HUNTING DRAGONS: PHOTOGRAPHING OHIO’S DAMSELFLY FLIES AND DRAGONFLIES

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Blue-faced Meadowhawk
*Sympetrum ambiguum*
Advantages to better dragonfly photos?

- Better show details of insect
- Aid in identification
  - Especially important in photo-based data project
- Create Art
  - Dragons and damsels amongst our showiest insects
- “The Book”!!
Tech Stuff
Kenko extension tubes
Canon 5D IV
Canon 800mm lens
f/5.6
ISO 640
1/2000
No Flash
Learn to shoot in Manual Mode
Flash
Canon 5D III
Canon 180mm macro lens
f/11
ISO 100
1/200
Flash
Good General Settings*  
*with flash

- f/11 to f/16
- ISO 100 to 200
- 1/200 (or 1/250)*
  - *shoot at sync speed
**Advantages of Flash**

- Best dragon/damsel activity often during “high noon”
- Sun is bright and contrasty – flash reduces impact of ambient lighting
- Flash evens out lighting
- Fills in shadowed areas
- Freezes movement – equates to several thousands of a second shutter speed
Canon 5D III
Canon 100mm macro lens
f/11
ISO 100
1/200
Flash

Hard (impossible?) to do this without flash
Comet Darner, *Anax longipes*
ISO 200
f/14
1/200
Flash
Hit the eye!
Get on your subject’s level!
Thank You and Happy Dragon-hunting!

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