THE OFFICIAL CONSTITUTION
OF
FOCUS PHOTO CLUB

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be FOCUS PHOTO CLUB.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

Ratified 8/1/91
Amended 7/01/9

The purposes of the organization are:
1. To unite in a common bond, without regard to race, creed, sex, or national origin, persons with an interest in photography and the photographic arts.
2. To provide responsible activities through participation in club, educational, civic, recreational, and social interaction.
3. To promote high standards in ethics, workmanship, and social relationships necessary for the betterment of the photographic community.
4. To develop the ability of members to plan together, organize, and carry out worthy activities and projects through the use of the democratic process.
5. To foster an understanding of the functions of photography as a separate art entity.
6. To develop and strengthen members confidence in themselves and their work.
7. To provide satisfactory social and recreational activities.
8. To foster practical application of photographic skills through competition.
9. To develop better relationships among members, outside professionals, and the business community.
10. To make each individual member more aware of the world around him/her.

ARTICLE III: ORGANIZATION

Section 1: The FOCUS PHOTO CLUB membership shall be composed of persons interested in the photographic arts who are above the age of 11 and who have paid the club dues.

Section 2: The administration of this organization shall be vested in an Executive Board which shall be composed of the Co-Founders, President, Administrative Vice President, Competition Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Public Relations/News Officer, Webmaster, Program Officer, and Hospitality Officer. The Club President shall serve as Chairperson of the Club Executive Board. Each office shall have one vote, the Co-Founders shall each have two votes, and the Club President shall vote only to make or break a tie.

Section 3: An officer vacancy which happens during the year shall be filled by an appointment made by vote of the Executive Board.

Section 4: Executive Board meetings shall be held once each month.

Section 5: Executive Board members may be affiliated with other associations as long as all the rules and regulations of the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB are met.

Section 6: There shall be various committees set up to meet the needs of the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

Section 7: The club calendar year shall be July 1 through June 30.
ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: A person may qualify for membership in the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB provided:
a. He/she has an active interest in photography;
b. He/she expresses an interest in joining the club;
c. He/she pays the current dues at current dues rate at date of membership acceptance and;
d. He/she follows the policies and ideals of the club.

Section 2: Candidates for membership shall attend at least one meeting as a guest of the club and shall pay membership dues at least one week before being accepted into competition.

Section 3: Membership shall be open to any person over the age of eleven years.

Section 4: Classes of individual membership to be recognized by the club are:

Active Members shall be persons granted membership in the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB. An active member must pay dues as established by the Executive Board of the club. An active member may be eligible to hold club office, may participate in competitive events and awards programs, and may participate in all other club activities.

Professional Members shall be persons or businesses associated with, or participating in, the profession of photography who donate funds to the club in excess of the annual dues as patronage. Professional members, whether being an individual or a company, may be represented by one single individual (and that same individual for the entire club year) with all rights, responsibilities, and privileges of a single active member.

Honorary Members shall be individuals recommended for membership into the club who are approved by the Executive Board of the club. Honorary membership entitles an individual to attend all monthly club meetings and social functions which do not require a fee. Honorary members shall hold an annual membership, renewable at the discretion of the Executive Board, but will not be required to pay annual dues. Honorary members shall not be eligible for competitions.

A Charter Member is an original member from the club's conceptual 1989-1990 year. To retain Charter Member privileges, all yearly dues must be paid.

A Bronze Member shall be individuals who have obtained 1,000 service points in prior years of membership and are approved by the Executive Board of the club. A Bronze Membership is identical to Active Membership but the individual will not be required to pay annual dues.

A Silver Member shall be individuals who have obtained 1,500 service points in prior years of membership and are approved by the Executive Board of the club. A Silver Membership is identical to Active Membership but the individual will not be required to pay annual dues.

A Gold Member shall be individuals who have obtained 2,000 service points in prior years of membership and are approved by the Executive Board of the club. A Gold Membership is identical to Active Membership but the individual will not be required to pay annual dues.

Section 5: Any member may be suspended when sufficient reason exists as determined by the Executive Board. Such transgressions as lewd or inappropriate behavior, misrepresentation of the club and/or its membership, creating disruption among membership, creating a nuisance during a meeting, violation of club policies and regulation, violation of competition rules, or any other transgression as deemed by the Executive Board to be a violation of the privileges of membership.
ARTICLE V: VOTING
Section 1: Each club member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on issues presented to the club at large for action by vote which are presented by decision of the Executive Board.

Section 2: Only club members in attendance shall vote on issues voted on at Club meetings.

Section 3: In case of a tie in officer elections, the current Executive Board will vote by secret ballot to break the tie.

Section 4: The Vice President shall be in charge of a panel of three members who are not on the ballot to collect and count votes for the election of new club officers.

Section 5: Co-Founders shall have two votes each in all voting procedures. If a Co-Founder also holds an office, the Co-Founder will have a cumulative three votes on motions.

Section 6: Executive Board members shall have one vote in all voting procedures.

Section 7: Only Executive Board members in attendance shall vote in Executive Board meetings.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS
Section 1: The club officers of the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB shall be elected by a majority vote of the active membership attending the May Club Meeting each year and shall consist of President, Administrative Vice President, Competition Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Public Relations/News Officer, Webmaster, Program Officer, Hospitality Officer, and Liaison Officer.

Section 2: Officers elected shall serve for one calendar year from July through the following June, excepting the President who shall serve a term of two consecutive years.

Section 3: To be eligible to run for a club office a candidate must:
   a. Be an active member in good standing;
   b. Have been an active member for six months, except for the President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer which require one calendar year;
   c. Be able to attend Executive Board meetings;
   d. Display high moral and ethical standards in accordance with the precepts of the club;
   e. Be over the age of 17.
(75% attendance is required at monthly board meetings.)
Continue reading Article VI; Sections 1, 4 through 10 in the Focus Photo Club Constitution

Section 4: Any active member who meets eligibility standards may volunteer to be placed on the ballot or be nominated by another member. Other nominations may be placed on the ballot by the Executive Board with permission of the individual member. No nominations shall be made from the floor during the May meeting. All nominations from the floor shall be made during or prior to the April meeting.

Section 5: Any officer may hold a post for as long as the club membership votes for that officer to be re-elected.

Section 6: Each club officer (or their designated proxy) will be required to maintain 75% attendance at all monthly Executive Board meetings and display high moral and ethical standards in accordance with the precepts of the club throughout his/her term of office.
Section 7: Any vacated or open office shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Board within two months. If, however, no member will accept the appointment, the duties of that office will be distributed among the other Executive Board members until such a time as the office can be filled or the next election, whichever comes first.

Section 8: All officers will be expected to comply with all policies and regulations of the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB.

Section 9: If these requirements are not met, he/she may be asked to resign by a majority vote of the Executive Board in order to maintain the integrity of the club. A request for resignation shall be made in written form.

Section 10: The general duties of ALL club officers shall be:

a. Serve on the Executive Board.
b. Promote the general welfare of the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB.
c. Carry out all reasonable requests made by the Club President and/or Board.
d. Acquire a working knowledge of the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order. The INDIVIDUAL duties of club officers are as follows:

The Club President shall:

a. Preside over all Club and Executive Board meetings.
b. Act as spokesperson for the club.
c. Plan the agenda for all Executive Board meetings with the help of fellow Executive Board members.
d. Arrange and approve all club correspondence.
e. Appoint any necessary special committee chairpersons.
f. Help plan activities throughout the year by working with such chairpersons and committees as are set into motion.
g. Prepare the nomination forms and officer voting ballots with the help and direction of the Executive Board.
h. Approve what is placed in New Member Information Packet.
i. Select two club members to audit the Treasurer’s books prior to the June 30 end of club year.
j. Maintain the back-up hard drive of the Club History. Update back-up drive every six months with the Historian to update club history.

The Administrative Vice President shall:

a. Perform the duties of Club President in his/her absence.
b. Assist the president in coordinating the activities at club meetings.
c. Assure that all necessary working positions are filled at meetings or events, either by assisting or assigning another club member.
d. Obtain three members not on ballot to count votes during elections of new club officers.
e. Acquire judges for special competitions.
f. Serve as liaison for all committees to the Executive Board.

The Competition Vice President shall:

a. Coordinate and administer the competition program.
b. Tabulate and record monthly competition points and give standings to PR/News officer.
c. Verify that competition competitors have attended at least one general membership meeting as a visitor and have paid membership dues at least one week before competition. Treasurer will provide the Competition VP with a list of paid members.
d. Maintain and verify members competition records.
e. Appoint assistants to help with competition for the year.
f. Obtain three judges for each monthly competition.
g. Tally competition points for members’ nametag recognition stickers and present to the Secretary.
h. Maintain, setup, and ensure availability of equipment at meetings.
i. Verify that competition entries meet club standards.

The Club Secretary shall:
a. Keep an accurate record of the business transacted during all club, Executive Board, and special meetings.
b. Keep an accurate list of all members in attendance.
c. Update nametags and theme cards as needed.
d. Retain custody of the constitution and by-laws and other reports and records of the club.
e. Preside over meetings in the absence of the President and Administrative Vice President.
f. Tabulate and record members’ service points.
g. Set up sign-in table.
h. Become familiar with and enforce Roberts Rules of Order during board meetings.

The Club Treasurer shall:
a. Keep an accurate record of income and expenditures.
b. Report the financial condition of the organization upon request of the club President.
c. Accept membership dues and update membership list monthly and present copies to the board.
d. Maintain club funds.
e. Handle Ways and Means (e.g. banquet, fund raisers, and other financial activities).
f. Provide financial records for the most recent club year for an annual audit by July 31.

The Club Historian shall:
a. Accumulate information and materials which are of value in recording the history of the club.
b. Archive historic data. Maintain and update hard drives of club activities, minutes, photos, etc. Update hard drives every six months with the President.
c. Assist the PR/News Officer and Webmaster in preparing promotional materials.
d. Take photo of the photographer and his/her first Blue Ribbon image and of photographers receiving their first ribbon at a monthly meeting.
e. Prepare slide show for Annual Awards Banquet by collecting photos from club members of group events from that club year.

The Club Public Relations/News Officer shall:
a. Prepare news releases and other publicity as approved by the President.
b. Prepare a monthly newsletter for distribution to the membership and club Webmaster.
c. Oversee all printed material needs of the club.
d. Provide Webmaster with PR material for website.
e. Send e-mails to members when it is necessary to give information or reminders between meetings.

The Club Webmaster shall:
a. Maintain club website and update as necessary. b. Work in conjunction with PR officer.

The Club Program Officer shall:
a. Arrange programs for monthly club meetings.
b. Coordinate additional activities to be shared with another person for the club membership; such as, workshops, group outings, and exhibits.
c. Coordinate updates to club calendar with Webmaster and PR/News officers.
d. Introduce program presenters.
The Club Hospitality Officer{s} shall:
   a. Arrange for and set up refreshments for monthly club meetings.
   b. Arrange Annual Awards Banquet held in June.

The Club Liaison Officer shall:
   a. Provide a single official point of contact between the management of our meeting facility; and the Executive Board of Focus Photo Club.
   b. Handle the paperwork for our rental agreement with the property manager.
   c. Communicate with the board regarding any changes or new information regarding our rental agreement.
   d. Handle any questions or information exchanges between CBK the property manager and the Executive Board of Focus Photo Club.
   e. Organize the annual International Competition.

Section 11: It shall be the duty of the Executive Board members to have pride in the leadership qualities of being a Club Officer for the FOCUS PHOTO CLUB and to project the highest levels of professionalism, attitudes, and characteristics of the honor of being an officer for the club membership.

Section 12: All board members, except the President and Treasurer, may select an assistant (proxy) to aid them with their duties. Assistants must be approved by board majority.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Club meetings shall take place on the first Thursday of each calendar month beginning at 7:00p.m. and concluding by 9:45p.m. Each regular club meeting shall include the following:
   a. President conducts the meeting
   b. Speaker/Program
   c. Competition
   d. Competition awards

Section 2: All competition entries must be checked in with the Competition Vice President on competition night.

Section 3: Executive Board meetings shall take place following the regular monthly club meeting. The Executive Board shall meet no less than once a month to decide policy and activities of the club.

Section 4: With the approval of three of the Executive Board members, the Club President shall be empowered to call a special meeting of the Executive Board when the need arises.

Section 5: With the approval of three of the Executive Board members, the Club President shall be empowered to cancel a regular monthly club meeting due to inclement weather.

Section 6: Any Executive Board member may approach the Club President to request a special meeting of the Executive Board.

Section 7: Any active member may attend an Executive Board meeting and participate in discussion, but only the Executive members shall have voting rights at the Executive Board meetings.

Section 8: All Executive Board members must be informed of an Executive Board meeting at least three (3) days prior to the meeting in order for actions taken at that meeting to be valid.
Section 9: Policies and actions may be taken by vote of those Executive Board members present at the Executive Board meeting no matter the number.

Section 10: Any action of the Executive Board may be challenged in writing by an active member. If such a challenge occurs, the Executive Board must review the matter and revote on it.

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCES

Section 1: Membership dues shall be established yearly by the Executive Board. Section 2: Charter Members shall pay 80% of the annual dues.

Section 3: Immediate family members of FOCUS PHOTO CLUB members shall receive a 20% discount on membership dues.

Section 4: Dues are non-refundable.

Section 5: Club operating funds shall be obtained through dues, fund-raising, patronage, and club projects.

Section 6: Payment of operating expenses shall be approved by vote of the Executive Board.

Section 7: An Executive Board member may spend up to $25.00 (twenty-five dollars) in the best interest of the club without prior approval. However, the member does so at his/her own risk and reimbursement will be made to the member only upon agreement and confirmation by the Executive Board.

Section 8: All expenditures over $2500 (twenty-five dollars) must be pre-approved in order to guarantee reimbursement to the Executive Board member.

ARTICLE IX: EMBLEM AND COLORS

Section 1: The colors of the organization shall be black, white, and red. The black shall represent the sound foundation upon which this organization is based. The white shall represent the light which we as photographers use as our art form. The red shall represent the vitality of life which our members try to capture with their cameras.

Section 2: The official logo shall be established by a majority vote of the Executive Board and the official logo shall incorporate the club colors.

Section 3: All items with the club emblem and/or club name and/or representing the club must be pre-approved by and distributed by decision of the Executive Board.
ARTICLE X:
COMPETITION

Section 1: There shall be a monthly competition at the regular monthly club meeting from July through May of each year.

Section 2: Other competitions may be established by decision of the Executive Board.

Section 3: The rules for competition are as outlined in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

ARTICLE XI: SERVICE

Section 1: Service points shall be awarded to members for services performed in connection with the club, club activities, and other photographic endeavors which promote the club's ideals and photography as an art form.

Section 2: Service points shall be accumulated throughout the life of an active member.

Section 3: In order to receive points, members must make entries in the Service Points binder. The Club Secretary will approve entries and maintain a point total.

Section 4: Members can only claim activities which took place after their acceptance as club members.

Section 5: Requests for service points shall be made within three months of completion of the activity to be considered.

Section 5: Service points shall be earned for:
- Competition Recorder 20 points/year
- Scoring Attendant 15 points/year
- Print Passer 15 points/year
- Projection Attendant 15 points/year
- Runner 15 points/year
- Judge 5 points/month
- Temporary Competition Helper 1 point/month
- Taking Competition Winners for Display 5 points/year

Miscellaneous
- Chairperson of a Committee (temp. project) 10 points
- Committee Member (temporary) 5 points
- Program Presentation (club meeting or extra) 10 points
- Program Participation (other than club meeting) 2 points
- Shoot-out Organization 5 points
- Shoot-out Participation (sponsored by Focus Photo) 2 points
- Shoot-out (sponsor a model) 5 points
- Club Exhibit Participation 5 points
- "Outside Exhibit" 3 points
- "Outside Competition" 3 points
- Published (per publication) 3 points
- Sponsoring a new member 5 points
- Photographing Events as approved by the Board 5 points/event
Executive Board

President 50 points/year
Administrative VP 35 points/year
Competition VP 35 points/year
Secretary 35 points/year Treasurer 35 points/year
Historian 35 points/year Public Relations 35 points/year
Hospitality 35 points/year Webmaster 35 points/year
Liaison 35 points/year
Unelected Officer Candidate 3 points/year
Non-Board Member attending a Board Meeting 2 points/year

OTHER - as decided by the Executive Board

ARTICLE XII: AWARDS

Section 1: Awards shall be given at the regular monthly competition for First, Second, and Third places in each category. Honorable Mention(s) shall be given in each category.

Section 2: Awards shall be given at the Annual Awards Night for the top point competitor in each category for the club-calendar year. This determination shall be made by adding the total of points earned in competition and the total of points earned for entering. Awards shall be given for First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Honorable Mention(s) in each category.

Section 3: An award shall be given at the Annual Awards Night for Photographer of the Year and Novice Photographer of the Year. This shall be determined by an overall total of all points earned for entering and competition in all categories throughout the club calendar competition year.

Section 4: Service Awards shall be awarded at the Annual Awards Banquet to any and all members who have shown outstanding service to the club. These awards shall be the following:

Appreciation Certificate and one year free club dues
100 points Plaque and one year free club dues
250 points Trophy and one year free club dues.
500 points Award to be determined by the Executive Board
750 points Bronze level-upgraded badge
1000 points Silver level-upgraded badge
1500 points Gold level-upgraded badge
2000 points Gold level-upgraded badge

Section 5: Other awards may be given for other club activities and services as decided by the Executive Board
ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: To amend this constitution, the proposed amendment must be presented in writing by the member proposing the amendment to the Executive Board.

Section 2: An amendment must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Section 3: The Board approved amendment shall be presented to the membership for discussion at the April club meeting and shall be voted on at the May club meeting.

Section 4: The club approved amendment would then take effect immediately (or as decided by the board).

Section 5: Only such amendments shall be made as are in keeping with the spirit and purpose of this organization as stated in ARTICLE II of this constitution.

OFFICIAL BYLAWS OF THE FOCUS PHOTO CLUB

ARTICLE I: COMPETITION

Section 1: Each Regular Monthly competition categories shall be:
   a. Print Color – Standard and Theme
   b. Print Unlimited Editing – Standard and Theme
   c. Print Monochrome – Unlimited Editing
   d. Projected Color – Standard and Theme
   e. Projected Unlimited Editing -Standard and Theme
   f. Projected Monochrome – Unlimited Editing

Section 2: The following rules apply to all categories:
   a. All images must be processed by the photographer and printed by the photographer or by common commercial methods.
   b. All entries should be the product of the creativity and inspiration of the photographer.
   c. No nude or suggestive materials will be accepted for display or competition. Judgment of acceptability is completely up to the Competition Vice President.
   d. Once a work has placed First, Second, Third or Honorable Mention, it shall not be resubmitted for future monthly competitions.
   e. A work which has not placed First, Second, Third or Honorable Mention may be put into competition up to a maximum of two times. Such work may be submitted for competition only once in any one club- calendar year.
   f. Each entry should be unique and in-camera dupes or other reproductions in different formats of the same image are not eligible for competition.
   g. Each club member in good standing may enter up to three (4) entries per competition night with no more than one (2) in any one category.
h. Members shall receive the following points for competition:

   i. First Place 9 points
   ii. Second Place 7 points
   iii. Third Place 5 points
   iv. Honorable Mention 3 points
   v. For entering 1 point

   i. Points will be accumulated throughout the year for awards to be presented at the Annual Awards Night in June. Ties shall not be broken.

   j. All entries shall be judged on impact, composition, and technique.

   k. Each competition evening shall have three judges from among the membership. Any active member may be asked to judge if he/she has been a member for six continuing months.

   l. Judges shall not evaluate their own work or that of members of their family and/or household. They will enter a 0, and an average of the two other scores will be taken and added to the total of the other two judges.

   m. No ties shall be broken.

   n. Honorable Mention(s) shall be given in each category. Ties for Honorable Mention need not be broken.

   If there are more than two entries tied for Honorable Mention, additional ribbons may be awarded.

   o. If number of entries in any one category exceeds 16 entries, additional Honorable Mentions shall be awarded as one additional Honorable Mention for every additional four entries.

   p. All competitors must sign in by 7:30 and be present to receive their awards. If a competitor is not present when awards are distributed, the award may be forfeited.

   q. The Competition VP may decline an entry if he or she determines the image is inappropriate for club competition.

Section 3: The following rules apply the Standard Color Print Categories -Open and Theme. Entries in these print categories must be on photographic, digital (inkjet) or laser paper.

a. The maximum dimensions of entries shall be between 8"x10" and 16" high by 24" wide image size, including any mat.

b. Cropping of the image is allowed.

c. Entries must be matted and/or mounted.

d. Tools such as levels, curves, dodge, burn, brightness, sharpening and contrast may be used as long as the image does not depart from realism.

e. Color enhancements such as color balance, hue, and saturation may be used as long as the image does not depart from realism.

f. Additions and deletions of subject matter are prohibited, except a simple uniform monochrome border may be added to any image without being considered added subject matter. An added digital border is considered part of the print entered into competition.

g. The use of the clone tool or other similar tools will be limited to removing dust and scratches. Additions and deletions of subject matter are prohibited.

h. A conversion of a color image to a monochrome image may be entered into Standard Monochrome.

j. Images from non-visible light sources such as infrared and ultraviolet may be entered in the Standard Categories.

k. All print entries must be free of mounting hardware.

Section 4: The following rules apply to the Unlimited Editing Print Categories -Open and Theme:

a. Entries in the Unlimited Editing Print Category may be printed on canvas or metal. Other photographic media may be permitted, subject to the discretion of the Competition VP.

b. The maximum dimensions of entries shall be between 8"x10" and 16" high by 24" wide image size, including any mat.

c. Entries in the Unlimited Print Category may NOT be framed, on canvas stretchers, or include mixed media.
d. Entries must be matted and/or mounted.

Section 5: The following rules apply to the Standard Projected Categories - Open and Theme:
 a. Only color images may be entered.
 b. Cropping of the image is allowed.
 c. Tools such as levels, curves, dodge, bum, brightness, sharpening and contrast may be used as long as the image does not depart from realism.
 d. Color enhancements such as color balance, hue, and saturation may be used as long as the image does not depart from realism.
 e. Additions and deletions of subject matter are prohibited, except a simple uniform monochrome border may be added to any image without being considered added subject matter. An added digital border is considered part of the image entered into competition.
 f. The use of the clone tool or other similar tools will be limited to removing dust and scratches. Additions and deletions of subject matter are prohibited.
 g. A conversion of a color image to a monochrome image may be entered into Monochrome.
 h. Images from non-visible light sources such as infrared and ultraviolet may be entered in the Standard Projected Categories.

Section 6: The following rules apply to the Unlimited Editing Categories - Open and Theme:
 a. The use of digital enhancing tools beyond that specified in the Standard categories may be used.

**Article II: Novice Competition**

 a. A novice photographer is someone who is new to photography. Judgment of novice status is determined by the Competition Vice President. A novice photographer may enter as a novice only during the first two competition years during which they are a member of the club.
 b. Novice entries will be entered any category.
 c. Novice entries will follow the same competition/category rules as outlined in the competition bylaws.
 d. Novice entries do count towards the maximum number of three (3) entries per night.
 e. A blue ribbon will be awarded to the highest scoring image(s) over the entire competition, not by category.
 f. Novice ties are not broken.
 g. If eligible, members may choose to enter competition as a "novice" photographer but are not required to do so.
 h. The highest scoring novice will be recognized as Novice of the Year at the annual awards ceremony. No ties for Novice of the Year will be broken.

**Article III: Amendments to the Competition Bylaws**

Section 1: To amend these bylaws, the proposed amendment must be presented in writing by the member proposing the amendment to the Executive Board.
Section 2: An amendment must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.
Section 3: The Board approved amendment shall be presented to the membership for discussion and voting at the next regular club meeting.
Section 4: The club approved amendment would then take effect at the first regular club meeting following the vote.
Section 5: Only such amendments shall be made as are in keeping with the spirit and purpose of this organization as stated in ARTICLE II of the constitution.