

# Photographic Society of America

## *International Stereo Club Competition (ISCC)*

### **Rules and General Information for 2013-2014**

1. **Competitions:** A series of (3) competitions comprise an annual ISCC (competition) season. The annual Competition is normally held between July 1st and June 30th, a twelve-month period. The particular competitions will normally be held in November, February, and May.

2. **Eligibility:** Any PSA club with good standing in the Society and having membership in the 3D Division may enter stereo images as detailed in the “Specifications for Creating Files for the PSA-ISCC:2012-2013 Season”. In States and Countries having few or scattered stereo photographers, but no active 3D or stereo club, informal groups may organize as a Unit and serve as a club. Such Units shall have a nucleus of at least 4 PSA 3D Division members in good standing plus at least 2 or more other stereo photographers/workers. Except as stipulated above, members do not have to hold membership in the Photographic Society of America. PSA is hopeful that the competition will promote stereo photography in general and encourage membership in PSA.

3. **Host Clubs:** (Hereinafter, the term clubs shall also include Units, as per above). Each of three consecutive competitions shall be conducted by a different ‘Host Club’ secured by the Director of the Competition. Appropriate directions will be furnished them, but the Host club cannot enter the particular competition for which they assume responsibility. They are to provide the three judges needed for the event. The judges need not be the most experienced, but they should have some knowledge and practice with stereo photography.

4. **Judges and Scoring:** All competition judges should be stereo photographers. Judges shall not enter any images in competitions they are serving regardless of club affiliation. A point system with judges assigning “1” to “4” points to each image shall be used (or converted to 1 to 4 points in an equal manner prior to filling in the ISCC score sheet). Therefore it follows that a maximum of 12 points and a minimum of 3 points will accrue to each image. Point values determine any Awards or Honorable Mention for the image’s maker. The sum of such points for each competing club will determine the respective club standings. Considering that the initial scoring round is all important, your club may wish to consider a Pre-View round, that is, a non-scoring viewing of all the stereo images to give your judges a feel for the caliber of images prior to actually scoring. In the event of tied-scores for individual Awards/HM’s, the judges will determine the winner(s), but in no case, shall the initial point score value change. Additionally, host clubs will not send back results to the participating clubs either electronically or via the postal system before sending them to the Director. This will enable the Director to check for eligibility and accuracy. The Director may authorize a Host Club to do so, in certain instances, ie. in the event of a long absence, assuming the host club has access to the data file of already-entered (ineligible) ISCC images.

5. **Image Eligibility:** Normally, six images are submitted per club to each of the three competitions, with a maximum of two stereo images per individual photographer, per competition. An image which has won an “Award” or “Honorable Mention” from a past ISCC, will be considered ineligible by the Director and no points or awards will be given. Individuals affiliated with more than one club, may only compete with one club per ISCC season. By virtue of submission of an entry, the entrant certifies the work as his/her own and permits the sponsors to reproduce all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the Competition. The Competition assumes no liability for any misuse of copyright by the entrant.

6. **Make-up Images:** The three host clubs for a competition season (November to May), may submit 6 “make-up” images per year to the other host clubs (3 stereo images to each). Send in an extra entry form and write in, “Make-Up Images” next to your clubs’ name. Host clubs have the option of not sending in extra images and having their scores “averaged” from the other two competition(s). See Averaging paragraph (12a) and Example (12b) below.

7. **Entry Forms:** Entry forms shall be filled out for submission to the Host Clubs. These forms are made available by the Director for the participating clubs electronically or by regular mail if necessary. Detailed instructions for each competition are to be provided by the Director to the Host Club. Entry form copies are to be filled in and included with clubs' disc or electronically to the Host Club with the image files. The Host Club will enter the point scores awarded by the judges, and hopefully provide comments about the images from the judges reflecting their scores. Score sheets shall be sent to the Director, either (or both) electronically or by the postal system, if deemed suitable by the Director. The Director will return one copy to each competing club together with a complete report on the competition concluded and any award(s) to individual image makers according to the point scores earned.

8. **Awards - Individual:** The five top scoring images from each of the three competitions will be selected for 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> and up to 5<sup>th</sup> Place Awards, based on the points scored, then a judges tie-breaker (when necessary). 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place Awards may be issued if the competition has at least 8 and 10 clubs respectively or if the Director deems it suitable based on scores. The next highest scoring images up to 10, but not fewer than half the number of clubs' entering, will receive "Honorable Mention". Examples: If 8 clubs enter, between 4 and 8 HM's will be awarded. If 12 clubs enter, 6 to 10 HM's will be awarded.

9. **Awards - Club:** After the last of the three competitions, a certificate will be awarded to the club scoring the most points "**First Place Certificate**". Additionally, the Club which utilizes, to the greatest extent, its membership, in compiling its entries, will receive a "**Best Participation Certificate**" without regard to "points scored".

10. **ISCC Image of the Year:** After the regular judging in May, the Host Club will also judge the "ISCC Image of the Year" competition. The individual with the "winning image" will receive a 3D Division PSA Gold Medal. If there are 10-14 clubs involved, the "2<sup>nd</sup> place" image will receive a 3D Division PSA Silver Medal and if there are 15 or more clubs competing, the "3<sup>rd</sup> place" image will receive a 3D Division PSA Bronze Medal. The Award Winning Images (1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Place, but no HM's) from each of the three competitions are eligible. With that in mind, it is important not to reveal the names of any photographers who won Awards at the end of the judging of the May competition (so the judges will be impartial), until after the "ISCC Image of the Year" competition is completed. In that way, hopefully, all photographers will remain anonymous until after the Image of the Year Selection is completed.

11. **Entry Fee:** As of this point in time (July 2012) and until further notice, the usual \$5.00 entry fee per club has been waived.

12a. **Averaging Scores for Host Clubs:** Host clubs that do not enter make-up images (See item 6 above) will receive an "averaged score" for the "missed" competition. Their Averaged Score is determined by their relative ranking from the competition(s) they do enter, but the "averaged score" is actually taken from their own Hosting results, then divided by two. In this way if a host club's judges were "generous" they are not penalized by other clubs receiving higher scores from their judges, nor will they gain an advantage, if their judges were "stingy" and awarded lower scores than normal.

12b. **Example:** If ABC club hosts the second competition, normally in February. ABC club scores were 4<sup>th</sup> best in the November competition, then Club ABC will receive 50% of the 4<sup>th</sup> ranked club score from their own February Hosting (that they awarded as host club). If, in the third competition (usually in May), club ABC finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place, then they would also receive 50% of the 6<sup>th</sup> ranked club score from their own February Hosting (as above). Thus, Club ABC's Averaged Score for February Hosting duties = (4<sup>th</sup> ranked Club February Score/2) + (6<sup>th</sup> ranked Club February Score/2).