

## Cascade Stereoscopic Club Competitions

Cascade Stereoscopic Club (CSC) offers the following opportunities for members to participate in stereoscopic photographic competitions:

- **Cascade International PSA Exhibition:** This is a PSA (Photographic Society of America) Recognized competition sponsored by the Cascade Stereoscopic Club. It has been conducted each year since 1999. It is open to photographers throughout the world, as well as to CSC members, except for the judges and other members directly involved in conducting the competition. There is an entry fee, and contestants can earn medals, honorable mention ribbons, and credits towards PSA honors. For more information, refer to <http://www.3dpdx.org/psa.html>.
- **International Stereo Club Competitions (ISCC):** The ISCC is a PSA Sponsored competition between participating clubs, although CSC members compete against each other for the best images. There are three rounds in each season (September through April). For each round, CSC selects the best six images (with no more than two from any individual) to enter into the competition. Images are selected at our September, January, and April club meetings. All CSC members are eligible to enter; you do not need to be a PSA member; and there is no fee to enter. For more information, refer to <http://www.3dpdx.org/inclub.html>.
- **International Stereoscopic Union (ISU) Club Online Digital Exchange (CODE) Folio:** The ISU CODE Folio is an opportunity for participating clubs to view the best images from other participating clubs. It is not a competition, although CSC members compete against each other for the best images. There are two Foliios each year. For each Folio, CSC selects the best ten images (with no more than two from any individual) to include in the Folio. Images are selected at our March and August club meetings. All CSC members are eligible to participate; there is no fee to participate. For more information, refer to <http://www.3dpdx.org/inclub.html>.
- **Facebook Cover Photo Contest:** Each month, the winner receives an award and 3D gift at the next CSC meeting, and the winning photo is displayed as the CSC Facebook cover photo for the month. Deadline to enter is 11:59 PM on the 7th of each month. Check the CSC Facebook page around the first of each month for entry details: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3dperspectives>.

Competition	Cascade	ISCC		ISU Folio	CSC Facebook
		CSC Selection	ISCC Judging		
Frequency	Annually	3 per year	3 per year	2 per year	Monthly
Entries per Person	4 (per section)	4	–	4	?
Maximum Selected Images per Person	–	2	2	2	–
Maximum Entries per Club	–	6	6	10	–
Entry Fee	Yes	No	No	No	No
Awards	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Report Cards Emailed to Entrants	Yes	Yes	Mailed to Club	Yes	No
Catalog of Exhibition Produced	Yes	No	No	No	No
CSC Members Only	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Number of Judges	3	any number	3	any number	?
Scoring	Total	Median	Total	Median	?
Minimum and Maximum Score	1 – 99	1 – 99	1 – 5	1 – 99	?

## Scale for Judging CSC Competitions / Exhibitions

Score Range	3 Judge Totals	Comparative Scale	
1-99	3-297	1-5	
1-40	3-120	1	Significantly below acceptable standard – contains serious problem(s)
41-55	123-165	2	Somewhat below acceptable standard
56-70	168-210	3	Acceptable standard
71-85	213-255	4	Somewhat above acceptable standard – may be considered for an award*
86-99	258-297	5	Significantly above acceptable standard – strongly recommended for an award*

\*award = Honorable Mention or higher

In many competitions or exhibitions, the scores for three judges are added to produce a total. In the event of ties, the judges evaluate the entries that are tied to determine ranking. Generally, awards are issued for First Place (or Gold), Second Place (or Silver), and Third Place (or Bronze). The number of Honorable Mentions depends upon the competition or exhibitions. For example, in PSA Recognized exhibitions, Honorable Mentions are awarded to the top 10% of Accepted Entries.

One problem with using total scores to determine winners is that a single judge can have a disproportionate effect upon the scoring. For example, if one judge dislikes a particular image and awards the minimum score of 1, that image would be unlikely to receive an award, or even be accepted, even if the image is very good. For example, scores of 99, 98, and 1 would result in an average score of 66, or a total score of 198. Likewise, if one judge particularly likes an image, and gives it a score of 99, that image would do disproportionately well, even if the other two judges believe it is just at the Acceptable standard. For example, scores of 68, 70, and 99 would result in an average score of 79, or a total score of 237.

An alternative is to use Median rather than Total score. Median is the middle score, with half the scores being higher (or equal), and half the scores being lower (or equal). If there is an even number of judges, the Median is the average of the two middle scores. In the examples above, scores of 99, 98, and 1 results in a Median score of 98. Scores of 68, 70, and 99 result in a Median score of 70. The Median score tends to better reflect the consensus of the judges, and disregards scores that are wildly out of range. Median scores are particularly useful if not all of the judges are equally experienced.

CSC uses Median scores to select the best images for submission to ISCC and ISU. This tends to produce good results when we have a large number of judges, even though we allow anyone present at the meeting to serve as a judge.