



Birkenhead Photographic Association

Competition rules 2010

Introduction

Unless otherwise announced by the Council, the rules set out below will apply to all BPA Monthly competitions and Members' Annual Exhibitions with effect from 1st December 2010.

Monthly competitions

Monthly competitions will be held throughout the season, as convenient. The Council will propose which competitions shall be organised during the forthcoming season at or before the Council meeting immediately preceding the Annual General Meeting.

The categories for each season's competitions will be announced at the preceding Annual General Meeting and listed in the Association's syllabus.

Competitions will have two sections; a Specific Subject section which will change each month and an Open section.

Each member may enter in each monthly competition

Prints	up to six
Slides/Projected Digital Images	up to six

An entry may be made up of any combination of specific subject and open images.

Checklists to help you prepare entries for BPA competitions

Slides

1. The entrant must have taken the photograph and thereby own the copyright of the image.
2. Slides should be suitably mounted in plastic mounts as received from the processor. They may be masked to enhance the composition of the image.
3. Only the title of the image should appear on the mount.
4. The mount should be spotted in the front bottom left hand corner as shown below.



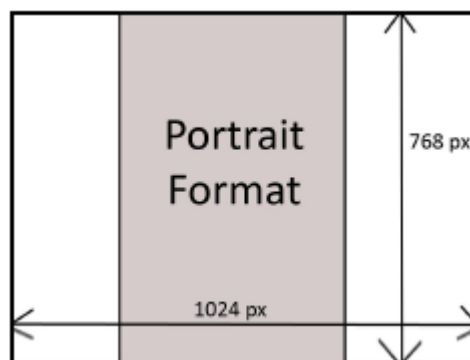
5. The name of the entrant and the competition should appear on the slide box.
6. The image will be scanned to be projected with the digital images in the competition as one category.

Projected Digital Images

To facilitate the management of entries, please ensure that your image files are

- Maximum pixel dimensions: 1024 pixels wide x 768 pixels high at 72ppi.

Don't forget that the digital projector can only project images in Landscape format, any images taken in portrait format must be resized with a height of no more than 768 pixels. They are then usually best presented against a background measuring 1024 x 768 pixels at 72ppi in a colour of your choice.



- In sRGB colour space
- High quality JPEG (setting 10-12) with no limit on file size
- Named in accordance with the following conventions
 - Number within the entry
 - Space
 - Title of the image followed by _S or _O to indicate whether it is for consideration in the subject or open section of the competition. Please include _W in the filename of natural history subjects taken in the wild.
 - 3 letter Microsoft file extension .jpg
 - e.g.
 - 1 Lakeside view_S.jpg
 - 2 From the car park_O.jpg
 - 3 Up hill_S.jpg
 - 4 Down dale_S.jpg
 - 5 Autumn colours_O.jpg
 - 6 Buzzard_OW.jpg

Please submit your images in a folder bearing your name on a CD, DVD or USB memory stick labelled with your name. CDs and DVDs should be finalized before they are submitted. Alternatively, you may submit your entry by email to Rob Caley (rob.caley@virgin.net). You will receive an email to confirm safe receipt.

Prints

1. The entrant must have taken the photograph.
2. Print mounts should not exceed 40cm x 50c m.
3. The minimum size for any mount is 22.5 cm along its longer edge.
4. Since all entries are eligible for entry in the L & CPU's Annual Competition it is important that entries comply with the L & CPU's rules. So, please ensure that
 - a. The overall thickness of a mounted print does not exceed 4mm.
 - b. The reverse side of window-mounted prints is flush finished, i.e. the image area does not protrude backwards and there are no "Velcro" fasteners or adhesive tape on the surface. These should be suitably covered.
 - c. Any certificates already awarded for an entry are removed or covered temporarily.
5. To identify which category of the competition the image is entered into then the letter 'O' to indicate Open or 'S' to indicate Specific should follow the title of the image which should be written on the back of the mount with the date of the competition.
6. This information is recorded on the back of the print since inscriptions on the front of the mount are judged to be part of the image.
7. The entrant's name should be on the bag or box containing the entry and **not** on the print or on its mount.

Notes

1. Judges will take presentation into account.
2. Trade processed prints are acceptable in all competitions.

Monochrome images

The Association follows the L&CPU's definition of monochrome images:

“black and white images or toned black and white images, with or without a range of shades. If a colour has been added, the image will be regarded as a colour image.”

Printed digital images

1. The entrant must have made the original exposures.
2. Any modification to the original must be made under the personal direction of the entrant.
3. The final work with the exception of mounting must be executed on photographic paper or inkjet/laserjet print material.

Categories and guidelines for monthly competitions

Please check that your images are suitable for the category in which you plan to enter them. Certain subjects may not be entered in some categories.

Landscape

The emphasis in this category is on pictorial content. Landscape includes pictures of the countryside, sea, sky or river scenes. Figures and man-made features, e.g. buildings, should not dominate the scene.

Images of town and cityscapes are not eligible in this category.

Portrait

In this category the emphasis is on the representation of human subjects. This may include character, figure or group studies, and candid shots as well as formal studio portraits.

Animal portraits are not eligible in this category.

Record and Illustrative

This category includes any factual photograph which is non-pictorial in treatment, e.g. documentary, photo-reportage, architecture, industrial,

sports, theatre and other pure record subjects. The emphasis must be on clearly depicted, informative images in which the subject is readily apparent. Titles should be factual. **Nature images are not eligible in this category.**

Nature

Wild animals and birds in their natural surroundings, reptiles, fish, insects, wild flowers and plants including close-up studies are eligible in this category. Images of captive animals including those taken at a zoo are eligible. Titles should be factual. To assist the selection of entries for external competitions, a “W” should be added to the slide frame, file name or print mount of subjects taken in wild conditions. **Images of tame or domestic animals are not eligible in this category.**

Pictorial

The emphasis in this category is on the appropriate use of lighting, shape, form, texture, composition and where appropriate colour to create a pleasing and emotive image. This category is intended mainly for subjects not eligible for other categories, although pictorial interpretations of any subject are acceptable. Images of pets and table-top are eligible for this category. The judge will interpret the pictorial content of an image and its compliance with these rules.

Scoring

Marks will be awarded in monthly competitions will be as follows:

Members will be awarded one point for each image entered.

First place	10 points
Second place	8 points
Third place	6 points
Very Highly Commended	5 points
Highly Commended	4 points
Commended	3 points
Best in competition overall	10 points

Judges will be asked to select first, second and third places in the Specific Competition and the best image overall in the competition. They will also be invited to make a reasonable number of other awards taking into account the size and the quality of the entry to a maximum of three Very Highly Commended, three Highly Commended and three Commended awards in either the Specific or Open section of a competition.

General regulations

1. Only full members who have paid their subscriptions may enter competitions.
2. Competitions will have two sections; a Specific section which will change each month and an Open section.
3. Trophies, when awarded, shall be held by the winning member until the corresponding competition during the following season, but shall remain the property of the Association. The Council may demand their return at any time.
4. The Council will appoint the judge or judges for any competition or exhibition. The judge or judges may withhold any awards except first place, at their discretion.
5. Any matters of dispute shall be referred to the Council, whose decision is binding on all members.
6. The Syllabus Secretary shall provide all judges with a copy of these rules. The interpretation of eligibility shall be at the discretion of the Competition Collating Team. The judge will be the final arbiter.
7. The Collating Team shall have the discretion to exclude any image which they consider unsuitable and shall report such exclusions to the Council.
8. The Association reserves the right to make copies or reproductions of any entry submitted. Copyright of images remains with the original author.

9. The entrant of the print judged “The Best (Monochrome or Colour) Print in the Exhibition” will be invited to donate either the print or a suitable copy to the Association’s permanent collection.
10. The Annual Exhibition shall be timed so that the images entered may be considered for the Association’s entry into the L&CPU’s Annual Competition. The Council may appoint a committee to choose the entry.
11. Low resolution copies of images entered in competitions may be displayed on the Association’s website.
12. Work may be retained by the Association to represent the Association in external competitions.
13. Whilst every care will be taken, the Association does not hold itself responsible for any damage to images when not in the owner’s possession.