

Strategies to Overcome Shutter Lag

- **Prefocusing**

Typically

- 1) Find a similar target, Press shutter button 1/2 way
 - Then either hold until ready to take picture, or
- 2) Do you have a focus lock button? Release shutter.
- 3) Do you have manual focus? AF/MF
- Some quickly revert to auto focus (by closing LCD?)
- Of course you must be standing at the right distance when the action happens. This is the skill part!

Action Photography

Panning

- Following a moving subject with the camera to freeze its motion against a blurred background.
 - Blur heightens the sense of subject motion.
 - Possibly good for wedding dance photos too.
- Sometimes your only option, especially in low light.
- Tip: Continue the panning motion well after completion of the exposure, like the follow-through in a golf swing.

Action Photography

Strategies to Overcome Shutter Lag

- Continuous or Burst Mode
- Lets the camera take a series of quick shots before saving them to the card
- Sometimes RAW works faster because less processing is needed
- “Pan Focus” Mode (man+mount icon)
- Presets the focus at a moderate distance

Action Photography

Panning

- Try a range of shutter speeds, often around 1/15 sec or slower.
- You will seldom get the whole subject in focus.
- Practice to find out how quickly your camera actually takes the picture once you press the shutter. You may have to anticipate the action and press the shutter early.
- A good tripod improves results.

Action Photography

Events/Sports Action Notes

- 1/640 sec or faster shutter speed.
 - Fill the frame with action. Shoot vertical.
 - Go for the face.
 - Include identifying elements that add to the narrative: colors, flags, scoreboard, etc.
 - See if you can get the crowd reacting.
 - Capture the losers' emotion too.
- Great sports photographers know the game.
- Pros switch cameras, not lenses.

Action Photography

Composing for Action

- Generally we leave space in front of moving object (a conservative approach)
- Sometimes have the object leaving the frame ... as if it's so fast even the camera can't catch it!
- Wildlife generally need somewhere to go in the frame even if they are not moving fast.
- Usually avoid close-cropping.

Action Photography