

# Stourbridge Photographic Society

## Competition rules

1. Entry to competitions is restricted to paid up members of the Stourbridge Photographic Society, ( SPS ) which expects all members to follow the spirit of these rules.
2. All entries must be registered with the Competition Secretary prior to a competition taking place.
3. Photographic images submitted for competitions should be the personal work of the author.
  - SPS welcomes computer enhanced or manipulated photographic images, provided that each component, forming part of the whole, is the original work of the author, who must hold the copyright to each of the constituent parts. Royalty free / copyright free, clip art, AI generated or copyright expired material is not permitted. SPS reserves the right to examine the Raw files and/ or the Exif data of images.
  - Computer generated material such as fractals / textures, may be used as backgrounds providing these have been generated by the author.
  - AV work may contain photographs or scans of archive material as backgrounds.
4. Types of competition:
  - Open competitions: Three separate categories of competition; Colour print, Monochrome print and Digital Projected Image, ( DPI ).
  - Triptych: A competition containing three linked photographs in a single image, either print or digital.
  - Photochallenge: Usually a DPI competition based on a subject decided by the committee.
  - The Albert: To choose the club member from the General group who has the most points for images that did NOT get awards.
  - Phil Waldren: To choose the club member who has the highest aggregate score with Landscape / Seascape prints in the Open competitions during the year.

See section 7 for competition details.

5. For the Open competitions, the club members are divided into Advanced and General sections. The Advanced section is for people who have shown consistent competition success in the General section. Promotion is decided by the committee. Members of the advanced group who feel that they would be more appropriately placed in the General group may apply to the committee to be placed in the General group.
6. Entries -
  - A member may submit a maximum of 3 images in any competition. In all competitions, one piece of work will be marked 'reserve'. *In the case where there is a very large number of entries and it is thought that the judge would not have time to give sufficient comment on each piece of*

*work, the work marked 'reserve' will be dropped from the competition. This decision will be solely at the discretion of the competition secretary. If an entrant fails to indicate which is their reserve image, the Competition Secretary will exclude one entry at their own discretion, this piece of work can be entered in a later competition.*

- All competitions must contain a minimum entry of at least 9 images or AVs for a competition to take place.

## 7. Competition details

### A. Open competitions:

- Any image entered in a club Open competition, that is placed ( i.e. 1, 2, 3, Highly Commended or Commended) cannot be entered in any further club Open competitions in any format whatsoever. This includes images, which are as similar to previously placed images as to be virtually identical.
- Any image entered in a club Open competition, that is not placed, may be entered into one further club Open competition in any format, ( Mono print, Colour print, or, Projected image ).
- The numbers of each Open competition is decided by the committee.

### B. Triptych:

- This is for new work only.
- The component images may be new or taken from any preceding competition entry but cannot be re-submitted to this competition in subsequent years.

### C. Photochallenge:

- This is for new work only. Images submitted may be used afterwards in the other club competitions.

### D. The Albert

- Eligible entries are DPI images, that have been submitted to the General group Open DPI competitions in the current year.

### E. Phil Waldren

- Eligible entries are prints with a landscape / seascape theme, that have been submitted in either the Open Colour or Open Monochrome print competitions in the current year.
- Any marks that have been awarded in these competitions are added up for the year.
- The eligibility of a print is decided by the Competitions Secretary.

## 8. Scoring. ( see note 1 )

- For the Open, Threesomes and AV competitions, points are awarded as follows: - 1st – 20, 2nd – 19, 3rd – 18, Highly commended – 17, and Commended – 16 points.
- For competitions judged by the members, a suitable scoring system will be used at the discretion of the Competition Secretary.

- For the Open competitions, the judge will be advised that approximately 25% of the exhibited work should be awarded a placing, ( 1, 2, 3, HC, and C ).
9. The Competition Secretary will disqualify an entry if they consider the image to break the rules. If a dispute arises during a competition, the Competition Secretary will decide on the interpretation of the rule.
  10. Monochrome print defined ( see *note 2* ) - A black and white image or a black and white image which has been modified by the addition of a single tone to the entire image, e.g. sepia. *Colour popping is no longer allowed.*
  11. Print Size ( see *note 3* ) - Prints must be mounted for all competitions. The prints may be of any size but the mount must not exceed 500mm x 400mm and must show both the title and the author's name on the rear. ( see *note 4* )
  12. DPI dimensions ( see *note 5* ) - entries for DPI competitions must be in JPEG format. The vertical measurement must be no more than 1200 pixels, and the horizontal measurement must be no more than 1920 pixels, irrespective of the orientation of the image. Any incorrect entries may be excluded.

Explanations:

1. The scoring system follows widespread practice amongst camera clubs.
2. This is the default rule for all monochrome competitions.
3. The print mount size of 500mm x 400mm is a national standard for photographic competitions.
4. The PAgB convention is to have the label on the back of the print, bottom right.
5. The DPI size of 1920pixels wide by 1200 pixels high is set by the resolution of the projector.
6. It is considered acceptable that minor 'tweaks' may be done to an image before putting it forward for a second entry in the Open competitions, e.g. following suggestions made by a judge.