

November 2023 - Feedback Evaluations Not Just Scores

Suggestions received:

individual current CAPA member survey (478 responses received):

- A. No explanation for scores given, only provide number evaluation, etc., while clubs and other organizations provide feedback better. (1 respondent)
- B. No feedback on why images scored what they did. (1 respondent)
- C. Give feedback comments on images. At least on some. Explain why the score. Importance of better feedback. (32 respondents)
- D. I realize it would be difficult but getting feedback on pictures in competitions besides the score would be helpful. (1 respondent)

past individual CAPA member survey (138 responses received):

no responses were received on this topic.

current CAPA Camera Club survey (48 responses received):

no responses were received on this topic.

past CAPA Camera Club survey (8 responses received):

no responses were received on this topic.

Response: Thank you for these suggestions, and we appreciate the opportunity to address each which are included in the responses below:

A.- D. Providing Scores

In our national photograph competitions, we have traditionally offered only scores for submitted images, a practice consistent with the majority of international photography competitions.

In my view, it is not suitable to provide both scores and comments in our national photographic competition. Instead, scores and comments are more fitting for inclusion in our zone competitions.

From CAPA's perspective, the zone competitions offer an invaluable opportunity for zone photographers to gain valuable feedback before potentially transitioning to submitting their images in our national competitions.

Camera clubs play a crucial role by providing photographers with the opportunity to learn and share their photography skills with fellow club members and invited guests. Club may also have in-club photo competitions.

Zone competitions are seen as a vital intermediate step to prepare and introduce photographers to our national competitions. In these zone competitions, judges provide support comments, a feature not offered in our national competitions. For zone competitions, judge's comments are now being provided.

Our national competitions are where experienced photographers submit their images to be evaluated by teams of Certified CAPA Judges. Due to the high volume of image submitted, it is not realistic to score and provide comments on each submitted image. Notably, judges' comments are not provided at international photo competitions.

It's important to note that the top 80 images from each competition cycle are selected to represent Canada at the **international Four Nations Competition**.

In the competition cycles spanning 2020-2021, we introduced the Pacific and Prairie Zone competitions. In 2021-2022 cycle, we further expanded with the addition of the Ontario Zone competition. Looking ahead to 2023-2024 cycle, we are pleased to announce the inclusion of the Quebec Zone competition, with a closing date of January 15, 2024.

In addition to our zone scores and comments, we are proceeding with pilot project to explore different skill-levels for zone competitions. This pilot project will be tested in the 2023 Atlantic Zone competition.

Depending on the results of our post-evaluation of this project, this model could possibly be rolled out to the remaining five zone competitions.