

POULTON-LE-FYLDE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

COMPETITION RULES

(Issue 13a - Feb-24)

FORMAT

There will be six competitions per Society year: three for prints alternating with three for PDI images i.e. Print-1; PDI-1; Print-2; PDI-2; Print-3 & PDI-3. Each competition will consist of one class for Developer and four Classes for Advanced: (Open Colour; Open Monochrome; Scapes and Nature).

ENTRY

Entry into each competition will consist of a maximum of three images from each Member.

These images may be entered all in one Class or in any combination in different Classes.

An image previously entered in a PPS competition or Annual Exhibition and which has not received an award may be used in one further competition in a subsequent Society year.

No image (or derivatives of it) can be entered in both an Internal Competition and a Set Subject competition (Print or PDI) during the same syllabus year.

Only fully paid up Members are eligible to enter.

The entrant must own full copyright to all elements of the image.

PRESENTATION

Prints must be mounted on suitable card at the standard size of 500mm x 400mm.

The prints themselves can be of any size determined by the author, but the larger the better for viewing purposes.

Mounts must not have Velcro, Adhesive/Masking tape on the back of the mount. The backing mount must be the same size as the window mount i.e. 500mm x 400mm, and the total thickness of the mount must not exceed 4mm.

All mounts must display the Member's competition number, level, competition & Class entered and the title of the print on the reverse. If the reverse of the mount is black then a white adhesive label must be attached.

Projected digital images should be 1600px wide x 1200px high jpg maximum quality format sRGB (images in portrait format should be resized to 1200px high). The unused area should be filled with black.

Titles should be no more than 28 characters (including spaces). Longer titles may be abbreviated.

CLASSES

Each competition will consist of the following:

- 1 Prints:
 - 1.1 Open Developer
 - 1.2 Open Colour Advanced
 - 1.3 Open Monochrome Advanced
 - 1.4 Scapes Advanced
 - 1.5 Nature Advanced
- 2 Projected Digital Images:
 - 1.1 Open Developer
 - 1.2 Open Colour Advanced
 - 1.3 Open Monochrome Advanced
 - 1.4 Scapes Advanced
 - 1.5 Nature Advanced

SCAPES

Scapes images may be Landscapes, Seascapes, Waterscapes, Skyscapes, and/or Cityscapes or any scenic view where the main subject matter is the view. People, buildings or other objects may be included in the scene as long as they are ancillary and or supportive of the main subject and are not the main subject of the image. Minimal modification techniques are allowed but the entry must appear realistic. Entries must be in colour, mono images that fit this criteria should be entered in the Mono section.

NATURE

Nature images may be of living birds, plants, animals, fungi etc. provided they are not domesticated or cultivated. They may also cover subjects such as weather and geology provided they are titled to show their significance in the natural world. Images of animals which are domesticated, as well as images of cultivated plants, are ineligible. Images of semi-wild animals in captivity (e.g. zoos or nature reserves), or under other forms of restraint, are acceptable.

Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable, such as Barn Owls or Storks adapting to an environment modified by humans, or natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves, or reclaiming it.

Any manipulation of the image is limited to minor re-touching of blemishes, exposure, sharpening etc. and must not alter the content of the original scene.

Titles must be specific and correct. Latin titles are not essential if the species can be accurately titled in English.

NATURE IMAGES IN OPEN SECTIONS

Pictures of wild animals may be entered in the Open sections (Colour or Monochrome) if they are interacting with humans, are in a domestic environment, have been manipulated or have some sort of creative treatment. But if it looks like nature it should go in Nature (assuming the Nature rules are adhered to). Straight nature images should not be used in the Mono section, Nature subjects in monochrome should be in the Nature section. Domestic and farm animals must always be in the open section.

LEVELS

Competitions should be inclusive and give all Members the chance to enter. Whilst there is the competitive element to the competitions, the purpose is also to encourage constructive comment on work entered; improving & learning in photography, and personal confidence.

Individual Members can self-assess the Level at which they initially enter and for an Introductory Period revert to the lower Level by notifying the Competition Secretary. However, purely by way of guidance, it is not expected that Members with photographic experience and/or qualifications as shown below, will enter the Developer section. This does not stop a Member from entering Advanced if they feel confident to do so. Once a Member has entered a Level, they will remain at that Level thereafter. After their Introductory Period, the Committee may award a Member with promotion to the higher Level on merit. Advice on determining a suitable entry Level can be obtained from the Internal Competition Secretary.

ADVANCED

Members with a photographic qualification e.g. City & Guilds, Degree.

Members with distinctions from other societies e.g. RPS / FIAP / PAGB.

Previous winners of a Developer annual league table.

DEVELOPER

Members studying for or holding a photographic qualification e.g. modules in City & Guilds, GCSE "O" level.

Previous member of another photographic society, at any level other than that of 'Advanced'.

Members who have newly joined the Society with no previous or limited photographic experience.

SCORING

There will be twelve League Tables in the competitions. In each of the Print and PDI sections there will be the following six Leagues: Developers, Open Colour; Open Monochrome, Scapes, Nature and Photo Diversity (for those who have entered 3 different categories in each competition each time in Prints or PDI in the Advanced section).

The scores in each will be as follows: -

FIRST PLACE 10 Points

SECOND PLACE 8 Points

THIRD PLACE 6 Points

HIGHLY COMMENDED 4 Points

COMMENDED 2 Points

ENTRY 1 Point

All Points awarded in each Class will be carried forward to the next print or projected digital image competition, as appropriate. (In the event of a draw in any Class, in any level, the league winner will be decided on count back, using the number of highest awards).

TROPHIES

At the Committee's discretion, a trophy will be awarded to the league winner of each Class at each level and for Photo Diversity at Advanced level for authors who have entered an image in different Classes in all competitions.

Certificates will be awarded to the authors placed first, second and third in each Class and at each level in the six competitions and to the authors placed first, second and third in each Class and at each level of the league at the end of the society's year.

In addition the "Photographer of the Year" trophy will be awarded to the Member with the highest total points accumulated from all their scores in the six competitions.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Entries awarded a 1st, 2nd or 3rd and highly commended and commended from all Print competitions must be available for entry to the Annual Exhibition - this is a condition of entry and these will provide the core of the exhibition.

Members without a print with an award will be invited to enter one print of their choice into the Annual Exhibition, as long as this piece of work has not previously been entered into an Exhibition.