

# **Notes on Entering Competitions (extracted from Member Handbook 2018)**

## **Image Categories**

Some competitions require entries to be categorised.

These categories are shown below and refer to all entries:

- Architecture – Buildings and parts of a building, both ancient and modern
- Candid – an image of a person (or persons), unposed/unaware that the photo is being taken.
- Photojournalism – an image, that would be newsworthy in a newspaper or magazine
- Pictorial – any subject constituting a picture which does not fit into any of the other categories, (includes landscape, cultivated flora and captive fauna)
- Portrait - (a representation of a person or animal especially of the face, or subject poses for the photographer)
- Record - an image of a still object, which a person or persons could refer to to reproduce the object accurately. E.g. a wall plaque, statue, monument, sculpture, stained glass window.
- Sport – a game, race or competition
- Still life – still, inanimate objects, organised by the photographer.
- Nature – Nature photography depicts living, untamed animals and uncultivated plants in a nature habitat, geology and the wide diversity of natural phenomena. Photographs of animals which are domesticated and photographs of cultivated or hybrid plants are ineligible. Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for nature subjects, such as barn owls or storks adapting to an environment modified by humans, or natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves, reclaiming it. Any manipulation or modification is limited to minor retouching and must not alter the truth of the original scene.

Notes associated with this definition: Nature photographers frequently take pictures of animals under “controlled conditions” in order to record species behaviour that would be very difficult or impossible to record in the wild. This might even include microscopic subjects, which have to be anaesthetised. Such photographs are permitted.

Animals in reserves and wildlife parks and zoos, are permitted provided there is minimal evidence of humans. So too are “falconer’s” birds although, of course, only minor retouching is permitted which would not, for example, include removing jesses in post processing.

Also permitted are pictures of “wild” flowers growing in parkland or “wild” gardens provided these have not been modified by such cultivation. It is obvious that creatures showing poorer condition because of their captivity are likely to be marked less favourably by nature judges.

Entries should be accurately titled with the common name of the plant / animal / bird / insect (Latin names are not necessary).

### **Preparing your prints for competition**

There are several colour and monochrome print competitions to which the general rules below apply, unless otherwise specified.

For most club competitions, prints can be up to a maximum size of 500mm x 400mm including the mount (either landscape or portrait). This size is also suitable for entering any of your prints into the annual YPU competition, and this is the standard laid down by the PAGB.

N.B. the thickness of the mount (all mount board plus the print) may not exceed 4mm for YPU entries.

There is one competition for which the print size is more specific - The Lynne Denton Portrait competition.

For the Lynne Denton Portrait competition, the actual print size should be no larger than A4 (210mm x 297mm) and this print can then be presented on a mount no larger than 500mm x 400mm.

### **Presentation of prints**

Prints produced from film, slides and digital images are accepted for the print competitions.

For competition purposes the prints are all displayed together on the competition night.

They are presented one at a time, on a light box, so the club members can view them individually as the judge makes his/her comments. It is, therefore, an advantage for prints to be large enough to view from a distance.

Prints must be suitably mounted on card so they are well presented and will stand rigidly on the light box and can be viewed to their best advantage.

## **Labelling Print entries**

Prints must be correctly labelled please, to help the competition secretary with the paperwork.

As shown below prints should have the name of the competition and an appropriate title written on the back of the mount in the top left-hand corner.

If required, it should also give the category to which the print is to be judged (e.g. for the Harry Pitts Competition).

At the time a member pays his/her yearly subscription, a number will be allocated to that member for identification when entering print competitions.

This is the only way a print can be identified to the author. The authors name **MUST NOT** be shown on any part of the print or on the rear of the print.

For example:

Author: 55c

Competition: Colour print

- Title: Greek village at noon.

Category: Pictorial

After the authors identification number the type of print should also be shown:

C – Indicates a colour print eg. 55c

M – Indicates a mono print eg. 55m

The reverse side of the mount must be clearly labelled as above.

## **Preparing your digital images for competition**

The file specifications for a digital image are currently as follows.

The image must be:

- jpeg format,
- size 1600 x 1200 pixels,
- sRGB profile.

Landscape files – the long horizontal side should be 1600 pixels, making the other side a ratio to this, but it cannot be over 1200 pixels.

Portrait files – the long vertical side should be 1200, making the other side a ratio to this, but it cannot be over 1600 pixels.

All images will show a black surround when projected. If you wish to add a border to your projected image (e.g. a thin white border), this is acceptable, so long as the image including the border does not exceed the size as above.

In Photoshop CC, you can resize an image as follows:

From the 'Image' menu, select 'Image Size'.

Make sure the drop down menu is set to 'Pixels', then adjust the height or the width as required, eg for landscape images, a maximum size of 1600 pixels as above.

Save your file as a jpeg; the file name should be the image number, your initials, then the title of the image:

e.g.

00\_CW\_Flowers.jpg

(00\_then your initials\_then the image title.jpg)