IMAGE DIMENSIONS

- Landscape (horizontal) - Max Width pixels = 1024, Max Height = 768

- Portrait (vertical) – Max Height pixels = 768, Max Width = 1024

- The most common mistake made in sizing images is to interpret the dimensions as a maximum long dimension of 1024 pixels and a maximum short dimension of 768 pixels. This is not correct.

- You can use smaller pixel dimensions but image sizes will not be changed so showing an image smaller than necessary can hurt your score due to reduced impact on images with weak nature stories. Please note: This is not a requirement to crop or pad your image to a 1024 x 768 format.

- Change the width to 1024 or the height to 768 pixels. With Constrain Proportions checked, the other dimension will change automatically. Be sure both Constrain Proportions and Resample image are checked.

- Images should be saved at 96 or 72 dpi. Since images will be viewed by projection the ppi resolution does not affect image (used for printing only). This sizing is used so the image appears good on the monitor but is not sufficient quality to render a quality print larger than 2" x 3".

IMAGE DIMENSIONS

- All images must be submitted as .jpgs

- All images must use an RGB color mode. They can be either Adobe (1998) or sRGB. Generally the sRGB is better for images viewed by projection and Adobe RGB is better for printing or publishing. It is true that the Adobe RGB has a wider tonal range but this can sometimes make a projected image look flatter than the sRGB version when projected.

- Please keep file size to 600 - 800 KB max.

- It is recommended you resize your images before final sharpening.

NAMING CONVENTION

Title of Photo followed by entrants name (separated by <u>underscore</u>)

Example: Misty Morning_Karl Pfeil.jpg

(Please, No nickname or initials – use full name)

<u>Submit Photos To:</u>

Karl Pfeil
email: **bravo19@roadrunner.com**

NECCC
Electronic Photograph Interclub Competition Rules

- It is strongly suggested that all photographs be converted to the sRGB color space. That color space most closely approximates the capability of monitors and projectors to display color and usually results in the best presentation of your image.

- Photographs will be projected using a projector having 1024 pixels in the horizontal direction and 768 pixels in the vertical direction. Photographs must fit within those dimensions. The software on the entry web site will enforce those dimensions and will notify you if the dimensions are too large, even by a single pixel.

- Unless your photograph's proportions are in the exact ratio of 4 to 3, one of these dimensions will be less than the maximum. For example, if you have a vertical photograph, the height will be 768 pixels, but the width will be significantly less than 1024 pixels. A square photograph will be 768 pixels by 768 pixels under these rules. Smaller photographs are acceptable.

- It is suggested (though not a requirement) that entries be saved with the proper amount of compression so that the file size does not exceed 600-800 KB. If saving from Photoshop, a quality setting of between 7 and 9 is usually sufficient to produce a high quality file. Keeping the file size small makes e-mailing and handling easier.

PSA'S DEFINITION OF NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

- Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation. The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality. Human elements 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. Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible. Photographs of human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.

- 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 HDR, focus stacking and dodging/burning. Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise, and film scratches, are allowed. Stitched images are not permitted. All allowed adjustments must appear natural. Color images can be converted to grey-scale monochrome. Infrared images, either direct-captures or derivations, are not allowed.

PSA'S DEFINITION OF NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

- Images used in Nature Photography competitions may be divided in two classes: Nature and Wildlife. Images entered in Nature sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above can have landscapes, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.

  Images entered in Wildlife sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above are further defined as one or more extant zoological or botanical organisms free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Landscapes, geologic formations, photographs of zoo or game farm animals, or of any extant zoological or botanical species taken under controlled conditions are not eligible in Wildlife sections. Wildlife is not limited to animals, birds and insects. Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild are suitable wildlife subjects, as are carcasses of extant species. Wildlife images may be entered in Nature sections of Exhibitions.

PSA'S DEFINITION OF NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

NATURE ~~MANIPULATION~~ ADJUSTMENTS
ALLOWED IN NATURE COMPETITIONS

- ☐ EXPOSURE ADJUSTMENT (SELECTIVE AND GLOBAL)
- ☐ ADJUST HIGHLIGHT AND SHADOW DETAIL
- ☐ ADJUST CONTRAST
- ☐ WHITE BALANCE / COLOR CORRECTION
  (HDR ALLOWED FOR ANY AND ALL OF THE ABOVE)
- ☐ BLACK & WHITE CONVERSION (GRAYSCALE ONLY)
- ☐ ADJUST SATURATION
- ☐ DUST SPOT REMOVAL
- ☐ NOISE REMOVAL
- ☐ FLARE REMOVAL
- ☐ STRAIGHTENING
- ☐ CROPPING
- ☐ REVERSING (A.K.A. FLIPPING HORIZONTAL - USE CAUTION ON SCENICS)
- ☐ RESIZING
- ☐ SHARPENING (INCLUDING FOCUS LAYERING)

ALL ALLOWED ADJUSTMENTS MUST LOOK NATURAL
ADJUSTMENTS NOT ALLOWED IN NATURE COMPETITIONS

- ☐ ADDING OR REMOVING IMAGE ELEMENTS
- ☐ BLURRING BACKGROUNDS

NECCC
Pictoral (Open) Category Restrictions

Keep in mind that NECCC-sponsored pictorial competitions are intended for photographers, not Photoshop (or other editing program) illustrators. We recognize, however, that part of the attraction and fun of digital photography is the ability to alter the pictures captured by the camera, but the emphasis should be on displaying your photographs to best advantage either naturally or after manipulation (even extensive manipulation) for creative effects.

NECCC
Pictoral (Open) Category Restrictions

- The Pictorial category is open. That means that all subject types as well as a variety of different techniques (both in camera and computer manipulation) may be entered. However, remember that we have a diverse membership so please be sure that all photographs are in good taste.

- The major part of each image must have been captured by light sensitivity, either digitally or on film. Slides or negatives may be scanned (by the photographer or commercially) for entry into the competition. Once captured or scanned, photographs may be modified using digital image editing programs. A scanner may also be used as a camera to capture photographs of objects placed on the scanner glass.

- Entries may display a realistic rendition of the subject(s) or be creative, having been manipulated using in camera techniques before scanning or using a digital image editing program. The judges will be asked to judge the photographs for overall photographic quality and interest, not the amount of manipulation required to achieve the effect

- Composite photographs are acceptable in the pictorial category as long as all elements included are the entering photographer's own work. Commercial clip art, commercially available textures, parts of commercial photographic collections, or the work of another photographer may not be included. Artwork or computer graphics created by the photographer may be incorporated as long as the photographic content predominates.

NECCC
Pictoral (Open) Category Restrictions

- Keep in mind that adding commercial stock elements such as clouds, lighting, moons, frames, or fractals generated by image editing programs or accessories, is not allowed. However clouds, frames, or moons photographed or drawn by the photographer may be combined with other photographs.

- In this context, work of the maker means that the work does not include any material copyrighted by others or commercial clip art elements, including borders, graphics, or photographs. Use of filters, such as those in Photoshop or third party plug-ins such as those by NIK or TOPAZ to create or modify such elements are allowed and is not considered a violation of this ethics statement. However, when using plug-ins such as Topaz Textures any texture applied by the software must be one taken by the photographer; textures supplied with this plug-in are copyrighted by Topaz or other photographers who supplied them.

- We recognize that the line between your own digital art and clip art is a gray one in many cases. A good rule to follow is that anything that changes an element you drew or photographed is allowed, but any action that adds an element other than from of one of your own photographs, drawings, or digital art probably is not. Note that adding a mat or frame using the image editors drawing capabilities will normally be considered digital art by the maker and, thus, is allowed.