

Competition Rules

1 General

- 1a) Print and Projected Image Competitions will be held during the programme season in order that members may obtain sound critique of their work and compete for the Society's various awards.
- 1b) In order that competition is equitable, Members will be allocated to groups, at the discretion of the Selection Committee and based on their ability/ experience. Members will compete in competitions as appropriate to their allocated class, with the exception of open class competitions such as the Print Panel. At the end of each season, at the discretion of the Selection Committee, members may be moved to another group. Members may appeal to the Selection Committee if they are dissatisfied with their allocation.
- 1c) Competitions will enable the Selection Committee to assess and select prints and images to compete against other societies or for exhibition in the Society's name on suitable occasions. Members are expected to make available such selections that may be requested.
- 1d) In the event of a Member being an active worker in another Photographic Society or Camera Club, he/she must declare their "Prime Society" and should it not be the Shirley Photographic Society any such member may not be invited to attend any meetings of the Selection Committee.
- 1e) Entries for Competitions must be in the hands of the Competition Secretary by midnight of the Thursday two weeks prior to the Competition (unless otherwise announced).
- 1f) All entries of projected images and prints to any of the Society's activities are entirely at the owner's risk.
- 1g) Entries not complying with club rules may be rejected at the absolute discretion of the Competition Secretary.

2 Prints

- 2a) Prints must:
 - i contain the **Author's name** and **Title** on the back, at the top. Adjacent to the author's name, the author's preference sequence number must be included in order for (in the event of excessive entries) the Competition Secretary to remove the last sequence number should the total number of entries be excessive (as in Clause 4 "Foot note"). The competition secretary will not be held responsible for any mistakes or illegible writing.
 - ii can be any size or format but must be mounted on standard size of 500 mm X 400 mm board.
- 2b) All original images and any subsequent manipulation (if not excluded by the rules of the competition) must be the work of the Members. The only exception to this rule is the Prints alone can be commercially printed but all other work is done by the member only (i.e. Photoshop manipulation etc. and mounting)

3 Projected Images

- 3a) Digital Images must be:
 - i Photographic files in JPG format, with minimum compression and sized at 1400 pixels wide by 1050 pixels high. (Not 1400 pixels vertical). See club web site for instructions on sizing images for competition.

ii For images smaller than this the background surrounding the image should preferably be black.

iii File names shall be in the format:

Authors name-Image Title-author's number preference

for example:- **Shirley Bloggs-My Photo-1**

iv Use capital letters and spaces in your name and title where they would normally appear. The competition secretary will not be held responsible for any typos or mistakes in the given title.

v the author's preference sequence number must be included in order for (in the event of excessive entries) the Competition Secretary to remove the last sequence number should the total number of entries be excessive (as in Clause 4 "Foot note").

vi Do not put spaces before or after the hyphen. The file size of each digital image shall not exceed 2.5Mb.

3b) Entries shall be forwarded to the competition secretary by e-mail, CD or memory stick, by the hand in date. The competition secretary shall not be responsible for delays in email or errors in files.

4 Entries

The **MAXIMUM** entry for each competition shall be as follows:

First Digital	up to 3 digital images
First Print	up to 3 images (if 3 are entered one must be mono)
Natural History	up to 3 images but not more than 2 of any format (i.e. 2 prints and 1 digital or 2 digital and one print)
Set Assignment	up to 2 prints and up to 2 digital images (Note- the President may change this for their particular assignment)
Panel	up to 2 print and/or 2 digital entries
Digital Points	3 digital images must be entered
Print Points	3 prints must be entered (there is no specific requirement for a mono)
Landscape	up to 3 images but not more than 2 of any format (i.e. 2 prints and 1 digital or 2 digital and one print)
Annual Digital	up to 3 digital images
Annual Print	up to 3 images (if 3 are entered one must be mono)
AV	1 entry
Creative	Up to 2 entries

The committee may alter these numbers at the start of a season based on previous entry numbers and number of club members.

Footnote

All prints, and projected images entered shall be numbered 1, 2 etc. in order of the worker's preference. If the number of entries is excessive (ie generally >100), the number may be reduced at the Competition Secretary's discretion. This will be affected by removing the last numbered print(s) or projected image(s), or a random image if they are not numbered.

5 Eligibility of entries in competitions

5a) Work judged in previous seasons cannot be entered into any Shirley Photographic Society competition in any format, i.e. print or digital, colour or mono (see 5c for exceptions to this rule).

5b) Work may not be entered more than twice during the same season in any format (see 5c for exceptions to this rule).

- 5c)** Work entered as a panel or in the Christmas knockout or Bring 6 prints competitions is NOT constrained by the above rules. e.g. a single image from a panel can be entered in a later or earlier season but it then becomes subject to rules 5a and 5b above.
- 5d)** In the event an image is dropped due to excessive entries it will not count as having been entered.
- 5e)** Work may be entered in a panel only once.
- 5f) SET ASSIGNMENT** competition
Only work entered resulting from exposure made after the date the subject has been announced are eligible for this competition. Work can be entered into other competitions subject to the rules of that competition.
- 5g)** If the Competition Secretary is of the opinion that work entered for a print or projected image competition is so similar as to be almost identical, regardless of the title, to work previously entered by the worker in the same class, the Competition Secretary has absolute discretion to withhold that work from the competition.

6 Subject definitions

6a) Landscape

A landscape should represent the pictorial aspect of an expanse of scenery that can be seen in a single view. It may be a countryside, sea or town scene. People may be included but should be a small part of the image and not the subject. Only a single image should be used (except for stitching) with minimal manipulation.

6b) Natural history

From January 2015 the PAGB have adopted the new rules from FIAP/PSA and RPA and most competitions will now use these rules. For the full definition see <http://www.fiap.net/pdf/DefNat-en.pdf>

Nature photography is restricted to all branches of natural history in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation. Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story.

Image manipulation should be minimal and not alter the content of the original scene. No techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without altering the content of the original scene are permitted including HDR, focus stacking and dodging/burning. Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise and film scratches, are allowed. All allowed adjustments must appear natural. Colour images can be converted to grey-scale monochrome.

Titles should preferably be descriptive, and every effort possible made to identify the subject. Latin names may be used if wished. The title should include a (W) if the subject has been taken in its natural habitat.

Permitted	Not permitted
Any living zoological or botanical organism free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Organisms in zoos, game farms, aquariums, botanical gardens, any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.	Domestic animals. Mounted species. Cultivated plants. Human created hybrid plants.

'Falconers' birds (jesses can not be cloned out). Wild flowers/plants in parkland or "wild" gardens (ie not cultivated). Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild. Geological formations Weather phenomena	
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6c) The Panel Competition

A matched panel, of three or four prints or digital images, that will be displayed together, and will be judged as a set. The digital images should be presented in one composite image of 1400x1050 pixels (width x height). Entries in the panel competition may be representative of any branch of photography. The Panel Competition will be judged as one section for all members and there will be two awards, one for print entries, and one for digital entries.

When entering prints the layout you wish them to be presented in should be written on the back of each print. To prevent confusion label them as they will be seen from the front, ie an image to appear on the left of your panel as the judge looks at should be labelled as "Left".

6d) AVs

Entries should last no longer than 5 minutes. Entries must be digital and saved as a file that will play on a Windows computer, e.g. ".exe" or ".wmv" files.

All presentations submitted must be the work of the entrant. We are judging the presentation not the individual images entered, so content need not only be the work of the entrant, however, all manipulation and presentation work must be the authors own.

By participating in the Competition entrants indemnify the organisers against any action which may be taken by owners of copyright.

6e) Creative

Our definition of Creative is 'Altered Reality'. The image must obviously display a change in natural colour, form, shape, or any combination of these. Creative images are often montages (a blending or composite of multiple images). HDR images without further changes are not considered 'Altered Reality'.

All images, including textures etc, must be taken by the author. Artwork or computer graphics generated by the entrant may be incorporated, provided that the original photographic content predominates: images may not be constructed entirely within a computer. Creative images may be colour or monochrome.

6f) Christmas Knockout

Entries can be any branch of photography. There is no limit on the number of entries (digital) anyone can enter. Files should be titled with the authors name, space and a number, eg TimH 01. The software will recognise the authors name and not place two from the same author against each other in the early rounds. If images are not titled in exactly this way the software will not be able to identify the author and so two of your images may get drawn against each other in the first round.