

COMPETITION RULES & CHECKLIST 2019-2020

ADVANCED and INTERMEDIATE GROUPING.

In order to provide a degree of equality, members entering competitions are split into groups.

The first of these is the "Intermediate" group, being members who are either relatively new to photography or those who, whilst being a little bit more than a beginner, are not yet at what might be considered a highly skilled level.

The "Advanced" group is comprised of those members who are at a higher level than the aforementioned.

◆ New members, upon joining the club, should suggest their preferred grouping, having a view to their personal experience, to be agreed by the Print and PDI Secretaries. Members who have come from other clubs and who have regularly achieved success in their previous club competitions or have a photographic accreditation will be placed in the higher category.

◆ Members can go up from Intermediate to Advanced but not normally the other way. At the end of the season and at the discretion of the committee, those members who reach the top places at the Intermediate Level may be promoted to the Advanced.

In addition, promotion of other members may also occur in order to maintain a reasonably fair balance between the two groups. Such advancement will only occur after discussion and agreement between the parties concerned.

PRINT COMPETITION ENTRIES

Mounting: Advanced Section:

◆ An image MUST be on a 50cm x 40cm mount. This is a universal and specified size of print mount which was established to avoid damage caused by smaller prints to others when placed in a pile prior to judging. Any prints offered on mounts of a different size to that stated will be rejected. Prints should be in a Window Mount **however a "full page bleed flush mounted image", namely one that covers the whole area of the mount, is also acceptable but please note that damage to the print edges during handling may occur.** Please ask if you need help cutting mounts.

◆ Minimum print area 308 sq cm (48 sq inches). Equates to approximately 20.5 x 15.02 cm or 8 x 6 inches.

◆ Image title and the name of the photographer to be clearly shown on the rear of the mount in the top left-hand corner when viewed from the back.

◆ The front of the image shall not show any identification as to the photographer.

◆ Printed borders – as required by yourself.

◆ Note that pre-cut-to-size mount-board, backing board and masking tape can be purchased through the club at bulk prices. Please speak to Vic for details.

Mounting: Intermediate Section:

Same rules as above but:

◆ Members may want to take advantage of our 50cm x 40cm off-white pre-cut mounts with window suitable to take either landscape or portrait A4 size prints – please ask Vic or Kate.

◆ We will allow prints to be surface mounted onto 50cm x 40cm board but note that this increases the chance of prints getting damaged. Please also note that prints so mounted will not be able to be included as part of the club's entry into external competitions because of risk of damage. However, in such situations the selection committee may consider having such prints remounted to avoid this problem.

◆ Please ask if you need help cutting your own mounts. Speak to Vic or Kate.

P.D.I. (Projected Digital Image) COMPETITION ENTRIES

- ◆ Size: Max 1600 pixels in width. Max 1200 pixels in height. Note that as pixel dimensions are given relating to "Resolution" can be ignored.
- ◆ Save as JPEG/Quality12 (note: Quality 12 means maximum quality)
- ◆ Borders – optional, as required by yourself.
- ◆ The image shall not show any identification as to the photographer.
- ◆ It is important that you insert certain information within the image file (this is called "Metadata"). This aids the PDI Secretary in scoring, image display and such like on the night.

Easy to follow instructions on how to do this in Photoshop, Photoshop Elements and Lightroom are available as a download from the club's website [here](#).

Please keep your name under "Author" constant so that all your images will be grouped together.

Save file as Image Name, followed by name of photographer (example: "Pink Flower – Joe Bloggs") in both upper and lower case as above. **Mac users are asked not to embed files in emails but to respect the advice given on the**

website [here](#). If you have any difficulties following the instructional video in the link please Google "How to Zip Files in Mac OS X"

◆ Images will be shown in alphabetical order of title name. It is, therefore, best to avoid prefixing the image name with words like "The" or "A".

◆ If in any doubt please follow the clear instructions when using Photoshop that are on our website under "Preparing Images for PDI Competitions". A link for this on the website can be found [here](#). Failing this, please speak with the PDI Secretary for advice.

It would be preferable if certain punctuation characters were not within image titles. These are:

**_ , # & / : ; * " ~ < > | ? **

THE COMPETITIONS

Open Print Competitions

(The term "Open" means any subject of your choice)

There are two open print competitions, namely Colour and Monochrome. There are three colour print and three monochrome print rounds, which collectively are spread over six evenings. Three of these evenings are dedicated solely to the display of colour prints and another three separate evenings are given over to the presentation of monochrome images only.

A maximum of **two prints** may be submitted for each round of both the colour and monochrome print competitions. The maximum number of entries for each competition over the season will therefore be **six images** in each competition. The overall winner of each competition will be based on the total aggregate score. **If needed, a tie-break image will be used in the final round to decide the overall winner. This can either be an image presented during the last competition or another one you have used in the current season, in which case you need to submit it with your final image selection.**

A PDI of images entered as prints should also be e-mailed to the Print Secretary with the requisite Exif file information in exactly the same format as for PDI competitions prior to the competition taking place. These images will be used on the website for members' galleries and the top images from each competition will be displayed on both Facebook and the website.

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Open Projected Digital Image Competitions

(The term "Open" means any subject of your choice)

- ◆ Five PDI rounds per Season.
 - ◆ Members in the Intermediate Section. - A maximum of two images per competition can be entered in rounds 1-4, with one image only permitted in the fifth and final round.
 - ◆ Members in the Advanced Section. - A maximum of one image per competition can be entered in rounds 1-4, with two images permitted in the fifth and final round.
 - ◆ Images can be any combination of colour or monochrome.
- ◆ The maximum number of digital entries for each competition over the season will therefore be nine images from the Intermediate Section and six images from the Advanced section. The overall winner will be based on the total aggregate score. If needed, a tie-break image will be used in the final round to decide the overall winner. This can either be an image presented during the last competition or another one you have used in the current season, in which case you need to submit it with your final image selection.

THE FOLLOWING COMPETITIONS WILL NOT BE SPLIT INTO ADVANCED AND INTERMEDIATE:

Essex Challenge Trophy

- ◆ PDI competition with a maximum of two images following standard PDI guidelines.

Three-on-a-Theme Print Competition

- ◆ Prints - Maximum of two panel print entries.
- ◆ Each set presented as a panel of three inter-related images and individually mounted (three images on a single mount is not acceptable).
- ◆ Each image in the panel shall be clearly labelled in the top left corner on the back of each print with the individual name of the panel and the name of the photographer.
- ◆ Each image shall be clearly marked under the panel name with its position within the overall panel when viewed from the front (e.g. Left, Centre or Right).

Digital Triptych Competition

- ◆ Digital Images – Maximum of two digital, inter-related Triptych* images following standard PDI guidelines.
 - ◆ Each image file name shall clearly display the title of the triptych image, followed by the name of the photographer. See rules for filling in File Info under Digital Images for Projection.
- * Triptych = For the purpose of this club's competition, a triptych is a presentation made up of three (and only three) distinctly separated photographic images displayed on a common background, which must be of a single colour or tone and not an image, pattern or texture. It cannot be one image split into three elements. The only restriction on the arrangement of the triptych's three images is that they must not meet or overlap. There is no requirement that the three images must be either the same size or the same shape. Added borders, drop shadows etc. are allowed.

Image of the Year Competitions

- ◆ These are one-off competitions in two categories, namely projected digital images and prints, which take place towards the end of the season. There will be a winner in each category.
- ◆ A maximum of two entries per member can be entered, either 2 PDI's, 2 prints or 1 of each.
- ◆ Entries must be selected from those images already entered into any competition (including "fun competitions") in the current season. There are no restrictions on which category images can be entered into (i.e. an image previously shown as a print can be entered as a PDI for this competition or vice-versa).

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

◆ An image or similar variation thereof can be only be entered once through the season. Having done so it also cannot be re-entered in another competition in any subsequent year. Therefore a colour image converted to mono is not allowed and vice versa.

◆ The above rule does not apply to the Image of the Year, Three-on-a-Theme, Digital Triptych, Essex Trophy or those shown during the occasional informal “fun” evenings.

◆ If joining from another club or organisation, previous competition images that are more than twelve months old shall not be offered up for a C.P.S competition.

◆ All entries for the Print Competitions shall be brought along on the club evening one week prior to the competition, or earlier if you are likely to be absent, and handed to the Print Competition Secretary.

◆ All entries for any of the digitally projected competitions shall be submitted only to the Internal PDI Competition Secretary and by no later than the Thursday evening prior to the date of the competition. This can be by email, CD or memory stick. If issued by email such images shall only be sent to their formal club email address namely “pdisecretary@colchesterphotosoc.co.uk” (Note: please DO NOT send to private email of the Competition Secretary). It is incumbent on the member to check receipt of such images.

◆ The Member agrees to the use of their images for publicity purposes, on the club website and to enable the club to enter a number of external competitions. Members may request that their images are not used in this way by informing the Club Secretary. The image shall not show any identification as to the photographer.

◆ If re-using mount board please ensure that any sticky residue is removed or securely covered. This is to prevent marking to other prints that might come into contact.

You are urged to review the rules and other details relating to our competitions above and take careful note of the changes that may have occurred from last season.

Please speak to the Competition Secretaries if you have any questions or need some guidance. We really do want to see your work, irrespective of the level you are at. This is especially true for those new to photography. Everyone is here to help you in the submission of your images and to guide you in the improvement of your work and overall enjoyment.