



Sutton Coldfield Photography Club

Competitions and Rules

Section 1 – Definitions

Image	An image is a digital file or film negative which has been produced solely by the member using a photographic process.
Competition Secretary	A Member of Society Committee appointed to organize Print or PDI competitions.
Composite Image	A Composite Image shall be the sole work of the entrant produced only from a Member's Image or Images
Colour Images	Images can include as much or as little colour as you like. The subject matter is open.
Monochrome Images	Monochrome Images must be completely black and white with shades of grey or can be completely tinted with one colour. The subject matter is open.
Panoramic Image	Panoramic images cover a wider field of view than the one from human vision. The normal proportion width to height shall be three to one or greater.
Portrait	An original photographic likeness of a human being, who is living at the time that the exposure was made and the individual is the main subject.
Print	A print shall have been produced from an Image.
Digital Image	An Image taken by either a digital camera, mobile 'phone or by use of a scanner.
Section	Colour, Monochrome, Prints or Projected Images (PDI)

Section 2 – Internal Competitions

Depending on the number of photographs entered, the Competition Secretary may reduce the number of entries accepted in each section to make a viable competition, so that members benefit from a worthwhile critique.

During the club year there will be five open competitions (any subject acceptable) and three specialised competitions; Three Related Images, A Set Subject and Manipulated Files (Fiddle a File). The latter competition (FaF) is purely for fun and does not count towards the "Photographer of the Year" award. The events will be programmed prior to the commencement of the club year. Points awarded for entries (see below) will count towards "Photographer of the Year" in two categories.

Entries receiving a 1st 2nd, 3rd, Highly Commended awards in the individual competitions, are eligible for entry into the Print / Image of the Year Competition. Entries from the Three Related Images and Fiddle a File competitions do not qualify.

Section 3 - Internal Competitions - Rules

a) Projected Image Files (PDIs)

Projected image files must be JPG and compression to between 9 and 12. Maximum image size is a width of 1600 pixels and maximum height of 1200 pixels, for portrait format maximum 1200 pixels high. To enable the competition software to properly sort and display the images, please rename file before submission to include your full name and image name, separated by the semi colon (;) symbol (e.g. Fred Bloggs;My Picture.jpg) This allows the software to hold back the names and display images randomly. It also allows it to announce winners on the screen at the end. There is no need to include dashes or underscores in place of spaces, in fact it is better to use spaces for correct display. Please advise the number of times the image has been submitted in internal competitions with email entries. A maximum of 3 submissions is allowed for each projected digital image and printed entry.

b) Prints

Prints must be mounted; maximum size of mount is 50cms (20 inches) x 40cms (16 inches) and should carry the title and author's name on the reverse side of the mount. Prints can be 'Home' or 'Trade' processed. Members are also required to submit as directed by the Competition Secretary, the digital image used to produce the Print.

c) Three Related Images Competition

This is a single class competition, which is open to all members of the Club. It includes all images in projected image and print formats. The competition allows a maximum of three sets of three related prints and/or three sets of three related projected images. For projected images, the three images must be arranged into one single JPEG file. In PDI and Print the images used should relate to each other in some way.

d) Fiddle a File Competition

The aim is to use or manipulate one or more of the six images you have been sent to create other imaginative images by using a program such as Photoshop, Affinity or others.

You can enter three PDIs.

This competition does not count towards the end of year points total.

The main aim of the competition is to encourage you to use photo editing programs in an imaginative and informative way.

The other aim is to have some fun.

Rules

- 1) You can only use subject matter from the six images you have been sent.
- 2) You can use tools on programs such as Photoshop eg text, colours, drawing and painting tools etc.

e) Entries

Each internal competition allows a maximum of three entries in both prints and projected images. Prints should be brought on the competition night and titles added to the appropriate entry list. Projected images should be entered as email attachments and must be with the Internal Competitions Secretary one week before the competition date. Email entries should currently be sent to suttoncomps@gmail.com, although the old address (compsec@suttonphoto.club) will still work as this is redirected to the new address. It is also advantageous (but not compulsory) to submit your print entry titles by email, as it helps speed up preparations on the night of the competition. Alternatively, images can be handed to the Internal Competition Secretary, on a USB drive or memory card one week before the competition date. Please label with name for return. It is a good idea, if possible, to bring a copy of your entries on a USB on the night of the competition, just in case.

Work may be submitted up to a maximum of three times providing it has not been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in any internal club competition. All work may have been or, can still be used as part of a three related competition entry.

Files must be in sRGB profile and JPG format, Images not correctly sized will not be resized by the Competition Secretary and therefore may not be projected correctly.

Images that have been used previously by a member of this club while they were a member of another club/society may be eligible for entry into any internal competitions but must be identified as such. Such restriction is necessary to avoid the club using them in external competitions in contravention to the rules of that competition.

Judging and submission of entries

All entries will be submitted by the Competition Secretary to the Judge, except that the Competition Secretary shall, at their discretion, exclude any entry that does not comply with

the Competition rules. The Competition Secretary shall notify the author of any excluded work. The decision of the Competition Secretary shall be final.

Scoring – Points will be awarded as follows

SUBMISSION	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS
1 st Submission	2	First	6	Highly Commended	3
2 nd Submission	1	Second	5	Commended	2
3 rd Submission	0	Third	4		

Three Related Image entries and Set Subject entries are allotted double points.

Section 4 – Other

External Competitions

The Competition Secretary may retain any competition entry for use by the Club in external competitions. A Member may specifically request to be excluded for any or all of their images.

Liability of the Club

All reasonable care will be taken of entries, but neither the Club nor any of the Club's officers shall be liable for any loss or damage that may occur to entries.

Nature

SCPC does not currently have a separate section for Nature Images but if, in future we add a Nature section or if you wish to enter the Nature Section for external competitions the following rule will apply.

Images taken and categorised as Nature shall follow the PAGB Nature Rules current as of the 1st September of the Club year.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The club recognises that AI is becoming more prevalent in photography both in how photo imaging software uses AI when modifying images as part of that program (replace, extend etc) and the ability of photographers to adapt, use third-party images and/or AI generated images and then pass them off as their own.

There is a distinction between the image content, which is controlled by the General Conditions, and image processing and presentation which is at the photographer's discretion. Processing can utilise techniques such as selection, noise reduction, calculated textures, montage, HDR, focus stacking and many others. Presentation may include keylines, print paper types, print mounting and others.

Sutton Coldfield Photography Club shall follow the PAGB guidance "Artificial Intelligence" in Photography.

Images must be entirely the work of the Photographer. In composite images, all component images must meet this requirement. For the avoidance of doubt, use of images from any other source including, but not limited to, royalty free image banks and clipart are not permitted.

Image Generation

Banks of individual textures and skies have been available for some time and there are software systems which will overlay an imported texture or substitute a sky. Increasingly there are image generator systems which draw on, or have been developed or trained on, content from large image banks to create new images, via a user prompt or specification. Any importation, whether manual or automated, of all or part of a single image or of a generated image which includes or has been developed from the work of others, means that the resulting image content is not entirely the work of the photographer. The resulting image then does not comply with the PAGB General Conditions and is not permitted where those conditions apply.

Sutton Coldfield Photography Club – May 2025