

A Guide on Competition Rules and entering.

Purpose

This Guide is intended to be user friendly but also to include rules and explanation of the rules to help in achieving the intent. The guide tries to explain and possibly simplify the Competition Rules but in cases of ambiguity the Society Competition Rules takes precedence.

Where the rules are included they are in blue italic text.

Section 1 Definitions

Where the term below in Bold is used that term shall have this specific meaning.

Image	An image is a digital file, slide or film negative which has been produced solely by the member using a photographic process.
Competition Coordinator	A Member of Society Committee appointed to organize Print or PDI competitions.
Composite Image	A Composite Image shall be the sole work of the entrant produced only from a Member's Image or Images
Colour Images	Images can include as much or as little colour as you like. The subject matter is open except photographs that look like "nature" are excluded and should be entered in the Nature Section.
Monochrome Images	Monochrome Images must be completely black and white with shades of grey or can be completely tinted with one colour. The subject matter is open except photographs that look like "nature" are excluded and should be entered in the Nature Section.
Panoramic Image	Panoramic images cover a wider <u>field of view</u> than the one from human vision. The normal proportion width to height shall be three to one or greater.
Portrait	An original photographic likeness of a human being, who is living at the time that the exposure was made and the individual is the main subject.
Print	A print shall have been produced from an Image
Projected Digital Image (PDI)	An Image taken by either a digital camera or by use of a scanner.

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<i>Section</i>	<i>Colour, Monochrome or Nature, Prints or Projected Images</i>
<i>Slide</i>	<i>A slide produced by any process of photography in which the original is a transparency, a negative or a computer image and which includes duplicates of it.</i>
<i>Society Year</i>	<i>The period from 1 September to 31 August in next Calendar year</i>

Section 2 Internal Competitions

Depending on the number of photographs entered, the Competition Coordinator may reduce the number of entries accepted in each section to make a viable competition, so that members benefit from a worthwhile critique. Make sure that your entries are numbered in the order you want them to be used. If entries are not accepted then the higher number(s) will not be used. For example: if you enter two photographs in a section, "1 sunny day.jpg" and "2 winter walk.jpg", "2 winter walk.jpg" may not be used.

The following Society competitions are to be held each season:

Print Competition League

Four print competitions will be held throughout the season. There are three Sections for each competition in both Class 1 and Class 2, i.e., colour prints, monochrome prints and nature prints. Members may submit a maximum of two entries in each section. Members are also required to submit as directed by the print coordinator, the PDI used to produce the Print.

Projected Image Competition League

Four projected image competitions will be held throughout the season. There are three sections for each competition in both Class 1 and Class 2 i.e., colour image, monochrome image and nature image. Members may submit a maximum of two entries in each section.

Annual Competitions

Two annual competitions (i.e., one projected image and one print) to be held towards the end of the season. Members may submit a maximum of three entries in each section.

Portfolio Competitions

This is a single class competition, which is open to all members of the Society. There will be two Portfolio Competitions each year, i.e., Print and Projected Image. The format and themes for these competitions will be decided by the committee at the beginning of each season.

Themes for the season will be notified to members in September. For 2023-2024 the Themes are PDI: Reflections

Print: Pitch

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PDI: Panorama.

Three of a Kind Competition

This is a single class competition, which is open to all members of the Society. It includes all images in projected image and print formats. Members may enter one Composite PDI of the three images and separate PDI's of the individual images and/or a Panel of three prints Print Image which shall be made up of images. In PDI and Print the images used should relate to each other in some way.

Panorama Competition

This is a single class competition which is open to all members of the Society. Members may enter two PDI Panoramic Images into the competition.

Section 3 Internal Competitions

1 Classes

Each section is divided into two classes.

Class 1 is for advanced workers and Class 2 is for beginners and improving workers. Members are free to choose, at the start of each season, which class they intend to enter for that season for each section. For reasons of fairness, members who have transferred from another club, in which they entered as Class 1 or similar photographers, are expected to elect Class 1. The Annual competition entry will be in the same chosen class. The choice is made for the whole of that season and movement to another class can only occur at the start of the next season. Any Class 2 member who wins the class twice must move up to Class 1 the next season. A member may choose to be in different classes for each section. For example, Class 1 for Colour prints, class 2 for Nature prints.

New Members are recommended to discuss their class decision with other longer serving members or the Competition Coordinator. Both too high a class or too low a class can be embarrassing.

2 Judging and submission of entries

All entries will be submitted by the Competition Coordinator to the Judge, except that the Competition Coordinator shall, at their discretion, exclude any entry that does not comply with the Competition rules, save only that rule that relates to definitions (Rule 3 f)).

The Competition Coordinator shall notify the author of any excluded work. The decision of the Competition Coordinator shall be final. The decision of the Judge shall be final concerning the application of Rule 3 f).

3 -Entry Limitations

- a. Prints Monochrome, Colour and Nature prints must be the sole work of the entrant produced from an Image, mounting & printing excepted, printing and/or mounting may be commercially produced from the Members Image. All prints must be*

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mounted. Prints and mounts may be of any size, up to a maximum of 20" x 16" (50cm x 40cm) overall.

Use of the 50 by 40 mount is preferred by the External Competition Coordinator because most external competitions only accept this one size and using other sizes will mean the print cannot be entered.

- b. All Projected Images must be of a standard format of no larger than 1600pixels wide or 1200 pixels high for landscape format. For portrait format maximum 1200 pixels high. Images not correctly sized will not be resized by Competition Coordinator and therefore may not be projected correctly. Files must be in sRGB profile and JPG format,*

- c. The following 2 paragraphs only apply to sections in the competitions named Print Competition League and Projected Image Competition League*

In any Society Year an image as print or projected image may be entered only once in the Competition Leagues, regardless of section. The image may be entered only in one subsequent Society Year.

An image used in the Competition Leagues may be used once in one Annual competition

- d. Images that have been used previously by a member of this society while they were a member of another club/society may be eligible for entry into any internal competitions but must be identified as such. Such restriction is necessary to avoid the society using them in external competitions in contravention to the rules of that competition.*
- e. A title must identify all prints, or projected images. Designations such as "No Title" will not be accepted. On subsequent entry the title shall not be changed. The Print shall have a label affixed, the label to be determined by the Print Coordinator. See image preparation section for details of the label.*

- PDI's file names shall be the title of the image and numbered for the order of projection. The title shall not contain any form of punctuation marks. i.e.*

- 1 sunrise.jpg*
 - 2 blue boat.jpg.*

Do not use the .jpeg or any other extension

- f. Nature Section.*

Images for the Nature Section shall follow the PAGB Nature Rules current on 1 September of the Society year.

PAGB Rules current at October 2022

Nature means Images where living organisms are the primary subject matter. The story telling value of an Image will normally be weighed more than the pictorial quality. Nature includes: • Images taken with subjects in controlled conditions such

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as zoos, game parks, botanic gardens, aquariums and enclosures where the subjects are dependent on man for food. Scientific bands, tags or collars are permissible. Nature excludes: • Images where the subjects are obviously domestic animals or plants. • Images where an obviously artistic treatment has been applied. Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimization, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is permitted, as is cloning of image defects and minor distractions including overlapping elements. An Image appearing to meet these criteria will be accepted as Nature. The Judges will normally assume that any Image presented to them is eligible. Access to some biological subjects may be restricted. Where that is relevant, then Photographers warrant that they have followed relevant codes of practices and hold any necessary licenses

Whilst not included in Rules, PAGB wish to ensure titles used for Nature competitions names the organism and describes activity but avoids trite wording. Not following this advice may result in comments from the judge.

Image Numbers and Selection

You may submit the number of images stated in the relevant Competition rule.

Colour Section images can include as much or as little colour as you like. The subject matter is open except that nature photographs will not be accepted into the colour section.

Monochrome Section must be completely black and white with shades of grey or can be completely tinted with one colour. The subject matter is open except that nature photographs will not be accepted into the monochrome section.

Nature Section

Images may be in colour or monochrome.

Image Preparation

Identity of Entry A title must identify all prints, or projected images. Designations such as "No Title" will not be accepted.

Do not include your name or any other information in the title. **Do not** use all Capitals. Please include the title and authors name in the metadata, see detail below

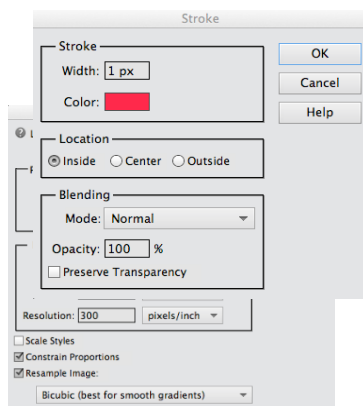
Projected Digital Images (PDI)

Requirements See section 3 above.

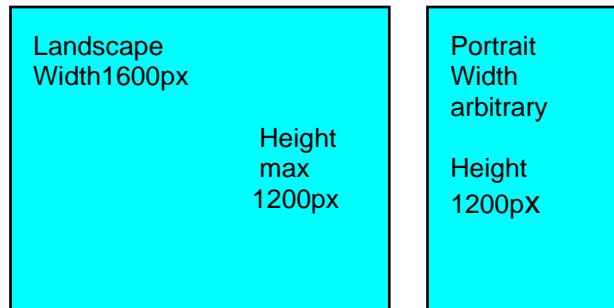
Once you have processed a file to your satisfaction, make sure you save it at its full. Now edit the file size to a maximum of **1600px** width and a maximum of **1200px** height resolution (In case you want to use it later as a print). Convert the profile to **sRGB**.

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Now edit the file size to a maximum of **1600px** width and a maximum of **1200px** height and add a border if you desire.



Preparing Images Using Photoshop Elements



Resize Image :-go to Image>Resize>Image Size, select Resample, change pixel dimensions to the required size

If you want a border round the image, do it now. Go to Edit>Stroke (Outline)Selection. I suggest 1-2px maximum and an appropriate colour which you can pick from the image

using the Colour Picker Tool. Set Location to Inside



Now save the file, using “Save as” with a slightly different name, as a jpg file at maximum quality. When submitting files, they should be named like this:

1 Sunny morning.jpg

Winters dawn.jpg (**Do not** punctuate as in winter’s)

To edit Metadata File Info from file tab, basic, Edit Document Title and Author. For windows users it can also be added later in File Explorer, select file, right click, select properties and then the detail tab.

The file is now ready to copy onto a memory stick or to email.

If submitting on memory stick put in separate folders for Colour, Mono and Nature. If emailing indicate which files goes in which category.

Preparing PDI Images Using Photoshop

Preparing PDI Images Using Lightroom

Preparing PDI Images using ON1

Printed Images

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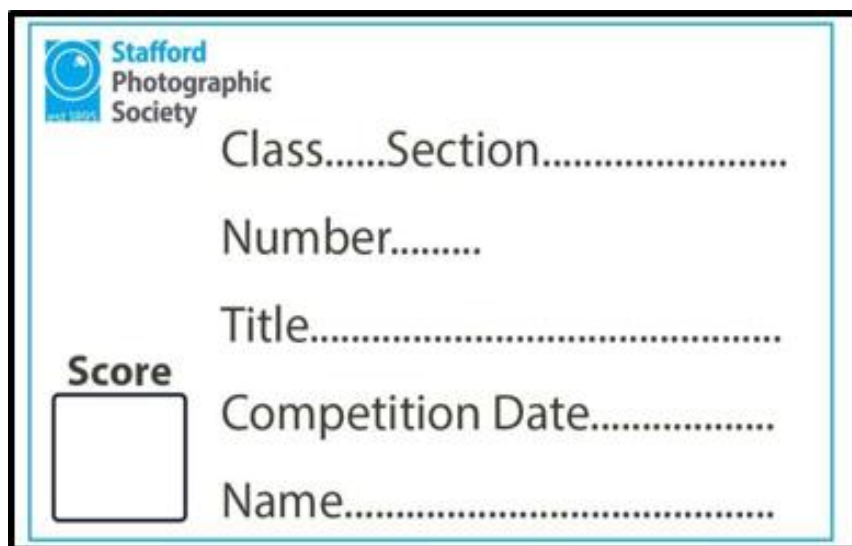
Once you have processed a file to your satisfaction, make sure you save it at its full resolution. Work in whatever profile you prefer.

You can print yourself or have the work professionally printed

Prints **must** be mounted but it is your choice to the method you use and the colour of the mount. Pre-cut mounts can be bought from www.cotswoldmounts.co.uk or <http://www.lionpic.co.uk>. Refer to Society web site for organisations who print and or mount images.

There is no maximum or minimum size for prints, but the mount must be no bigger than 40cmx50cm (16"x20"). (It helps the External Competition Coordinator if you mount at 40cmx50cm. Some external competitions only allow 1 size usually 40cmx50cm.

Labels will be provided before each print round. Place on the back, bottom right-hand corner)



Staffordphotosociety.org.uk

Labels as shown are issued by Print Competition Coordinator or can downloaded from Society web and printed by yourself. The labels should be attached to the back of the print. The number indicates order of presentation to the judge

Image Submission

PDI

Images are to be submitted on or before the date stated in the Competition event details on Society Web Site or advised at meetings and in format as above. Early submission to allow for holidays is acceptable, but make certain the email identifies the competition. Submissions are to be sent by email to pdientry@staffordphotosociety.org.uk. The use of zip files or WeTransfer is acceptable and the associated email should show which image goes into Colour, Mono or Nature. If email submission is not possible entries can be delivered as agreed with the PDI Competition Coordinator.

Print

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Prints are to be submitted on date stated in the Competition event details on Society Web Site or advised at meetings or as agreed with Print Competition coordinator. In addition, the file of image used to produce the print, in the format and titled as for pdi submission is to be sent by email to pdientry@staffordphotosociety.org.uk, on or before print submission. The aim is to display PDI's of prints to help to visibility of the image by members during competitions, thus early submission of pdi helps preparation.

4. Marking

The judge or judges will be asked to score as follows: - Awarding marks between 1-20. The operational matters such as method of presentation to the Judge will be determined by the Competition Coordinator in consultation with the Judge, in order to assist the Judge to use the marking system to the widest degree.

5. Awards for League Competitions

Awards for League Competitions are given to members with the highest score in each Section calculated as follows: -

The total score for each member in each Section will be calculated by adding all scores in League Print & League PDI rounds. In the event of a tie a "count back" system will be used and the member with the most 20 scores will be declared overall winner, this method will continue through 19, 18 etc. until a winner is declared

6. Photographer of the Year

The award of 'Photographer of the Year' is given to the member who scores the most points aggregated across all internal society competitions within that season"

Section 4 Other

1. External Exhibitions

The external competition coordinator may retain any competition entry for use by the Society in external competitions. A Member may specifically request to be excluded for any or all of their images.

2. Liability of the Society

All reasonable care will be taken of entries, but neither the Society nor any of the Society's officers shall be liable for any loss or damage that may occur to entries

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Trophies and method of award

Silverware Award List - Blank

	League Competitions	Award Name	Award to
1	Class 1 Colour Print	Sinkinson Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 1 League table
2	Class 2 Colour Print	Hewitt Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 2 League table
3	Class 1 Mono Print	Barnwell Shield	Highest aggregate score in Class 1 League table
4	Class 2 Mono Print	Harpman Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 2 League table
5	Class 1 Nature Print	Arthur Deeley Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 1 League table
6	Class 2 Nature Print	Stafford Photographic Society Shield	Highest aggregate score in Class 2 League table
7	Class 1 Colour PDI	Diamond Jubilee Spoon	Highest aggregate score in Class 1 League table
8	Class 2 Colour PDI	Don Adnitt Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 2 League table
9	Class 1 Mono PDI	Andy Fryer Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 1 League table
10	Class 2 Mono PDI	Steve Porter Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 2 League table
11	Class 1 Nature PDI	Graham Jones Cup	Highest aggregate score in Class 1 League table
12	Class 2 Nature PDI	Stafford Photographic Society Shield	Highest aggregate score in Class 2 League table
	Annual Competitions	Award Name	Award to
13	Class 1 Colour Print	Richardson Challenge Cup	Highest score in Class 1 annual competition
14	Class 2 Colour Print	Peter Ryan Cup	Highest score in Class 2 annual competition
15	Class 1 Mono Print	JD Jones Memorial Plaque	Highest score in Class 1 annual competition
16	Class 2 Mono Print	Mike Sharples Cup	Highest score in Class 2 annual competition

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17	Class 1 Nature Print	Ron Hatfull Cup	Highest score in Class 1 annual competition
18	Class 2 Nature Print	J Warrington Plaque	Highest score in Class 2 annual competition
19	Class 1 Colour PDI	Gillian Jones Cup	Highest score in Class 1 annual competition
20	Class 2 Colour PDI	Alison Fryer Cup	Highest score in Class 2 annual competition
21	Class 1 Mono PDI	TWW Jones Cup	Highest score in Class 1 annual competition
22	Class 2 Mono PDI	Tony Winfield Plaque	Highest score in Class 2 annual competition
23	Class 1 Nature PDI	Cyril Johnson Cup	Highest score in Class 1 annual competition
24	Class 2 Nature PDI	J Warrington Plaque	Highest score in Class 2 annual competition
25	Print Of The Year	Phil Byrne Annual Print Cup	Selected by Judge from all prints in annual competition
26	PDI Of The Year	G Grant Centenary Cup	Selected by Judge from all pdi's in annual competition
27	Print Portrait Of The Year	Howard Bagshaw Cup	Selected by Judge from all print portraits in annual competition
28	PDI Portrait Of The Year	Phil Byrne Annual PDI Cup	Selected by Judge from all pdi portraits in annual competition
29	Print Landscape Of The Year	Tony Skidmore Landscape Award	Selected by Judge from all print landscapes in annual competition
30	PDI Landscape Of The Year	Tony Skidmore Landscape Award	Selected by Judge from all pdi landscapes in annual competition
Member Judged Competitions			Award to
31	Print Portfolio - Pitsch	LF Bowen Cup	Highest score of all prints in print portfolio competition
32	PDI Portfolio - Reflections	Stafford Photographic Society Plaque	Highest score of all pdi's in pdi portfolio competition
33	PDI Panorama		Highest score of all pdi's in pdi Panorama competition
34	Print Three Of A Kind	Geoff Ward Cup	Highest score of all prints in print Three of a Kind competition
35	PDI Three Of A Kind	Peter Rogers Cup	Highest score of all pdi's in pdi Three of a Kind competition
ADDITIONAL AWARDS			Recipient

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36	Service To The Club	Brian Dicks Special Merit Award	To be decided by Chair
37	Overall Photographer Of The Year	David & Janet Stubbs Trophy	See above