

ByLaws

July 24

2024

ByLaws of the Photographers Club of Omaha – Omaha, Nebraska

The
Photographers
Club ByLaws

THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S CLUB OF OMAHA
BYLAWS

Article I Name

The organization shall be known as The Photographer's Club of Omaha.

Article II Mission

The mission of The Photographer's Club of Omaha shall be the enjoyment, mastering, and furtherance of photography through cooperation, effort, education, and good fellowship.

Article III Membership

Anyone (sixteen years or older) interested in photography may join The Photographer's Club of Omaha. Members are encouraged to bring friends to meetings. Visitors may visit three meetings before deciding to join.

Article IV Officers

The following officers shall be elected by the membership: 1) President, 2) Vice President, 3) Secretary, 4) Treasurer. Election procedure and terms are covered under Article XII.

Article V Meetings

Bi-monthly meetings of the club shall have a place, date, and time established by the membership. Currently meeting dates are the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

Article VI Executive Board

The management of the club shall be directed by the voting members of the Executive Board composed of the elected officers (Article IV), the chairs of standing committees, and the Immediate Past President and two Members at Large.

Article VII Committees

The following committees shall be established to conduct club activities:

1. Program/Workshops/Field Trips
2. Membership
3. Nominations
4. Hospitality/New Member
5. Website
6. Exhibits/Shows/Competitions
 - a. Print Display and Judging Coordinator
 - b. Digital Image Projection and Judging Coordinator

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Article VIII Finance

Annual dues shall be set by the Executive Board and approved by the membership. Currently, annual dues are due at the first meeting in March of each year. Cost is \$30 for a single person or \$45 for a couple.

Article IX Duties of the Executive Board

Duties of the President are: To preside at all club meetings and the Executive Board meetings, to appoint chairs of special committees, to function as a club spokesperson, to generally supervise all club activities.

Duties of the Vice President are: To assume the duties of the President in his/her absence, and to attend Executive Board meetings.

Duties of the Secretary are keeping records of the minutes of all meetings and to make those minutes available to the membership, to notify members of meetings and events, to conduct correspondence of the club, and to attend the Executive Board meetings.

Duties of the Treasurer are: To maintain financial records of the club, keeping financial and providing a report to the membership monthly or as requested and to attend Executive Board meetings.

All Officers shall be elected for a term of two years. They may choose to serve a second term for a total of four years as agreed upon by the Executive Board. They must take at least a one-year break after serving two consecutive terms.

Article X Duties of Committees

The Executive Board shall determine the responsibilities of club committees. The activities decided upon shall be conducted by the committee chairs and the members appointed by the chair to the respective committees. Standing committee chairs shall report activities and progress to the Executive Board, or to the membership at club meetings, and attend Executive Board meetings.

Committee Chairs shall serve one-year terms. Committee Chairs may serve additional terms, as agreed upon by the Executive Board.

Article XI Amendment of Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of those present at a regular monthly meeting. Proposed amendments must be presented to the membership at least 21 days before a vote is held.

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Article XII Quorum

A quorum of the membership for the purpose of conducting club business shall consist of not less than one-third of the entire membership.

Article XII Elections

Election of club officers shall be held annually at the first meeting in March. The chair of the nominating committee plus two non-board members from the membership shall propose a slate of nominees and obtain the agreement of the nominees to serve if elected prior to the meeting.

The chair shall present the slate to the membership at the first meeting in March. Additional nominations can be made from the floor.

Following the announcement of nominees, a vote by the members present shall be held.

Vacancies in the club offices shall be filled by Presidential appointment, subject to Executive Board and membership approval. Vacancy of the president's office shall be filled by the advancement of the Vice President as provided by Article IX of the Bylaws.

Article XIV The Photographer's Club Competition

1. **General Information:** Members may submit digital images or prints depending on the published schedule. The schedule is established at the first meeting in October of each year and covers the subject of the month (SOM) for January through October of the following year. It is the expectation of the Club that all images whether print or digital will be of a tasteful nature and respectful to all who may view them.
 - a. Members are encouraged to submit at the second meeting each month. Refer to the published schedule for details, i.e., SOM, print or digital competition. This also helps members to build a body of work suitable for exhibition or competition outside of our in-house Club activities.
 - b. Monthly competition will be judged by the members present to select the three best entries submitted in two categories 1) SOM and 2) OPEN.
 - c. Entries must always be the original work of the member.
2. **Timespan for photos:** Any photo taken during the current calendar year, or the previous calendar year may be submitted for the competition.
3. **Number of images that can be submitted:** The number of images that a member may submit for competition is six (6) total. That may be in any combination between the two categories, SOM and OPEN. (i.e., 3 & 3, 2 & 4, 5 & 1 or all 6 in only one category).

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4. Editing and Altering Photos

- a. The following edits, enhancements and fixes are permissible for both film and digital images submitted for judging in the SOM category:
 - * Cropping
 - * Adjusting crooked images
 - * Removing minor blemishes
 - * Correcting skin tones, lighting, color, contrast, brightness
 - * Lightening dark areas, darkening light areas
 - * Eliminating red eye
 - * Sharpening.
- b. Images submitted in the OPEN category may have been produced with any alterations, edits, enhancements the photographer wishes to provide the desired effect.

5. Guidelines for Subject of the month

- a. **Definition:** A subject may be anything, for example, an object, an action, an event, an emotion, or a person – anything that can be portrayed photographically. It must be the original work of the entrant. Subjects are selected by the members present at the first meeting in October each year. Subjects are chosen to challenge the creativity and picture taking skills of members.
- b. Entries for SOM are limited to those pictures, print or digital, taken after the SOM schedules are set in October. After that time, a subject on the schedule may be photographed at any time prior to the subject's scheduled competition.
- c. A SOM entry that does not conform to the designated SOM will be rejected.

6. Guidelines for OPEN Class (OC) includes any print or digital image of any subject not in the current SOM series that may have been taken at any time in the past or present. Open Class images may have unlimited post-capture editing and alteration.

7. Preparation of Entries

- a. All entries must be prepared in accordance with the specifications established for the various types of entries, i.e., prints or digital images. Improperly prepared entries may be rejected.
- b. All entries must be the original work of the entrant.

8. Prints – Formatting

- a. A print must be 8 x 10 inches.
- b. A print must be mounted on a mat board or other rigid flat backing, e.g., foam board.

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- c. The top mat, which may be of any color, must have a window at least 7 x 9 inches.
- d. Typically, pre-cut mats for 8 x 10-inch pictures are 11 x 14 inches with a window of 7 1/2 by 9 1/2 inches. Members, of course, may cut their own mats.
- e. Prints Labeling
 - label should be on the back upper-left corner of the print.
 - it should contain the title of the print.
 - the category it is to be judged in, SOM or OPEN.
 - the date of the competition.

9. Digital Submissions

- a. Refer to the website for guidelines and process for digital submissions.

10. Submission of Entries

- a. In keeping with the current meeting schedule, photographic images submitted by members are shown at the second regular meeting of the month (January – October), which is the fourth Wednesday of the month.
- b. All entries must be submitted by the start of the meeting, 7:00PM.
- c. Upon arrival, members must give their print entries to the Print Display and Judging Coordinator.
 - i. Matted and mounted prints must be kept from view until they are put in the hands of the Print Display and Judging Coordinator. This can be done by handing prints off to the coordinator in a bag, having prints face to face, having the face of prints covered with a removeable material. This is to ensure anonymity of the photographer until the competition is over.
- d. An image once submitted and judged may not be submitted for judging in the same of another category.

11. Questions to consider when judging an image, print or digital.

- Does the image have a message, purpose or feeling?
- Is the subject presented in an effective way?
- Is the photo unique?
- Is there a fresh or creative approach or is this image merely documentary or a snapshot?
- Does the image tell a story? Can you say it is compelling?
- Does the image focus on the subject or interaction of subjects?
- Are the colors used pleasant and harmonious?
- Was it taken in good lighting?
- Was the best angle or point of view chosen?
- Is the depth of field appropriate or adequate?
- Is the image noisy?

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- Are there distracting elements or mergers?
- Would a different aspect ratio improve the image presentation?
- Is the image lacking visual interest?
- How are the tones in the image? Is there depth to the image?
- Is there implied movement?
- Does the subject have room to move in the direction of travel?
- Is the subject doing something interesting?
- Is the background pleasing, working with the subject, and appropriate?
- Is the horizon line level? Was it intentionally skewed?
- Is the image sharp?
- Was selective focus used?
- Is the subject in focus?
- Is the subject properly exposed?
- Is there contrast? Or is the image flat?

The bylaws were approved by the membership at the regular July 24, 2024 meeting.