

# GULF STATES CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITIONS



# WHAT IS GULF STATES?

“A federation of camera clubs in the Gulf Coast Area, to promote the mutual enjoyment of photography, to encourage advancement of its members in the knowledge and practice of the science and art of photography, to make mutual contributions to the progress of photography, to render services to its members for the purpose of promoting enjoyment of photography through membership in local camera clubs, and provide a means of exchange of ideas and ready communication through its various member clubs.”





# NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

1. Five times per year: May, July, September, November, and February.
2. A member club may submit 4 images from 4 different photographers into projected and print competitions.
3. Judging is by members of member clubs.
4. Winners go into an “end of the year” competition at the annual convention.

# RULES FOR NATURE COMPETITIONS

1. “restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such fashion that a well informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify to its honest presentation.”

# RULES FOR NATURE COMPETITIONS

2. The story telling value of a Nature photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality.
3. Human elements shall not be present unless those human elements enhance the nature story. (no “Hand of Man”)



# RULES FOR NATURE COMPETITIONS

4. “Photographs of artificially produced hybrid plants or animals, mounted specimens, obviously set arrangements, derivations, or any form of photographic manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement are ineligible, with the exception of detailed micro or macro photographs, and scientific banding on wild animals.”

# RULES FOR NATURE COMPETITIONS

- ✘ 5. “Photographers may perform any enhancements and modifications that improve the presentation of the image that could have been done at the time the image was taken but that does not change the truth of the original nature story. Cropping and horizontal flipping (equivalent to reversing a slide) are acceptable modifications. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged, combined or changed in any way that affects the integrity of the image content. Resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene are acceptable. No special effect filters that alter the truthful presentation of the subject may be utilized, either during or after image creation and any sharpening must appear natural.” ([http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/html/nature\\_rules.html](http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/html/nature_rules.html))

# JUDGING GUIDELINES

1. “Three judges must be used with each judge scoring 1-5 points for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 15 points per entry.”

2. Score

13-15

10-12

7-9

3-6

Quality of Entry

Excellent

Good

Poor

Should not have been entered (usually because it didn't fit the criteria for the contest, i.e. an image of a rose in a nature competition.)



# TIPS FOR LANDSCAPE AND NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

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1. SHOOT AT SUNRISE AND/OR SUNSET
2. USE THE BEST APERTURE FOR THE SUBJECT
3. USE THE LOWEST ISO POSSIBLE
4. MAKE USE OF FOREGROUND INTEREST
5. SHOOT RAW ([the file format, not you naked](#))

# TIPS FOR LANDSCAPE AND NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

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6. REMEMBER THE RULE OF THIRDS (**which one?**)
7. THINK ABOUT THE SKY
8. MAKE SURE THE HORIZON IS HORIZONTAL
9. CHANGE YOUR ANGLE OF VIEW
10. FOCUS ON THE EYE



# TIPS FOR LANDSCAPE AND NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

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10. USE THE APPROPRIATE LENS
11. USE A STURDY TRIPOD
12. USE A CABLE RELEASE OR REMOTE CONTROL
13. USE A LENS HOOD
14. USE A POLARIZER FILTER

# TIPS FOR LANDSCAPE AND NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

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**FINALLY,**

**GO OUTSIDE AND  
HAVE SOME FUN  
WITH MOTHER  
NATURE**





**THE END**



**THANK YOU**



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