

COMPETITION RULES

1. The Steering Group may make such additions or amendments to these rules as it considers being for the benefit of the Club, and its decision as to the intended interpretation of any rule shall be final.
2. Competitions are open only to paid-up, full members of the Club.
3. Although every care is taken of work entered for competitions, submission is at the member's risk. The club does not insure these items and therefore, no claims for loss or damage can be considered.
4. All entries must originate from a photographic image or images taken by the entrant, who must also own the copyright of all elements of the photograph. Clip-art and royalty-free images are not permitted.
5. Films and prints may be commercially processed and/or produced.
6. The dates of competitions and the subjects for any set-subject competitions will be decided by the Steering Group and announced in advance. Details will normally appear in the Club programme on the website.
7. Unless specifically required by the competition subject, images may be in colour or monochrome. Monochrome means a single colour tone over the entire image, not necessarily black and white.
8. The Steering Group reserves the right to reject any image considered to be inappropriate.
9. For some competitions the Steering Group will appoint an external judge. Other competitions may be judged by either a Club member, a group of Club members formed as a panel or the entire membership of the Club. Members judging as individuals or in a panel cannot enter the competition they are judging. When the entire membership judges a competition, members shall abstain from marking their own entries. In all circumstances, any decision made by the judge(s) shall be final.
10. To allow time for adequate preparation and to ensure a prompt start to the competition, all entries must be submitted to the Competition Secretary by the date announced. Late submissions will not be accepted.
11. In the case of print competitions, it will normally be acceptable for mounted prints to be brought on the day, at least 15 minutes before the start time of the competition, but all entries must be pre-registered by submitting a digital file in advance, by the date announced, preferably by email to the Club competitions email address. Digital files will also be accepted on CD or USB memory stick. Entries brought on the day of the competition that have not been pre-registered, will not be accepted.

12. In the case of PDI (projected digital image) competitions, digital files must be submitted by the date announced, preferably by email to the Club competitions email address. Digital files will also be accepted on CD or USB memory stick.
13. To encourage the production of new work, prints or PDIs that have been entered into previous Club competitions will not be eligible.
14. The number of entries that a member may submit for each competition will be determined by the Steering Group and announced in advance. If, in the opinion of the Steering Group the total number of entries received will result in the judging taking an excessive time, then some entries may be removed from the competition. The images to be removed will be selected on the basis that, a) one entry will be removed from the images submitted by each member who has submitted the maximum number, and b) the member's preference will be sought as to which image is to be removed. This rule applies to all print and PDI competitions.
15. The competition judge will award a first place, and at his/her discretion, second and third places. Highly commended awards may also be given.
16. In a set subject competition, the judge may decline to mark an entry considered to fall outside the scope of the subject.
17. The Club reserves the right to retain work, and to reproduce any entries in Club publications or on the website.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PRINT ENTRIES

18. Prints must comply with the following requirements:
 - a) Prints must be mounted on a rectangular mounting board size 40cm x 50cm. To avoid damage, prints must be securely mounted and adequately backed.
 - b) Prints may be of any size or proportion within the limits of the mounting board, but the minimum image size acceptable is 300 sq.cm.
 - c) All print entries must have the photographer's name and the title of the image clearly printed on the rear of the mount, preferably in the top left-hand corner. There must be no writing on the front unless it is an integral part of the photograph, in which case it must not include the photographer's name.
 - d) Any mounted print that is liable to cause damage to other prints with which it is stacked due to Velcro pads, poor mounting, hooks, adhesive tape, colouring, etc. will be disqualified.
19. All print entries must be pre-registered by submitting a digital file as described under rule 10 above, which must be formatted to comply with rule 24 below.
20. At his/her discretion, the judge may penalise entries that are poorly mounted.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PDI ENTRIES

21. Digital files submitted for PDI competitions must comply with the following requirements:
 - a) File format – JPEG (.jpg) saved at maximum quality (10-12 in Photoshop)
 - b) Colour space – sRGB

- c) Image size – Maximum width 1600 pixels, maximum height 1200 pixels (note: this means that a portrait or square format image must be no more than 1200 pixels in height)
 - d) EXIF data – The 'Author' and 'Title' fields must contain the photographer's name and image title respectively
 - e) Filename – To comprise the image title, followed by an underscore, followed by the photographer's name, i.e. myphoto_myname.jpg. For some competitions you may also be asked to append a preference number to determine which image will be removed if the number of entries needs to be reduced.
22. The Steering Group may reject any digital image that does not comply with these requirements.
23. Digital images should preferably be submitted by email to the Club competitions email address. Digital files will also be accepted on CD or USB memory stick, but these must be virus free. All CDs and memory sticks will be checked when submitted and any found to contain a virus will not be accepted.

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