

# **POLY PHOTO CAMERA CLUB BYLAWS**

(Revised January 2019, January 2023, January 2024)

## **ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this club, organized in 1948, shall be POLY PHOTO CAMERA CLUB.

## **ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this club shall be:

- A. Association for the mutual enjoyment of photography
- B. Development of photographic skill through education, practice and critique.

## **ARTICLE III – OFFICERS**

Section 1: The officers of this club shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall be comprised of the officers and the immediate past President of the club.

## **ARTICLE IV – GOVERNMENT**

Section 1: The Executive Board shall conduct the official business of the club.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall hold at least two meetings during the year.

Section 3: A quorum shall consist of one-third of the membership.

Section 4: The bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members present provided that there is a quorum and the proposed amendment has been read to the club at a previous meeting or distributed to the members at or before the previous business meeting. Distribution may be by mail, email, or posting on the internet (provided all members are also notified of the posting via email).

Section 5: The conduct of all meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rule of Order, Revised, in so far as they are applicable to and consistent with the club's bylaws.

Section 6: The President shall approve all expenditures of less than \$50.00. Expenditures between \$50 and \$200 shall be approved by the Executive Board. Expenditures greater than \$200 shall be approved by a majority vote of a quorum of members.

## **ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Any person active or interested in photography may apply for membership in the club.

Section 2: Prospective members may apply for membership at the first meeting they attend. Membership is attained upon payment of dues. Club documents shall be made available when membership is attained.

Section 3: To prevent overcrowding of the Photographic Arts Building (PAB) and to avoid exceeding the fire department's legal limit of 49 people in the projection room, the President may, at his or her discretion and with consent of the Board institute a cap on new members once the membership rolls reach 80 members. Once the cap is in place, names of prospective new members will be added to a waiting list. Once the membership rolls are reduced to fewer than 80 members, the prospective member will be offered full membership. Dues shall be paid at the time the prospective member is offered full membership. Upon institution of a membership cap, the President and Board may also institute new rules limiting visitors to the PAB to free up chairs for paid members. At the discretion of the President, these rules may include limiting any person to attending only one or two meetings per year. The President, with consent of the Board, may rescind the cap, waiting list and visitor limitation rules at his or her discretion once he or she is satisfied that meeting attendance will no longer exceed the capacity of the PAB.

#### **ARTICLE VI – ANNUAL DUES**

Section 1: The fiscal year shall be January 1 through December 31. Dues are payable in November and December. Any member whose dues have not been paid by December 1st shall be notified and, unless dues are paid by the first meeting in January shall be removed from membership.

Section 2: Membership dues are set by the Executive Board to create a balanced budget for the year and expire on December 31st of the year for which they are paid.

Section 3: Membership dues paid are not refundable for any reason. Membership dues are not prorated. The full amount is due regardless of the date paid.

#### **ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS**

Section 1: Regular meetings shall be held on the first, third and fifth Saturdays of each month. All meetings, unless otherwise designated, shall start at 9:30 AM at the Photographic Arts Building in Balboa Park.

Section 2: Workshops and field trips may be held on the second and third meetings of the month. The holding of such workshops, the subjects, and the format shall be at the discretion of the Program Chairperson.

Section 3: The date for the Annual Banquet shall be set by the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Section 1: At or before the first meeting in September, a Nominating Committee of three club members shall be appointed by the President.

Section 2: The Nomination Committee shall present at least one candidate for each office: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. No nomination may be made without the consent of the nominee. The list of nominees will be read at the first meeting in October. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at that time.

Section 3: Elections shall be held at the first meeting in October. If more than one nomination has been made for any office, voting for that office shall be by written ballot. These ballots shall be counted by three members appointed by the presiding officer.

Section 4: Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present provided that there is a quorum. In the event of a tie, a run-off shall be held.

Section 5: No officer shall hold the same office for more than two years in succession.

Section 6: Newly elected officers shall be installed at the first meeting in November. They shall assume the duties of their respective office after the close of the first meeting in November.

## **ARTICLE IX – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the club and the Executive Board, appoint chairpersons of all committees, function as ex-officio member of all committees and represent the club at SCACC meetings or, if unable to attend a particular meeting, shall appoint a delegate. In the event of a vacancy of any office (other than President) the President shall appoint a replacement, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

Section 2: The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President during the latter's absence or during a vacancy in that office. The Vice President shall be de facto Program Chairperson. The Vice President also shall be responsible for organizing programs and field trips including obtaining costs (if any), transportation, and notifying all concerned of the date, time and place of departure and return.

Section 3: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the club and the Executive Board and be custodian of records.

Section 4: The Treasurer shall act as custodian of the club's funds, collect dues, make new rosters for presentation to the members, pay bills as directed by the Executive Board, keep an account of all receipts and expenditures, make a quarterly financial report at the first meeting of each quarter, and in December, notify (either verbally or in writing) members that dues are payable December 31.

## **ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES**

The President-Elect shall, before the first meeting in January, appoint chairpersons of the following committees: Monthly Competition, SCACC Interclub Competition, Refreshment, Poly History, Annual Banquet, and Equipment.

## **ARTICLE XI – DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEES**

Section 1: The Monthly Competition Chairperson shall conduct competitions on the first Saturday of each month except December. Changes or exceptions may be directed by the Executive Board. The Chairperson shall select assistants as necessary for recording and projection of images and obtain qualified judges. At the beginning of each competition, the Chairperson shall introduce the judge and explain the club's competition rules to the judge. For the year-end competition, the chairperson shall

collect all images which have been entered (as defined in Article XIII), have them judged, medals engraved, perpetual high point trophy engraved and award ribbons inscribed. The chairperson shall award high point certificates to the first, second and third place winners. The Chairperson shall secure and maintain a supply of ribbons and medals. At the Annual Banquet, in concurrence with the President, the Chairperson shall be responsible for presenting awards, announcing the title and maker of the images and securing assistants if necessary. The outgoing Chairperson shall obtain a judge for the January Competition for the coming year. (See Article XII and XIII for rules governing monthly and year-end competitions.)

Section 2: The SCACC Interclub Competition Chairperson shall select images from the monthly competitions and enter them in the SCACC competitions in accordance with the rules and procedures specified by SCACC.

Section 3: The Refreshment Chairperson shall assist refreshment hosts for all meetings. The Chairperson and all members present shall assist in cleaning the room(s) following refreshments. There may be a “kitty” for voluntary contributions to a refreshment fund. Money from the “kitty” donations shall be used to replenish refreshment supplies and reimburse hosts.

Section 4: The Poly Historian will secure existing records and documentation from appropriate Poly members and other written or electronically-stored sources, and utilize them in the creation of a coherent Poly history and a timeline of important Poly events. He/she shall also collect, create, and/or maintain documentation of important current events, to help provide a continuous record of Poly’s history.

Section 5: The Annual Banquet Chairperson shall recommend a facility, make reservations, set the menu for the banquet and arrange for the printing and sale of banquet tickets. The Chairperson shall arrange for a lectern, screen, projector, and microphones to be provided by the facility in conjunction with the arrangement thereof.

Section 6: The Auditor shall review the financial records of the club:

A. At any time at the direction of the Executive Board.

B. At the end of the fiscal year before the year-end report is made by the treasurer.

Section 7: The Equipment Chairperson shall set up any required projection, sound, and related equipment, open the screen drapes, and see that all equipment is properly stored at the completion of the meeting. The chairperson shall be responsible for calibration of the equipment and oversight of the computer configuration. The Chairperson shall assist visiting presenters in bringing in, setting up (if desired), and removing the presenter’s equipment. At the Annual Banquet, the Chairperson shall coordinate with the Competition, Banquet and Program Chairpersons to provide equipment, locate electrical outlets, set up the room, and control room lights.

## **ARTICLE XII – MONTHLY COMPETITION**

A competition shall be held at the first meeting of each month. Each member may enter up to three digital images. The same rules apply to REALISTIC and ENHANCED-REALITY and are described first, followed by PROJECT.

By virtue of submitting an entry, the photographer certifies the work to be his/her own and that the image began from the member’s camera. Images in each category shall be judged without

consideration of subject matter, as long as the subject matter is appropriate to its categorical definition.

The judge shall not be a club member. In an emergency, a qualified member may act as judge, provided that such a member does not enter that month's competition. Any member acting as emergency judge shall be allowed one makeup entry consisting of two images at a future competition during the year. The competition date may be changed at the discretion of the Executive Board as long as the membership is notified of the change at least 30 days prior to the originally scheduled competition date. The judge shall be instructed to critique each image and offer constructive comments as deemed appropriate.

### Section 1: **REALISTIC and ENHANCED-REALITY Categories**

Members may enter one image in each of these two categories, or two images in a single category. Images entered in either category are allowed to be modified without restriction in a category-appropriate manner, as long as the primary subject matter was photographed by the maker.

#### **REALISTIC Category**

Images entered in this category must only contain subjects and scenes that do, or look like they could, exist in the real world. In addition, images that could have been taken with a film camera with minimal darkroom-type corrections (i.e., exposure correction, minimal dodging and burning, etc.) are allowed. The Realistic Category includes images that use the following techniques: black & white, multi-toned, infrared, black-light, stitched-panoramas, HDR, multiple-exposures, composites, cloning, adding realistic textures, along with others, as long as the goal is to make the image look natural and appear photographically realistic. An image post-processed to appear painterly in whole or in part is not considered photographically realistic.

If the maker is not sure if an image qualifies for the Realistic Category, the recommendation is to enter the image into the Enhanced-Reality Category, described next. Judges will be advised to give a score of 6 to images that are not photographically realistic, including artistic filters, artistic backgrounds and/or other artistic processes. This will enable the maker to reenter the image in Enhanced-Reality.

**Important:** Image titles must begin with the letter “**R**” followed by a space in order to be entered into the Realistic Category (example: *R Winter Storm by Ansel Adams*).

#### **ENHANCED-REALITY Category**

Images entered in this category may be one or both of the following:

- Images that do not qualify for Realistic category because they are not photographically realistic, including artistic filters, artistic backgrounds and/or other artistic processes.
- Images that contain some or all subjects, elements, and/or scenes that could not or do not exist in the real world.

Images must start from the maker's original photograph. Images cannot be completely constructed of graphic elements that were created by a computer (i.e., Fractals, Plugins that create trees and fire, etc.) and/or come only from other sources (i.e., the Internet, stock photos, art galleries, etc.). When an image's elements come from places other than from its starting photograph, the maker's own photographic content must be obvious and prevail.

The Enhanced-Reality Category can include photographically-based styles such as: photo-illustration, fantasy, enhanced or altered reality, imaginative photo-art, along with other techniques that are not photographically realistic, as long as the original image came from the maker's camera.

**Important:** Image titles must begin with the letter “**ER**” followed by a space in order to be entered in the Enhanced-Reality Category (example: *ER Martian Invasion by Orson Welles*). If an image title does not begin with the letters “**R**” or “**ER**” it will be entered into the Enhanced-Reality Category by default.

Section 1-1: The judge shall rate each image on a scale of 6 to 9 points according to the following guidelines:

- A. **6 points** = Not accepted for exhibition; improvement needed in photographic skill, technique, and/or recognition of an interesting subject.
- B. **7 points** = Acceptable for exhibition; fairly strong in technique and interesting.
- C. **8 points** = Well balanced; strong in interest, composition, technique, and impact.
- D. **9 points** = Exceptional; high in interest, composition, technique, and impact.

It should be recognized that an image may be so strong in some areas that it overrides weakness in some other area. Images scoring a 7 or greater shall be considered acceptances. Images scoring less than 7 may be re-entered at a later date.

Section 1-2: Judges shall be instructed to select First, Second, and Third place winners at each monthly competition in each category as follows:

- A. First place shall be selected from those images scoring a 9.
- B. If no images scored 9, the selection shall be made from those scoring 8.
- C. If no images scored 9 or 8, the selection shall be made from those scoring 7.
- D. Second and Third place shall be selected from those images remaining from the 9's first, then the 8's, then the 7's as applicable.

Section 1-3: Points received by a maker shall be recorded and counted toward the year-end highpoints award for each category. A member may participate in any or all of the monthly competitions and yet elect not to participate and not have his/her scores totaled and posted in the competition score sheet for yearly “High Points Awards.” Those members may still enter images into the year-end competition as detailed in Article XIII – Year-End Competition.

Section 1-4: Once an exhibited image has been accepted in club competition (by receiving a score of seven points or greater), it, or a near duplicate taken at the same time, cannot be entered in any future monthly competition in any category. A similar image that is created from the same original digital file but is clearly different and not a near duplicate may be entered in a future competition.

Section 1-5: No make-ups shall be allowed for any missed monthly competitions. Yearly High-Points competition scores shall be determined by totaling the highest nine of the eleven possible monthly scores. If a member participates in less than nine monthly competitions per year, his/her high-points competition score will be calculated by using the total of the competitions in which he/she actually participated.

## Section 2: **PROJECT Category**

Entries for the **PROJECT Category** must contain subject matter that relates to the Project's monthly theme (i.e., January: Out-of-Focus, February: Toy Story, etc.). In addition, images for the Project Category must be photographed after November 1 when the themes are announced for the new year starting in January. The creation date of primary subject matter photographed by the maker must be included in the image file that is submitted for competition.

**Important:** Image titles must begin with the capitalized word "PROJECT." If you decide to give your image a title, place it after the word "PROJECT" such as *PROJECT Water Drops by Doug Smith.jpg*. If your project image does not have a title, use "PROJECT" as your title in the file name like this: *PROJECT by Doug Smith.jpg*. Although titles of Project images will not be announced during competition, they may be used for winning Project entries that are posted on Poly's website and in the year-end competition.

Section 2-1: Judges shall be instructed to select First, Second, and Third place winners at each monthly competition.

Section 2-2: First, Second, and Third place winners shall be considered accepted images for exhibition and may be entered into the year-end competition as detailed in Article XIII – Year-End Competition.

Section 2-3: Once an exhibited image has been selected as a First, Second, or Third place winner in the **PROJECT Category** following the year 2022, it, or a near duplicate taken at the same time, cannot be entered in any future monthly competition in any category. A similar image that is created from the same original digital file but is clearly different and not a near duplicate may be entered in a future competition.

## **ARTICLE XIII – YEAR-END COMPETITION**

Section 1: Entries in the year-end competition shall be chosen from accepted images in monthly competitions from that competition year. The President or the Competition Chairperson shall make arrangements deemed appropriate to judge these images.

Section 1-1: Each member shall choose eight of his or her images from those that have received a score of seven or higher, in **REALISTIC** and **ENHANCED-REALITY Categories**, regardless of category. Submitted images may be improved versions of the original accepted images from the monthly competitions, as long as they are clearly the same image. Improvements may be based on the photographer's judgment or the judge's comments. The judges shall select First, Second and Third place image winners in each of the two categories, plus approximately ten percent of the entries in each category as Honorable Mentions. First, Second and Third place winners shall receive inscribed medals. Honorable Mentions shall receive ribbons.

Section 1-2: Each member may enter their First, Second, and Third place monthly winners in the **PROJECT Category**. The judges shall select Year-End First, Second and Third place winners for the Project Category, plus approximately ten percent of the entries as Honorable Mentions. First, Second and Third place winners shall receive inscribed medals. Honorable Mentions shall receive ribbons.

Section 2: **SPECIAL AWARDS.** For Image of the Year and all other special year-end awards, judges may select images from the three categories: Realistic, Enhanced-Reality and Project.

Section 3: **HIGH-POINTS AWARDS** will be determined by totaling the points accumulated from the monthly competitions as defined in Article XII, Section 1-3. First, Second, and Third place High-Points Awards will be given separately, at Year-End, to winners of the Realistic Category and the Enhanced-Reality Category. In addition, First, Second, and Third place High-Points Awards will be given to winners of the Combined-Category, at Year-End, for those who have entered at least 6 of a possible 22 images in both the Realistic and Enhanced-Reality Categories during the competition year. If a winner qualifies for High-Points Awards in more than one category (i.e., such as Awards in both Enhanced-Reality and Combined-Category), only the highest award will be given regardless of which category it is in. In the event that a winner earns the same High-Points Award in multiple categories (e.g., two Third Places), only one award will be given using the following category hierarchy: (1) Realistic, (2) Enhanced-Reality, and lastly (3) the Combined-Category.

The names of First Place High-Points winners of the Realistic, Enhanced-Reality, Combined Categories shall be inscribed on the High-Points Perpetual Trophy. An inscribed medal shall be awarded to all First-Place winners, along with Second and Third place runners-up in each of the categories. In the event of ties for First Place in any category, all First-Place names shall be engraved on the High-Points Trophy and receive inscribed medals.

#### **ARTICLE XIV – CLUB PUBLICATION**

Section 1: The club publication shall be known as POLY SPEAKS.