

COMPETITION RULES

1. The competition rules shall not be altered except by an Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose. These rules apply to all competitions unless varied by specific competition rules.
2. The Committee shall have the power to resolve any matters on which these rules are silent.
3. Entry to competitions will be open to all members who have paid their subscription.
4. Entry to competitions denotes acceptance of the rules.
5. The Competition Secretary will allocate each member a competition number. This number must be clearly shown on the work submitted. No print shall bear the name of the photographer. Entries shall carry the member's division number as a prefix to the competition number. Projected Digital Image (PDI) files shall comply with the arrangements for PDI shown elsewhere in these rules.
6. Except where specifically allowed for, all competitions shall be judged by an external judge. External judge means a judge who is not a member of Ashford Photographic Society.
7. If the total entry is excessive the judge will not be expected to comment on every piece of work.
8. The judge's decision will be final.
9. It is expected that members will abide by the spirit of these rules so that competition may be fair and self-regulating. It is not the task of the Competition Secretary to act as scrutineer. Any member who considers that an entry has gained unfair advantage through a breach of the rules should lodge a formal protest with the Committee.
10. All prints shall be mounted; mount size to be 40 cm by 50 cm. Members shall take care that their entry will not cause damage to other entries, e.g. no Velcro type strips on mounts, or exposed sticky tape. Entries falling short of this requirement will NOT be sent forward for judging.
11. All projected digital images (PDI) shall comply with the requirements for PDI shown elsewhere in this handbook. Entries falling short of this requirement will NOT be sent forward for judging. This rule does not apply to the audio-visual competition rules.
12. Every care will be taken of entries but no responsibility will be accepted for their safety i.e. 'at photographer's risk'.
13. Prints and PDIs are subject to the following: - The image components used to provide the final image must be the original photographic work of the photographer; artwork, images included in commercially available software and copies of other people's photographs etc. may not be used. This rule does not apply to the audio-visual competition rules.
14. There is no limit to the age of entries. No piece of work shall be used for more than three years from the first time of showing in a Society competition or Annual Exhibition.
15. An image entered in a league competition whether as a print or PDI may also be entered once in each of the non-league competitions provided it complies with the relevant rules. Similarly, an image entered initially in one or more non-league competitions may be entered once only, in one of the league competitions

LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

16. Each season the committee will assess the number of competitors in each of the leagues and arrange divisions as appropriate.

17. In each of the leagues new members will automatically be placed in the lowest division unless they produce evidence to the Committee that this would be inappropriate. The Committee retains the option to place a member in a division other than the lowest if he/she would obviously be misplaced there and would have an unfair advantage over the other members of that division.
18. There will be four print league competitions each season. A maximum of three prints per member per competition may be entered. All competitions will be 'open' subjects. All styles of photographic images will be accepted in the print league competitions including creative.
19. There will be six PDI league competitions each season. A maximum of two images per member per competition may be entered. All competitions will be 'open' subjects.
20. There will be six Creative PDI league competitions each season. A maximum of two images per member per competition may be entered. All competitions will be 'open' subjects. The photographer with the highest total scores from all images entered will be deemed the winner of this league, if there is a tie bonuses will be awarded as in rule 24.
21. Photographs depicting Natural History and Record may not be subject to any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged or combined. No manipulation or modification is permitted except that minor retouching of blemishes (which must not alter the truth of the original scene), resizing, cropping selective lightening or darkening, sharpening and restoration of original colour of the scene is permitted. All adjustments must appear natural. No electronic 'special effect' filters can be applied.
22. Images may be altered, either electronically or otherwise by the photographer, providing the photographic content predominates. The use of graphics and fractal type filters is not permitted. This rule will not apply to any Creative competitions. In any Creative competitions artwork and graphics created by the photographer may be incorporated.
23. The judges in the league competitions shall be asked to mark entries in each division out of 20. In addition, in each division he/she shall be asked to nominate one winner, one second and one third place.
24. For the award of each league trophy the scores for the best 8 entries out of a possible 12 will be aggregated to give a member's league score for the season. If the aggregate of these points results in a tie, bonuses shall be awarded as follows: 3 points for a first place, 2 for a second place and 1 for a third place. If, after the addition of bonuses the result is a tie the result shall stand and the trophy shall be shared for that season.
25. At the end of each season, in print and PDI leagues, members shall be promoted or relegated to the next division in order of merit. The Committee will determine the number of members to be moved in each case and any such moves will be based on each member's league score for the season. Tied marks will be separated by counting the bonuses.
26. Any member who is promoted or relegated may appeal in writing against that decision to the Committee if he/she feels there are sufficient grounds for his/her promotion or relegation to be cancelled (e.g. insufficient experience for promotion, insufficient entries because of illness or similar reasons).
27. Any member of Divisions 1 or 2 who has not entered any of the league competitions during the season will not be allocated to a Division for the following season but will be asked to choose the Division(s) in which they wish to compete, subject to the agreement of the Committee.

OVERALL WINNER'S TROPHY

28. To be awarded annually to the person(s) aggregating the highest total of marks, in 1, their Open print league score (best 8) and 2, either their Open PDI league score (best 8) or Creative PDI league score (best 8) whichever is the greater, irrespective of class. If the aggregate of these points results in a tie, bonuses shall be awarded as follows: 3 points for a first place, 2 for a second place and 1 for a third place. If, after the addition of bonuses the result is a tie the result shall stand and the trophy shall be shared for that season.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION

29. Each member may enter up to a maximum of four prints. Prints entered in previous Society Exhibitions will not be eligible, but any other prints including those entered in any of the Society's competitions (excluding the small print competition) will be eligible. There will be a trophy for the best print.
30. The judge will be sent the entries prior to commenting on them. The judge will be required to determine the best print, and may also award Highly Commended and Commended Certificates of Merit. The judge will not be expected to comment on all the work if the total number of entries is excessive.

THE ENDEAVOUR TROPHY

31. The Endeavour Trophy is the club's only trophy not to be awarded for photography; instead it is awarded in recognition of meritorious service to the club. A member may only receive it once. The recipient is chosen by the Committee in a secret vote having examined a list of those members who have not received the trophy; the voting slips are examined normally by two Committee members who are not eligible to receive the trophy.

TROPHY COMPETITIONS

32. The Committee shall have the discretion to hold trophy competitions on alternate years in order to formulate a balanced programme.
33. With regard to the Portrait, Natural History, Record, Rural Landscape and Chairman's Salver Competitions, a maximum of **four entries per competition** may be submitted. They can be any combination of prints or PDI. A judge will be appointed to assess the work in each competition, and award a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the print and PDI sections. The judge will then choose an overall winner for the competition from the two 1st places.

THE JOHN WIGMORE RURAL LANDSCAPE TROPHY

34. To be awarded for the best image submitted in the competition, which will be held annually. Photographs entered must be a pictorial study of a RURAL landscape (water/seascapes and skyscapes are acceptable), a landscape being a wide view or vista of scenery.

THE BILL WATERS NATURAL HISTORY TROPHY

35. To be awarded for the best image submitted in the competition. Natural history is defined as flora, fauna, geology (including rock and pebble studies etc.) and astro photography (stars, planets etc.). Plants may be cultivated or wild. Fauna can include animals in captivity (and pets). Photographs should enable a well-informed person to identify the subject material and to certify that it is an honest representation. Mounted specimens are ineligible. Any manipulation or modification of the original image must not alter the content of the original scene.

THE TONY CULVER TROPHY PORTRAIT COMPETITION

36. To be awarded for the best image submitted in the competition. Portrait subject matter is deemed to be Human Portrait, Glamour or Figure Studies.

THE JANET MORRIS MEMORIAL TROPHY
RECORD COMPETITION

37. To be awarded for the best image submitted in the competition. The title 'Record' is to include Applied Photography and Architecture, but exclude Natural History.

THE DRIFTWOOD TROPHY
PRINT PANEL COMPETITION
Donated by Chris Shore FRPS

38. The aim of the competition is to encourage members to produce panels of prints linked by content or technique according to the photographer's choice.
39. Panels shall consist of a minimum of four and a maximum of six prints and will be displayed. Photographers should indicate how they wish their panel to be arranged. A 30 cm x 7.5 cm (12" x 3") title may be displayed at the photographer's discretion. Members may enter as many panels as they wish.
40. The competition will be judged "off the cuff" and members must indicate to the Competition Secretary two weeks before the competition that they intend to submit an entry. The judge will award a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

PROJECTED DIGITAL IMAGE THEME TROPHY

41. A selection of a minimum of three and a maximum of six PDIs (plus a title image if desired) on the photographers chosen theme(s) will be presented without commentary. The Judge will be asked to select a 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in the competition.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SALVER
Donated by Philippa Buckley ARPS

42. To be awarded for the best image submitted in the competition. The competition will be held annually.
43. At the Annual General Meeting the current Chairman will nominate the subject for which the trophy will be awarded the following season. A note of this will be included in the Society's programme.

AUDIO-VISUAL COMPETITION

44. A PDI-based audio-visual competition will be held, using a projector and sound system. The maximum size for Digital images shall be 1400 pixels wide and 1050 pixels high. Sequences shall be no longer than 12 minutes. Judging will be by those members present. Each member will be invited to vote anonymously for the entries, placing them in first, second and third positions. Three points will be awarded for each first place, two for each second place and one for each third place. The points will be aggregated. The entry receiving the highest number of points will be the winner. In the event of a tie, the number of first places will determine the winner; should this still result in a tie, the result will stand. There is no restriction on the age or re-use of slides or PDI's.

THE GEORGE DOWNE MEMORIAL CUP
THE SMALL PRINT COMPETITION

45. The aim of the competition is to stimulate the photographic interest and experience of the members. Divisions 1 and 2 print workers, and members holding any recognised photographic distinction gained using prints, are not eligible to enter this competition.
46. The prints must be un-mounted. The maximum size of a print permitted is 22.8 cm x 15.3 cm (9" x 6"). A number of competitions, as decided by the Committee, will be run during the season. A maximum of five prints per member per competition may be entered. By limiting the maximum size of the print it is felt that the quality obtainable is equalised for both beginners and more advanced members.

47. The prints will be judged during the evening by a paper vote of the members present, but no participating member may take part in the vote. Prints will be displayed, and each member may vote for three prints, placing them in first, second and third positions. Each print placed first will receive three points. Each print placed second will receive two points. Each print placed third will receive one point. The points for each print will be aggregated. The print(s) receiving the highest number of points will be awarded three points. The print(s) receiving the second highest number of points will receive two points. The print(s) receiving the third highest number of points will receive one point. These latter points will be cumulative and will determine the winner(s) at the end of the season. A trophy will be presented to the member who has obtained the highest number of points at the end of the season. The winning prints from the small print competition are shown at the Annual Exhibition.

YOUTH TROPHY

48. To be awarded annually to the person(s) 20 years of age or under in the 1st September immediately preceding the commencement of the season, totalling the highest number of marks in both the print and slide leagues together, irrespective of class.