



Rochdale Photographic Society

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR COMPETITIONS

Competitions are held throughout the year and new members are encouraged to participate so that their work can be commented on by an invited judge. All images are shown anonymously and by taking on board the judge's assessment we can all learn from their expertise.

Each competition has its own rules, depending on whether it is a print only, digital only, or a mix of both. The rules are shown separately under each competition heading.

Occasionally we may run an informal competition as a means of attracting specific genres to increase our choice of entries into external competitions i.e. the theme may be Nature or Portraits etc. **All images entered in an informal competition may be entered again in a formal one i.e. one judged independently by an invited Judge.**

We are members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union (L&CPU) and the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) and are invited to submit images to compete against other clubs. More information is given at weekly meetings.

Other competitions are in the form of a 'battle' with another club on a home and away basis, with an invited judge to award points to decide the winner. Again, more information is given at weekly meetings.

Images must be a member's own work and have full copyright of all the images.

The competition secretaries reserve the right to disqualify from competition, or remove without warning, any image which does not comply with the rules or is deemed unsuitable. If in doubt, please ask the competition secretary.

Whilst all reasonable care is taken with images entered for competitions the Society does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage. Original images of particular value should not be entered. All members' images are deemed available for exclusive use by the Society for external competitions.

An image may be entered in a competition as a Print or Projected Digital Image (PDI) but not as both in the same competition.

Images that have been entered in either format (Print or PDI) in any previous competition may be entered in the alternative format for the Annual Exhibition only.

PRINT ENTRIES (see separate notes for the Mini Print Competition)

- Mount Size must be 50cm x 40cm. This is the standard mount size which complies with the rules for external competitions, therefore enabling the print secretary to enter any print into such competitions.
- On the back of the mount please write your K number and the image title (top right of the mount board as oriented with the image) to preserve the anonymity when being judged.
- Digital images of print images are required by the Print Secretary and must be handed in at the same time as the prints on a card or memory stick OR emailed to prints@rochdale.org.ps before the hand-in night. The digital images must be re-sized to 1600 x 1200 pixels and titled as described below.

DIGITAL ENTRIES

- The card or memory stick must be empty except for the images you are entering.
- Each image must be titled as follows: Name, Image Title.jpg, i.e. Tom Smith_My Best Friend. (Please note – no spaces either side of the underscore between the author’s name and the title). Also please don’t use hyphens, underscore, full stops, commas, apostrophes, brackets etc. in the image title as these affect the computer file sorting.
- Each image must be JPEG, exactly 1600 pixels wide and 1200 pixels high. If an image size is less in any direction, then a black background must be added to give a canvas file size of 1600 x 1200 pixels.
- sRGB colour space.

RULES FOR ALL COMPETITIONS

N.B. For clarity the term “**NEW WORK**” is defined as work that has not been entered in a formal competition where judging has been done by an external Judge.

CENTENARY CUP (Judged independently by an invited Judge)

This competition was first introduced in 1990 as part of the Society’s centenary celebrations and is designed to be offbeat in nature and provide something different. It is usually held in October and a trophy is presented to the winner. The theme will be chosen by the committee, will be for **NEW WORK** only, and whether it will be prints or digital entries. **Hand in night two weeks before the competition. Entries will be eligible for the Annual Exhibition Competition** in print or digital.

CREATIVE DIGITAL (Judged independently by an invited Judge) (Rules changed for the 2019 competition from print to digital)

This competition is designed to encourage creativity using your imagination and image editing software if you wish. It is usually held in May and a trophy is presented to the winner **Hand in night two weeks before the competition. NEW WORK** only, up to 4 entries. **Entries will be eligible for the Annual Exhibition Competition in print or digital.**

DIGITAL KNOCKOUT (Judged independently by an invited Judge)

This competition is usually held in September and takes the traditional style of a knockout competition using digital images. A trophy is presented to the winner. (Images entered in previous competitions are eligible, apart from 'dead' images i.e. after being entered in the Annual Exhibition). **Hand-in night two weeks before the competition.** **Entries will be eligible for the Annual Exhibition Competition, Memorial and President's Cup if the image is appropriate to the theme.**

MINI PRINT (Informal competition judged anonymously by members on a knockout basis by members)

This competition usually takes place in June and is designed to encourage all members to enter a simple print competition. A trophy is awarded to the winner. **NEW WORK** only, up to 4 print entries, maximum mount size 10" x 8", print size 6" x 4" only. Prints to be handed in on the night of the competition. **Prints may be enlarged and entered in the Annual Exhibition Competition as a print or digital, and any other competition in either format.** **NEW FOR 2020 – Please write the title of your image on the front of your print and your K number on the back.**

MEMORIAL 'SCAPES' (Informal competition judged anonymously by members)

This competition is usually held in late September and began as the Peter Lord Memorial Competition in 2016. The chosen subject was Landscapes which includes land, sea, and sky 'scapes'. A trophy is awarded to the winner. Up to 6 digital entries. **Hand in night two weeks before the date of the competition.** **Entries will be eligible for the Annual Exhibition Competition (as either full size mounted Prints or PDI's) or entered into the Quarterly, but as a standard full size Print only.**

PRESIDENT'S CUP (Informal competition judged by the President)

This competition is held on the last meeting date before Christmas and a trophy is presented to the winner. The theme will be chosen by the President. Up to 4 digital entries. **Hand in night two weeks before the date of the competition.** **Entries will be eligible for other competitions in either format, but ONLY if an entry had been entered into this competition as NEW WORK, would it be eligible for any competition that stipulates "NEW WORK only".**

QUARTERLY COMPETITIONS (Judged independently by an invited Judge)

These are four open competitions usually held in January, April, August and November. Entries may be either print or PDI, or both. A small shield is awarded on the night to the winners of each section, which must be returned before the next quarterly competition. Individual scores in each section are carried forward to the next quarter and at the end of the year the member with the highest score from three of the four competitions will be awarded the W. H. Hardwick trophy for prints, or the J. Barcroft trophy for digitals. It is also possible for a beginner to gain advanced status if his/her three best scores from three quarterly competition in any one year reach 50 points in either the print or digital (but not a mix of both). It's the responsibility of the individual concerned to notify the competition secretary before a change in status can be made. (The only competition where entries are made either as a beginner or advanced is the Annual Exhibition Competition). **NEW WORK** only, up to 4 prints or 4 digitals, or 4 of each maximum. **Hand-in night two weeks before the competition.** **Entries are eligible for the Annual Exhibition, Digital KO, Memorial, or President's Cup.**

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD (POTY)

This award is presented to the member who has entered work in all four quarterly competitions in both print and digital. The highest points from all eight competitions are totalled to find the winner. The achievement is in consistently producing work of a high standard over the year. The trophy is awarded at the Annual Dinner.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION FOR PRINTS AND PROJECTED DIGITAL IMAGES (PDI's) (judged independently by invited Judges)

The premier competitions of the year which take place over two consecutive meetings with different invited judges who will determine the winning images in each category, and the winners will each receive a trophy. Awards are also given to images which are Very Highly Commended, Highly Commended or Commended, in each category.

Comments are made by the judges on each image, but scores are not given. The individual winners of the Beginners categories will automatically gain Advanced status for both prints and PDI's for all future Annual Exhibitions. This is the only competition which is divided into Beginners and Advanced.

A venue is chosen each year where a selection of the prints is displayed for the public to view, along with projected images from the PDI competition.

All entries are divided into: **Beginners** Category OR **Advanced** Category.

Each of these categories is further divided into **three** sections: **Colour**, **Nature**, or **Monochrome** (black and white or Monotone only)

Entry Forms and labels for the prints will be provided ahead of the competition to be completed as follows:

COMPLETION OF THE ENTRY FORMS FOR PRINTS AND DIGITALS

- **Entry form information: Name, K no. Beginner or Advanced, Entry No., Image Title, Colour "C" Nature "N" or Mono "M"**
- **Entries must be listed on the entry form in order of preference from 1 to 12 regardless of whether it is Colour, Nature or Mono. *see note below**

Labels for the prints are issued for completion with: K no. Print Title, Entry No. Colour/Nature/Mono. This is fixed top right of the rear of the mount, with the mount in the same orientation as the image.

- **Digital images (sized at 1600 x 1200 pixels) of the print images are required by the Print Secretary and must be handed in at the same time as the prints, OR emailed to prints@rochdaleps.org.uk**

*Entrants may submit up to **12** prints and **12** PDI's but the competition maximum is 120 images of either. If more than 120 images are entered then the number per person will be limited by removing every image numbered **12**, then those images numbered **11**, then **10** and so on, until the competition entry falls to the required level. **It is important therefore to consider this when numbering your images on the entry form.**

Judges are instructed to penalise any image which has, in their opinion, been entered in an inappropriate category. Also, images will be reviewed by committee for inappropriate content before public exhibition and authors would be notified of any withdrawals.

Entries made after the entry date, without an entry form or not correctly sized may not be eligible, but this decision will be at the competition secretary's discretion.

Entries may be held and used to represent the Society in external competitions and battles. **All images entered in the Annual Exhibition competitions are automatically disallowed from any further internal club competitions. Hand in night two weeks before the competition.**