

THE CPS WEBSITE AND ITS ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

General

The Crewe Photographic Society (referred to herein as 'The Society' or 'CPS') has a website located at

<http://www.crewephotosoc.com>

The site exists to serve the aims and purpose of the Society. It provides information about the Society and its activities to the general public and to members. All content on the site may be viewed by anyone on the internet, apart from the contents of members' private galleries and the messages on the private messaging system.

As a privilege of membership of the Society, members may, if they wish, create a personal account on the site and use the services for members that the site offers. (Please note there is no requirement for members to have a web site account: it is neither a right nor a duty; and not having an account has no effect on a person's membership rights in respect of participation in meetings, events, competitions, elections and governance of the Society.)

Having an account allows members to create personal galleries of their photographs, either private (for their own use) or public (visible to anyone on the internet). Members will normally use their public galleries to display their best work and images of which they are particularly proud.

An account also allows a member to start discussions on the forums, to post replies to others' messages, and to create and view attachments to posts. Members with accounts can also send private messages to other account holders. (None of the facilities listed in this paragraph are available to non-members.)

The CPS website is managed by the Webmaster on behalf of the CPS Committee. The Webmaster makes decisions about membership and site accounts, site configuration, the day-to-day running of the site and the appropriate use of the forums.

The Webmaster manages the site and the forums for the benefit of the membership generally, in consultation with the Chairman of the Society or the CPS Committee as appropriate.

Posting images

Members may maintain one or more galleries of images in their personal accounts, and may configure their galleries to be 'private' (only viewable by the owner) or 'public' (viewable by anyone on the internet).

Members may also include images in forum posts. Images displayed in posts should generally be no larger than 650 pixels along their longest side. Posts may contain links to images hosted offsite, although we urge members to be sensible about the size of these, and we reserve the right to break links to images that are too large to download reasonably quickly.

We cannot prevent visitors to the site saving, copying or distributing any images on the CPS site, but we do expect CPS members themselves to respect owners' rights.

Membership of the Society is open to children and young people. We therefore expect the images that members display on their public galleries, and those they post to the forums, will be appropriate for viewing by members of all ages.

Editing Other Members' Photos

If you wish to edit a photo that another member has displayed on a CPS forum, this must be done politely and respectfully, with the intention of helping the owner improve their photo or photography.

If you edit another member's photo in this way you may only repost the edited version on the CPS site, not elsewhere (unless the owner gives explicit consent). The edited version must only be hosted either on the CPS site (where it must clearly be indicated as an edit of someone else's work) or privately on external webhosting, but only if it cannot be accessed or viewed by anyone else without a direct URL (i.e. it is not publicly accessible where it can be stumbled upon by a random internet user.)

The creator of the original photo retains full copyright in the original photo. The creator of the edited version agrees that by taking part in this process, they transfer all copyright of the edited photo back to the creator of the original. In addition, the creator of the edited version will not assert a claim to any moral or intellectual rights to the edited image they have created however different from the original it may be.

Use of forums and private messaging

Messages posted by members on forums or on the private messaging system should always be respectful and polite. This will ensure a friendly and welcoming atmosphere on the forums, which will encourage members old and new to participate comfortably. Posting messages on the CPS forums is therefore generally a matter of common sense, based on the aims of the Society and an awareness of the potentially very wide public readership, so that members may reasonably expect all posts to be relevant, courteous and appropriate.

Being visible to the general public, the CPS forums display to the world what we are like as individuals and as a group. The Society is committed to being a friendly and welcoming organisation that exists to promote photography, and our forum posts should reflect this attitude and purpose.

Members should therefore post only appropriate and relevant messages on the CPS site. In particular, members should refrain from disputes about personal matters and from personal or general disparagement or defamation of other members, the Society or its officers. In internet parlance, there should be no 'flaming'!

If you have a personal disagreement with or a complaint about another member or members, about the Society or about its officers, you should take the matter up directly with the people involved or through the Society's procedures, not on the forum. Posts that fail to respect these requirements will be deleted.

Messages posted on the forums or via the private messaging system must not contain content that breaks the law or that encourages others to break the law. Relevant laws include, but are not restricted to, those pertaining to copyright, equality, child protection, defamation, bullying or harassment.

We reserve the right to remove offensive messages from our archives immediately and more generally to remove any thread or post that the Society's officers or Committee judge not to be in keeping with the spirit and purposes of Crewe Photographic Society, regardless of content.

Members' use of the Private Messaging system must not contravene the Acceptable Use policy. The contents of Private Messages should be kept private by the correspondents. In particular the contents of Private Messages between officers of the Society and members about official business are to be kept private, save that officers may

discuss the content of private messages relating to the official business of the Society confidentially with other officers. (Please note that the Webmaster and other officers of the Society cannot routinely read members' Private Messages.)

Posting Promotional Messages

The posting of general, unsolicited commercial or advertising material is not allowed on the CPS site. (When in doubt, consult the Webmaster.)

However, publicising items of potential interest to CPS members is allowed. Examples include information about new photographic publications, equipment or software; photographic training courses, websites, exhibitions, and conferences; or special offers on photographic software or equipment.

Violations of the Acceptable Use Policy

Members may contact the Webmaster about any alleged breach of the CPS Acceptable Use Policy, and we will take any of the following actions if the allegation is judged to be valid:

- contact the person responsible to discuss the problem
- remove inappropriate messages or threads from forums
- suspend or delete the offending member's website account

If we receive a complaint about a message posted on the forums, we reserve the right to remove the allegedly offending message from our archives immediately and without consulting the originator of the message.

Amendments

Crewe Photographic Society reserves the right to amend the Acceptable Use Policy at any time without notice.

Dealing with issues and complaints

If you have any concerns about material on the forums or on the site more generally, please contact the Webmaster (webmaster@crewephtotosoc.com) and the Webmaster will attempt to resolve any problems or issues raised.

If you wish to make a complaint about the website, its management or its operation, we encourage you to discuss your complaint with the Webmaster. If you are not satisfied with the response you receive, you may take the matter up with the Chairman. If this does not resolve the issue, it may be referred to the Committee, whose decision will be final.

Crewe Photographic Society

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