

# Guide for Reviewers & Discussants

## The Goal: Constructive Dialogue

Thank you for volunteering to facilitate our monthly challenge meeting! Your role is to offer a personal perspective, foster an open dialogue, and help members see new possibilities in their work.

- Base your thoughts on our *Self-Reflection Guide*.
- Remember that members are sharing their personal interpretations of the theme. Be open-minded and seek to understand their creative intent.
- At the start of the session, briefly state which visual elements (e.g., composition, mood, technique) you plan to focus on for the day. Keep this introduction very concise.

## Meeting Logistics & Flow

**Time Management:** The meeting runs strictly from 10:00 to 13:00, including a mid-session coffee break coordinated with our online attendees. Please distribute your time evenly across all member submissions.

**The "Shuffle" System:** To keep things engaging, photos are presented in a randomized order by submission sets. The committee handles this randomization and will deliver the images to you one week before the meeting so you have ample time to prepare.

## How to Structure the Review

Members can submit up to 4 images. To keep the meeting dynamic and moving forward, please use the following structure for each member's set:

|   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| 1 | <b>The Core Showcase:</b> Display all 4 images to get a feel for the photographer's submission.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2 | <b>The Feature Image:</b> Select one image that you feel showcases the strongest positive qualities. Provide an in-depth, constructive appreciation of this photo. <b>Note:</b> Never select an image specifically to highlight mistakes or "don'ts."                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3 | <b>The Remaining Images:</b> Keep comments on the other 3 images brief, focusing on one key positive element. To avoid repeating yourself, it is perfectly fine to say: "The excellent contrast choice we saw in the first image applies beautifully here as well."                                                                                                                                                        |
| 4 | <b>The Dialogue:</b> Reveal the photographer's nameplate. Use open-ended questions to invite the author to share their thoughts first, followed by reactions from the audience.<br><b>Alternative Approach:</b> If you prefer to gather blind reactions from the audience before revealing the author's identity to emphasize the image's raw impact, simply inform the room of this choice beforehand to avoid confusion. |

## Selecting the Photo of the Month

At the end of the meeting, review your personal highlights by showing a selection of 2 to 8 standout images from the day. Present your choice for "Photo of the Month" and open it up to the room to find a community consensus. The chosen image will be proudly featured on the homepage of [veraphotoclub.org](http://veraphotoclub.org) until the next challenge meeting.