

SCORING GUIDELINES

Elementary photography – Submission acknowledged, snapshot level

1 POINT: Use this score to disqualify an image. An image may be disqualified if it clearly infringes on another artist's copyright or if it is submitted for a category competition and you feel that it clearly does not fit.

2 POINTS: The image shows serious technical defects: gross under or over exposure, very poor focus or significant [and clearly unintended] camera movement or similar problems.

3 POINTS: The image either has significant technical defects, serious shortcomings in image content, or some combination of these problems.

Because most of the photographers who compete in 4Cs' competitions have at least some photographic experience, this score and lower scores are rarely awarded in 4Cs' competitions.

Intermediate photography – work shows promise

4 POINTS: The image does not have significant technical defects or serious shortcomings in image content. However, it may have minor technical defects, and the content (composition, lighting, etc) is not well handled.

5 POINTS: The image is acceptable in most respects but does not create any significant interest.

6 POINTS: The image is solid, creating some interest. Technical aspects and image content all competently handled. [Also refer to initial scoring overview comments.]

Advanced photography – demonstrated skill and creativity

7 POINTS: The image is very strong. Handling is a notch above competent, and the image rewards contemplation.

8 POINTS: The image is exceptional: unique and worthy of special recognition. You should be impacted by and or feel excited about the image.

9 POINTS: The image is of the very highest quality; equal to the best you have seen; worthy of publication with highest regard. You feel that it should win a medal in salon competition or slide of the year in 4Cs' competition. This score is awarded only rarely in 4Cs' competitions.