

**Tidewater Camera Club
Competition Score Sheet**

Month/Year: September 2015

Theme: Open with no time limit

From 1-5 points for each score

Title		Comp	Impact	Tech	Total	Judges Comments
1	a73	5	5	5	15	
2	delicate manners	5	5	5	15	Great pose(r), wonderful use of shallow DoF and eyes look tack sharp. Maybe eliminate hot spot on the munchie.
3	grrr	5	5	5	15	Wish I'd taken this shot. Tack sharp eyes, great texture and B&W conversion. Can you believe they're endangered?!?
4	lady in darkness	5	5	5	15	Wonderful portrait. Nice skin tone, colors & chiaroscuro effect. Could you maybe powder the nose a bit.
5	pa lease	5	5	5	15	Very nice portrait
6	balancing breadfruit	4	5	5	14	Nice how fruit & shirt mirror. Can you sharpen the eyes a bit more?
7	balloon kenya	5	5	4	14	Gorgeous shot. Perhaps a bit over sharpened for digital image (see halos) but prob fine in print. Sharpen selectively.
8	coming attraction	5	5	4	14	If soft glow is intended (vs sharp macro shot), it works here very well. Color & DoF are wonderful. Burning in the small hot spots might make it even better.
9	blackwater	4	4	5	13	You don't need as much of the right side of view. Maybe crop in a little which may set the cloud up as a leading line element. Or crop down so top of cloud doesn't lead out of shot.
10	sentinel	4	4	5	13	Nice color and tonal quality. Note the halos around the rock most likely due to a bit too much sharpening. However, this is most likely good for a print.
11	tall ship small ship	4	4	4	12	Blue and yellow are great complimentary colors but, you might try mitigating the bluish cast on the tall ship. I might suggest either using a longer DoF to get the foreground and background equally sharp, or a slightly shorter DoF to blur even more the tall ship (putting emphasis on the small bit "mighty" dinky).
12	in a pigs eye	3	4	4	11	You could probably crop in more from top right to really hone in on face.
13	turbulance	3	5	3	11	Very interesting affect (esp printed on metallic paper). You might crop in a bit from the bottom left to move lower left piling towards lower left corner. And if you crop from top, the wave curls become leading lines that take you back into the scene. Not sure where the green on top of pilings come from (if mono).
14	autumn looking back	3	3	4	10	Interesting try. Perhaps try it without the mirrored frame (or reduce size). It's a bit distracting. Bring out the eyes a bit more.
15	mating woodducks	3	3	4	10	Very interesting as a documentary nature scene but, the position of the subjects is very confusing for a beauty shot. Though the colors of the male are nice. Watch out for halos (seen esp around top of male's head. And make sure eyes are sharp.

16	natl guard arrives berkeley may 196	3	4	3	10	The subject here is the guardsman looking out from the truck. So, you want to eliminate or reduce anything distracting the viewer from him. By reducing the highlights of on the uniforms, top canvas and object at guardsman head and adding a slight vignette, he will pop out. Watch out for halos (see around top left guardsman's head).
17	on the road	3	3	4	10	It is probable that the greater story here is about the baby elephant and it's relationship to its mother. See what happens if you zoom/crop in to emphasize mostly the baby. It's ok to crop out most of the mother - the viewer knows what it is and what it looks like. She shouldn't distract from the baby.
18	contented	3	3	3	9	I think the relationship between baby & mom is the subject of this pic. And the baby most important. Therefore, you might want to zoom/crop way in. Highlight the baby nuzzling up to mom. You don't need all of her and you don't need water in background. also looks like baby moved creating a bit of motion blur.
19	pleased	3	3	3	9	See "Pensive". You might want to eliminate the light reflection on the front of candle to suggest that it is the sole light for the scene.
20	View from the Louvre	3	3	3	9	Try cropping in from the top right. You probably don't need so much sky (down to tip of Eifel Tower) or trees and shrubs at right (which could be another scene all together). This shouldn't ruin the scale of the image but may give a bit more emphasis to the human activity. You may want to boost Saturation or Vibrance.
21	christ church st michaels	3	3	2	8	Try reducing the keystone. I'd increase mid-tone contrast & even if this coloring is what you want, try to eliminate the fringing in trees.
22	get outta my face	3	3	2	8	Some dodging and burning would improve this shot, eliminating the hot spots on snouts and bringing out fur texture. Try to lighten the eyes, esp of the youngster.
23	light show	2	3	3	8	The person is positioned well but should be looking the other way -- into the scene. Here her view takes our view out of the picture.
24	pensive	3	2	3	8	Looks like candle was added (?). The flame's harshness can be a distraction from the model's pensive mood. A nitpick, but the ring on finger could be removed, it's a bit distracting.
25	perspective	2	3	3	8	Pretty sunset. You might want the runner less centered, a bit more to the left which would suggest a longer run is in store. The runner size may be a bit small (almost lost) and you'd still get the idea of scale if made a little larger.
26	sea ice	2	3	3	8	(Is the foreground Ice added?). You might be able to crop in a bit more from left to perhaps eliminate the water arc at left. Since the wall of ice at back and the people in boat are so important, a very deep DoF is suggested so everything is really sharp and in focus. Glad that you didn't over-saturate the people. (Print on metallic paper!)
27	shenandoah barn	3	2	3	8	The texture of the barn walls is beautiful. So, I'd move in to capture that texture. You probably don't need the entire barn for the viewer to know what it is (esp at left: the door panels add great color). The HDR process (if this is an HDR shot) has a tendency to flatten mid-tone contrast (not too bad here) and create noise so, stability, focus and sharpening are paramount.
28	Sunny	3	3	2	8	Nice use of shallow DoF to emphasize the main flower. Try to mitigate the distraction of the dark space at top. Sharpening and focus are very important here and it looks fine. See what happens if you use a color adjustment to reduce slightly the yellow and bring out a bit more of the browns of the central disc.

29	just a moment	2	2	3	7	This shot cries out for a closer view and/or a different POV. You could crop in from the right to eliminate the bright white spot (water, ice?) which distracts viewer from the important scene.
30	leopard kenya	3	2	2	7	Very interesting shot which could be improved by working with the background to reduce the purple tone. You could zoom in a bit and try to blur the background even more to highlight the beautiful animal.
31	meditation	2	3	2	7	Good use of slower shutter speed which renders the rushing water beautifully. For this type of scenic landscape you may want to increase the DoF to make sure all is in focus from foreground to back. Esp given the beautiful light at back. See if you can bring out some more shadow detail in the rocks at right.
32	indestructible object	2	2	2	6	Try squaring up the window behind Frank's object. Try boosting the Vibrance slider to bring out a little subtle color. & make sure still lifes are tack sharp.
33	point of capture	2	2	2	6	Try to reduce noise by using a low ISO or noise reduction in post process (though this will reduce sharpness) and it could use more sharpening. Perhaps shot a second or 2 later would have been more impactful.
34	reflection	2	2	2	6	Nice use of a shallow DoF. If your subject is looking in a particular direction, you should give that direction more room. Here, shift Heron to the right ('rule' of thirds). If titled 'Reflection', use a POV that includes more of the reflection. You could crop from top. Set your camera to it's lowest ISO and perhaps manually focus to get the least amt of noise and best resolution.
35	egret taking flight	2	2	1	5	Try not to over sharpen (see the halos). Reducing the contrast may also help especially in reducing the blown out highlights. & you might want to warm the tone a bit.
36	missing 3	5	5	5	15	Very nice composition and detail and color. Though the Angels did the composing - amazing!
37	flag boy	4	5	5	14	Nice shot. Great, fun expression on boy's face
38	up up and away	5	4	4	13	Nice compositional balance of 'heavy' chute vs the two kids. (A nit pic - Perhaps slightly more room at right so the kids don't seem to be heading into a wall.) A polarizer filter would darken the sky and really set off the yellow chute and the riders. A little mid-tone contrast would provide for a bit more texture.
39	sails	4	4	4	12	Great graphic shot and nice B&W, contrast. The position and brighter sail in fore and midground act as leading line to the darker sail at back. See what it looks like if you crop a bit closer. You probably don't need the top-most part of the large sail at left. This may highlight the graphic quality de-center the horizon (dark sail).
40	blending in	4	4	3	11	Nice use of complimentary colors & DoF. Could use some sharpening and perhaps a mid-tone contrast boost to bring out texture. (Clarity slider)
41	close enough	3	4	4	11	Actually, could be much closer and less centered. Make sure eyes are tack sharp.
42	colateral damage	3	5	3	11	Yuck! Too bad the lion's not facing us more but is walking away. I'd sharpen it's head anyway and perhaps clone out or crop the distracting pile of dung. Otherwise a disgusting yet fascinating document.
43	too big to swallow	4	4	3	11	Because the viewing side of the gull is in shadow, you might want to bring out more of the detail, perhaps increasing mid-tone contrast with the Clarity adjustment. Lighten & sharpen the eye (dodge) and reduce the highlights on forehead and chest (burn). You might also try cropping in from top right.



44	almost airborne	3	3	4	10	Try to blur out bkgnd so it is less distracting and crop out trees from top. All to put emphasis on subject
45	farmhouse table	3	3	4	10	Beautiful lighting coming in through the window and producing the wonderful mood. See how it looks cropped square, eliminating the unimportant left side which draws viewer's eye away from table & chairs. Or not
46	nuns retreat at sunrise	4	3	3	10	HDR? Can create noise and reduces mid-tone contrast, both of which you can remedy. Also, depending on HDR software you can eliminate out-of-register layers to get better sharpness
47	view from muse d orsay	3	4	3	10	Nice framing of wheel within a wheel. Try to mitigate the very yellow cast of the scene, even if glass creates the cast. A bluer sky would compliment the yellow. Nice DoF since background is important here. For another take on this shot see André Kertész "Pont des Arts", Paris.
48	bleeding hearts	3	3	3	9	Good use of color and shallow DoF. Rather than centering the plant, try moving it towards the top so stem leads viewer down onto flowers. At least a subject flower must be tack sharp. And a contrast tweak will bring out more texture.
49	buoy 910	3	3	3	9	Burning in (darkening) the yellow floats at left may bring out more of their texture. The dark space under 910 is a bit distracting (not critical, though)
50	Kimmie	3	3	3	9	Try increasing the contrast - global & mid-tone - to bring out texture. Make sure the leading eye is tack sharp.
51	left behind	3	3	3	9	Give the front of the cart more space rather than put it in the center of the pic. Esp if you have it going away from viewer. What would it look like if the yellow tone was reduced.
52	Painted Roses	3	3	3	9	See what this looks like in a square aspect ratio. Will look great framed.
53	pretty in pink	3	3	2	8	Composition is nice but you could move it up even a bit more, possibly including the tip of the stem bottom right rather than have it be cut off by the frame
54	docking contest	2	2	2	6	Looks over saturated. Try cropping in from top & right to put more emphasis on main subject. Detail of crowd at back detracts from main subject. Too bad the helmsman looks so blasé
55	jakes last portrait	2	2	2	6	Really unfair title!! Only a heartless judge would not give 5's. You should give more room to the side to which Jake is looking and also you may want to crop down from upper right. This will reduce the tension caused by him seeming to be looking at the edge of the frame rather than something else in his view. and focus is important. Focus on the eyes.
56	perfume bottles	2	2	2	6	Please try a different POV, perhaps repositioning so that the blue fabric becomes the background. Still lifes should be really sharp (or artistically defuse). Try using Levels or Curves adjustment to correct the white balance and boost the contrast. A bit of saturation wouldn't hurt
57	shy girl	2	2	2	6	Try cropping way in to just the shy girl and the woman with her (turn this into a portrait rather than a street shot). Given your title, the woman at right is very distracting (even if your intent is to make the viewer hunt). And the girl's shy expression is so wonderful and important. A contrast boost would help with the color tone. A shallower DoF might help mitigate the man growing from the girl's head.

58	ships bow	3	4	4	11	A very nice graphic and chiaroscuro effect. It may be a bit out of balance to the left. Perhaps a crop from the right. The rigging above the spar could be highlighted.
59	ore dock w reflection	3	3	3	9	The HDR(?) effect reduces the contrast so try boosting it (esp mid-tone). By cropping in, the ore dock could be made to look more ominous. And the arched patterned interior might stand out. Try also to reduce the blue cast.
60	los chiles dock at sunrise	2	2	3	7	Not sure what the subject is. If a dock, show more of the dock. Or maybe concentrate on the reflection or quality of morning light.
61	big sur beach	2	2	2	6	Increase the contrast and level the horizon. Try warming it up a bit (it's California!). Perhaps a different POV or crop to highlight more the waterfall.
62	blackwater pelican	2	2	2	6	The reflection is a big part of the shot so, include more of it and crop down. You don't need all the trees. Be mindful of blown out highlights.
63	On coming storm	2	2	2	6	For the title to work, there should be storm ominous clouds. Try converting to B&W and significantly darkening the sky to bring out the clouds. Darkening the whole scene might also give it a more storm-like feeling.
64	pulling in the riverboat	2	2	2	6	Try cropping in to highlight the strain on a smaller group of men (especially at left to include guy pushing on piling. This would also reduce the distracting background. You don't have to show the river boat (or show some more of it). A shallower DoF will better separate the men from the background.
65	reflection2	2	2	2	6	A selective darkening of the top of the shot will help eliminate the too strong brightness of the trees (a graduated neutral density filter at taking or a gradient adjustment at post). The yellowish cast can be corrected with the Selective Color adjustment which may also blue up the sky. I'd remove the object at center
66	seattle near sunset	2	2	2	6	Nice skyline shot. You may want to reduce the subtle keystone to straighten up the buildings. A Polarizer filter will enhance the beautiful sky (darkening blue & highlighting clouds) as well as eliminate some of the glare (it might also unfortunately, eliminate the bright spot in the water which is kind of interesting).
67	stormy weather	2	2	2	6	If this is a scan of a slide, watch out for dust and dirt which are very distracting. Scans can also introduce a lot of noise. Try a different POV to move central rock outcrop away from center. See what the Vibrance adjustment can do to boost the subtle colors of the scene (or you might want to see a B&W version).
68	sunrise at mt ranier np	2	2	2	6	Try a different POV so that the group of trees is not so centered. It's OK to include the telephone poles but you might want to level them up. Also, because it takes up so much of the scene, you may want to bring out some shadow detail in the trees.
69	sunset in wheat	2	2	2	6	I might change your POV. Perhaps back up and include a bit more of the wheat. Try using a longer DoF (smaller aperture, i.e. f16) to bring foreground into greater focus - the motion blur of the grasses will be more pleasing than the out-of-focus blur. A smaller aperture may also allow you to darken the scene and reduce some of the blown out highlights of the sun.

