

PSA and its Divisions & NWCCC

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PSA (Photographic Society of America)

Our club is a longtime member of this worldwide photography organization. We actively participate in various functions offered by PSA. For the interclub competitions (which are international), YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE AN INDIVIDUAL PSA MEMBER! Please access the PSA website at www.psa-photo.org and click “Divisions” for “Color Projected Image Division”, “Nature Division”, “Photojournalism Division”, “Photo Travel Division”, “Electronic Imaging Division”, or other divisions for information. Then scroll and click on the “Club Competitions: for the complete details!

A. Color Projected Image Division (CPID).

PSA ICIC (Interclub Image Competition) projected images may be either SLIDES or DIGITAL (the slide and digital competitions are run separately by PSA). Currently we only submit slides. This competition will eventually become all digital. Our club can submit six images (any subject), one image by each of 6 different club members for Group A, and one image by each of 6 different club members for Group D (“Rising Stars”). Our photographers with the “A” and “B” classifications can enter Group A, but our “B” classified members have priority for entering in Group D competitions. The entry dates for the four competitions each year (the competition season) are: October 1, December 1, February 1, and April 1.

B. Nature Division

PSA Interclub competition in NATURE may be either SLIDES or DIGITAL (the slide and digital competitions are run separately). Currently we submit to both competitions. We currently are in the “A” Group in SLIDES. There is no “Rising Stars” Group. Our club can submit six images (Nature subjects only, in accordance with the PSA Nature definition and guidelines), one by each of 6 different club members. There is a “B” Group for those clubs who are new to the competition or lose their “A” status by being moved to the “B” Group by being at or near the bottom of the club competition in points. Those at the top of the “B” Group move up to the “A” Group. Those who have participated in the club competition have maintained the club’s “A” Group standing for many years – it is a matter of pride and a status we would like to keep.

We also participate in the DIGITAL. The rules are different, in that only four images are accepted, by four different club members (that includes scanned slides, by the way). The entry dates for the three competitions each year (the competition season) are: October 15, February 15, and May 15. The PSA Nature definition and guidelines must be followed.

The Nature definition is found on the PSA website. The club’s nature definition is about the same. The key is to not include “human elements.”

C. EID (Electronic Image Division).

We submit six images to this competition, one per club member. There is only one Group of competing clubs (more than 20 clubs participate right now). The entry dates are set in the months of November, January, March and May, each competition year. Like the Color images in A above, the images can be any subject.

EXHIBITIONS AND SALONS FOR INDIVIDUALS.

The Club promotes submissions by individual club members to the EXHIBITIONS or SALONS (two names for the same thing), which are local, regional or international. They are listed in, and entry information and forms are available from, the PSA website, and they are listed at the back of the PSA Journal. Entry information is also made available for some of these exhibitions in hard copy at club meetings. You do not have to be an individual PSA member to participate, but if you join PSA, you are eligible to participate in the STAR-RATING program. Acceptance of a required number of images in the various exhibitions will lead to a series of STAR RATINGS. Several members have star ratings or are working on this: Bill Biedel, Steve Fisher, John Davis, Jerry Joaquin, and Jim Haney, to mention a few. Ask any of them for more information if you are interested. Receiving acceptance of your images in these exhibitions provides both reward and good feedback to you, since the exhibitions are judged by experienced photographers and judges, in competition with hundreds of other photographers from around the world. It is a great way to build photographic skill and knowledge.

NWCCC (NORTHWEST COUNCIL OF CAMERA CLUBS)

This is a regional organization (currently comprised of photography clubs in Washington and British Columbia) which offers education, regional competitions, and fellowship. The council currently carries liability insurance to cover such things as outings. If a club holds an outing which is offered to other NWCCC clubs (as an NWCCC outing), there is liability insurance to cover the outing.

NWCCC holds an annual conference. Outings, presentations, competitions, fellowship, and a chance to talk with and buy from Vendors, are all a part of the annual conference. Watch for announcements for the individual print, slide and digital competitions, which should come out a couple of months before the conference. Check the NWCC website for more information: www.nwcameraclubs.org .

We also participate each year in NWCCC's TRAVELING PRINT SALON. Adam Escalona is the coordinator of this for our club. Any club member can submit up to four prints, either color or monochrome, mounted to maximum size of 16"x20" including mounting board. The images from each club are sent to several other clubs for judging during the spring and early summer. The images receiving the most points (via 1st, 2nd and 3rd place voting by each club) are then sent to the annual NWCCC conference for judging. The "best of the best" are selected from the top images from each club and are shown to all conference attendees.