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
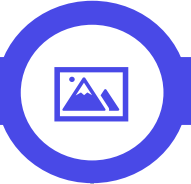Select best in show from highest scoring photos

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.

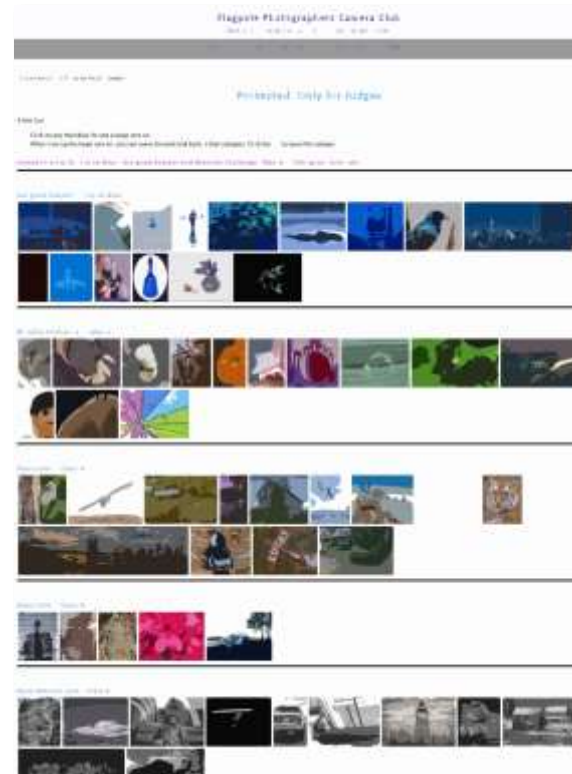## Previewing Photos

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

PC for web meeting to view photos & talk.

Camera and mic 1920 x 1080 resolution or higher
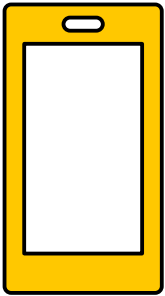
Phone or Tablet for scorepad

No software to install. Uses web browser
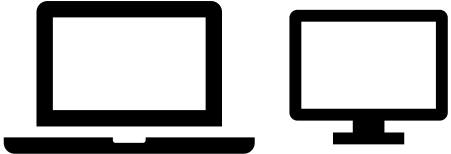
Computer with two screens
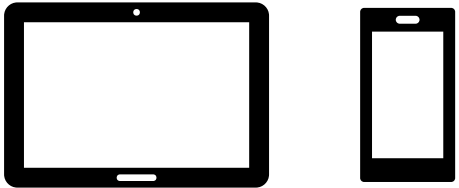
Large tablet plus a phone

FlagpolePhotographers.com

Live Training

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

Flagpole Photographers Competition

Event   Scoring Ro

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

Agenda

1. Competition Night

2. Judging Setup

3. **Judging Software**

Scorepad page is used to send scores to the live competition

Runs in a browser

Judge #

Make a typo, just ask to score again

Judging Scorepad — Judge 1 — Chane Cullens

6	6½	7	7½	8
8½	9	9½	10	SKIP

8½

Acknowledgement visible for 10 seconds
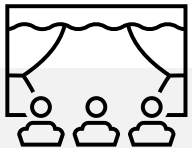
Home page of competition web app

Quick run-through to preview all photos

Flagpole Photographers Competition — Event — Scoring Role
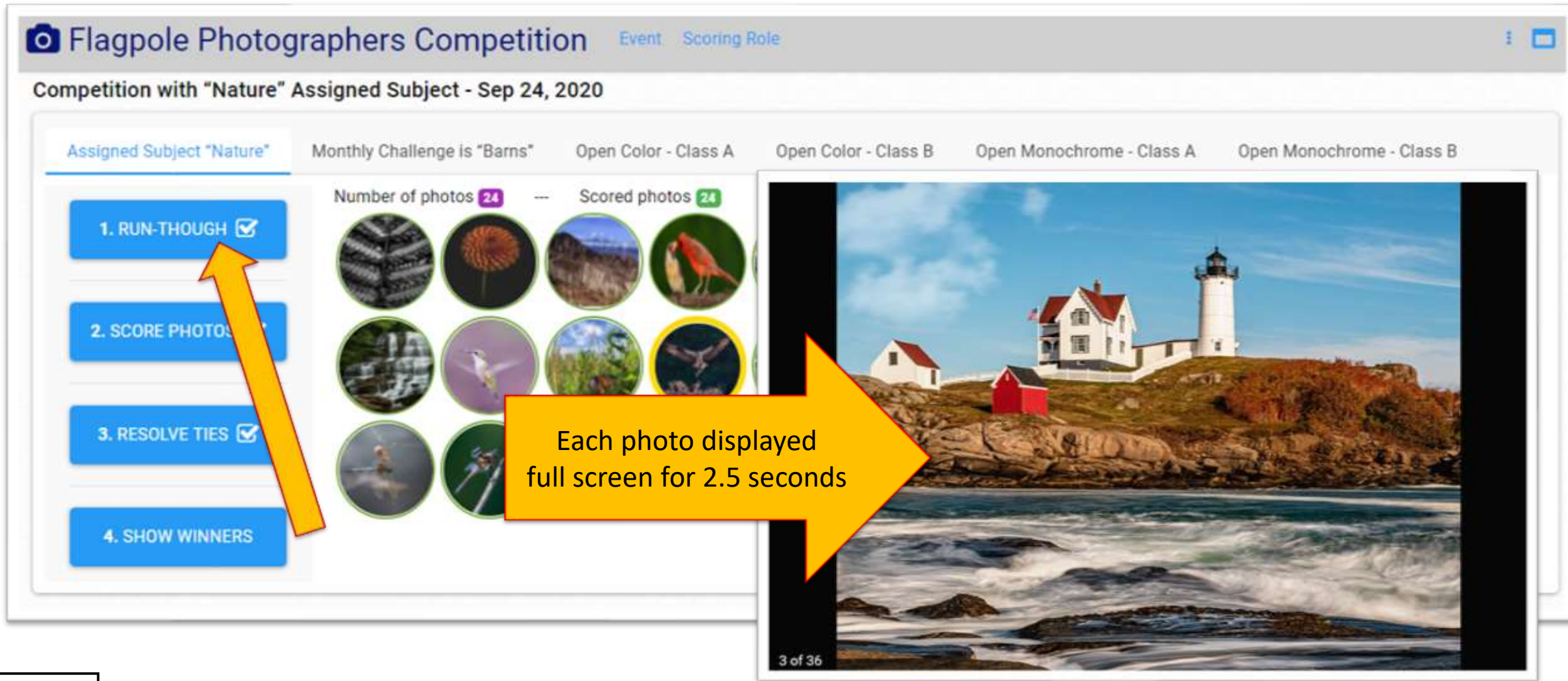
Competition with "Nature" Assigned Subject - Sep 24, 2020

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

3 of 36

Score photos live using judge's scorepad

Each photo displayed full screen while scoring

Scores arrived blue indicator
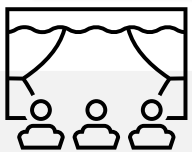
Break ties with a live discussion

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.

Place, Name, Title

Second - Rhonda Cullens - Driven to Ride