

# Viewfinders of Romsey Camera Club

## Rules for Assessments and Trophy Competitions (August 2023)

### General Rules

**NOTE:** These rules apply to both assessments and trophy competitions unless otherwise stated.

- G1** Prints and projected digital images (hereafter referred to as PDIs) will each be assessed separately.
- G2** Details of entries in each class, with entries placed in order of preference, must be submitted to the uploading website (currently: <https://compent.photoentry.uk/compent>) by the prescribed time.
- G3** The Internal Competition Secretary (assessments) and the Internal Competition Secretary (trophies) may eliminate excess entries and accept late entries at their discretion.
- G4** Submitted work and its component parts must be the sole work of the author, although trade processing is allowed for printing.
- G5** The uploading system will ask for a title for each image and will add the member's name automatically.
- G6** PDIs should be in sRGB and have an image size for landscape format of no greater than 1400 x 1050 pixels, and for portrait format the vertical dimension should be no greater than 1050 pixels. Prints can be of any size and must be mounted on card of maximum size 40 x 50 cm.

For each print, a digital version (based on the standard PDI instructions) should be submitted to the uploading system.

- G7** The Internal Competition Secretary will keep a progress chart showing the assessment scores and the *Photographer of the Year* scores. The progress chart for promotion and accumulation of scores for the *Photographer of the Year* (print and PDI) is displayed on the web site.
- G8** Artificial Intelligence (AI). Works or portions of works generated by artificial intelligence are not permitted. The definition of "portions of works" would be the creation of objects within the image that are not already present. For example, using AI to generate and replace a sky, or create and add a person into the image, is not acceptable. Using AI to clone out or remove items within the image is acceptable (for example, removing a person and using AI to repair the background behind what is being removed).

As this is a rapidly evolving area, the committee reserves the right to amend these definitions at any point.

Works deemed by the Competitions Secretaries or Committee to not follow in the spirit in which this rule is intended may also be disqualified. In this event, the author will be notified.

## Assessment Rules

- A1** Members will be classified as either primary or advanced, separately for both prints and PDIs. This status (primary or advanced) is notified to the uploading software and is updated by the club as necessary.
- A2** New members, who are not beginners, should submit a selection of their printed work to the committee to decide their point of entry. The class in which a member submits work (both for prints and PDIs) may be upgraded by the committee if they consider that a member's work is of a standard appropriate to a higher class.
- A3** The Internal Competition Secretary and the Committee will monitor periodically the number of entries, and adjustments made to achieve a manageable evening's judging. Members will be advised of the entries allowance as necessary, and the uploading system will control the numbers accordingly. (In the 2023/2024 season, the maximum is three, prints and PDIs combined).

The maximum number of entries per person allowed for each assessment evening is given by the uploading system on the screen following selection of the appropriate event, once this is deemed 'open' by the software.

- A4** Submitted work should not have been entered previously for assessment either as a print or PDI (but may have been entered for a trophy or other competition). Entries may be re-submitted in one other assessment but not consecutively. Resubmitted work must be identified by a capital 'R' at the end of the title. Marks received will not count for advancement or for *Photographer of the year*.
- A5** To gain advancement from primary class to advanced class a member must receive sixteen scores of eight or more for different photographs. At least four of these photographs must receive a score of ten.
- A6** Any member may, at any time, elect to move from the advanced class to the primary class. In that event they would have to attain four scores of ten for different photographs to gain promotion back into the advanced class.
- A7** The judge will be asked to comment on the entries and to award marks, which may include half marks, up to a maximum of ten.

## Trophy Competition Rules

- T1** All members will be eligible to enter.
- T2** As for assessments, a maximum number of images (prints and PDIs combined) per person is set within the uploading system according to the predicted popularity of the particular trophy evening.  
  
Members will be informed in newsletters of this value, which will also be displayed in the uploading system following event selection.
- T3** Prints or PDIs cannot be entered if they have been entered previously for either mode of entry in the same Trophy Competition.

- T4** The judge will be required to comment on the entries and to select Gold, Silver & Bronze winners. The judge may also award 'Seal of Merit' certificates.
- T5** To qualify for entry in the *Print of the Year* or *PDI of the Year* trophies, photographs must have been entered in assessments or trophy competitions in the current club year (i.e. since the previous September).

Authors should retain the original titles of their images for submission so that eligibility can be checked. The upload system will allow entry of images into the class category in which they were originally submitted, or the original status of the author at the time of first submission.

- T6** Members in the advanced class will compete for the *Photographer of the Year* trophies for both prints and PDIs. The highest mark gained at each of eight Assessment evenings will count towards an annual total.

At the end of each club year the best six marks will be totalled to decide the winner. In the event of a tie the member with the most 10s will be the winner. If the result still remains a tie, then the member with the most 9½s, then 9s and so on, will decide the winner.

- T7** Photographs which have been re-submitted in assessments will not be eligible to compete in the *Photographer of the Year* trophies.

- T8** Entries for the *Nature* trophies must comply with the rules set out by the PAGB and listed in detail on their web site. Broadly, images can have geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms (mostly flora, fauna and fungi for our purposes) as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, botanical gardens and aquaria. The accurate record of the subject and its environment is the prime concern. Human content must be avoided and 'cute titles' are not allowed. Images of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible.

Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is allowed. Cloning of image defects and minor distractions, including overlapping elements, are permitted when these do not distort the truth of the photographic statement.

- T9** Entries for the *Panel* trophies will each consist of a panel of three prints or PDIs on any theme.

The three images for the PDI panel must remain distinct although some minor overlap is allowed. A fourth background image is allowed in the PDI competition but this should remain relatively unobtrusive and not vie for attention with the main images.

**Note:** Please also refer to detailed *Guidelines* issued by the committee before submitting entries.

- T10** Entries for both the *Panel* and *Les Fredericks* trophies must not have been entered in any previous trophy competition or assessment within the club.
- T11** Images submitted for the *Landscape* trophies must show some 'land'.

## List of Trophies for which competitions will be held each Club Year

**NOTE:** These do not form part of the Rules

1. **Print of the Year** and **PDI of the Year** (separately for primary and advanced classes)
2. **Nature** (separately for prints and PDIs)
3. **Landscape** (separately for prints and PDIs)
4. **Panel** (separately for prints and PDIs)
5. **Les Fredericks** (separately for prints and PDIs) Subjects to be decided at the previous AGM.  
*These subjects are displayed on the event menu of the uploading software.*
6. **Photographer of the Year** (separately for prints and PDIs)
7. **League Champion** for the highest scoring images entered into the inter-club league that year  
(separately for prints and PDIs)
8. The **Whitemore trophy** has some flexibility and may vary from year to year. It is an 'in house' trophy where members present are asked to vote on their preferred images.