

April 2021 – L&CPU AI – Nature Definition

Summary – Don't enter Landscapes in the L&CPU AI

The L&CPU is currently inviting you to enter the annual individuals' competition.

On reading through the rules I noticed that they are not using the latest (May 2020) PAGB definition of Nature.

The L&CPU are not strictly bound by the PAGB rules but they will want to use entries made in the AI competition in the 2021 PAGB Annual Federation competitions, so they do usually do abide by the PAGB rules.

I have written to them to explain this. They have acknowledged my note but I can understand that they will probably not want to change the rules at this stage as the competition entries were open even before the invitations were sent out.

Does this matter?

Well, as they stand the L&CPU AI Rules clearly allow landscapes and geologic (sic) formations and weather phenomena as Nature. These are omitted from the PAGB definition.

My advice is to stick to our usual interpretation and don't be tempted to enter landscapes as nature. They will be accepted and marked but they will not be used for the Federation Annual entry, something which a lot of entrants are aiming for.

Although I am no longer your competition secretary, I look at updating the rules for your 2021-2022 season as part of my duties for this season. I shall use the new PAGB ruling on nature and also incorporate the change made at the AGM to the way that the Photographer of the Year is calculated. I shall also be leaving in all the print rules on the assumption that print competitions will take place.

The PAGB nature definition (2020) is the simplest it has ever been (in the last 20 years anyway), however there is a tendency for imagined rules to linger in the mind for ages, always a problem.

Executive Approved. May 2020

The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

NATURE ELIGIBILITY IN PAGB COMPETITIONS

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.