

Astrophotography Contest Judging Criteria

1) Technical Aspects:

All subject categories except Astroscape will be awarded points between 0-2 on each of five technical aspects for a total point count of 10. Astroscapes will be awarded points between 0-2.5 on each of four technical aspects for a total of 10 points. Astroscapes will not be judged on vignetting, as this is practically non-existent in these types of images.

Technical Aspect Criteria:

Sharpness:

Noise:

Object: - encompassing colour smoothness, histogram, prevalence of dust

Background: - smoothness, colour evenness, histogram

2) Artistic Aspects:

All subject categories will be awarded points between 0-2.5 on each of four artistic criteria, for a total point count of 10.

Artistic Criteria:

Composition: - direction of object, leading lines, degree to which object is foremost in the composition, etc

Colour - degree to which it is pleasing to the eye, and realistic

Novelty - uniqueness of the object or composition, new and not seen before

Depth of detail

3) Wow Factor:

The feeling and emotion that the image evokes, does it draw the eye in, etc. This aspect is awarded points between 0 and 10.

By adding these three major categories together, each image earns 0-90 points from each judge and the three judges' scores are then totalled to provide the final score for each image. The standings in each subject category are based on this final score.