Croxley Camera Club
The Photographic Society for Three Rivers

Competitions Handbook 2018 to 2019
What are Club Competitions?

Like most camera clubs, Croxley holds a number of competition evenings each season where members can enter their images to be commented on and scored by experienced members of other local photographic societies.

We hold separate competitions for prints and projected digital images (PDIs).

Images in Open competitions can be of any style you chose, other competitions have a set subject where your photo has to represent a theme.

The judges do not know who has entered the images, and members of all abilities are judged together. The images are viewed by the judge and then commented on individually. The judge will talk about the image and offer constructive advice on how the images could be made better. The image is then scored out of 20 compared to the other images that were entered on the night.

The highest scoring images from each league competition are automatically entered into the PDI of the Year or Print of the Year competitions.

At the end of the season the top scoring images from each member decide who wins the leagues.

Portrait Photography has it’s own trophy competition, nature images have a dedicated cup and our Landscape Cup encourages members to enter images to be used in the Park Street Landscape Competition, an inter-club competition held by Park Street Camera Club each year.

Competitions can be quite daunting for those who are new to photography, so we hold comments sessions where beginners can put their work forward to a small group of our experienced members in an informal environment.

At the end of the season there’s also the chance for members to pick their favourite PDI image of the season.

**Trophies**

Trophies and certificates are presented each year at the end of the season. Winning members have possession of the trophy until the trophy presentation the following season. Trophy holders are responsible for returning their trophy to the committee in **clean and polished condition** when requested.
Informal Comments Sessions

Competitions can be quite daunting for those who are new to photography, so we hold comments sessions where beginners can put their work forward to one of our experienced members in either a group or as a one-to-one session.

They are informal sessions where beginners are given hints and tips on how they could improve their work in a friendly atmosphere.

Members Talks

We encourage members to share their love of photography by sharing and talking about their images and how they took them. Either on a one-to-one basis or by giving an informal talk to the group. By seeing other people’s photos, we learn new techniques and see a fresh view on the world. Help inspire your fellow members by bringing along some images to one of our workshop sessions or volunteering to give a talk on one of our members nights.

External Competitions

Croxley CC competes in a number of external competitions throughout the year, usually organized by the Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs, the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain or by their member clubs.

We aim to represent the club in suitable external competitions wherever possible. Some of the competitions are entered by the club itself, others can be entered by individual members.

The CCC committee select images from previous competitions to represent the club, usually within 2 years of when an image is first entered into an internal club competition.

The Rosebowl is an annual inter-club PDI competition organized by the CACC. It takes place over three rounds at different member clubs, with a final for the highest scoring clubs over those rounds.

VISIONS is a projected digital image trophy competition aimed at individual competitors from any PAGB affiliated club, held in autumn by XRR Camera Club, details are available on their website. http://www.cccomp.org.uk/html/visions.html
Internal Competition Rules

The Croxley Camera Club Committee reserve the right to disqualify any image which does not adhere to the competition rules.

General Rules

• All parts of the image must have been created by the author entering the competition. This includes backgrounds and any additional layers.

• Images must have significant photographic content eg. from a camera.

• Images which are solely created using computer software are not allowed.

• Images may be naturalistic, creative or experimental.

• Manipulated images are acceptable provided that it is clear that they derive from an original photograph.

• Images may be of any subject when they are entered into an Open competition.

• Images which are entered into Set Subject competitions must be the authors interpretation of the subject (see Advice on Set Subjects later).

• You must not enter the same image in both a PDI league competition and a Print league competition within the same season.

• Images by the same author which are significantly similar to each other are not allowed.

• Images must not be of an illegal or criminal nature.

• Images may be colour or monochrome, except where specified. Monochrome is defined as black and white with, or without, graduated tones. It may be modified by a single tone rendered over the image.

• Each image should have a title which will be read out or seen on screen during the competition.

• Titles will be shown or read out as written in the entry form. They should be appropriate to the image and ideally be able to be pronounced easily.
Classes of Author

- Members are split into two classes depending on their previous photographic standard.

- We advise new members to show their work at an informal comments session before entering competitions for the first time.

- New members are usually classed as Intermediate unless they have external recognition for their work, eg. PAGB Awards or RPS Distinctions, or if they were previously an advanced member of another camera club.

- The committee will decide which members should progress from Intermediate to Advanced on a yearly basis. This decision will be based on average scores in each league competition across the season.

- Members can request a transfer from Advance to Intermediate if they feel that their photography is not at the standard currently required for the advanced class. The committee will decide whether this request is granted.

- Members will have different ratings for Print and PDI competitions so it is possible that you will be in a different class for both disciplines.

Judging of Images

- An independent judge will be selected by the committee for each competition. Usually this will be an experienced member of another club.

- The judge will view the images and offer their view on the impact, style and photographic techniques in the image, and how it could be improved.

- The judge will score the images out of a maximum of 20 points unless specified.

- Images are scored against the images which are entered into each specific competition. Scores should not be used as a guide to overall photographic merit.

- Whilst images entered into Set Subject Competitions will be the author’s interpretation of that Set Subject the judge may not agree or not understand the connection and will deduct points (see set subject advice section later).
How to Enter Competitions

All competition entries must have a digital image submitted via our Photo Entry online portal.

Entries on a USB stick are NOT permitted and will not be accepted by any member of the committee under any circumstance.

What is Photo Entry?

The Photo Entry online portal is a website where you can directly upload your images any Croxley CC competition.

Photo Entry allows you to name the image, decide on the order that your images will be shown and let us know whether your images can be shown on our website, newsletter and social media feeds.

The results from the competitions will also be imported into Photo Entry, so you can easily check back your scores for previous competitions.

Login details for our Photo Entry online portal will be sent to each member via email after the committee have received your membership form.

Please ensure that your images conform to the following rules before you submit them online...

• Images must be a maximum size of 1400 pixels wide by 1050 pixels high.
• Images must be in jpeg file format.
• Images should be in sRGB colour space to ensure the projector shows your image correctly.

Photo Entry does not use filenames to provide title and author information, so your filename can now be in any format, however we suggest that you still name your files in a way that you can easily identify them.
Submitting Your Images Online

Login to Photo Entry.

In the main menu you will see the competition group for the current season.

Click on the competition group and you will see the list of competitions for the current season.

Click on the competition you would like to enter, then click on Add New Entry.
Submitting Your Images Online (cont.)

Enter the title of your image—this is what is displayed onscreen during the competition. Then select whether you give permission for your images to be published on the camera club website. The default is to publish the image with a watermark showing the title and your name.

Click Add This Entry. You will then be able to upload your image file by clicking on Choose Jpeg. Once you have uploaded the file you will see its details on-screen.

The image uploads immediately, it will not allow images to upload if it’s not in the correct format i.e 1400 x 1050, it will flag up the error for you to correct. Once you have uploaded the file you will see its details on-screen. You can then edit the title and permissions data if required.

If you want to enter additional images, click on add new entry.
Competition entries are only fixed on the competition closure date. Until then, members may delete edit or replace their uploaded images as many times as required. This allows members to upload their initial choices in good time then review their entries until the completion closes.

**On the night of the Competition**

*If you have entered a print competition...* you must also bring along your print before 7.45pm on the night of the competition.

All print images must have an image size of no less than 7x5 inches and must be securely mounted on a sturdy mount. Your name and the title of the image must be written on the back of the mount.

Your images will then be viewed by a visiting judge who will comment on the photo and give it a score out of 20.

**After the Competition**

In Photo Entry you can see all of your entries across the season and the status of up-coming competitions.

After each competition has been scored, the results will be uploaded to Photo Entry so you can see your points (this may take a few days).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Image</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
<td>📜</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In time, the scores will be used to produce the league tables. A link to the league tables will be published in our email newsletters.
PDI League Competitions

All of the following competitions are part of the PDI League.

Your top 12 scores from all of the competitions will decide who wins the league.

The Intermediate Class Member with the most points at the end of the season will win **The 66 Cup**.

The Advanced Class Member with the most points at the end of the season will win **The Presidents Cup**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition Date</th>
<th>Open or Set Subject</th>
<th>Images per Member</th>
<th>Deadline for Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26th Sept 2019</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21st Sept 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th Sept 2018</td>
<td>“Sky”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21st Sept 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Oct 2019</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5th Oct 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Oct 2019</td>
<td>“Colour”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5th Oct 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th Nov 2019</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23rd Nov 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th Nov 2019</td>
<td>“Heat”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23rd Nov 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th March 2020</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9th March 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th March 2020</td>
<td>“Closed”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9th March 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Images which score 17 points or less may be entered into a second PDI league competition within 12 months.

- Images which score 18, 19 or 20 in the PDI league competitions will be entered into the **PDI of the Year competition** on **28th May 2020** and may not be entered into a second PDI league competition.

- If there are a high number of entries, we will reduce the number of PDI of the Year entries to only include images which scored 19 or 20.

The Best PDI of the Year will be awarded **The Colour Challenge Cup**.
Print League Competitions

All of the following competitions are part of the Print League.

Your top 12 scores from all of the competitions will decide who wins the league.

The Intermediate Class Member with the most points at the end of the season will win The Woollen Cup.

The Advanced Class Member with the most points at the end of the season will win The Hammond Trophy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition Date</th>
<th>Open or Set Subject</th>
<th>Images per Member</th>
<th>Deadline for Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24th Oct 2019</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19th Oct 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Oct 2019</td>
<td>“People at Work”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19th Oct 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Feb 2020</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15th Feb 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Feb 2020</td>
<td>“Patterns”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15th Feb 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th March 2020</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21st March 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th March 2020</td>
<td>“Urban Life”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21st March 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th May 2020</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9th May 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th May 2020</td>
<td>“Forms in Nature”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9th May 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Images which score 17 or less may be entered into a second print league competition within 12 months.
- Images which score 18, 19 or 20 in the print league competitions will be entered into the Print of the Year competitions on 4th June 2020 and may not be entered into another print league competition.
- If there are a high number of entries, we will reduce the Print of the Year entries to only include images which scored 19 or 20.

The Best Colour Print of the Year will be awarded The Corbishley Shield.

The Best Monochrome Print of the Year will be awarded The Andrews Cup.
Advice on Set Subjects

Judges are not given specific definitions of Set Subject competitions within the leagues. This is so that our photographers have the creative freedom to interpret the subject.

As photographers, it is our choice to interpret a subject and we choose how we represent a theme to our audience. When the image is seen by a judge, they will comment on whether they feel that the image suits the subject.

The judge on the night must be able to decide if an image meets their interpretation of the set subject and mark accordingly. It may be that the judge does not interpret the subject in the same way as the author so please do not feel disappointed if this happens. Sometimes a judge just doesn’t “get it”.

The best advice on how to take or select images for set subjects is to imagine that you are writing a book on the subject and need an image to go on the cover. If the book is about the weather, storm clouds, rainbows, puddles or umbrellas would all suit the subject.

You can find some inspiration on set subjects by visiting the RPS monthly competition galleries online at rps.org/competitions.

Trophy Competitions

- Trophy competitions are held outside of the league competitions.
- Images will be scored out of 20 and the judge will pick a single image as the winner. Certificates will also be awarded for 2nd or 3rd choices. Highly Commended or Commended will also be awarded at the judges discretion.
- Images may have been entered into league competitions before. This includes any single images which form part of a triptych.
- Images which score 18 points of above may not be entered into the same trophy competition in subsequent seasons.
- Specific rules apply for each trophy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Images per Member</th>
<th>Deadline for Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16th Jan 2020</td>
<td><strong>Nature Cup</strong>&lt;br&gt;For the best nature image</td>
<td>3 PDIs</td>
<td>11th Jan 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Jan 2020</td>
<td><strong>Triptych Cup</strong>&lt;br&gt;For the best triptych image</td>
<td>3 PDIs</td>
<td>11th Jan 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd Apr 2020</td>
<td><strong>The 2010 Cup</strong>&lt;br&gt;For the best landscape image</td>
<td>3 PDIs</td>
<td>18th April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd Apr 2020</td>
<td><strong>The SB Cup</strong>&lt;br&gt;For best portrait image</td>
<td>3 PDIs</td>
<td>18th April 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Specific Rules for Landscape Competitions**

Our landscape competition helps form our entry for the Park Street Inter-Club Landscape competition where the following advice is given.

Landscape images should adhere to the following definition…

“A landscape image should capture the beauty or interest in the variety of the views we see around us in the outdoor world.”

The ‘scape’ part of this means - denoting an extensive view.

Although called a landscape competition, land does not have to form the majority or even a part of the image – sky, sea, snow and urban views are also acceptable.

People and man-made objects can form part of the image but should not be the main subject of it. Details in the landscape should comply with the extensive requirement – a close up of single pebble or tree probably would not, but a pebble beach or forest would – a collection of tree trunks would not.
Specific Rules for Triptych Competitions

A Triptych is a single PDI image which is made up of three different images. A single image which is split into three sections is not allowed.

The above layout is for illustration purposes. The layout, positioning, format and proportions of the images are at the discretion of the author.

To create a Triptych you need to use image editing software to put your image together and then save it in the normal way.

- Triptych images must be on a plain background and all three images must be clearly separated.
- Images within a Triptych should be on the same theme and must clearly be different images. If a Triptych is deemed by the judge to not contain three different images, they reserve the right not to score the Triptych.
- The same image should not be used in more than one Triptych competition entry.

Specific Rules for Portrait Competitions

A portrait is classed as any image where the main subject is a person or people who are posing or otherwise acting under the general direction and control of the photographer, whether in a studio or location, lit or otherwise.

‘Street’ Photography and similar observational/candid images of people are not included in this category, and would remain in the ‘Open’ category.

The judge will not be asked to comment on whether the image fits these rules.
Specific Rules for Nature Competitions

Nature competitions are judged according to the PAGB definition of Nature.

- Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation.

- The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.

- Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible. Photographs of human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.

- Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is allowed.

- Cloning of image defects and minor distractions, including overlapping elements, are permitted when these do not distort the truth of the photographic statement.

- Images entered as Nature can have landscape, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.

- Access to biological subjects may be restricted. By entering a PAGB event, Photographers warrant that they have followed relevant codes of practices and hold any necessary licences.
# Competition Entries Quick Checklist

You can use this checklist to make sure your entries are submitted correctly...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Am I submitting my entry before the deadline?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does my image suit the set subject or trophy rules?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have I given my image a title?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have I got the right number of entries?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is my image a jpeg?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have I re-sized my image to 1400 wide x 1050 high pixels max?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If I have entered the images before, are they still eligible?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have I uploaded my images to Photo Entry?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All digital image files which are entered into internal club competitions will be retained in the club image database.

These image files may be used for external competitions unless the author chooses to opt out on their membership form.

Image files may also be used for publicity for the club if the author gives permission at the time the image is submitted.

Any ex-members can request that their images are removed from any publicity when they leave the club by writing to the secretary.

Copyright remains with the author.