



Ready, Set, Action

Monticello Camera Club Presentation
By Clay Sawatzke – Monticello Times Sports Editor

Camera setting basics

- Don't use flash
- Set white balance
- Fast shutter speed
- Lower f/stops (aperture) to let more light in
- ISO – Start at the top

Aperture priority vs. shutter priority

- Aperture (A, or Av): You choose aperture setting, camera automatically adjusts shutter speed
- Shutter (Tv, or S): Manually select shutter speed, while camera adjusts aperture



Aperture vs. Shutter continued

- Aperture is great for situations with relatively good light, where depth of field is a priority
- Not good for low light situations
- Shutter is best for daytime sporting events, because you can lock the shutter speed in at a fast setting
- Not great for depth of field

The best of both worlds?

- Manual gives you the greatest freedom and flexibility
- Also requires the most fine tuning and expertise
- At some events, all modes will work great. At other events, it will be a challenge to find the right mode

Trial and error

- Don't get stuck on one setting until you're sure it's the best one
- Different days, even different hours, call for different settings
- The sooner you try different settings, the sooner you find what works best, and in return get the best possible pictures

Angles, angles, angles

- Have a game plan
- Straight on vs. side shot
- Every sport is different







Frame it

- Be aware of what is on the edges of your shot
- Difference between clean, clutter, and good noise
- Framing can be done before or after shooting the photo





Keep it in perspective

- What is your backdrop? Can you change it?
- A good background enhances the foreground of a photo
- The background can, and sometimes should, tell the story





Perfect your timing

- Pay attention to when and where things typically happen at an event
- What motion does the pitcher use, and at what point is he most photogenic?
- Always try to capture the ball



Know your activity!

- Where does the action normally happen?
- Who is most likely to get the ball?
- In a big moment, who should you be focused on?
- What part of the activity makes for the best pictures?
- Watch for routines, patterns





Shoot early, shoot often

- Take advantage of the digital age
- Burst mode/continuous shooting
- There is no prize for best percentage



Use your resources

- The internet (when used right) is your friend
- Also check with other, real life friends
- Never stop learning and finding ways to improve





Everybody dance now

