



Frequently Asked Questions about the *Don Mills Camera Club*

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1) What is the purpose of the Don Mills Camera Club (DMCC)?

The DMCC provides a forum for those who love photography to learn and share their knowledge of the creative and technical aspects of photography, in a supportive and friendly environment.

2) What does the Club have to offer me?

A variety of learning opportunities such as speakers, workshops, outings and competitions provides you with a chance to learn and to practice your photography. DMCC believes that members learn best by doing and sharing with like-minded people.

Once you learn the basics, you will gain skill and confidence in photographing everything from vacations, to family gatherings to nature, architecture or whatever your favourite kind of photography is.

New members should have a basic working knowledge of their camera. We do not teach you how to use your specific camera; however, members with similar cameras can offer assistance. We suggest you study your camera manual, look for tutorials on the internet, from retailers and manufacturers.

As a DMCC member, you may also enter judged competitions to increase your knowledge of what makes a good, great or outstanding photograph.

3) Do I need to have expensive camera equipment?

Our members use a variety of cameras; some use only a point and shoot and swear by its ease of use and image quality. Others use Digital SLRs, some use Mirrorless cameras, smartphone cameras and so on. You determine the kind of photography equipment you want to use to capture the images that satisfy you.

The key is to use whatever camera you have, to its full potential.

4) Do I have to live in Don Mills to be a member?

No, many members live outside the area and travel in from others parts of the city and the GTA.

5) When and where do you meet?

DMCC usually holds Club meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, between September and April. Our *regular club meetings* are held at the Don Mills Library at 888 Lawrence Avenue, *lower level auditorium*, at the N.W. corner of Lawrence Ave. E. and The Donway W. (near Don Mills Road and Lawrence).

Members socialize and help set up from 7:00 - 7:30 pm. Meetings start at 7:30 pm and usually end before 10:00pm.

Workshops are held at various locations such as rented facilities & members' homes depending on size and convenience. *Outings*, could be in the GTA or even farther afield. Meet up times and dates will vary.

6) Where can I see the details of the DMCC Program for this season?

The Club Program and Calendar are available in the Program section of the web site.

7) How do I Join the Club?

Send an email to info@donmillscameraclub.org, Attn: Membership Chair, requesting an application.

If we are at our maximum enrolment (105 members), we will advise that we are not accepting applications for membership. We may offer to keep your name on a waiting list.

8) How much does a membership cost? (2017/2018 season)

Individual membership - \$75.00

Couple (same address) - \$125.00

Full-time student - \$35.00

Out of Town (100+km) - \$45.00

9) What does the membership fee cover?

Fees cover room rental expenses for Club meetings, workshops, speakers' fees, refreshments and supplies.

Membership fees, supplemented by donations, raffles and other sources may also be used to purchase image presentation equipment, the Club computer, or similar items, as required.

10) Are there any other costs I might incur during the Club season?

For outings to venues like the Metro Zoo or a trade show, or for a lunch or dinner, members would have to pay their own admission cost or meal expense. Sometimes a workshop might have a small fee to cover room rental.

Our season ends in April or May with our *Annual Awards Night*, a social gathering and an occasion to recognize the year's best photographers. When applicable, members purchase tickets for this event, and may purchase additional tickets for family and friends.

11) How do Club competitions work?

Submitting your images to be judged by others is an excellent way to receive constructive feedback on how to improve your photography. Members compete at a Novice, Advanced or Specialist level, as appropriate.

There are four regular competitions in which members can submit digital images, in Nature or Pictorial categories or prints, in Colour or Monochrome categories. Entries are evaluated by accredited outside judges and presented at the next regular meeting. There are assigned topics for some of these competitions to provide a challenge and focus. Other competitions include Theme Night, Photo Essays, and our year-end Media Champions. Outside the Club, members can participate in the **GTCCC** Interclub Competition, held each spring, as well as other GTCCC-sponsored competitions

12) Are there other camera clubs closer to where I live?

There are more than 20 active camera clubs in the GTA. Many are part of the [Greater Toronto Council of Camera Clubs](#). Visit the [GTCCC Website](#) to learn more.