Competition Rules

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INTRODUCTION

Sevenoaks Camera Club aims to be a friendly club. Competitions are intended primarily as ways to learn and improve and to encourage the enjoyment of photography. They should encourage a positive, friendly culture within the club and to help all of us enjoy our photography. The aim of these rules is to give a clear framework for all members.

Each season normally includes the following competitions:

- Four print competitions: all for any subject.
- Four projected digital image ("PDI") competitions: three for any subject and one on a theme set by the Club.
- One print panel competition for entries by individual members: on a theme of their own choice.
- One team challenge competition for prints: on a theme set by the Club.

Other competitions may be held at the Committees discretion. These may have their own rules.

GENERAL RULES

1) Only paid-up members of the Club may enter competitions.

2) There is one entry class for all members.

3) Each paid-up member is assigned a competition number.
   a) To ensure anonymity of entries during judging, this is to be used instead of the member's name on every print entered.
   b) In digital competitions entrants names are used for file identification only and are not revealed to the judge before judging.
   c) The photographer's name for each print or PDI is not revealed until the final judge's preferences have been announced.

4) All components of any image entered in any Club competition must be based on photographs taken by the member. A member must not pass off someone else's work as their own ("plagiarism"). The member must own the copyright of every image they enter
   a) As long as these requirements are met, the photographer may freely use the editing/manipulation capabilities of a digital imaging application.
   b) Photographers may also manipulate traditional silver-based negatives/prints if using that medium.

5) Except where specifically allowed in the rules, entries may be entered in only one Club competition.
   a) Near duplicates of entries by the same photographer are not allowed.
   b) Medium switching is not allowed, so an image judged in a PDI competition cannot later be entered in a print competition, or vice versa.

6) Entry deadlines are shown in the Programme, on the Programme page of the Club website, and/or by other announcement. Competition Secretaries are not obliged to accept late entries.

GENERAL RULES (CONT'D)

7) Each competition will be judged by a judge(s) approved by the Committee.
   a) The judge will be asked to comment on each entry and nominate their preferences for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Imagination award. An Imagination award can be any entry, it does not have to be one of the judge's three favourites.
   b) They may also commend a number of entries if they wish.
   c) In a competition with a theme for entries, the mark or position will reflect both photographic quality and interpretation of the stated theme. The judge is the arbiter for both elements.
   d) There will be no Imagination award in themed competitions since imagination in interpretation of the theme is integral to the competition.

8) Competition Secretaries will keep a record of competition results.

9) All reasonable care will be taken of entries submitted, but neither the Club nor its officers can accept any liability for loss or damage however caused.

10) The Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to any picture that they consider to be unsuitable.

11) In the event of a dispute concerning the operation of these rules or other matters relating to competitions, the decision of the Committee shall be final.

12) Separate guidance will be given for any external competitions, exhibitions or other events in which the Club takes part.

Specific rules for the different types of competition are on the following pages, which should be read in conjunction with those above. Contravention of the rules may attract appropriate action, which in the event of serious or repeated cases may extend to disqualification.

PRINT COMPETITIONS

1) A maximum of two prints may be entered by each competitor in each competition unless the Committee decides otherwise.

2) Prints for competitions:
   a) must be at least 18 cm in the longest dimension.
   b) must be mounted. The maximum size of the mount should be 50 x 40 cm in either horizontal or vertical orientation. (The minimum height of each mount should be 30 cm to allow effective display on the Clubs stand.)
   c) but note that unless otherwise advised 50 x 40 cm is the only size allowed for the Club's Annual Exhibition and for Kent County Photographic Association competitions and exhibitions.

3) Prints must be labelled in the top left-hand corner of the reverse of the mount with a title (if any), the entrants competition number, the Club name Sevenoaks CC (in case the picture is chosen by the Selection Committee for external events).

4) Entries in Print competitions may be entered in only one Club competition, except that individual prints from previous Individual Panel or Team Challenge competitions may be subsequently entered by the photographer in an ordinary Club print competition.

PROJECTED DIGITAL IMAGE COMPETITIONS

1) A maximum of two PDI images may be entered by each competitor in each competition unless the Committee decides otherwise. See point 3 below about indicating the preferred order.

2) PDI files for competitions:
   a) must be in the jpg format, with colour representation of sRGB.
   b) images must have a maximum *width* of 1920 pixels and a maximum *height* of 1200 pixels
      i) NB this does NOT mean the height of a photo in a vertical orientation can be 1920 px.

3) File names must – to enable competition software to function properly - adhere *exactly* to the following example format:
   a) 01 A DAY AT THE SEASIDE by John Smith
   b) 02 THE ROAD TO NOWHERE by John Smith
   For the avoidance of doubt this is:
   Two-digit preference number, ie, first choice is 01, second choice is 02
   space
   image title (in block capitals)
   space
   by (in lower case)
   space
   entrant name (capitalised)

4) The two image files must be submitted in a folder/directory in your name, which must match exactly your name on the image file.

5) If the number of entries has to be reduced for any reason, entries numbered 02 from all entrants will be omitted.

6) Image files should preferably be submitted electronically via email (or Smash or WeTransfer). The email address for PDI submissions by this means is <PDISec@sevenoakscameraclub.org.uk>

   Alternatively a USB flash drive or memory card may be used, or other method agreed by the Committee. The name of the photographer or competition number must appear on any physical media used.

7) Entries in PDI competitions may be entered in only one Club competition.

Competition Rules

INDIVIDUAL PRINT PANEL COMPETITION

1) Each entrant may submit up to two panels, each of between three and nine mounts. Each mount must be a maximum of 50 x 40 cm in either horizontal or vertical orientation. (The minimum height of each mount should be 30 cm to allow effective display on the Club's stands.)

2) Each mount may show one or more prints. Each print must be at least 18 cm in the longest dimension.

3) No print may have been previously entered in a Club competition, nor be a print of an image previously entered in a PDI competition.
   a) Near duplicates of earlier entries by the same photographer are not allowed.
   b) However, near duplicate photographs may legitimately appear within a single set in this competition if required.

4) The panel must have an overall title and the prints in each individual panel should be linked by common theme(s) of the entrant's choice.

5) If two sets are entered, the 1st and 2nd choice order must be advised to the Print Competition Secretary. If the total number of entries has to be reduced, the 2nd choice sets of all entrants will be omitted.

6) Individual prints do not need titles.

7) The prints will be displayed in one or two rows on the Clubs stands
   a) The reverse of each mount should have a key to the layout of the panel and the position of the mount in the panel, along with the entrant's competition number and the panel title.

8) A panel may optionally be accompanied by a written commentary not exceeding 150 words for the guidance of the audience and judge. These will be read out as the panel is displayed.

9) The panel will be judged for both the photographic quality and the interpretation of the entrant's chosen theme/title. It will be for the judge to decide on the balance to be given to the different aspects in coming to a decision about each panel.

10) The judge will be asked to comment on each panel and to nominate 1st and 2nd favourites.

11) Entries must be submitted by the date indicated in the Programme, on the website or by other announcement.
   a) Prints will only need to be brought on the evening of the competition, but other information about the entry may be needed by the Print Secretary in advance.

12) NB: Individual prints from the panel may *afterwards* be entered by the photographer direct into a print competition in the same or subsequent season if wished.

TEAM CHALLENGE COMPETITION

1) This competition is for teams of three members who work together to create a set of six prints illustrating a theme set by the Club. All photos must be taken in the duration of the competition, normally from May to April each year.

2) Teams are selected by the Committee from the volunteer entrants, with the intention of trying to form teams of broadly equal total experience. This can only be done with best endeavour, not with precision.

3) The team may submit a second set of prints, but this must interpret the theme in a different way.

4) If two sets are entered, the 1st and 2nd choices must be advised to the Competition Secretary. If the total number of entries has to be reduced, the 2nd choice sets of all teams will be omitted.

5) Each panel must contain at least one photo taken by each team member.

6) Prints:
   a) must be at least 18 cm in the longest dimension
   b) must be mounted individually. The maximum size of the mount should be 50 x 40 cm in either horizontal or vertical orientation. (The minimum height of each mount should be 30 cm to allow effective display on the Clubs stand.)
   c) must not have been entered in a previous Club competition.

7) The panel must have an overall title but individual prints do not need titles.

8) The prints will be displayed in two rows of three. The reverse of each mount should have the Challenge team number, the panel's title, and a diagram indicating its position in the panel. The entrants' names must not be shown.

9) Each set of prints must be accompanied by a written statement not exceeding 150 words explaining the team's interpretation of the set theme and any other information for the guidance of the judge and the audience. These will be read out as the panel is displayed.

10) If a member of a team drops out during the competition that team may still compete with the remaining two members or alternatively recruit a replacement.

11) The panel will be judged for both the photographic quality and the interpretation of the set theme/title. It will be for the judge to decide on the balance to be given to the different aspects in coming to a decision about each panel.

12) The judge will be asked to comment on each panel and to nominate 1st and 2nd favourites.

13) Entries must be submitted by the date indicated in the Programme, on the website or by other announcement.
   a) For this competition prints will only need to be brought on the evening of the competition, but other information about the entry may be needed in advance.

14) NB: Individual prints from the panel may *afterwards* be entered by the relevant individual photographer in a print competition in the same or subsequent seasons.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION

1) Every effort will be made to arrange an annual exhibition, subject to suitable venue being available. Separate rules will be issued for this, but the following will generally apply.

2) This will be entirely separate from the Club's competitions, and as long as entries have not been shown in a previous exhibition they may be images already shown in Club competitions, or entirely new pictures.
   a) New work shown in an exhibition may be entered in subsequent Club competitions

3) If judged, trophies will be presented to the photographers of the Premier Print and the Print Imagination Award:
   a) The Premier Print winner: Sevenoaks Challenge Bowl.
   b) Print Imagination winner: Derek Medhurst Cup.

4) When it is possible to hold an exhibition for Projected Digital Images, trophies will be presented to the photographers of the Premier PDI and the PDI Imagination Award.
   a) Premier PDI: Serf Colour Cup
   b) PDI Imagination Award: Arthur Green Shield

5) Trophy winners and Highly Commended images may also receive certificates.

6) A "visitors choice" competition will usually be held by inviting visitors to vote for their favourite prints (not PDIs as these are currently only seen at the Gallery by weekend visitors).