

# 2010 SOUTH TEXAS PRO CLASSIC PHOTO CONTEST



## SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

All images submitted must conform to the Official Rules for the 2010 South Texas Pro Classic Photo Contest. Any questions about an entry should be directed to the Photo Contest Director.

Please read and follow the submission guidelines carefully so that your images qualify for the judging process. Any images processed or renamed incorrectly may be disqualified.

Entries for the Pro Classic (PC) and Open Division (OD) must be entered separately.

Suggestion: Copy a back-up set of the RAW files you intend to submit on a separate hard drive.

### 2. PHOTO CONTEST CLASS CODES

The following class codes are to be used in the file renaming process. Codes and classes for the Pro Classic and the Open Division are identical.

CODE	CLASS
01	Portraits I: Birds, Mammals
02	Portraits II: Reptiles, Amphibians, Fish & Marine Life, Invertebrates
03	Portraits III: Flora - Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Cactus, etc.
04	Scenes I: Scenes Including Birds, Mammals
05	Scenes II: Scenes Including Reptiles, Amphibians, Fish & Marine Life, Invertebrates
06	Scenes III: Scenes Including Flora - Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Cactus, etc.
07	Skies & Water: Skies, Water in any Form - Water, Waterscapes, Waterways, etc.
08	The Land: Land in any Form - Land, Landscapes, Brush, Open Spaces
09	Culture & History of the Land: Cultural Practices & Traditions, Historical Use, Farm & Ranch Life, Farm & Ranch Operations, Something to do with the land from the past <b><i>Black and white images are allowed in this class only. Complete details can be found in Section 5, Image Optimization.</i></b>

### 3. NUMBER OF ENTRIES

The Pro Classic allows up to eight (8) images per class in each of the nine (9) classes, but no more than a total of fifty (50) images.

The Open Division allows up to five (5) images per class in each of the nine (9) classes, but no more than a total of twenty-five (25) images.

The total, combined entry for both divisions cannot be more than seventy-five (75) images.

#### 4. FILE FORMATS

Photographers must turn in three (3) file formats for each entry: RAW, TIFF and JPEG.

**RAW Files:** Your RAW files must be the original image data that your camera captured at the time of the photograph. You must optimize, rename and convert RAW files to TIFF files using your image editing software, according to the Submission Guidelines. You must keep the file extension that the camera assigned the RAW files when renaming your files. Make sure that you make back-ups of the original RAW files and keep them on a separate drive.

**TIFF Files:** Your TIFF files must be converted from the RAW data and must have the file extension of ".tif." Photographers must optimize their TIFF images using the manipulations allowed in the Submissions Guidelines. TIFF files must be submitted using the following settings:

- a. No up-sizing is allowed.
- b. Use Adobe RGB color space.
- c. Set resolution to 400 ppi.
- d. Set channels to 8-bit.
- e. Flatten any working layers.
- f. Do not sharpen. (Sharpening TIFF files will be done before printing.)

**JPEG Files:** The JPEG file is the file that the judges will view on a calibrated monitor for scoring purposes and must have an extension of ".jpg." The JPEG files must be converted from your optimized TIFF file and should be sharpened for use on a computer monitor after resizing. JPEG files should be submitted with the following settings:

- a. Convert to sRGB color space.
- b. Leave resolution at 400 ppi.
- c. Resize to 1200 pixels on the long axis.
- d. Sharpen for screen use.
- e. Save at highest quality.

#### 5. IMAGE OPTIMIZATION

Nearly all RAW digitally-captured images benefit from optimization. Photographers are encouraged to optimize their images in order to convey to the viewer what was seen at the time of capture. Images that are over-optimized, such as over-saturation or over-sharpening, will not score well.

##### **Allowable Manipulations:**

- Without changing the intent of an image, photographers may make global tonal and color corrections at their discretion. Examples include brightness, contrast, saturation, hue, shadow, highlights and other such adjustments, as long as they are global adjustments.
- Sharpening JPEGs for screen use is allowed at the photographer's discretion. Do NOT sharpen TIFF images. The publisher will apply appropriate sharpening to TIFF images for printing purposes.
- Correcting small surface anomalies is allowed. Examples are removing/repairing sensor dirt, dust, lint or a faulty pixel.
- A 10% crop is allowed, at the photographer's discretion. The crop amount may be figured by the total number of pixels (width x height) in an image.
- Black and white conversion is allowed in Class 09, *Culture and History of the Land*. The conversion process must be performed in photo editing software, using the original RAW file. In addition to the allowable manipulations within the submission guidelines, this class allows black and white conversion and sepia toning, at the photographer's discretion.

### **Unallowable Manipulations:**

- Nothing may be added to or subtracted from any image, except as provided for in allowable manipulations. For example, adding, altering or enhancing a highlight to an animal's eye, or any other part of the image, is not allowed.
- Correcting red-eye is not allowed.
- Complete color change of elements within the image is not allowed. For example, changing the color of a flower from blue to violet or from orange to red is not allowed.
- No dodging or burning is allowed.
- Background blurring is not allowed.
- Compositing and multiple exposures are not allowed, except within the camera.
- TIFF images may not be sharpened; only your JPEG images may be sharpened.

## **6. RENAMING FILES**

You need to rename only the files that you are enter in the contest.

Important – make sure that filenames are in the correct format, for them to sort correctly for the judging process.

Make sure that each section of the filename is separated by a dash (-) and contains no spaces. The filenames must follow the following format:

Division Code-Class Code-File Sequence-Photographer Code.Extension

### Division Code

This is a two-letter code. The division code for the Pro Classic is PC. The division code for the Open Division is OD.

### Class Code

This is a two-digit number. The class code is 01 through 09 in both divisions, to match the contest classes in Section 2.

### File Sequence

This is a one-digit number. The file sequence is the number for that image entered in any class. That could be 1 through 8 in the PC division and 1 through 5 in the OD division, depending on the number of images entered in each class.

### Photographer Code

This is a three-digit number. The photo contest office assigns unique photographer codes to the contestants. You will be notified by e-mail of your number; keep this code to yourself. The code will be the last number in the file name sequence.

### File Extension

This is a three-letter abbreviation. The camera assigns the extension for your RAW files. TIFF files must have an extension of ".TIF" and JPEGs must have an extension of ".JPG."

### Example:

I have a portrait of a bird I want to enter in Class 01 of the Pro Classic division. My photographer code is 012. I would rename my RAW file as follows: PC-01-1-012.CR2.

PC = Pro Classic division  
01 = Class code  
1 = Sequential number for the image in that class  
012 = My photographer code  
.CR2 = RAW file extension for a Canon camera; extension varies, depending on camera model.

Make sure that each section is separated by a "-" (dash), with no spaces. NOTE: If you rename the RAW files you are going to enter before you optimize them, you will not have to rename each of the resulting TIFF and JPEG files.

## 7. DVDs

Each division's images must be burned onto a separate DVD. Do NOT use CDs. Label DVDs with a felt-tip marker with PC or OD, along with the three-digit photographer code. Mac users: Please be sure to burn a hybrid DVD that can be read on a PC.

On your computer, create and name two folders, one for PC (Pro Classic) and one for OD (Open Division), with the division and three-digit photographer code (e.g., PC123 or OD123). Next, place all of your photo contest entries for the appropriate division into the corresponding folder. It is not necessary to include XMP data with RAW files.

If you have renamed your images correctly, they should sort by class and file type. Make sure there are no more than eight (8) images per class in the PC and no more than five (5) images per class in the OD. Also make sure that you have three (3) files (RAW, TIFF and JPEG) for each entry.

You may enter no more than fifty (50) images in the PC and no more than twenty-five (25) images in the OD, with a grand total of no more than seventy-five (75) images for both divisions.

Using your computer's DVD burning software, burn the folder containing your entries to the DVD. Make sure your disk will open on your computer and that your files are visible, as well as on someone else's computer. Label the DVD with a felt-tip pen, identifying the division and photographer code as mentioned above. Remember to burn one DVD for each division (PC and OD). Place each DVD in an unmarked, protective sleeve and place both DVDs in a 9 x 12" envelope labeled with your name.

## 8. SUBMISSIONS

Entries must be submitted in person or by courier (United States Postal Service, Federal Express, United Parcel Service or other courier) to:

Burton, McCumber & Cortez, LLP  
c/o Ben Peña, CPA  
205 Pecan Blvd.  
McAllen, TX 78501  
956-618-2300

***Entries are due on or before Monday, August 16, 2010, by 5:00 p.m.***

## 9. QUESTIONS

Contact the Photo Contest Director, Ruth Hoyt. Phone (956) 330-2900, Email [ruthhoyt@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthhoyt@hotmail.com).