

# **Southampton Camera Club Competition Rules**

## **General Rules of Conduct**

- a) Competitions are an important means of assessing the progress of a photographer's work.  
Competitions must offer a fair assessment of each individual member's work by a competent judge who is allowed to carry out the task without bias or interruption.
  
- b) It is an important principle that images should be judged on merit and that the author of an image should not be identified to the judge during the judging process. There may of course be an occasion when an image has been seen by a judge in another competition. This situation will not disqualify an image per se.
  
- c) This applies if an author conducts them-self, during the judging process, in any manner, which potentially breaches clause (b) above or which may bring the club into disrepute. In such a case, the club's officers present may withdraw the image from that competition and may suspend, reduce or remove any points or seal awarded. The image, if withdrawn, will be disqualified from further entry in SCC competitions. The immediate decision of the club's officers present is subject to confirmation at the next club committee meeting.
  
- d) The Committee reserve the right to issue a written warning to any person in breach of clause (c). They also reserve the right to ask a member to resign from the club in the event of a second infringement.
  
- e) Competitors should bear in mind that judges will have a subjective as well as an objective view of an image. Their comments are meant to be helpful but they have a difficult task to both critique and award points/seals. They are not infallible but do their best.

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## SCC Competition Rules

1. There will be a number of regular print and digital competitions during each calendar year, with a final for each at the end of the year.

2. There will be 2 separate competition categories:

Digital

Prints

3. In each category there will be 3 classes:

Primary

Intermediate

Advanced

4. New members will normally enter the Primary class. If you would like to enter a different class please consult one of the Competition Secretaries or an experienced Committee member. Please do so if you: Already hold photographic qualifications or

Are a current or past member of another camera club or

Derive some or all of your income from photography.

5. For print competitions, entries must be handed to the competition secretaries by no later than 7.30pm on the evening of the competition. For digital competitions, entries must be with the digital competition secretary at least 1 week before the competition. Digital entries can be submitted on Cd, USB flash drive or by email to [sccdigital@southamptoncameraclub.co.uk](mailto:sccdigital@southamptoncameraclub.co.uk)

6. There will be a maximum of 2 entries per person per category.

7. All work must be of original images that do not infringe copyright. Print entries can be home or trade processed/printed. All elements of the final image must be the entrants' own work. The inclusion of clip-art or elements of stock photographs is not permitted.

8. Entries must be clearly identified by title, number (1 or 2), authors' name and class. Additionally, a completed entry form must accompany Print entries. **Digital files must be named in exactly the following format:**

Entry number (space) title (e.g. 1 Rannoch Moor, 2 Namibian Tree). Please do not use leading zeros for the number or period or underscore characters between the number and the title.

9. Images should conform to the following dimensions/formats:-

Digital images must be no more than 1400 pixels wide by 1050 pixels high and should be either tiff (flattened, max 8 bits/channel) or jpeg. See Note IV below for additional guidance).

10. Images will be judged in three separate classes; Primary, Intermediate and Advanced.

11. Judges will award a mark to each image up to a maximum of 10. Half point scores are allowed.

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12. Up to 5 Seals will be awarded for work of a particularly high standard.
13. The Seals of Merit will be awarded first to images with a score of 10 and only awarded to a lower score if less than 5 images have scored 10. This process will continue to scores of 9.5 and 9 if there are insufficient images with higher scores.
14. In the event of more than 5 images receiving a score of 10, the judge will choose the 5 Seal winners from that group.
15. The scores for each image entered will count towards the total in the President's cup competition. The member scoring the highest total number of points during the year will win the trophy. In the event of a tie, the winner will be decided on a count back with the highest number of 10 scores counting. If still tied, the process will continue down through 9.5, 9 etc. until a winner is declared.
16. All work receiving a Seal of Merit during the year will be eligible to compete for trophies in the annual Club finals. In the event of insufficient entries in a particular category, Competition Secretaries may decide to include entries that received a 10 score but not a Seal.
- 17. Entries in either print or digital competitions will not be eligible in any subsequent monthly competition where points are available for the President's cup.**
18. Rule 17 also applies to images that are so similar as to be virtually identical (such as a reprocessed version, or another in the same series). If in doubt about whether an image is too similar, please consult the Competition Secretary before entering it.
19. All Digital images scoring 9 or above will automatically be passed to the webmaster for inclusion on the SCC website unless the author specifically states that entries are not for publication. A separate opt-out statement is required in respect of each competition. Digital images awarded a Seal of Merit will automatically be entered for the Digital Finals.
20. All Print images scoring 9 or above will be eligible for inclusion on the SCC website and authors are responsible for supplying an appropriate digital file to the webmaster immediately after the competition.
21. Members will qualify for promotion from:-
  - Primary to Intermediate class; after accumulating a total of 80 points or more from their competition entries. Only individual scores of 9 or more will count towards this process.
  - Intermediate to Advanced class; after accumulating a total of 120 points or more from their competition entries. Only individual scores of 9 or more will count towards this process.
22. Existing seal totals for members will be converted for the new process at the rate of one seal equals 10 points
23. Associate members are not eligible to enter SCC competitions.

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24. Whilst every effort is made to ensure safe handling of all images submitted for competitions, SCC accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage that may occur. It is a condition of entering that you acknowledge that the value of your entry is no higher than the replacement cost of its materials.

Notes:

I If a competition specifies a Nature/Natural History category, then the entries must conform to the FIAP definition of Natural History.

II These general rules do not apply to some annual competitions (i.e. Kimber/Coates, From One Image), for which the number of Formats and/or Classes may be varied according to the rules or conventions of that particular competition. In particular, images that have already been awarded a Seal of Merit are not necessarily excluded. Details of the amended rules can be obtained from the relevant Competition Secretary.

III To be used in external competitions, prints must be no larger than 40cm x 50cm (including the mount).

IV The dimensions for digital images are not reversible. They must be no larger than the resolution of the projector -1400 pixels wide x 1050 pixels high. Computer screens and projectors are always landscape format.

Please remember to send a digital file of your prints scoring 9 or more to the webmaster for inclusion on the website asap following a competition.