

## What to Look For ...

### **General:**

- What telescope and aperture was used?
- What eyepieces and magnifications were used?
- What Barlow was used?
- What filters were used?
- Was the object successfully found?
- Is the object difficult to identify in the star field?
- Is this the first time the object has been seen?
- Rate the object on a scale of 0 (not found) or 1 (uninteresting) to 5 (a favorite).

### **Galaxy:**

- Can it be seen with direct vision?
- What is the overall shape?
- Can any lanes or mottling be seen?
- Are the edges sharp or diffuse?
- What is the orientation and angle?
- Is the core compact, stellar, or is there an obvious bulge?

### **Globular Cluster:**

- Can it be seen with direct vision?
- Is the core bright, compact, or indistinguishable?
- Is the cluster tight or loose?
- Is any mottling visible?
- Can any part of the cluster be resolved into stars?
- Do any of the stars form chains of stars?

### **Multiple Star:**

- How many stars are visible?
- What is their general position?
- What are their colors?
- Estimate the magnitudes of each component.
- Estimate the separation of each component
- Estimate the position angle of each component relative to the primary.

### **Nebula:**

- Can it be seen with direct vision?
- What is the overall shape?
- Are there any dark lanes or patches?
- Can any color be detected?
- Are there any bright streamers or filaments?
- Is any part of the nebula brighter or more concentrated?

### **Open Cluster:**

- Is the cluster easily distinguished from the background stars?
- What is the overall shape?
- How many stars are visible?
- Are the stars more or less concentrated anywhere?
- Fully resolved, does any nebulosity remain?
- Describe the brighter stars.
- Describe the color of the stars.

### **Planetary Nebula:**

- Is a central star visible?
- Can it be seen with direct vision?
- What is the overall shape?
- Is it easy or difficult to identify?
- Can any color be detected?
- Are the edges sharp or diffuse?
- Is the center brighter, darker, or the same as the edges?