

BYLAWS OF THE PHOTO NATURALISTS CAMERA CLUB
03/09/2015

I. NAME:

The name of this organization is the PHOTO NATURALISTS CAMERA CLUB.

II. OBJECTIVES OF CLUB:

The primary objectives of this club are to:

1. Encourage and aid wherever possible, the photography of nature and wildlife.
2. Create interest and encourage identification of subjects photographed.
3. Develop photographic techniques required in the photography of nature.
4. Offer encouragement and constructive criticism of work shown by members.
5. Present educational lectures, nature workshops, and field trips.
6. Encourage achieving salon-quality nature work.

III. PLAN OF WORK:

As a club dedicated to the photography of nature in all its many phases, it is the club's aim and hope to:

1. Stimulate the interest of the amateur to go beyond a good composition and to know if the subject is naturally portrayed.
2. Stimulate and encourage good conservation practices.
3. Provide competitions for nature work to be judged as such by persons qualified to recognize the nature subject matter and that it is naturally portrayed.

IV. MEMBERSHIP:

Membership will be open to anyone who:

Is interested in the information, assistance and common interest obtained from membership in a camera club dedicated to the nature subject.

V. DUES:

1. Membership dues will be \$35 per person per year. (New members joining the club after July 1st shall pay the SCACC assessment and \$5.00.)
2. Dues will be payable at the first meeting in January and will become delinquent at the first meeting in March.
3. All members whose dues are unpaid at the March meeting will be dropped from the mailing list and will be ineligible to enter competition until reinstated.

VI. OFFICERS:

1. If a President is elected by the Membership, the Executive Officers shall be the President, Vice President Programs, Vice President Competitions, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. If an Executive Committee is selected in lieu of a President, the Committee will consist of three members. Under this condition, the Executive Officers shall be the Executive Committee members, the Vice President Programs, the Vice President Competitions, Secretary and Treasurer.
3. The term of office shall be one year.
4. Only members in good standing shall be eligible for office.
5. Officers shall be elected by the majority vote of active members present at the election meeting in November.

VII. DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

1. The President or Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the club affairs, preside at all meetings, appoint committees, and assume active leadership at all times. The President or Executive Committee or a designated Chairperson shall be responsible for assigning members building hosting duties. The Executive Committee or a Chairperson designated by the President shall be responsible for securing nature programs of interest to club members for one meeting each month and to organize field trips, activities, and special programs.

2. The Vice President Competitions shall receive the entries prior to the monthly competition and to keep records of results. It will also be the duty of this Vice President to select a qualified judge for each monthly competition and for the annual competition comprised of each month's winning entries.

3. The Vice President Programs shall secure nature programs of interest to club members for one meeting each month and to organize field trips, activities, and special programs.

4. The Secretary shall keep accurate records of all correspondence and the minutes of meetings of the Club, and such additional duties as may be assigned from time to time by the President or Executive Committee. The Secretary will also maintain the Club Roster.

5. The Treasurer shall collect dues and assessments and act as custodian of all funds of the Club. The Treasurer shall pay all bills for expenditures authorized by the President or Executive Committee and maintain financial records of all receipts and expenditures. The Treasurer will also immediately report any newly paid members to the Secretary for inclusion in the Club Roster.

The President or Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint Chairpersons to facilitate the smooth operation of the club.

Chairpersons if required can include:

Program Chair - to secure nature programs of interest to club members for one meeting each month and to organize field trips, activities, and special programs.

Guest Relations Chair - to greet, log in, and introduce all guests to meetings, to follow up after the meeting.

Refreshment Chair - to recruit and keep track of who is next to provide refreshments.

Website Chair - to update and maintain the club website.

History Chair - to record club history

Workshop Chair - to plan interesting events for our fifth Mondays of the month.

External Communication - to publicize the club and its activities; and a Newsletter, to establish good communications within the club.

VIII. MEETINGS:

1. Regular meetings of the club will be held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, except in December when only the first meeting is held. In addition, the

club may hold meetings or workshops on any fifth Monday that occurs in a month during the year.

2. There shall be at least two meetings of the Executive Officers and chairpersons during their term of office.
3. Executive officers, as a panel, shall have the power to authorize expenditures up to \$50.
4. When it is the responsibility of the Photo Naturalists Camera Club to host or clean the Photo Arts Building as designated by SCACC, the President shall appoint the member(s) to perform those duties, and provide the appropriate building keys.
5. Club meetings shall be conducted using the Modified Robert's Rules of Order.
6. Workshops and/or field trips should focus on the assigned subjects.

IX. ELECTIONS:

1. At the first meeting in September, the President or Executive Committee will call for members to make known their interest in serving as officers of the club for the upcoming year. The President or Executive Committee will present this list of members for selection/approval by member vote at the November club meeting.
2. Nominations for prospective officers may be made from the floor, with the consent of the nominee, at the first November meeting, prior to the balloting.
3. The elections of officers will take place at the first November meeting.
4. Members in good standing who are present at the stated election may vote for officers.
5. New officers will be installed and assume their duties at the first meeting in January.

X. AMMENDMENT OF BYLAWS:

1. Proposed additions, amendments, or revocations to the Bylaws may be initiated by either the Executive Officers or by a petition signed by twenty-five percent (25 %) of the eligible members.
2. A written notice of proposed additions, amendments or revocations to the Bylaws shall be sent to all members before such meeting to invoke change, and the changes proposed shall be specified in the notice.
3. Proposed additions, amendments, or revocations to the Bylaws must be approved by a simple majority vote of the membership in good standing at a regularly scheduled meeting.
4. Upon approval, the addition(s), amendment(s), or revocation(s) shall be incorporated into the Bylaws.

PHOTO NATURALISTS CAMERA CLUB COMPETITION RULES

1. All members, whose dues are currently paid, are eligible to enter competitions.
2. All entries must be the sole work of the contributor.
3. Each member may enter three (3) entries at each regular competition and two (2) entries per subject on nights with both regular competition and an assigned subject.
 - a. Once accepted in a club competition, an entry may not be entered into club competition again.
 - b. A completed entry form must accompany submission of entries. For special assignment, two (2) completed entry forms are needed; one for the assigned subject and one for the regular competition.
 - c. A one-time make-up entry per year will be allowed.
4. The Vice President Competitions will secure a qualified nature judge for each monthly competition. All club members who judge a monthly competition of Photo Naturalists Camera Club shall be permitted to enter an additional three (3) entries in the next regular competition. If a special assignment was also judged, an additional entry may be entered, bringing the total to four (4) entries.
5. At each competition the Judge will select one to three "Photos of the Evening". The Judge may select as many of the entries that he feels qualified for "Acceptances". The score value for each entry will be:
 - 3 points for an Image of the Evening
 - 2 points for an "Accepted" or "Held" image
 - 1 point for entering the competition
6. The entries to be considered for Interclub Competition shall be based on Member's Choice voting from each monthly competition. All accepted digital entries will be copied to a CD or other device for the competition Chairperson to hold for the Year-end competition.
7. Winning entries for any competition may be placed on the club website for purposes of promoting the club. Submission of entries into any Photo Naturalists club competition will be an implied consent to have the entry posted on the club website.
8. A competition of the monthly accepted entries will be held at the end of the year and judged by a qualified nature judge or panel of judges. Annual Award Certificates will be presented for:
 - 1st place - Image of the year (highest rated)
 - 2nd place - Second highest rated
 - 3rd place - Third highest rated
 - Whit Melton Memorial Award - Best Authenticated Wildlife entry
 - R. Van Nostrand Memorial Entry - Best Zoo entry
 - Photo Naturalists Landscape Award - Best Landscape entry

High Points Award - Highest total points accumulated during the year.
High Points Award - Second highest total points earned for the year.
High Points Award - Third highest total points earned for the year.

9. For the purpose of determining the annual High Points Award, the total of points for all entries entered in the monthly competitions shall be considered regardless of whether a particular entry was accepted or not.

10. **Nature Photography**, for competition entries, is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history, including botany, zoology, physics, chemistry, meteorology, and paleontology, except for anthropology and archeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify to its honest presentation.

Authenticated Wildlife is defined as one or more extant zoological or botanical organisms living free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. This includes images of insects, land and marine organisms and botanical organisms (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild as well as carcasses of extant species. It is to be indicated on the entry form with **(W)**. This **(W)** should also appear after the title on the digital entry title. Landscapes, geological formations, photographs of zoo or game farm animals, or of any extant zoological or botanical species taken under controlled conditions are not eligible to be submitted as Authenticated Wildlife. The Nature Photography rules and definitions used by the Photographic Society of America (PSA) are used as the basic guidelines for the Photo Naturalists Camera Club.

11. The **story-telling** value of a photograph should be weighed more than the pictorial quality. Human elements, also referred to as “hand of man”, shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves.

12. Entries of artificially produced (domesticated) plants or animals, mounted specimens, obviously set arrangements, or achieved through photographic, electronic, or electro-optical manipulation, are **ineligible** and should not be submitted. (Exception: Detailed macro photographs and scientific banding on animals.)

13. No techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the nature story or the pictorial content, or without altering the content of the original scene, are permitted including High Dynamic Range (HDR), focus-stacking and dodging/burning. Adjustments may be made to bring the image back to what was seen through the lens. All results must look natural.

Allowed (these are ADJUSTMENTS): resizing; cropping; exposure adjustment; white balance; contrast; saturation; adjust highlight and shadow detail; selective lightening and darkening, including but not limited to shadow/highlight and dodge/burn tools; restoration of the original color of the scene; sharpening (which must appear natural); dust spot removal; digital noise reduction; flare removal; straightening of the horizon; reversing (flipping horizontal). All allowed adjustments must appear natural to the viewer.

Color images can be converted to greyscale monochrome. Infrared images, either direct captures or derivations, are not allowed.

Not Allowed (these are CHANGES): addition of elements to the scene; removing elements from the scene except by cropping; rearranging items in the scene; special effects filters; combining of images such as stitched panoramas; blurring of the background.

14. Digital Entries - The electronic file dimensions are to be: **no more than 1920** pixels horizontal, or **1080** pixels vertical. Images must be submitted in JPEG format (xxx.jpg). Color space should be **sRGB**.

15. Digital images are to be sent via e-mail to the Competition Chairperson no later than the Friday midnight before the competition in order for him to have them ready for the competition. As a backup they are also to be brought to the meeting on any digital media, preferably a media card (CF, SD, Memory Stick) with nothing else on it.

16. There shall be at least three Assigned Subject competitions each year. The subjects should be geared to encourage members to try new techniques, or to work with different subject matter. It is suggested that at least one of the assignments include Authenticated Wildlife (**W**). Workshops and/or field trips should focus on the assigned subjects.