

2005 NEXSTAR GROUP IMAGING CONTEST RULES

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Michael Swanson, author of The NexStar User's Guide

and friends of the NexStar Yahoo Group

Judges

Al Rugerio, Chris Wilkie, Donna Forosisky

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this contest is to encourage new imagers to utilize what they've got in terms of equipment, to try to take the best possible image. In keeping with this goal, there are certain rules which are being imposed. Unfortunately, this will mean that some people will not be able to compete for prizes and that some equipment configurations will not be acceptable.

RULES:

- Contestants must be members in good standing of the NexStar Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NexStar/>)
- **All images must be taken using a standard NexStar telescope or a Tasco Starguide** (if you have Ray's, Baader [or your own design brackets installed you are still eligible to submit images taken with brackets fitted for this contest](#))
- **No piggy-back imaging through other optical tubes and no OTA substitutions please**
- ALTAZ tracking only (no equatorial mountings/wedges)
- No hardware/software autoguided images - **manual-guiding acceptable**
- any camera or camera type is acceptable (point and shoot, SLR, DSLR, webcam, modified webcam, CCD, video camera, etc.)
- individual images or stacked images acceptable
- Images must have been taken within the previous 12 months from the final contest date (May 31, 2004 - May 31, 2005)
- Submit images in JPG format no larger than 60 Kb
- All submissions are FINAL. Once submitted, the image may not be altered or substituted.
- Imagers must be NOVICES (12 or fewer months of experience) to be eligible for prizes
- Imagers who are not novices are encouraged to submit images to the Open and Unrewarded category (please do).

- At least 3 images in total per category must be received for the category to be eligible for prizes
- Imagers may submit a maximum of 2 images -- one prime focus or eyepiece projection and one in the piggyback category. The piggyback category is when the camera is placed on the optical tube assembly, but the image is taken through the camera's own lens. This is the simplest form of imaging.
- Winners will be announced within 1 month from the end of the submission period
- List of prizes to be announced as soon as possible.
- For each category First, Second and Third places will be awarded.
- Judges, sponsors, and their families are not eligible for prizes

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the image(s) submitted by me for the purposes of this contest were taken and processed by me, and that I have retained all rights to them.

I certify that the description I have provided of the procedures and equipment used to take the images is accurate and complete, and that I have read and understand and have complied with the guidelines and rules of this competition as published by the organizers.

I certify that by entering this competition I am accepting and agreeing to all terms and conditions set by the organizers and sponsors of the competition, and that I am waiving any right to contest the results as published by the organizers in any way, including civil litigation against the organizers and/or sponsors.

I acknowledge that all decisions of the judges are final and not subject to challenge.