



## COMPETITION RULES

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## General Competition Rules

Please note: If you are a member of more than one club, be aware that the rules of the KCPA stipulate that you may only represent one club at external competitions.

1. Images, including post-process editing, must be entirely the work of the photographer submitting the image. Composite images are accepted, where applicable, provided that all component images meet this same requirement.
2. With the exception of the 'Monochrome' competition, photographs can be monochrome or colour, or any combination of tones.
3. An image can only be entered as a print OR a PDI in any given season. For example, if an image is entered into a print set subject, it cannot then be entered into a PDI set subject or PDI league.
4. An image may only be entered into two competitions in any given season. That is, one image may be entered into two set subject competitions, or one set subject and one league competition. However, this image will then be permitted to be entered for a third and final time into the end of season Print or PDI of the Year competition.
5. Near-identical images shall not be used in order to get around any of the rules that apply to a single image.
6. Any image that has been entered into one season will not be permitted for entry into any proceeding seasons.
7. The set subject or league competition guidelines will be presented to the judge before judging commences.
8. The decision of the judge is final in all competitions.

9. Photographer of the Year - There are two trophies, one for the standard league and one for advanced, awarded to the top scoring photographer from each division. Points for images are scored in the following way:

a) For league competitions, images are scored from 0-20 at the judge's discretion.

b) For set-subject competitions:

20 points for 1<sup>st</sup> place

19 points for 2<sup>nd</sup> place

18 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place

17 points for Highly Commended

16 points for Commended

14 points for entry

Therefore, the more competitions you enter, the higher your score at the end of the season.

## Print Competition Rules

1. A print photograph shall be registered by 7:25pm on the evening of the competition. Any print arriving after this time will not be entered for judging.
2. A print may be of any size and orientation, but it must be mounted on card with a maximum size of 50x40cm.
3. A print should have backing board fitted to cover the whole print. Please ensure that tape is securely affixed so as not to damage other prints.
4. A print must have a completed Seaford Photographic Society label fixed to the back of the mount or backing board. Please ask if you need labels.
5. There shall be a maximum of two prints per photographer entered on any competition night.
6. The print may be home or commercially printed, however, the quality of the print may be taken into consideration by the judge.
7. A print may only be entered into one round of the Print League.
8. Print of the Year - All entries to the Print of the Year competition must have been entered into at least one print Set Subject or Print League competitions. The image need not have come first or scored a 20/20 during the previous competition/s, it is entirely at the photographer's discretion which of their images they wish to enter. A maximum of only two prints may be entered. Please indicate on the affixed label which competition the image was entered into previously.

## PDI Competition Rules

1. A PDI shall be registered with the digital secretary by 12 midnight of the Tuesday before the scheduled competition. Any image arriving after this time, or sent to anyone other than the digital secretary, will not be entered for judging.

2. Please email your images as JPEGs to [pdi.seafordps@gmail.com](mailto:pdi.seafordps@gmail.com). The subject line of the email should contain the following: "Competition Entry" - which competition - which group. So an example would be Competition Entry - PDI Round 2 - Advanced. This will generate an automated response to say they have been received.

Please also make sure you use the new file-naming format: Title *underscore* Name.jpg

- For example: A Walk in the Park\_John Doe.jpg

Images not titled in this way or sent as anything other than a JPEG will not be entered for judging.

3. Images should be a maximum of 1600 pixels wide or 1200 pixels high. Please follow the instructions in the 'Preparing Images for PDI Competitions' found on the website when formatting your images for competition entry.

4. There shall be a maximum of two images per photographer entered on any competition night.

5. An image may only be entered into one round of the PDI League.

6. PDI of the Year - All entries to the PDI of the Year competition must have been entered into at least one PDI Set Subject or PDI League competitions. The image need not have come first or scored a 20/20 during the previous competition/s, it is entirely at the photographer's discretion which of their images they wish to enter. A maximum of only two PDIs may be entered.

## League Competition Rules

1. General Print and PDI Competition rules apply to League Competitions.
2. There shall be two divisions for Print and PDI Leagues: Standard and Advanced.
3. Upon joining Seaford Photographic Society, it will be at the discretion of the member to decide which division they wish to enter. However, in fairness to Standard members, if the new member holds qualifications or distinctions in photography, they will be entered into the Advanced League.
4. The winner of the Standard group 'Photographer of the Year' award will move up to the Advanced group in the following season as long as they have scored at least 95 in one of the Leagues. Any member in the Standard group that has scored 95 or above in both Print and PDI Leagues will also move up to the Advanced group in the following season.
5. The committee retains the right to move any member up to Advanced from the Standard group that they feel exceeds the required standard.
6. Any member who wishes to move down to Standard group from Advanced can make a request to the Chairman to be moved. If a request is made, the committee will review the standard of work and vote on whether to allow the move.
7. The photographer's total score and position in both Print and PDI Leagues will be determined by taking the five highest scoring images within each League.

## Set Subject Rules and Guidelines

In all instances, Print or PDI rules apply dependant on the competition type, and unless expressly stated otherwise. Judges will be furnished with the necessary definitions and guidelines before the start of each competition and asked to judge based on this criterion. However, judging is subjective, there may be instances in which the judge chooses to use their own criterion which may or may not match those expressed here.

### **Architecture**

An architectural image should capture buildings or structures in a way that is aesthetically pleasing whilst remaining an accurate rendition of the subject. All types of interior and exterior man-made buildings and structures are acceptable, from tall buildings, small houses, tunnels, bridges, farm buildings, and castles to industrial factories and warehouses. Images can be in black and white or in colour, or in any combination of the two. Any post-processing edits are acceptable.

### **Monochrome**

Monochromatic images contain variations in tone from light to dark in only one colour. Formerly known as the Black and White competition, monochrome widens the parameters to include images that use the full spectrum of any one colour, such as red, green, magenta, or blue. However, desaturated images that still show some colour, black and white images with a coloured overlay, or a black and white image with the addition of one other colour will not be accepted. There are no rules regarding subject. Any post-processing edits are acceptable.

### **Portrait**

A portrait should capture the essence, personality, attitude, or mood of a person in which the face and facial features should be the primary focus. Images can be of just the face, or they can be full body, but the face should remain the primary focus of the image. The subject can be posed or unposed, and the image can be taken in a studio setting or a more naturalistic environment. The image can contain more than one person, but the main subject needs to be obvious to the viewer and the focus of the frame. It is not permitted for the main subject to be an animal, although an animal can be included in the image. Images can be in black and white, or in colour. Any post-processing edits are acceptable, provided they compliment the subject and do not overpower the image.

## **Nature**

Nature Images capture living organisms as their primary subject matter. Whilst both are important, the story telling impact of an image will normally be taken into higher consideration than pictorial quality. Nature images include subjects within their natural environment, but also within controlled environments such as zoos, game parks, aquariums, and enclosures where the subjects are reliant on humans for food. Scientific bands, tags or collars are permissible. However, nature excludes the images of obviously domesticated animals or plant subjects. Access to some biological subjects may be restricted, where this is relevant, it is the photographer's responsibility to ensure that they have followed relevant codes of practice and hold any necessary licences.

Processing of the captured image by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging and burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening is permitted, as is cloning of image defects and minor distractions. However, images where an obviously artistic treatment has been applied will not constitute a nature image. Images can be in black and white or in colour, but please bear in mind that many judges may have a preference for colour over black and white nature images.

## **Landscape**

A landscape image should predominantly capture the great outdoors and the nature of the environment. A good landscape image should make the viewer wish they were there. Cityscapes, seascapes, and urban or rural landscapes are all acceptable. Micro landscapes are also acceptable. Any animals or people appearing in the image should not be the primary focus, they should merely compliment the environment rather than pull the eye. Images can be in black and white or colour. Small post-processing edits are allowed; however you may not add objects into your image or engage in any excessive removal of objects beyond small debris or dust spots.

## **Macro & Mini**

Macro and mini images are close-ups of small objects in which the subject in the photograph is greater than life size (macro) or simulate a small world (mini). Images include, but are not limited to, bugs, flowers, water droplets, feathers, bubbles, and other miniature objects. Images can be black and white or colour. Any post-processing edits are acceptable.



## **Triptych**

The triptych must be one single image made up of three images, either three separate images or one image divided into three. If the three images are separate, they must be connected in some way, whether that be by subject, story, mood, colour, or composition. The presentation of the three images is at the discretion of the photographer, the three images can be the same size or different, and arranged in landscape or portrait, the only stipulation being that the final image must be a single image. Images can be black and white or colour. Any post-processing edits are acceptable.

One single image from a triptych may be used in other competitions but it can appear a maximum of only 3 times altogether, including in the triptych. So the allowable combinations are as follows:

- Single image in two competitions, as per the normal competition rules, plus as part of a triptych.
- Triptych in two competitions plus a single image from it in one other competition.

## **Small Print**

A maximum print size of 7 x 5 inches, to be mounted on a board of any size up to 50 x 40 cm. There are no rules regarding subject, however your print should benefit from its small presentation whilst not feeling too overcrowded in the frame. Images can be black and white or colour, and any post-processing edits are acceptable. The Small Print competition is a for-fun competition only and does not count towards Photographer of the Year scores.

## **Abstract**

An abstract image should have no clear-cut definition of what the subject could be, it should be a view of an object whereby the entire shape or context is hidden from view. In this way, an abstract image should look more like a piece of abstract art, leaving an element of mystery surrounding the image and forcing the observer to think. Images can be black and white or colour, and any post-processing edits are acceptable.

## **Street**

A street photography image should capture a moment in time of the life, people, and humanity of a public area. However, people do not necessarily need to be present within the frame to convey the impact of the human element on public and environmental life. Images must be taken in a public place, irrespective of admission fees. If there are people in the frame, they should be natural and

unposed, however eye contact with the photographer is acceptable. Images can be black and white or colour, and any post-processing edits are acceptable.

## **Transport**

The primary focus in a transport image should be the mode of transport. Any mode of transport is acceptable, including, but not limited to, cars, trains, boats, planes, and tractors. The transport need not necessarily be transporting at the time of taking the image. However, the exception to this would be any images of animals, which must be in the process of transporting at the time of taking the image. Dilapidated or decaying historical modes of transport are acceptable. Close-up images of parts of a mode of transport (e.g. a wheel) are acceptable, providing it is clear and obvious that it is a part of a mode of transport. Images can be black and white or colour, and any post-processing edits are acceptable.

## **Creative**

A creative image is a demonstration of the imagination of the photographer and bears little or no resemblance to reality. It is a fictional image created either in camera or, more likely, using post-process editing. All forms of edits are acceptable, including, but not limited to, distortions, blurs, and composites. Images can be black and white or colour, or any combination of the two.

## **Mobile Phone or Tablet**

All images must be taken with a mobile phone or a tablet. Post-processing edits are acceptable, and images can be in any colour presentation, the only stipulation being that the image must have been taken with a mobile or tablet. Exif data will be looked at, and the use of Exif editing software goes against the spirit of the club and is prohibited. The Mobile Phone or Tablet competition is a for-fun competition only and does not count towards Photographer of the Year scores.

## **Panel of 6 Coordinated Prints**

The set of images in the panel should share a common theme, whether that be in subject, story, mood, colour, composition, or style. There should be six prints, individually mounted on boards of up to a maximum size of 40 x 50 cm. Each of the mounting boards in the panel should be the same size. Each of the six images should be able to stand alone in their quality and composition, but the panel will also be looked at collectively. That is, how well the panel is balanced and presented should be taken into account. For example, there should be a balance in orientation when combining landscape and portrait images, there should be a complimentary balance when using colour and black and white images, consideration needs to be given as to whether the images will be presented in two

rows of three images or three rows of two images, etc. Post-processing edits are acceptable.

Each print should have a completed SPS label affixed to the back of the mount. On the label, please give each image a number from 1 - 6 depending on how you wish for them to be displayed. Please also indicate with a 'P' for portrait orientation or an 'L' for landscape as it is not always immediately obvious which way an image should be presented, particularly if the images are abstract or creative.

A maximum of two individual prints from the Panel of Six Prints Competition may be entered into leagues or set subject competitions as per the normal competition rules.

## **6 Tell a Story**

The set of six images should tell a clear story to the viewer. However, the story told is down to the imagination of the photographer. Each of the six images should be able to stand alone in their quality and composition, but the images should be judged collectively in terms of their aesthetics and how well the photographer has conveyed the story.

All images should be mounted on a single board of up to a maximum 60 x 84 cm. There should be some consideration given to the layout of images, with the images balanced in terms of orientation when combining landscape and portrait images. Whilst uniformity in colour presentation is preferred, there should be a complimentary balance employed if combining colour with black and white images. Any post-processing edits are acceptable. Images from the panel may not be used in the Print of the Year competition.

## **Tabletop**

A tabletop image should provide an aesthetically pleasing arrangement or representation of usually commonplace items that are small enough to fit onto a table. Tabletop items can include both manmade objects such as vases, consumer products, and clothing, and/or natural objects such as plants, food, rocks, and shells. A tabletop image does not necessarily need to include the table itself. Images can be black and white or colour, and any post-processing edits are acceptable.