

CREWE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

COMPETITION RULES

(LAST UPDATED 2024-25)

COMPETITION SECRETARY: PETER ROBINSON

League Competitions	
Both PDI and Print competitions have Colour, Monochrome & Nature sections. • Only new images never previously entered in League Competitions are allowed. • A particular image may only be entered in either a PDI or Print competition, but not both. • Filenames should be in the format of P_Title_C_MN where P is your preference number, the title should be short, can have spaces, but no underscores, 'C' is the category- G for colour general, M for Mono or N for nature and MN is your membership number. Do not display your name. The underscores are important and don't add any more than the three illustrated. Eg 1_Blue Moon_M_19. In the event of an oversubscribed competition, the least preferred entry may be withdrawn.	
Prints	PDIs
Requirements per Competition	
• You can enter a maximum of 9 prints. • Not more than 3 in any one section. ie General(G), Mono(M) and Nature(N). • Prints must be mounted on card measuring 40x50cm exactly, and not more than 4mm thick. • A PDI of each print is required for simultaneous projection. Not for judging purposes.	• You can enter a maximum of 7 PDI images • Not more than 3 in any one section. ie General(G), Mono(M) and Nature(N). • The colour space should be SRGB. • The maximum size should be 1600px(W) x 1200px(H). • A preferred maximum size of 2 MB too, for external use is recommended.

Annual Competitions		
PDI and Print Annual competitions have Colour, Monochrome & Nature sections. • Filenames should be in the format of P_Title_C_MN where P is your preference number, the title should be short, and can have spaces, but no underscores, 'C' is the category- G for colour general, M for Mono or N for nature, P for portrait and MN is your membership number. Do not display your name. The underscores are important and don't add any more than the three illustrated. Eg 1_Blue Moon_P_19. In the event of an oversubscribed competition, the least preferred entry may be withdrawn.		
Annual Print Competition	PDI Jim Harrison Trophy	Portrait (Howard Edwards PDI) & Maurice Ashwin Print)
• Only images entered in the current season's league competitions are eligible. • Earlier seasons portrait entries are allowed a single further use • Not more than 3 in any one section. ie General(G), Mono(M) and Nature(N). • Prints must be mounted on card measuring 40x50cm exactly, and not more than 4mm thick. • A PDI of each print is required for simultaneous projection. Not for judging purposes.	• Only images entered in the current season's league competitions are eligible. • Earlier seasons portrait entries are allowed a single further use. • The colour space of PDIs should be SRGB. • The maximum size of PDIs should be 1600px(W) x 1200px(H) • A preferred maximum size of 2 MB too, for external use is recommended.	• A maximum entry of 8 images with not more than 4 in PDIs and 4 prints. • A portrait is deemed to be a posed portrait of predominately of one person. • The maximum size of PDIs should be 1600px(W) x 1200px(H). A preferred maximum size of 2 MB is recommended • Images entered previously in these competitions, or used in the current league competitions are ineligible.

Competition Rules

1. All fully paid-up members can enter any club competition. There is no charge for entry, nor any compulsion to enter competitions.
2. For the 'conditions for entry' please see pages 2 and 3.
3. Members submitting entries into any competition must be the creator of those images and all parts thereof, including all elements of composite images. All processing prior to presentation must be the competitor's work, except printing, which may be done commercially. (See the note about AI under Recent Changes, below)
4. League Competition entries may be reworked before entry into annual competitions. The reworking must be limited, and the nature of the image should not be changed.
5. Hand-in dates for the competitions are published on the website.

Your PDIs (for both PDI and Print competitions) are entered via Dropbox. The Dropbox link for each competition will be emailed to members about two weeks before the hand-in date. Have your PDIs ready, click the link given and the uploading is a very simple process. If you are not on the email list, contact the Competition Secretary. Prints can be handed in at a meeting, (don't forget that PDIs of them must also be uploaded). Members are reminded to remove any personal metadata and keywords from their PDIs before submitting them.

Care should be taken to enter images in the correct format and category, and to name them correctly as shown. Errors could result in low marks or even disqualification.

6. Judges will be required to mark out of 20 in League competitions but in Annual competitions will award 1st, 2nd and 3rd places plus Highly Commended (HC) and Commended (C) awards at their discretion. The Judge's decision is final.
7. Seasonal Awards – Broadly, there are awards for the first three places in every category in our competitions, together with the commendations in the Annals. The detail can be seen by looking at last season's awards on our website's Results page, under the Resources menu.

There are three league competitions in both prints and PDIs during the season, and your season's score is your best 5 for each print category and best 4 for PDI categories. Best 7 PDIs overall is your PDI league total (but it must include marks from at

least two categories). Ties are avoided if possible, by adding your next best scores.

Because Nature prints started as a part of Colour prints there is also a Colour Prints League Total made from your best 5 marks from Colour General and Nature.

Finally, we have the 'Photographer of the Year' award made to the member achieving the highest marks in the Leagues. The figures used are Print Colour League + Print Mono + PDI overall. Stand-alone competitions, like the Ron Smith Trophy and the Portrait competitions aren't included in the Photographer of the Year' calculations.

The Ron Smith Cup will be awarded for the most creative PDI in a stand-alone competition. The winner will be decided by our members. The PDIs need to be prepared as they would for a league PDI competition with a maximum of 4 PDIs. These PDIs are eligible for league competitions.

8. CPS welcomes and actively encourages new members to enter competitions. Advice and assistance is readily available on all aspects on the preparation of images.

9. Crewe PS reserves the right to use images entered into our competitions in external competitions, in any exhibitions we hold and to publish them on the CPS website. Copyright remains with the author.

10. Portraiture competitions will be held for both Prints and for PDIs. Entries are limited to 4 portraits in each of the two competitions. Images entered previously in these competitions are ineligible. Images used in the current season's league competitions are ineligible.

The Maurice Ashwin Cup will be awarded to the winner of the PRINT competition and the Howard Edwards Trophy will be awarded to the winner of the PDI competition. The result are not used in the 'Photographer of the Year' calculation.

11. Titles: Please keep titles short. Any characters in excess of 35 may be truncated. Please ensure that different images, even in different seasons, are given different titles, if used externally same title images will be challenged.

Recent Rule Changes

Changes for the 2024-25 Season

1. During the AGM, members agreed to define a portrait as a person posed for the portrait, as apposed to a casual unposed photograph. Last season we'd treated it as a people competition to encourage more entries. Judges will be informed of our portrait definition.
2. The results of the portrait competitions will not be used in the calculations for the photographer of the year.

Changes for the 2023-24 Season

1. Three changes to the Portrait Competitions (Howard Edwards Trophy for PDIs and Maurice Ashwin Trophy for prints). (a) Whilst the rules for the scope of the competitions remain the same the judges will be asked to take a less formal view, people pictures if you like. (b) The number of entries each member is allowed to make will become 4 in each, as opposed to 6 overall. Finally, (c) each member's best single score in both competitions will become part of their total score for the Photographer of the Year award.
2. During the season members will be set challenges to participate in, the results of which will be shown on members evenings. Also, for the first time, the Ron Smith Trophy will be awarded to the member who is most successful in a competition which asks for a show of creativity in a single image, possibly one of altered reality to reflect Ron's enthusiasm for such work. Any judging of these competitions will be done by the members and details will be announced during the season. Any work used in these competitions will be permitted in the formal competitions too.
3. The season coincides with a growing concern about the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our photography. Members are reminded of a rule which has always stood, that they must be the authors of their submitted work and every part thereof. Clearly, this would mean that any elements of the image found by AI from sources other than your own work will be disallowed. Image editing software packages frequently boast the use of AI in the mechanisms of processing. The user has no knowledge of or any way of detecting these elements as they are integral to the processes. Members may

freely use these processes provided that they do not introduce picture elements which are not their own. If entering an image which might be challenged you are best keeping the original file or files used in its creation. The PAGB have just published a guide to the use of AI in PAGB eNEWS 338 (extra).

4. As usual we have included the latest Nature definition used in PAGB competitions. That this requires a virtually annual update is indicative of the state of flux this definition seems to always be in. In fact it has become more general and is not even called a definition anymore.

Changes for 22-23

- 1) PDI League competitions – entry raised from 5 to 7, but still 3 per category. 2) League totals for awards: Total of best 7 must include images from more than one section. 3) Nature eligibility section completely revised.

Definitions (Eligibility of Images in Categories (Sections))

1. Nature

NATURE ELIGIBILITY IN PAGB COMPETITIONS (2022 GB Cup definition)

Nature means Images where living organisms are the primary subject matter. The story telling value of an Image will normally be weighed more than the pictorial quality.

Nature includes:

- Images taken with subjects in controlled conditions such as zoos, game parks, botanic gardens, aquariums and enclosures where the subjects are dependent on man for food. Scientific bands, tags or collars are permissible.

Nature excludes:

- Images where the subjects are obviously domestic animals or plants.
- Images where an obviously artistic treatment has been applied.

Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is permitted, as is cloning of image defects and minor distractions including overlapping elements.

An image appearing to meet these criteria will be accepted as Nature. The judges will normally assume that any image presented to them is eligible.

Access to some biological subjects may be restricted. Where that is relevant, then photographers warrant that they have followed relevant codes of practices and hold any necessary licences.

Note that images already meeting the separate FIAP Definition of Nature will satisfy this less restrictive definition. Some competitions refer to wildlife, by which is meant natural subjects which are truly free. At present we have no competitions with this category.

2. Definition of the black and white photography (monochrome)

A black and white work fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white) is a monochrome work with the various shades of grey. A black and white work toned entirely in a single colour will remain a monochrome work able to stand in the black and white category; such a work can be reproduced in black and white in the catalogue of a salon under FIAP Patronage. Alternatively, a black and white work modified by a partial toning or by the addition of one colour becomes a colour work (polychrome) to stand in the colour category; such a work requires colour reproduction in the catalogue of a salon under FIAP Patronage.

3. Portrait photography at the 2019 AGM members voted to use the Taylor Wessing definition of a portrait,

"The photographs must be portraits; photography concerned with portraying people with an emphasis on their identity as individuals." During the 2024 AGM member voted to add that the portrait need to be posed and not a casual candid photograph of a person.

4. 'GENERAL'

For us the General section is for any photographs which are not Nature or Mono. This term is no longer equivalent to 'Open' in the L&CPU PDI definition; where (in PDIs, but not prints) from 2019 it means mono and colour images.

5. Nature prints - There is an anomaly in our rules resulting from Nature originating as a sub-section of Colour print photographs but the content overrides medium, so a mono image is acceptable in Nature.

Revised August 2024