

Wilmslow Guild Photographic Society - Competition Rules (Issued Sep 2017)

Introduction

The WGPS Constitution states: "The aim of the Society is to promote the subject of photography by providing facilities and opportunities for the furtherance and development of each member's photographic knowledge and ability."

Competition meetings are a vital element of the Society's activities, as they are deemed by members to contribute significantly to the improvement and development of their photographic and image handling skills.

The purpose of competition meetings is to present members' current work to independent or peer group review, so that both the individual entrant and fellow members can gain new insights, and develop their skills and knowledge of the art and practice of photography.

In a typical club competition evening about 60 images can be presented and judged.

General

1. There are three classes of competition entry: Projected Digital Images, Prints and Theme Panels.
2. The Monthly Competitions will consist of Projected Digital Images (Monochrome and Colour sections) and Prints (Monochrome and Colour sections). The sections for Themed competitions will be determined by the theme.
3. The Annual Competition will consist of four sections for Projected Digital Images (Monochrome, General Colour, Natural History and Portraits & People) and four sections for Prints (Monochrome, General Colour, Natural History and Portraits & People).
4. An image or one 'significantly similar' that has been entered in a competition at another photographic club or society is ineligible, as is any image that has been entered in a previous monthly competition at this society, in any form. Entry of an image in any other competition does not affect its eligibility.

Notes: 'Significantly similar' images are defined as those with only minor alterations to the composition or viewpoint or where the basic impression of that image would normally be interpreted as being the same without careful examination. 'In any form' covers DPI, Prints, Colour or Monochrome.

5. Entries must conform to the spirit of the title or theme of the competition, where this is specified.
6. The maximum number of entries per member in each section is normally 3, but this maximum may be varied to take account of circumstances prevailing. Any such variation will be notified in advance. An image can only be used once.
7. The photographer must have taken the images entered and have the full copyright of all elements of the image at their disposal.
8. Entries will be judged either by a secret ballot of members present, or by an external assessor.

9. Trophies and prizes may be awarded in competitions at the discretion of the committee.
10. The annual points will be accumulated for each member over the season from monthly competitions towards the Photographer of the Year award. The top two judge scores from each section will be counted.
11. All entries are accepted at the discretion of the committee.

Definitions

Monochrome:

This definition has been taken from the FIAP definition for Monochrome and is used by the PAGB.

Pictures entered must be monochromatic images (which may be singly toned in a single tone colour).

Monochrome prints

Any which have one or more added colours/dyes must be entered in the Colour Section.

General colour

Colour includes all other images not classified as Mono.

Except for final printing all the techniques employed must be carried out by the stated author.

Annual Competition Specific

General Sections

Treatment should be essentially aesthetic, pictorial, or graphical. **Any subject matter except Natural History may be used in these sections** i.e. still life, landscape, portraiture, record, illustrative and derivative / creative.

Natural History

Nature photography depicts flora and fauna which means living, untamed organisms and uncultivated plants in a natural habitat, as well as geology, weather and the wide diversity of natural phenomena, from insects to icebergs, provided they are titled to show their significance in the natural world. It does not include domesticated creatures or cultivated plants although Zoo shots are allowed. Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable where this shows the way that animals/birds etc are adapting to the built environment, such as barn owls or storks. Titles must be specific and correct, with either scientific or common names used. Any manipulation of the image must be limited to minor retouching of blemishes, exposure, sharpening and must not materially alter the original image.

Prints

1. The rules for Colour and Monochrome prints are the same.
2. The mount size is 50x40 cm. ONLY
 - No tape of any description on the back of the mounts.
 - Maximum mount thickness must not exceed 4 mm.
 - Backing boards should be of a similar size to the front mount.
 - Any mounted print which would be likely to damage other entries is not acceptable.

3. All prints must have the author's name and the title of the print shown legibly on the back.

Theme Panels

A theme panel is a mounting board bearing a collection of several prints and possibly a title. The committee may define any appropriate conditions for any theme panel meeting, including (but not restricted to) a limit on the size of panel, or the number and/or size of images.

Projected Digital Images

Technical:

1. image size = 1600 (w) x 1200 (h) (see note below)
2. images must be in jpeg format
3. images should have a sRGB colour space

Note: for the Annual Competition in October 2017, we will accept images sized at 1400 x 1050 or 1600 x 1200 pixels.

Uploading images:

The facility for uploading images is provided on our website under the drop-down menu '**Competitions/ PDI Competition Upload**'.

That web page will provide guidance for naming and uploading. Points to note:

1. The image filename must be "n_Title of My Image.jpg" ... for example "1_Lake District in Autumn.jpg" where:
 - n is your priority / sequence number (no leading zero)
 - "Title of My Image" – your chosen title separated by space
 - ".jpg" suffix only

Entries

1. Entries must be submitted on the date specified in the syllabus, or as notified from time to time, which will usually be at least 2 weeks before the competition date. Late entries will not be accepted, unless under exceptional circumstances in which prior agreement has been reached with the Competition Secretary or Chairman.
2. Members should strive to register their entries prior to the start of the relevant meeting.
3. Details of all entries should be recorded using the appropriate entry form which will be distributed by the Competition Secretary. It may be necessary to select entries if the total entry is too large for display and judging in the time available. Members should indicate on the entry form their preferred order for their images within each section.