**Competition Rules...**

**1. GENERAL**

1.1 Entries to competitions are only open to Club members. A member is anyone who has paid their annual subscription.

1.2 Submission of an entry by a member is deemed to imply knowledge and acceptance of all competition rules.

1.3 The Committee's decision will be final regarding all matters relating to the interpretation of these rules and any disputes arising there from.

1.4 Although every care will be taken of images entrusted to the Club for whatever purpose, neither the Club nor any representatives can accept any responsibility for loss or damage however caused. Therefore all images are submitted to the Club at the owner's risk.

1.5 Amendments or additions to these Club rules shall only be made by executive decision of the Committee and may be without prior notice to its members.

1.6 Any Image which does not conform to the Club’s rules will be liable to disqualification.

1.7 A minimum of eight entries for each section are required in any competition. If entries are low, the hand-in date may be extended, the competition postponed or cancelled. This decision rests at the discretion of the Competition Secretary.

1.8 At the end of each competition night members should collect their entries.

Any entries not collected on the competition night can be collected at the next meeting.

**2. AUTHORSHIP & OWNERSHIP**

2.1 Images and their component parts (all digitally manipulated layers) must be the original work of the entrant.

2.2 The entrant must be the author and hold copyright, having produced all images and component parts through a photographic process (digital or film camera).

2.3 If digital manipulation has occurred the Committee retain the right to view the original images used to create the entered image.

2.4 If the Committee deems an image to be in breach of The Society authorship rules it will not be eligible for any Club competitions.

**3. SUBMISSION**

3.1 All entries to be submitted to the Competition Secretary, on or before the hand-in date. Late entries may not be accepted.

3.2 Competitions are divided into two sections; Digital Projected Images (to be known as Digital) and Mounted Print Images (to be known as Prints).

3.3 Slides are not permitted and should be printed or scanned as a digital image.

3.4 Entries for each competition shall be limited to three prints and/or three digital images from any one member, unless otherwise specified.

3.5 Submitted works should be no more than four years old.

3.6 The same, or significantly similar image, may not be entered into both print and digital image sections for the same competition. If this occurs only the first copy will be accepted.

3.7 All images must be titled correctly (as per rules 4.3 & 4.4) and entered anonymously.

**4. PRESENTATION & FORMAT**

4.1 Prints may be self or trade processed.

4.2 Prints should be mounted on card with an overall print size no greater than size A4.

4.3 Prints must be titled on the top right hand corner of the back. This titling format denotes the viewing orientation of the print. The authors name must not be present on the image or mount.

Example - Mounted Print title

4.4 Digital images must have their title as the filename - e.g. Image Title.jpg

4.5 Digital Images should be submitted on either a memory stick or CD, on or before the hand-in date. The authors name must not be present within the image filename.

4.6 Digital images must not exceed 1400 pixels wide (w) by 1050 pixels high (h) in size. They should be saved as a Jpeg (.jpg) at the finest (highest) setting. It is recommended, as the images are to be projected, to save them with the colour space set as sRGB. Incorrectly sized images may not be accepted for competitions.

Example - Digital Image size

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4.7  Should the total number of submitted images in any competition, deemed too large an amount to judge competently.  The competition secretary will consult with the President (and any other Committee Members deemed necessary) to review the issue.  In extreme cases some entries may be removed to reduce the total number of images to the preferred number.

4.8 All submitted Images should have a member competition entry number on the reverse.

**5. JUDGING**

5.1 Competitions will be independently judged, unless otherwise stated.

5.2 Prints and Digital images will be judged as two separate categories, with each category being awarded first, second and third places, plus two Highly Commended and Commended places.

5.3 As judges for competitions are booked their names will be published on the website and/or programme. Any change in judge will be notified to the members as soon as possible.

5.4 Any image deemed to be at odds with the competition definition or theme may be rejected by the Committee or the Competition Judge; their decision is final.

**6. SCORING & POINTS**

6.1 For each competition, in both the Print and Digital sections, points are awarded for the following placements:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| First Place | 5 Points |   |
| Second Place | 4 Points |   |
| Third Place | 3 Points |   |
| Highly Commended | 2 Points |   |
| Commended | 1 Point |   |

6.2 The member with the highest total point score during the Club’s season (January to December) will be awarded the 'Photographer of the Year' trophy. The league table of points will be displayed on the Club’s website, both of which are updated at regular intervals.

6.3 In the unlikely event of a points tie, the member with the most 1st placements (also 2nd, 3rd and Highly Commended if needed) will become the overall winner.

6.4 The winning member will hold the title of 'Photographer Of The Year' until the conclusion of next season's competition.

**7. EXTERNAL & INTER-CLUB COMPETITIONS**

7.1 The Club requires images (Prints and/or Digital) for competitions with other clubs.

7.2 All members images, either previously shown or not, are eligible for inclusion for selection.

7.3 Each member can submit up to 4 images in each section (Digital and Print) for selection.

7.4 A maximum of 3 images (Prints and/or Digital) per member may be selected for inclusion in to a competition or critique.

7.5 The final images selection will be conducted by a selection committee, unless otherwise stated.

7.6 Normal competition and entry rules apply for all submissions.

**Please contact the Club Competition Secretary or other committee member if you require any advice or guidance regarding the Club competitions or rules.**