

ICF 2008 Pro-Tour of Nature Photography

Official Definitions and Rules

(Revised February 13, 2007)

ICF Mission Statement: Fostering conservation of wildlife through sustainable development using the power of nature photography while integrating art, education and natural history.

Introduction

The ICF Pro-Tour of Nature Photography (Pro-Tour) is a conservation event created to communicate the great diversity and majesty of wildlife living on the private lands of North America. The primary purpose of The Pro-Tour is to plan, develop, and promote the Private Lands Nature Photo Tourism Industry. The development of a thriving industry of nature photography will provide economic incentives for private landowners to conserve habitat.

The intent of the competition is to produce the finest photographs that convey the value of nature, the importance of habitat conservation and the creation of regional biological inventories. Through these images, people everywhere can visually partake in the exciting, enchanting and spiritual world of nature.

The goal of the Pro-Tour is to be a high profile event that promotes conservation of wildlife habitat on private land and economic growth in the nature photography industry. The Pro-Tour is a rigorous, month-long photographic competition intended for accomplished, full-time professional nature photographers.

Professional photographers are paired with private landowners as teams to compete for a share of substantial cash awards. All prize money is divided equally. Each photographer-landowner team submits a final portfolio of up to 60 images divided among five Divisions:

- Birds
- Mammals
- Reptiles, Amphibians & Fish
- Invertebrates such as Insects, Arachnids & Arthropods
- Plants & Landscapes

Each Pro-Tour competition will take place in a specific region of North America. The 2008 Pro-Tour will take place April 1-30, 2008 in an 18-county area of the Coastal Bend of Texas.

The Pro-Tour is designed to challenge each photographer's photographic skills, overall versatility and biological knowledge. All Five Divisions are important for the overall score of a team's portfolio.

Pro-Tour judges are chosen by ICF for their outstanding expertise and experience. The judges will evaluate each qualified image and award points based on originality of execution. Twenty individual images in each division will be selected by the judges to be awarded \$500 cash each as part of the total prize money available. Every team will have the opportunity to win substantial prize money from these 100 images. Then the Portfolios that accumulate the most total points from the judges will also earn substantial cash awards. All prize money is to be shared by each winning photographer and his or her landowner teammate.

Photographers must qualify for the Pro-Tour through a range of objective achievements that are likely to be elements of a successful professional photographer's lifelong work, including participation in the 2006 Pro-Tour.

Representatives of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) or Texas Parks & Wildlife will assist ICF in evaluating landowner applicants and advising ICF on the selection of landowner participants for the Pro-Tour.

Definitions and Rules

1. **Images For Conservation Fund (ICF):** The 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that plans, implements and manages the ICF Pro-Tour.
2. **Competition/Tournament:** The 2008 ICF Pro-Tour
3. **Pro-Tour:** The ICF Pro-Tour competition
4. **Competition/Tournament Area:** Coastal Bend of Texas
5. **Competition Period:** April 1-30, 2008
6. **Nature:** Any wild plant or animal appropriate to the Competition Area, excluding humans; livestock; pets; any plant or animal that is exotic, non-native or introduced.
7. **Controlled Subject:** Any Reptiles & Amphibians, Fish, other Vertebrates and Invertebrates; such as Insects, Arachnids, and Arthropods, that are restrained to the point that the animal is unable to move freely as it would naturally.
8. **Similar Image:** The same subject photographed at essentially the same time, in the same lighting, at the same location, with the same background, at the same angle of view, and with the same or similar focal length lens.

9. **Nature Photography:** Photography that prominently features native species or landscapes as its primary subject, even if the Image also contains livestock, exotic, non-native or introduced animals or plants.
10. **Applicant:** Any professional photographer or private landowner who applies to participate in the Competition.

Landowners

11. **Landowners:** The owner(s) of any contiguous tract(s) of private land, wholly or partially contained within the Competition Area of 1,000 acres or more, who is interested in participating in the ICF Pro-Tour of Nature Photography. The Competition is limited to the 20 Landowners who meet these requirements (and Landowner Alternate(s) as needed to fill the 20 positions). The intent of ICF is to select 20 landowners whose properties are of similarly high quality in terms of the diversity of wildlife and habitat on the property and the Landowner Applicant's wildlife management practices.
12. **Landowner Applicant:** Landowner(s) who have formally applied to participate in the Pro-Tour. This may be an individual, a group of individuals or a corporate entity. Landowner(s) of contiguous tract(s) only may participate in the Competition. No individual, group or entity may participate in the 2008 Competition as a Landowner more than once. Landowners may purchase or lease additional contiguous properties and include them as part of their entry up to the starting date of the tournament.
13. **Landowner Application Process:**
 - a. The Landowner expresses an interest and obtains an application.
 - b. Files Application postmarked on or before September 30, 2007.
 - c. At its sole discretion, ICF may extend the application period until it has selected the 20 landowner participants.
14. **Landowner Registration Process:**
 - a. ICF receives applications from Landowner Applicants.
 - b. ICF will review each Landowner Application.
 - c. Each Landowner applicant will be sent a questionnaire.
 - d. ICF will review all questionnaires.
 - e. ICF will invite 20 Landowner Applicants to register for the Competition and notify five Alternate Landowners of their status.
 - f. To complete Registration in the Competition, each invited Landowner Applicant must sign the Landowner's Agreement and pay Registration fee of \$1,100, no later than October 31, 2007 in the form of a personal or business check made to "Images for Conservation Fund." The five alternates will be required to pay a \$200 deposit that will be returned if they are not invited to participate. If they are invited to participate and decline they will forfeit their deposit.

- g. ICF will announce Landowners and Alternate Landowners by November 15, 2007.
- h. Landowner Participant(s) agree to:
 - i. Provide an exact description and map of the land that Landowner wishes to enter in the Competition (e.g. a part of the property, the entire property, etc.)
 - ii. Establish written guidelines for a Photographer's use of and access to Landowner Applicant's land.
 - iii. Provide reasonable and comfortable housing on the participating ranch property that has electricity, plumbing, hot and cold water, and food preparation facilities for Photographer and Non-photographic assistant for the contest period.
 - iv. Guarantee that all statements made on the Landowner Application are factual and true.
 - v. Halt all hunting and predator control programs on the area of the ranch designated for the competition for the duration of the Competition Period.
 - vi. Abide by the Official Rules of the Competition.
 - vii. Abide by the decisions of ICF.
 - viii. Hold harmless for any and all injuries or losses sustained before, during or after the Competition: all Landowners, Photographers, Boards, Committees, and members and staff members and representatives of ICF, TNC, TWA and their affiliates; staff members or representatives of ICF, TNC, TWA and their affiliates or any other partner designated by ICF.
 - ix. Acknowledge that the Competition **requires** a serious commitment of time and resources by both the Photographer and the Landowner, and that both members of the Team must honor each other's commitment.
 - x. Acknowledge that Landowner Applicant will not receive copies of any Images or any refund of entry fee if he or she withdraws from the Competition during the Competition Period.
 - Note:** ICF will review with each landowner 1 month prior to the start of the Tournament the required commitments, housing, halt in hunting & predator control, etc., and determine if the landowner is qualified to compete. If the landowner has not fulfilled all requirements, an alternate landowner will be substituted and there will be no refund of entry fee.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

- 15. **Professional Photographer:** Any individual nature photographer who received 80% or more of his/her earned income for the past three years from nature photography.

16. **Photographer Applicant:** A professional photographer who has submitted a complete Application, accompanied by copies of the photographer's tax returns from the last three years, to ICF on or before September 30, 2007.
17. **2006 Pro-Tour Photographer Participants:** The 17, 2006 Pro-Tour participants have been given first right of refusal for participation in the 2008 Coastal Bend Tournament. These photographers must submit applications by March 15, 2007 with a \$500 deposit.
18. **Photographer Application Period and Registration Process:**
 - a. The Photographer Application Period for all Photographer Applicants opens January 1, 2007, and closes September 30, 2007.
 - b. Photographer applications and tax returns must be postmarked no later than September 30, 2007.
 - c. ICF will accept Photographer applications until September 30, 2007 or until the twenty participants have been selected, whichever comes first.
 - d. On a first-come-first-served basis (based on the application postmark and, when applicable, the sequence established by random drawing) ICF will review the applications and verify the qualifications of all Photographer Applicants.
 - e. The first 20 Applicants whose qualifications have been reviewed and approved by ICF will be invited to register for the Competition.
 - f. ICF will announce participating photographers by September 30, 2007.
 - g. To complete registration the entry fee of \$1,100 and the Photographer's Agreement must be submitted to ICF by September 30, 2007.
 - h. Five alternate photographers will be selected and will be asked to pay a \$200 deposit that will be returned if they are not asked to participate. If they are asked and accept, the \$200 will be applied to the \$1,100 entry fee. If they are asked and do not accept they will forfeit the \$200 deposit.
 - i. All decisions by ICF are final.
 - j. ICF will return all tax returns to all but the participating photographers.
 - k. No individual may enter the 2008 Competition as a Photographer more than once.
 - l. **In the case of photographer withdrawals in the last 3 months before the competition begins, ICF reserves the right to recruit photographers that do not meet the 80% of earned income requirement. This will only be done if alternates are not available or other qualified photographers are not found.**
 - m. Alternate Photographers are then accepted, on a first-come-first-served basis, as they:
 - i. Pay Registration deposit to ICF of \$1,100.
 - ii. Sign the Photographer's Agreement.

19. **Photographer Participants agree to the following:**
- a. To provide three years tax returns.
 - b. By signing the Photographer Application, Photographer Applicant agrees to the following:
 - i. That all statements made on the Photographer Application are factual and true.
 - ii. That the Photographer Applicant has not photographed on their Coastal Bend Ranch anytime within the past three (3) years.
 - iii. To abide by the Official Definitions and Rules of the Competition.
 - iv. To abide by the decisions of ICF.
 - v. To allow Landowner Teammate to receive directly from ICF a copy of Photographer's final submitted Portfolio of Images on DVDs. This copy may be used only for the Landowner's own personal use and/or the promotion of a nature based photographic business utilizing his/her ranch, and each Landowner will sign a document to this effect.
 - vi. To hold harmless for any and all injuries or losses sustained before or during the Competition: all Landowners, Photographers; Boards, Committees, members of ICF, TNC, TWA and their affiliates; staff members or representatives of ICF, TNC, TWA and their affiliates or any other partner designated by ICF.
 - vii. Photographer Applicant understands that the Competition **requires** a 30 day commitment by both the Photographer and the Landowner, and that both members of the Team must honor each other's commitment of time and resources.
 - viii. Photographer Applicant therefore understands that if he or she withdraws from the Competition during the Competition Period:
 1. Shall receive no refund of entry fees.
 2. May lose his or her ability to compete in any future ICF events, including the Pro-Tour.
 3. Validity of reason for withdrawal shall be decided at the sole discretion of ICF—to be decided by The Chairman of ICF in consultation with at least two Board members.

20. **Registration Fees and Deposits**

- a. In order to complete Registration, Each Landowner and Photographer invited by ICF to participate in the Competition must pay the Registration Fee in the form of a personal or corporate check payable to "Images for Conservation Fund." (See Table 1)
- b. Registration Fee is \$1,100 for each participating Landowner and Photographer.
- c. In order to be accepted as an Alternate Landowner and Alternate Photographer, alternates must each pay a \$200 deposit fee. Upon accepting an invitation from ICF to participate in the Competition, the additional \$900 registration fee will be required. Deposits will be

returned to all alternates who are not invited to participate in the competition.

Table 1: Registration Fee	
Photographer	Landowner
\$1,100*	\$1,100*
*\$100 Two tickets to Awards Celebration	*\$100 Two tickets to Awards Celebration

- d. **Registration fee includes participation in the Competition and two tickets to the Awards Ceremony but not applicable to any other Pro-Tour event.**

21. **Other Costs:**

- a. Arrangements and costs for travel to and from the Competition Area are the sole responsibility of each Photographer.
- b. Photographer is responsible for all costs of digital cards for recording images.

22. **Matching Process:**

- a. Within one week before the start of the Competition Period, ICF will conduct a random drawing to officially match each Photographer with a Landowner Teammate.
 - i. Teams established by ICF in the matching process shall be the only Teams recognized for the Competition, except in the case of substitution by an Alternate Photographer or Landowner.
 - ii. Under no circumstances may any Photographer or Landowner select his or her Teammate for the Competition.
- b. After the official matching process is complete the Competition begins on April 1, 2008.
- c. It is the sole responsibility of Team members to plan, fund, implement and manage for the Competition.
- d. It is important that no Photographer or Landowner has any significant advantage over another.
 - i. Each Photographer must notify ICF if, when and where he or she will be photographing in the Competition Area at any time between submitting his or her Application and the beginning of the Competition Period.
 - ii. No Photographer shall be matched with a Landowner on whose Registered Land the Photographer has photographed at any time within the three years prior to the start of the Competition Period.

- 23. **Cancellations:** If, for any reason, a Participant cancels his or her Registration in the Competition, he or she shall not receive a refund of registration fee.

24. **Team:** A Photographer and Landowner, both of whom (a) have submitted a complete Application to ICF, (b) have been invited to register as Participants by ICF, and (c) have been officially matched as a Team through the random Matching Process.
25. **Teammate:** The person (or entity) that is officially matched with a Photographer or Landowner as a Team for participation in the Competition.
26. **Non-Photographic Assistant:** Each Photographer may choose to bring one Non-Photographic Assistant to the Competition. The Non-Photographic Assistant may consult with and support the Photographer but may not create Images for the Competition. The role of the Non-Photographic Assistant is comparable to the role of a caddy in golf.
27. **Explanation of the role of the assistant:**
- a. The Rules state the photographer may choose a Non-Photographic Assistant – anyone of his or her choice – another photographer, spouse, biologist, friend, or anyone else.
 - b. The Assistant is to be a consultant – meaning someone who may be knowledgeable of the many needs of the Professional participant.
 - c. One Assistant – means no more than one at a time and no more than two for the entire competition.
 - d. “Comparable to the role of a caddy in golf” (aka: "caddie") someone who carries a player's bag of clubs and/or advises a player with the details of the course i.e. yardage, breaks, hazards, recommended clubs/shots to play.
www.thegolfexpert.com/lingo-c.asp. USGA definition: “a caddie is one who assists the player in accordance with the Rules, which may include carrying or handling the player’s clubs during play.” “Advice” is any counsel or suggestion that could influence a player in determining his play, the choice of a club or the method of making a *stroke*.
 - e. The Assistant should not help the participating photographer by setting up shots or by adjusting equipment or settings. Technical advice is all that is allowed.
 - f. The Assistant cannot shoot side-by-side or in close proximity to the participating photographer during the 30 day tournament. When the assistant is with the participant he/she is in an advisory role only. The assistant may shoot with his own equipment while away from the participant in the process of scouting new areas for setting up blinds or looking for wildlife, landscapes or flowers. He may not use equipment belonging to the participating photographer.
28. **ICF’s intent of allowing an assistant:**

- a. **Safety:** Many of the ranches are located in rugged areas with no phone communications. Our board decided that for safety reasons allowing each participant to have the right to have an assistant would be prudent.
- b. **Image quality –** One month is a very short time to fulfill ICF's goals for fine images.
- c. **Documenting the biodiversity of the Coastal Bend:** One of our goals is to document as much of the wildlife as possible. Two people have a much better chance of finding the really unique critters and views.
- d. It seemed like the right thing to do at the time we wrote the rules. We looked at a couple of the models. The PGA and the Bisbee Black & Blue fishing tournament were the two important ones. Both require professional advisors to be part of the team.

29. Photographer/Landowner Relationship:

- a. The Landowner agrees to provide lodging, electricity, hot & cold running water and food preparation facilities for one Photographer and one Non-Photographic Assistant for the duration of the Preparation Period and Competition Period (total of four weeks).
- b. The Photographer member of any Team must abide by the guidelines for use of and access to the Registered Land that his or her Landowner Teammate will have established on the Landowner's original Application.
- c. Landowners may require Photographers to sign a release of liability form and/or show proof of personal liability insurance before allowing access to land.
- d. It is the sole responsibility and within the sole discretion of the Photographer to create all of the Images and to select which Images shall be part of his or her Team's Portfolio submission for the Competition.
- e. **Complaints**
 - i. Any complaint concerning a Team member's conduct during the Competition Period should first be discussed between the members of the Team and resolved as much as possible.
 - ii. If the complaint is not resolved among the Team members within a week, then the complaint should be brought to the attention of the ICF designated landowner or photographer representative.
 - iii. If the complaint cannot be resolved at that point then it should be brought to the Chairman of the board of ICF. Complaints concerning alleged rules violations must be submitted to ICF in writing (letter, e-mail or fax).
 - iv. If ICF finds that a violation of the Competition rules has occurred, the penalty for said violation shall be left to the sole discretion of the executive committee of ICF.

- f. All other matters and agreements not covered in these Official Definitions and Rules are strictly between each Team's Photographer and Landowner.
30. **Control of Digital Media:** ICF has established several control mechanisms with the sole intent to help ensure the integrity of all Images and fairness to all Participants. Each Photographer has unlimited use of digital media, so long as he or she abides by the following rules:
- a. All Photographers will meet on the day before the start of the competition, at a designated location with all of the digital cameras, flash drives and computers they intend to use for the Competition. At the meeting, each Photographer will reset the image counter to "0001" on each of his or her cameras (if possible) and clean all flash drives. If a new camera is delivered during the competition for any reason then the same routine should be followed and then photograph the day's newspaper. This will help to ensure that all digital Images submitted in a Team's Pro-Tour Portfolio will have been captured during the Competition Period.
 - b. ICF must have the identifying name, numbers and letter of each camera in the competition, and if it is owned by the participants name or, if borrowed, the name of the owner.
31. **Image:** any digital image file that is photographed by a registered Photographer for the Competition between April 1, 2008, and April 30, 2008 on the Registered Land of the Photographer's Landowner Teammate and composed of wildlife, landscape, plants or flowers found on that Registered Land. Images must be color only, unless all participating photographers are planning to photograph in black & white or infrared. Only standard format (2:3 ratio) Images are allowed.
32. **Subject Matter:** All Images must be composed of wildlife, plants or landscapes found on Registered Land owned by the Landowner member of each Team. All Images submitted must be of living animals; no stuffed or artificial plants or animals.
33. **Method of Image Capture:** All cameras must be digital with a 2:3 ratio format. There are several objectives of the competition. One of the most important is to start a visual biological inventory of each region. With that in mind a variety of image capture methods is allowed, including the use of telephoto, wide angle, and macro lenses; tripods, flashes, under water and remote sensing setups.
34. **Vegetation:** Any vegetation used as a prop must be naturally occurring in the Competition Area.

35. **Digital Processing: Image Preparation – Does not allow anything to be added to an image.**
- a. A single frame, a single exposure equals one photo. Only cosmetic adjustments to images are allowed and are limited to naturalizing the color rendition and elimination of dust spots. Digital manipulation is only acceptable if limited to cleaning work (dust), levels, curves, color, saturation and contrast work, applied to the image as a whole. Masking sections of the work, compositing, multiple exposures, layers and the use of multiple channels are not allowed. **No major element may be removed using any technique legal or illegal. Each Photographer must personally take total responsibility for the outcome of the submitted image.**
 - b. An alternate procedure would be for participants to send digital images to the ICF designated processing lab for the allowed cosmetic adjustments. You will need to call them to see what charges will be incurred. All outside work will be at photographer's expense.
36. **Portfolio Submission Deadline**
- a. All Portfolios must be received by ICF by 5:00 pm (Central Time) on May 12, 2008.
 - b. Portfolios not received by the deadline will not be accepted in the Competition.
37. **Portfolio Submission Requirements**
- a. All Submissions will be in digital format.
 - b. Captured through the lens of a digital camera.
 - c. A portfolio of no less than one (1), but not more than sixty (60) in standard format (2:3 ratio) images are to be submitted in the five divisions.
 - d. The submission by each photographer may consist of no more than 15 images in any single division and of no fewer than 9 images in each division. There may be more than one division with 9 images and more than one division with 15 images.
 - e. No Team may submit more than one Portfolio.
 - f. No more than one Similar Image may be submitted (as defined in # 8 above).
 - g. All RAW images taken during the 30-day competition must be submitted.
 - h. The Hard Drives will be returned if ICF receives a FedEx # or proper postage for the return of the device.
 - i. The submitted portfolio will be in the form of Digital Files (RAW, JPEG, & TIFF) stored on an External Hard Drive shall be submitted by each registered photographer.
 - j. TIFF file format will have a file size of at least 30 megabytes. Technology may cause this to be changed before the start of the competition.

- k. Each Portfolio must consist entirely and exclusively of Images taken by the Photographer during the Competition Period on the Registered Land owned by his or her Landowner Teammate.
- l. ICF also will maintain a thumbnail library of all original digital Images for comparison with the Images submitted in each Photographer's Portfolio.
- m. The Digital Files on each External Hard Drive must be grouped into folders by Division.
- n. Images may not be optimized in any way aside from basic Color Correction, dust removal and a maximum 10% parameter cropping.
- o. Images shall be full-frame and may be cropped no more than 10% on the outside edges.
- p. Only standard format (2:3 ratio) are allowed.
- q. Each division may contain up to three images of human beings interacting with Nature.
- r. No Portfolio may include more than 15 Images in any single Division. If this occurs, Images will be randomly eliminated from each Division containing more than 15 Images until each Division has no more than 15 Images.
- s. A Portfolio may contain no more than 2 Images featuring the same species in the same Division.
- t. Eliminated or disqualified Images will earn no points for the Team's Portfolio.
- u. It is the sole responsibility of the Photographer to take all of the Photographs and select those Images to be included in the Team's Portfolio in the Competition.
- v. It is the sole responsibility and within the sole discretion of the Photographer to determine to which Division each Image belongs in the Portfolio. For example, if an Image contains a snake and a bird, it may be submitted as part of the Birds Division or Reptiles & Amphibians Division, but not both.
- w. Neither the Image handlers for judging nor the Competition Judges themselves will move any Image to any other Division.
- x. Images submitted in the incorrect Division will be disqualified and earn no points for the Portfolio.

38. **Judges and the Judging Process**

- a. ICF will select three Judges who are highly qualified, widely respected, broadly experienced professionals who will evaluate Images through an anonymous, confidential and impartial process.
- b. ICF will monitor the Judging Process to ensure fairness and impartiality. All Images and Portfolios will be numbered and totally anonymous to the Judges.
- c. All Images eligible to be judged will be judged by all of the Judges. Disqualified images will not be judged.

- d. All judged Images will receive a final score of between 0 and 10 points from each Judge at his or her sole discretion.
 - e. ICF shall instruct judges to award points based on originality of execution, aesthetic appeal and image quality.
 - f. Judges will be asked to select the 20 best images in each division for a grand total of 100 images that will be awarded a total of \$50,000. These images will be awarded \$500 for each image.
 - g. All decisions of the Judges are final.
 - h. All scores for each image, as well as the total portfolio, will be made public after the competition and posted on the ICF website.
39. **Treatment of Animals:** ICF requires all Participants to use extreme caution to protect the health and survival of the subjects being photographed. *Portfolios including Images of Reptiles, Amphibians, Fish other Vertebrates and Invertebrates* that have been carefully restrained for purposes of taking the photograph are permitted, provided said Mammals, Insects & Arachnids, and Reptiles. Amphibians and Fish are released unharmed and where they were found. Birds may not be trapped or restrained.
- a. Reptiles and Amphibians must be maintained at ambient (between 70 & 85 degrees) temperatures. No artificial freezing of any animal is allowed.
 - b. If the subject is dangerous to humans, it must be released where the risk to humans is minimized.
 - c. All images representing controlled subjects must be labeled as such. This will not affect scores by the judges.
 - d. Restrained Mammals species are limited to very small ones such as rats, mice, moles and shrews.
 - e. All images of animals subjected to restraint of any kind shall be labeled as controlled subjects as part of the submission. This will not reduce any scores unless the subject is obviously stressed.
 - f. Any images of wildlife species that all three judges agree look stressed will be disqualified.
40. **Disqualifications:** Violation of any of these rules or federal, state or local laws pertaining to wildlife by any Photographer or Landowner may result in disqualification of a single image or the entire Portfolio. The disqualification of the entire Portfolio will cause the forfeiture of Registration Fees and all prize money. ICF will resolve all complaints, disputes and any questions. All decisions of ICF are final. ICF reserves the right to audit and verify the validity/authenticity of any submitted Image. If a violation is discovered after the completion of the Competition, any prize money received shall be returned to ICF. If the prize money is not returned, ICF shall have the option of legal action to enforce compliance. All legal fees and court costs incurred by ICF through any legal or enforcement action will be paid by the disqualified person or persons (photographer, landowner or both).

Disqualification of a portfolio will result in permanent ineligibility of that Photographer or Landowner in future Pro-Tours.

- a. All disqualified Images will receive a total score of 0.
- b. An Image will be disqualified if:
 - ii. It shows evidence of animal duress.
 - iii. It contains captive-raised animals or non-wildlife animals such as livestock, or pets unless Nature is the predominant subject of the Image.
 - iv. A Photographer's entire Portfolio will be disqualified if the Portfolio contains an Image that violates one of the tournament rules, including but not limited to:
 - i. Contains one or more subjects located on land other than the Registered Land of the Photographer's Landowner teammate.
 - ii. Is photographed outside of the Competition Period.
 - iii. Includes an Image of one or more animals transported from outside the Registered Land to the Registered Land for purposes of obtaining a photograph during the Competition Period.
 - iv. Has been illegally enhanced in-camera or digitally. Illegal enhancements include: images that are digitally altered or optimized (except for basic color correction and 10% parameter cropping), double exposures, sandwich shots, or images other than the pure image as captured in the camera.
 - v. Removal of a major element of the image using any technique – legal or illegal.
- b. ICF will maintain a library of all original digital Images for comparison with the Images submitted in each Photographer's Portfolio.
- c. ICF will also have on-hand local biologists and wildlife experts to screen submitted Images prior to and throughout the Judging Process. Judges may consult with on-hand local biologists and wildlife experts for any questions relating to any Image.
- d. It is the sole responsibility of the photographer/landowner team to determine if a photographic subject is an indigenous species prior to the submission deadline.

41. Rules Interpretation and Enforcement

- a. At its sole discretion, ICF shall decide all questions of rules interpretation and enforcement.
- b. Complaints concerning alleged rules violations must be submitted to ICF in writing (letter, e-mail or fax).
- c. At its sole discretion, ICF may investigate complaints and enforce penalties where necessary. The term ICF will mean the Chairman and at least two Board Members. All decisions made by ICF are final.

42. Awards

- a. Winners and Team placements are determined solely by the total of aggregate points awarded by the Judges for each Team's Portfolio (portfolio of up to 60 Images).
- b. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 10 Teams that accumulate the most total points for their Portfolios.
- c. Based on total points, the top three (3) Teams will be designated "Grand Prize Winners."
- d. Cash prizes are calculated as a percentage of the money specifically allocated by ICF for the Competition's total prize money.
- e. Prize money will be divided equally between the winning Team members.
- f. ICF will distribute checks to the Photographer and Landowner of each winning Team.
- g. ICF will pay out a total of \$160,000 in prize money, however, if \$160,000 has not been raised by April 30, 2008, ICF will pay out prize money in the same ratio listed in the table below.
- h. Fifty thousand (\$50,000) will be divided among the five (5) divisions, \$10,000 per division. The 20 best images in each division will be awarded \$500 each. A total of 100 of the best images will receive \$500 for a total of \$50,000.
 - i. Every team will have the opportunity to win significant money from the five divisions.
 - ii. \$110,000 in cash prizes shall be awarded based on total portfolio points in percentages.

Team Placement (Based on points)	Team Cash (Assuming \$110,000 total portfolio payout)
1 st Grand Prize	\$40,000
2 nd Grand Prize	\$20,000
3 rd Grand Prize	\$10,000
4	\$9,500
5	\$8,500
6	\$7,500
7	\$6,500
8	\$4,000
9	\$2,000
10	\$2,000
Subtotal	\$110,000
100 images-\$500 each	\$50,000
Total	\$160,000

43. **Awards Celebration:** Gala event currently scheduled September 2008. Each Competition Participant has two free tickets to this exciting event and should plan to attend. ICF will sponsor transportation and lodging for 2 nights for each Grand Prize winner and a companion.
44. **Damaged or Lost Images** – ICF shall take all reasonable precautions to protect original Images (digital files) it receives. If any of the Images are damaged or lost while in the possession of ICF, ICF will request digital copies from the photographers. Photographers will not be penalized for losses incurred and will be given adequate time to submit new portfolios.
45. **Ownership and Use of Images**
- a. Images and all applicable copyrights remain the property of the Photographer, unless the Photographer withdraws from the Competition during the Competition Period.
 - b. ICF reserves rights to use submitted Portfolio Images for purposes including but not limited to:
 - i. Promoting ICF and future competitions produced by ICF.
 - ii. Providing prints for benefits packages to reward Pro-Tour sponsors.
 - iii. Producing prints for display at the Awards Ceremony.
 - iv. Producing prints for display in traveling galleries, museums and/or exhibits that promote the Pro-Tour or other ICF-produced events.
 - v. Use in articles, publications, brochures and other materials that promote ICF-produced events. Credit will be given to both Photographer and Landowner.
 - vi. Producing the official Photo Book that commemorates the Pro-Tour.
 - vii. Maintaining an archive record of submitted Portfolios.
 - viii. To provide each participating landowner with digital portfolio of their photographers submitted images. These images may be used to promote nature and wildlife photography businesses on their properties. Promotion includes but is not limited to the following: usage in brochures, calendars, advertisements, web pages, and personal cards and invitations.
 - ix. ICF may sell prints after getting permission from photographers willing to participate in sales.
 - x. ICF will direct any inquiries regarding commercial use of any Image(s) to the appropriate Photographer(s).
 - xi. Commercial (corporate & other) sponsors are given special limited usage rights. Sponsors have the right to use one (1) image per \$5,000 of sponsorship for a one-year period during the two years following the Pro-Tour event they sponsor. For multi-year use the sponsorship amount shall be \$15,000 for up to 5 years of usage or \$3,000 per year. Each usage must credit the ICF Pro-Tour, the photographer, and the landowner. There can be no

digital alterations or changes to images without the express written permission of the photographer.

46. **Affidavit and Polygraph Exam:** Directly after the Competition Period has ended, each Landowner, Photographer and Non-photographic Assistant must sign an affidavit before a notary attesting that they have not violated tournament rules in any way. Non-photographic assistants violating the rules while advising the participating photographer will be treated the same as the participating photographer violating the rules.
 - a. ICF reserves the right to require a polygraph test for any or all participants. Failure of this test or refusal to take the test will result in forfeiture of all prize money.
 - b. ICF at its sole discretion can determine that a photographer has violated contest rules and demand return of all prize money, etc.

47. **Amendments and Eventualities:** Any issue or decision or situation not specifically addressed in these Definitions and Rules shall be considered and decided upon by ICF at its sole discretion on an as-needed basis. ICF reserves the right to amend these Rules at any time prior to the start of the competition; however, it may not make changes in the rules that benefit one team over another.