

The background of the entire page is a dense, overlapping collage of numerous small photographs. These photos cover a wide range of subjects, including nature (flowers, birds, trees, landscapes), animals (tigers, cats, dogs, birds, insects), and urban scenes (cityscapes, buildings, bridges). The images are mostly in grayscale or have a faded, semi-transparent appearance, creating a textured and artistic backdrop for the text.

Flagpole Photographers Annual Competition & Exhibit

May 5, 2024 at 2pm

Best in Show

Creative – 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Landscape – 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Nature – 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Open Color – 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Open Monochrome – 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Judges Choice Award – 1 award per judge

***People's Choice Award – club members**



2024 Awards

Flagpole Photographers
Annual Competition and Exhibit

Today's Activities

Only one award per photo

Introductions
Sharing the day's activities



Best in Show
Select best in show from highest scoring photos



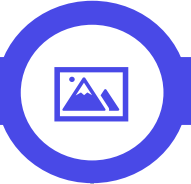
Judge's Choice
One photo per judge



Score all five categories
93 photos
Score All Photos



Creative, Landscapes,
Nature, Open Color,
Open Monochrome,
Best in each Category



Publish winners
Winners



2024 Flagpole Photographers Annual Competition Judges

1. Suz Karchmer

2. Dom Vendemia

3. Michael Karchmer

Founded in 1985 in Newtown, Connecticut. The Flagpole Photographers' mission is to enable members to share their photos and expertise, to learn and grow in their photography, and to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow photographers.

We come from diverse backgrounds, with photographic skills ranging from beginners to professional photographers.



Flagpole Photographers

Newtown, Connecticut

This Competition is Recorded

This competition will be recorded and posted on
FlagpolePhotographers.com

Flagpole Photographers Annual Competition and Exhibit

Judges Training

Flagpole Photographers Camera Club - Info@FlagpolePhotographers.com



Agenda

What we are covering today

1. Competition Timeline
2. Judging Setup
3. Judging Software

Details on Flagpole Competition Rules and Info

All Competitions Rules

- Capturing and Editing Rules
- Category Descriptions and Rules
- Class Distinctions

Visit <https://FlagpolePhotographers.com/competition-info>

This Month's Competition Info

Visit <https://FlagpolePhotographers.com/all-upcoming-events>

Then click on this first “Competition” event.

Understanding Our Scoring System

Independent

- Score values are not based on category or class.
- Consider, the best photo is a 10 and the worse a 6.

Range

- 6, 6.5, 7, 7.5, 8, 8.5, 9, 9.5, 10.

Winners

- Top 3 photos, ties broken.

Minimizing Ties

- Use the full range to separate great photos from the truly exceptional.
- For example, in one category an '8.5' might be what you consider a "good photo".
- In another category that is full of "amazing photos", a "good photo" might only score a '7'

Breaking Ties

Deciding
on the
top 3
photos

Judges talk among
themselves.

Rotating which
judge starts the
conversation.

Previewing Photos

Scoring is live on Sunday afternoon.



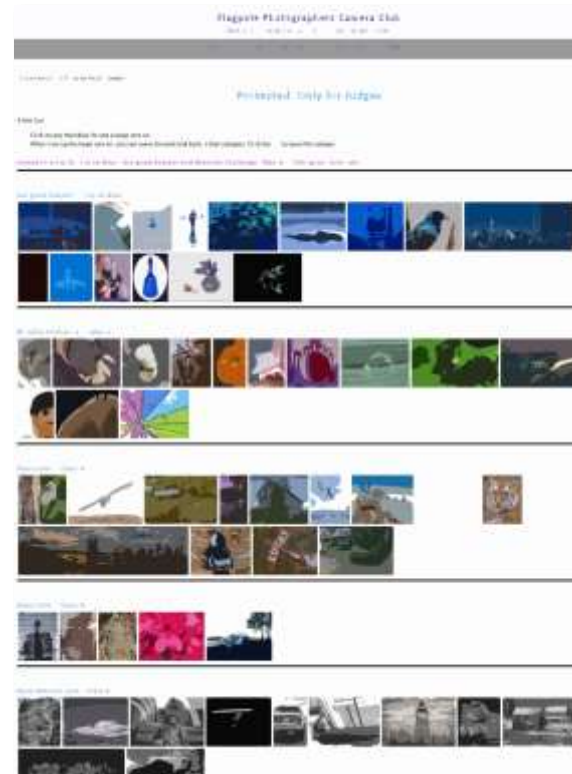
View the photos at <https://flagpolephotographers.com/only-for-judges-<a 4 digit number>>



The full link, with the 4 digit number at the end, is in your email



Available starting the **Monday** before competition



Deciding on a Score



Base the score on the merit of that individual photo
In this, and only this, single category



Use consistent reasoning in evaluating photos
Provides the ranking order



Understand the category's requirements
Nature, monochrome, assigned subject ...

What Creates Impact?

Impact

Impactful photos evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder or another intense emotion.



Think of **Impact** as a stool supported by these four legs.

With 4 legs: Hard to knock over
With 3 legs: Still very strong.
With 2 legs: Hard to stand up.
With 1 leg: Easily falls over.
With 0 legs: It's a snapshot.

[Click for more info](#)

Storytelling

The photo's ability to evoke imagination in the viewer's mind

Creativity

A fresh expression of a scene conveying an idea or message.

Composition

Bringing all the visual elements together to express the purpose

Technical Excellence

The quality of the photo itself as it is presented for viewing

Should Impact Include Photographer Effort?



It is a slippery slope to include effort when evaluating on a photo because **assumptions** must be made.

There is no way to know the actual capture effort

- Effort is highly dependent on photographer, technique & luck
- Maybe it's a composite
- Maybe it's a controlled environment (photo ops, zoo)

Plus, effort also happens outside of photo capture

- Hiking all night uphill to capture the sunrise?
- Using Photoshop for 20 hours?
- Planning and learning for three weeks?



Was this a lot of effort? It depends on what is effort.

- Two weeks of wondering what is a great 'bricks' photo?
- Reading the camera manual to learn what is possible?
- Waiting for afternoon shade?

How did I capture this?

- Using video mode on my camera.
- One take, one brick destroyed, one video frame used.
- Effort was a lot less than you think!

The best choice is to evaluate on the photographic principles that you see.



Agenda

What we are covering next

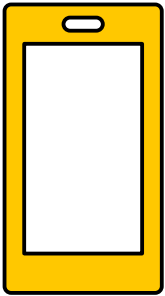
1. Competition Night
- 2. Judging Setup**
3. Judging Software

Judge Setup Requires Two Screens

Most common setup



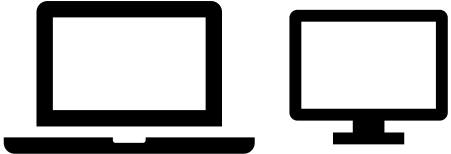
Camera and mic
1920 x 1080
resolution or higher



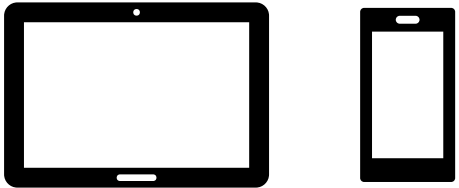
Phone or
Tablet for
scorepad

No software to
install. Uses web
browser

Alternate setups



Computer with
two screens



Large tablet plus a
phone

Judge Training Example - Sep 26, 2020

Assigned Subject "Nature"

Monthly Challenge is "Barns"

Open Color - Class A

Number of photos 14

Scored photos 0

1. RUN-THOUGH

2. SCORE PHOTOS

3. RESOLVE TIES

4. SHOW WINNERS



Live Training

Fire up your scorepad and let's score some photos and break some ties!



Agenda

What we are covering next

1. Competition Night
2. Judging Setup
- 3. Judging Software**

Scorepad page is used to send scores to the live competition

Runs in a browser

Runs in a browser

Judge #

Judging Scorepad Judge 1 Chane Cullens

6 6½ 7 7½ 8

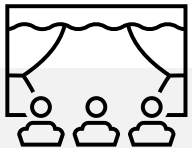
8½ 9 9½ 10

SKIP

8½

Make a typo,
just ask to
score again

Acknowledgement
visible for 10 seconds



Home page of competition web app

Flagpole Photographers Competition [Event](#) [Scoring Role](#)

Judge Training Example - Sep 26, 2020

Assigned Subject "Nature" Monthly Challenge is "Barns" Open Color - Class A Open Color - Class B Open Monochrome - Class A Open Monochrome - Class B

Number of photos **25** --- Scored photos **22**

1. RUN-THOUGH

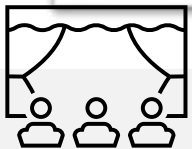
2. SCORE PHOTOS

3. RESOLVE TIES

4. SHOW WINNERS

Categories

Four steps for each category



Quick run-through to preview all photos

Flagpole Photographers Competition [Event](#) [Scoring Role](#)

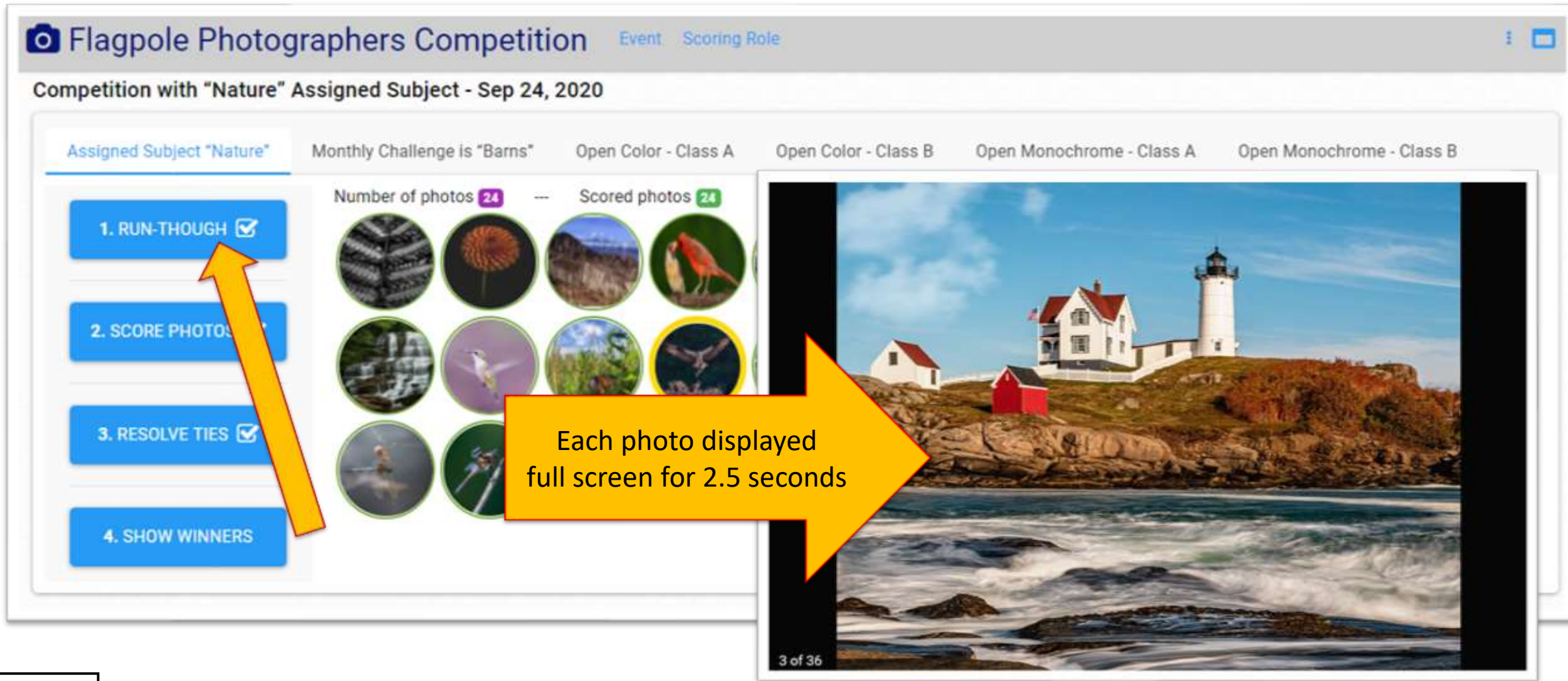
Competition with "Nature" Assigned Subject - Sep 24, 2020

Assigned Subject "Nature" Monthly Challenge is "Barns" Open Color - Class A Open Color - Class B Open Monochrome - Class A Open Monochrome - Class B

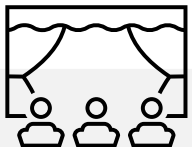
Number of photos **24** — Scored photos **24**

1. RUN-THOUGH
2. SCORE PHOTOS
3. RESOLVE TIES
4. SHOW WINNERS

Each photo displayed full screen for 2.5 seconds

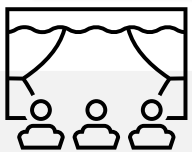


The screenshot displays the competition interface. On the left, a sidebar contains four blue buttons: '1. RUN-THOUGH' (checked), '2. SCORE PHOTOS', '3. RESOLVE TIES' (checked), and '4. SHOW WINNERS'. A large yellow arrow points from the '1. RUN-THOUGH' button to the right. In the center, a grid of 12 circular photo thumbnails is shown, with a yellow border around the thumbnail in the second row, fourth column. A yellow arrow points from this thumbnail to a large full-screen preview on the right. The preview shows a coastal scene with a white lighthouse, a white house, and a red barn on a cliff overlooking the ocean. A '3 of 36' indicator is visible in the bottom left corner of the preview.



Score photos live using judge's scorepad

The screenshot shows a web interface for the "2020 TOPS in CT Competition". The main heading is "Judges Demo for 2020 TOPS in Connecticut - Nov 1, 2020". Below this, there are category tabs: "Cityscape", "Creative", "Landscape", "Monochrome", and "Nature". On the left, a vertical sidebar contains four blue buttons: "1. RUN-THROUGH" (checked), "2. SCORE PHOTOS" (checked), "3. RESOLVE DISPUTES", and "4. SHOW WINNERS". A large yellow arrow points from the "2. SCORE PHOTOS" button towards the main content area. The main content area features a grid of 36 small circular photo thumbnails. A yellow arrow points from the text "Each photo displayed full screen while scoring" to a large, full-screen preview of a lighthouse on a cliff. A second yellow arrow points from the text "Scores arrived blue indicator" to a small blue vertical bar on the left side of the full-screen photo. The interface also includes a top navigation bar with "Event", "Scoring Role", and "Contest" links, and a top right corner with a menu icon and a window icon.



Break ties with a live discussion

Flagpole Photographers

Choose 1 photo for third place. Need to break a 2 way tie for third place.

Competition with "Nature" As

Assigned Subject "Nature"

2. SCORE PHOTOS

3. RESOLVE TIES

4. SHOW WINNER

Bad Luck

I Need An Umbrella!

If needed, all tied photos displayed

Option to show full screen

Option to remove photo

Display 3rd, 2nd and 1st places. Winners will discuss their photo.

