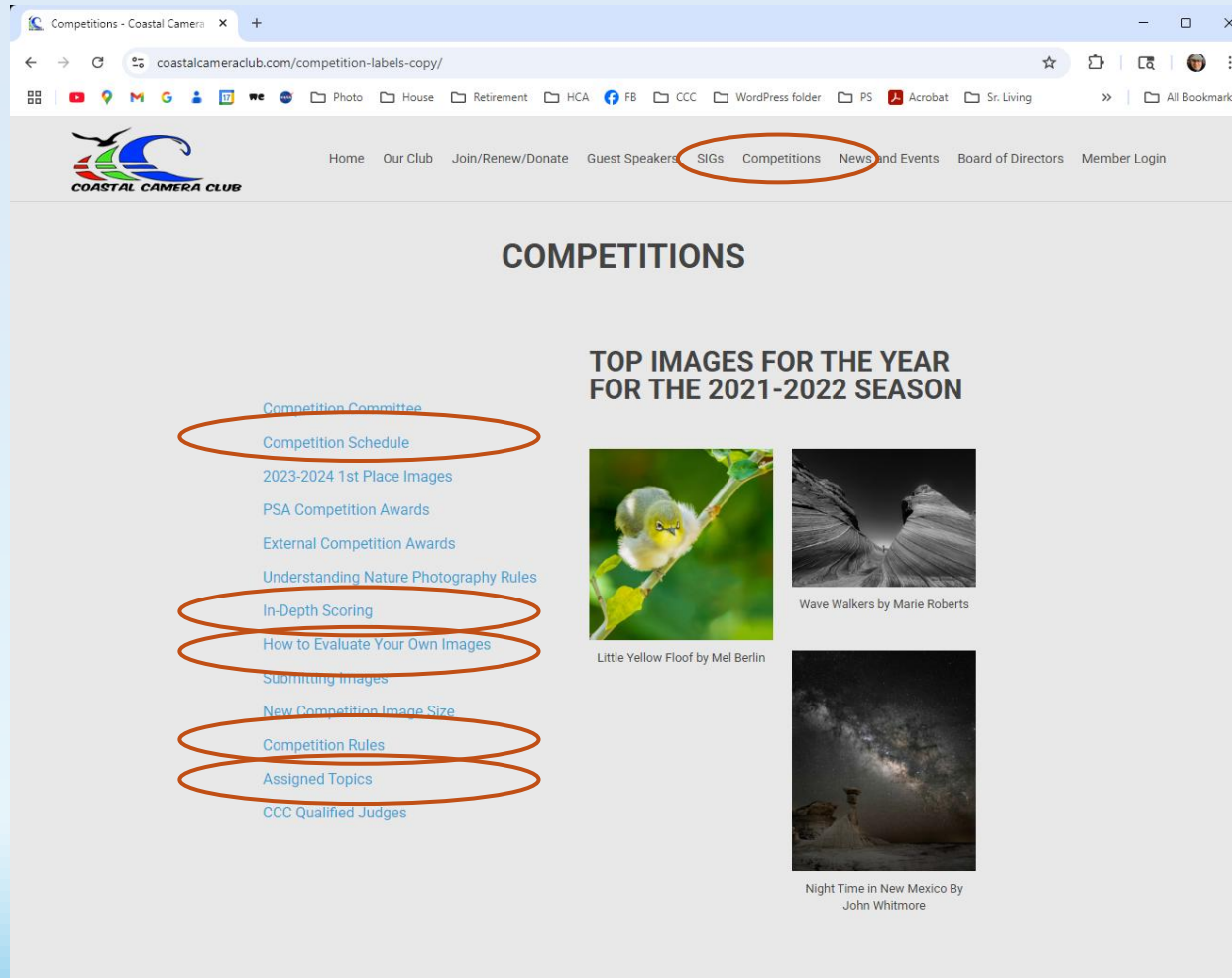
- Upload Site Opening is announced to all members by emails
- Competition upload reminder emails to members occurs 3 times
 - **Upload Deadline** is by midnight on the Wednesday prior to competition
- Competition zoom link email occurs 2 Times
 - Competition nights are the 4th Wednesday of the month except for November is the 3rd Wednesday and December is the 2nd Wednesday
- Competition zoom schedule and link on Members Only Site
- Upload EARLY and allow for changes or Issues
- Competition Review Committee on morning after upload deadline
 - Questions or issues on members images must be resolved ASAP
- Competition Judges receive images Thursday Afternoon

Competition Website Page



Main Coastal Camera Club Site / Competitions Page
coastalcameraclub.com

Competition Site is separate from the main Coastal Camera Club Site
competition.coastalcameraclub.com



Competition Submissions - Login



competition.coastalcameraclub.com

Competition Coastal Camera ClubManagement of Coastal Camera Club
Image Submissions and Reports

[CCC Member Login](#) [Submissions](#) [Gallery](#) [Results Pages](#) [Results Pre 2020-2021](#) [Coastal CC Main Site](#)

CCC Member Login

Welcome to the competition site.

Members must **Sign In** to the Competition site to access the Submission Menu. Monthly Competitions and Special Competitions are accepted on the Submissions menu. After clicking the Sign In button, a username and password window will open.

If you have not signed in yet, please sign in to access Submissions.

[Click HERE to Sign in](#)

NOTE: Apple/MAC The Safari browser may cause issues with login, please try Chrome or another browser.

Competition Site Password or Password Resets are requested by email to competition@coastalcameraclub.com. Include a password with the email or an autogenerated password will be provided. An email reply will occur when the password has been established.

Contact competition@coastalcameraclub.com with any issues submitting images or you may call **Paul Sylvia Competition Chair 443-878-2590**.

Competition Coastal Camera Club

Proudly powered by WordPress.

Username – Same as CCC Main Site
Password – Competition Site Specific
Request Password from
competition@coastalcameraclub.com
Administrator can set any password requested by email

Username or Email Address

Password

☐ Remember Me

Log In

Lost your password?

[← Back to Competition Coastal Camera Club](#)

Competition Submissions - Upload



After Login returns to competition page select – Submissions from menu bar
Competition form will open with a successful login

Successful Upload – Refresh page to double check
Member can Add, Change or Delete images

File name should match Title

New competition maximum image size is 2880 pixels Wide and 1920 pixels High.

Regular Competition Form

*Title	*Image File	*Comp Type
	Choose File No file chosen	
	Choose File No file chosen	

Each month a member may submit up to two images, with no more than one image per category.

Rule: Maximum image size may not exceed 2880 pixels on the horizontal or 1920 pixels on the vertical. The minimum image size may not be less than 800 pixels on the longest side.

[Competition-Image-Size-Help](#)

Landscape images may have a long edge of up to 2880 pixels or less. When using certain aspect ratios, exporting a landscape long edge of 2880 pixels may exceed the maximum vertical size of 1920 pixels. If the image exceeds 1920 pixels vertically change the export to short edge to 1920 pixels.

Portrait or Square images can be exported with a long edge of 1920 pixels or less.

Lightroom export setting Image Size By selecting **Width & Height** and setting measurement to **Pixels** the exported image will automatically establish the largest image possible without exceeding either dimension constraints of 2880x1920.

Always use an image viewer to check exported image size and quality.

Images with significant cropping may result in an export less than the maximum size. Smaller images are allowed unless the long edge is less than 800 pixels. If an image is too small there are two options. The first option is to crop less of the image making it larger. The second option is to uncheck the Don't Enlarge box and see if the resized image is acceptable. The export image size can be reduced to achieve the best result possible.

The competition site will reject uploaded images not meeting required dimensions. The image size remains at a maximum of 3MB. If the image is too large under the export files settings reduce the quality level slider and export again. *Uploading two large images at the same time may result in a 3MB overage error, if so upload them individually.*

Additional Support Documents:

[Competition-Rule-Changes-2024-2025](#)

[CCC-Competition-Schedule-2024-2025](#)

Title	Image File	Comp Type
Tribute to Our Heros	 Tribute_to_Our_Heros.jpg	Open Color
Mom's Watering Can	 Mom_s_Watering_Can.jpg	Open Mono

Competition Upload Information



Each month a member may submit up to two images, with no more than one image per category.

Rule: Maximum image size may not exceed 2880 pixels on the horizontal or 1920 pixels on the vertical. The minimum image size may not be less than 800 pixels on the long edge.

Competition-Image-Size-Help – **Hypertext Link**

Landscape images may have a long edge of up to 2880 pixels or less. When using certain aspect ratios, exporting a landscape long edge of 2880 pixels may exceed the maximum vertical size of 1920 pixels. If the image exceeds 1920 pixels vertically change the export to short edge to 1920 pixels.

Portrait or Square images can be exported with a long edge of 1920 pixels or less.

Lightroom export setting image Size by selecting Width & Height and setting measurement to Pixels the exported image will automatically establish the largest image possible without exceeding either dimension constraints of 2880×1920.

Always use an image viewer to check exported image size and quality.

Images with significant cropping may result in an export less than the maximum size. Smaller images are allowed unless the long edge is less than 800 pixels. If an image is too small there are two options. The first option is to crop less of the image making it larger. The second option is to uncheck the Don't Enlarge box and see if the resized image is acceptable. The export image size can be reduced to achieve the best result possible.

The competition site will reject images exceeding allowed dimensions. The image size remains at a maximum of 3MB. If the image is too large under the export files settings reduce the quality level slider and export again. Uploading two large images at the same time may result in a 3MB overage error, if so upload them individually.

Competition Image Size Help



Coastal Camera Club

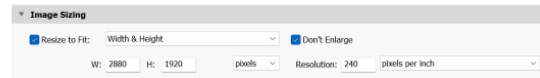
Competition Image Size 2880 x 1920

Rule: *Maximum image size may not exceed 2880 pixels on the horizontal or 1920 pixels on the vertical. The minimum image size may not be less than 800 pixels on the longest side.*

Consider the 2880 pixels Wide and 1920 pixels High as a box you image can't exceed. The image can be smaller in any dimension unless a side is less than 800 pixels.

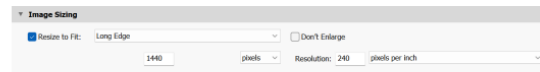
Using Lightroom Export by selecting **resize to fit as Width & Height** makes image resizing automatic. Set **W to 2880** (width) and **H to 1920** (height). Select measurement as **Pixels**. Click the box **Don't Enlarge** and review the exported image. Image Lightroom will not allow either dimension to be exceeded and will retain the original aspect ratio of your image. The exported image will automatically establish the largest image possible without enlarging and exceeding either dimension. Always review exported images for quality and pixel size.

Lightroom export setting using Width & Height



If the exported image is too small to meet the minimum long edge of 800 pixels try allowing Lightroom to enlarge the image. Exported images too small is usually a result of over cropping an image. Images can be enlarged using Lightroom export. When enlarging an image always review quality by viewing the exported image. To enlarge an image select **Resize to Fit as Long Edge**. **Uncheck the Don't Enlarge** box. Start with the lowest pixel size of 800 and export. Review the image for quality. If the quality is acceptable try adjusting the enlargement by increments as 800, 1200, or 1400 pixels. Review the images an use the best acceptable image.

Lightroom export setting using Long Edge



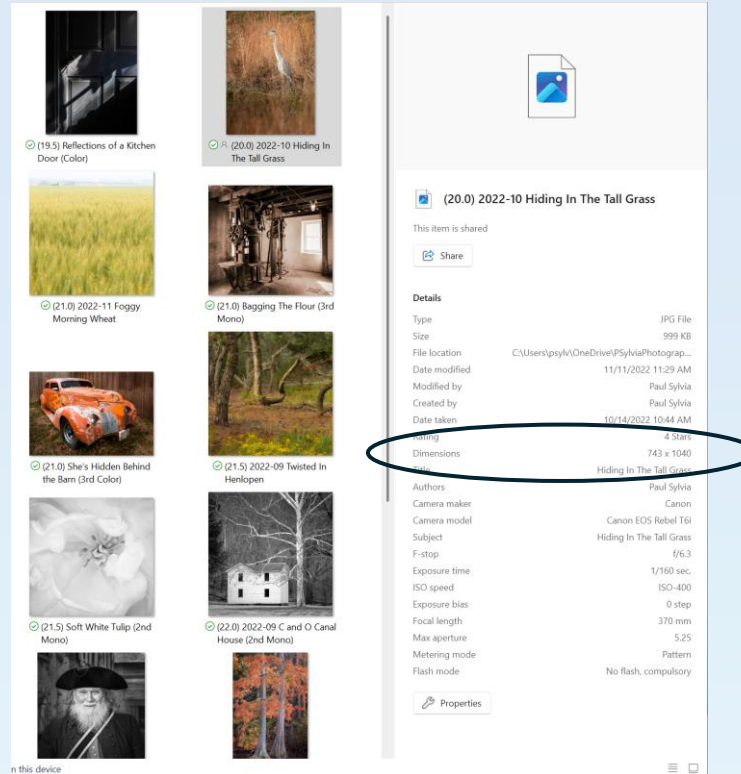
Note: When exporting in Pixels the Resolution setting doesn't have an impact. Resolution only applies when specifying an exported image in inches or centimeters.

Alternatives to using **resize to fit as Width & Height** is to export using **Resize to Fit as Long Edge**. When exporting by Long Edge be sure to review the exported images dimensions to assure both size limitations are met. Think of the 2880 W X 1920 H as a frame and

Landscape images may have a long edge of up to 2880 pixels or less. When using certain aspect ratios, exporting a landscape long edge of 2880 may exceed the maximum vertical size of 1920 pixels. If the image exceeds the vertical limit of 1920 pixels reduce the size of the long edge from 2880 pixels.

Portrait or Square images can be exported with a long edge of 1920 pixels or less.

Always use a image viewer to check exported image size and quality.



Images must FIT inside the frame and not exceed any dimension:

2880 Pixels Wide
1920 Pixels High

Web page will provide Error Message

If any side exceeds Pixel Length or Height

If long edge is less than 800 Pixels

If image exceed 3MB upload size limit

Best Approach – Upload one image at a time with large images

Competition Committee



We are here to help

- Provide Guidance on Rules
- Resolve competition image issues and problems
- Offer insight on categories
- Assist with uploads

We want to join competitions, learn more about photography, and feel welcome.