

Shooting and Scoring Criteria

Technical: *Appropriate or complements the image.*

1. **Shutter Speed**, was camera shake eliminated
2. **Aperture**, good use of depth of field
3. **White Balance**, are the colors correct or complimentary
4. **ISO**, is the image noise acceptable for the conditions

Artistic: *Resulting in an emotion.*

1. **Composition**, good use of balance, rule of 3rds
2. **Creativity**, lighting, perspective, angle of view
3. **Interesting**, pleasing, wow factor
4. **Story**, makes you want to know more

The **Technical** criteria should establish some basic competencies for the photographer and the judges. This encourages the photographer to learn how to control the camera in the manual mode. Editing the image with software should tweak the image to its very best without any obvious artifacts of editing. Judges must practice discipline to evaluate the image according to the criteria.

The **Artistic** criteria should promote and complement the essence of the subject. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder...and the judges. If you are shooting for your own enjoyment, do it your way. If you plan to compete with other photographers, you really need to stretch your ability to make your work unique and stand out from the other images in the eye of the judge.