

GUIDE TO JUDGING – SASKATOON CAMERA CLUB

The purpose of the clinic is to provide instruction through constructive critical comment and evaluation. Remember, it is not a competition, although proficiency is rewarded.

YOU ARE ASKED TO COMMENT AND EVALUATE USING 3 CATEGORIES:

1. Pictorial or Artistic Merit (IMPACT)
2. Technical Skill
3. Interpretation of Subject

1. PICTORIAL OR ARTISTIC MERIT (IMPACT)

This is a measure of the **SUCCESS** of the **COMPOSITION**.

Factors include the “**RULES OF COMPOSITION**” :

LEAD-IN LINES, RULE OF THIRDS, BALANCE, QUALITY OF LIGHTING, FRAMING, TONAL RANGE AND TEXTURE, PATTERN AND RHYTHM.

2. TECHNICAL

Here you measure the skill the photographer has shown in handling **EQUIPMENT**:

EXPOSURE, DEPTH OF FIELD, FOCUS, SHUTTER SPEED, FILTERS, PANNING

For prints: MOUNTING, SPOTTING, APPROPRIATE PAPER (for contrast and tonal range)

3. INTERPRETATION

Here you evaluate how well the photographer interpreted the topic photographically.

CONSIDER: Is the subject matter appropriate?

Has it been chosen carefully?

Has it been captured in an interesting way?

VISUAL COMMUNICATION is important:

Does the subject communicate itself clearly without distraction?

Note: a **TITLE** may or may not assist in this process. It is only one factor to be considered. (some titles are merely labels, and are therefore neutral).

AWARDING POINTS: Use the accompanying chart as a guide. If a photograph is worthy of **HONOURABLE MENTION** make sure the total adds up to 22 or more points.

AS YOU JUDGE EACH ENTRY, KEEP THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN MIND:

PHRASE your comments in such a way that they will assist the photographer

In understanding where the **STRENGTHS** and **WEAKNESSES** of the the Work lie

KEEP your remarks short and specific. It is difficult for the chairperson to Write down everything you may have to say.

PRAISE the elements that make the work successful. Where weaknesses or faults

Are recognized, try to point out how they could be avoided or corrected.

EVALUATE each category in the most positive way. Don't be afraid to award high marks. We want to encourage good work.

A GUIDE TO JUDGING – SASKATOON CAMERA CLUB

1. PICTORIAL – IMPACT – COMPOSITION

- Rule of Thirds
- Balance
- Lighting
- Framing
- Tonal Range & Texture
- Pattern & Rhythm
- Lead-in Lines

2. TECHNICAL

- Exposure
- Depth of Field
- Focus
- Shutter Speed
- Filters
- Panning

2. INTERPRETATION

- Subject Matter
- Visual Communication
- Title

IMAGE EVALUATION

10. Outstanding, flawless
9. Dramatic, beautiful, strong impact
8. Excellent, minor flaws only, photographic mastery
7. Very good, just short of excellent
6. Competent, technically OK, lacking impact
5. Average, unmemorable, lots of room for improvement
4. Below standard, one or more specific faults
3. Many faults, badly composed
2. Unacceptable, slide or print should not have been entered.

JUDGES COMMENTS: Brief, Positive, Constructive, Helpful, Encouraging