

January 2024 – Why No Print Competitions

- **Current individual CAPA member survey (478 responses received):**
- **Past individual CAPA member survey (138 responses received):**
- **Current CAPA Camera Club survey (48 responses received):**
- **Past CAPA Camera Club survey (8 responses received):**

A. Why No Print Competitions?

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

A. Why No Print Competitions?

There are many reasons why CAPA is no longer having national photo print competitions:

- **Printing Challenges** - Entrants face the decision of either investing in a high-quality printer for in-home printing or opting for professional printing services. The selection of paper also adds to the overall expense.
- **Rising Mail Costs** – Mailing contain must be acquired to accommodate the prints being mailed. The increased postal expenses, both for submission and return, is now a major expenditure.
- **Logistical Challenges In Hosting Print Competitions**
 1. Requiring a dedicated team of volunteers
 2. Advertising the competition and seeking prizes from potential sponsors
 3. Recruiting local judges who are recognized experts
 4. Selecting the appropriate venue for the judging of images and participants to view the judging process
 5. Receiving the inventorying the prints.
 6. Acquiring and setting up the requirement equipment for judging
 7. Ensuring appropriate lighting for the judging process
 8. Deciding on whether a manual or electronic judging system will be used

9. Arranging for refreshments for the judges and attendees

10. Mailing back all the prints to the respective entrant.

- **Decreasing interest in volunteering** is a major concern for CAPA and most camera clubs.
- **With digital photography**, it is both more economical and convenient for a photographer to submit their images to an on-line photo competition.

Despite these challenges, there remains a continued interest in print competitions. To addressing mailing costs and logistical hurdles, some regional print competitions persist in large metropolitan areas such as Toronto and Vancouver. CAPA aims to promote these regional initiatives while adapting to the changing landscape of photographic competitions.