



Internal Competition Rules of St Ives Photographic Club **(Version 20, May 2024)**

1. General

1. The decision of the Competition Judge is final. The decision of the Internal Competition Secretary (in terms of allowing entries or not, as in whether they conform to the rules or not) is also final.
2. Images must be entirely the work of the Photographer. In composite images, all component images, including textures, must meet this requirement. For the avoidance of doubt, use of images from any other source including, but not limited to, AI generated, royalty free image banks and clipart are not permitted.
3. Images used in The Annual, George Dellar, President's and Quartet competitions can be used **once** in **subsequent** monthly competitions.
4. Conversely, any images already used in an internal competition, **cannot** be used in the Annual, George Dellar, President's or Quartet competitions.
5. Images **must** appear dissimilar to any other image already entered in a competition (other than where permitted in Monthly Competitions under 2.1. point 5):
 - a) The difference between two images should be easily discernible in a side by side comparison.
 - b) A re-edited or re-processed image is **not** a dissimilar one.
 - c) Chromatic adjustments, such as conversion to monochrome or reverting to the colour original is **not** a dissimilar image.
 - d) If it becomes necessary to look at metadata, the images in question must have been taken more than 2 seconds apart.
6. All images, in all competitions, are marked out of 10 with half marks allowed.
7. The onus is on the entrant to make sure their images comply with the rules. If they do not conform the Internal Competition Secretary should attempt to notify the author and invite re-submission.
8. If a member challenges a decision to reject an image, it will be reviewed by the Competition Sub-Committee (which will not include the Internal Competition Secretary) made up of 2 committee members and 3 volunteers from the club. **The Sub-Committee decision is final.**
9. If an image is omitted from a competition in error, the entry will be awarded a score equal to the average for that class (rounded up).
10. Late entries to competitions will not be accepted (unless the circumstances are exceptional and this is then at the discretion of the Internal Competition Secretary).
11. Members of the club are entitled to expect Best Practice in running competitions.
12. While every effort will be made to ensure prints are returned in their original condition, the club shall not be held responsible for any damage to any work.
13. Only paid-up full members of the club may enter images.

1.1. Prints

1. In monthly and annual competitions all prints should be mounted.
2. Minimum print surface should be 300 cm², with one side at least 20 cm long.
3. Maximum print size, including mount, is 50x40 cm.
4. In the Quartet competition there is no restriction on size of the image or mount.
5. A montage of images will be accepted in any print competition.
6. An optional title can be attached to the print mount.
7. Print entries (as a digital image) and titles must be uploaded to PhotoEntry no later than 7 days prior to the competition date (or before the closing date given on PhotoEntry), with the actual prints brought to the club on the night of the competition.

1.2. Projected Digital Images

1. Digital images must be prepared, presented, named and submitted according to club's guidance document, '*Advice to entrants in projected image competitions organised by SIPC*', which will be made available to all members.
2. Images which do not conform to the guidance may be withdrawn by the Internal Competition Secretary.
3. Digital images must be submitted via PhotoEntry no later than 7 days before the competition (or by the closing date given on PhotoEntry).
4. While a member of the club, digital images will be retained in the club's database and may be used for entry into external competitions (unless permission is denied by the author). The copyright remains the author's.

2. Competitions

2.1. Monthly Competitions

1. There are six monthly rounds in both DPI and Prints .
2. Upto 3 entries are allowed in both DPI and Prints. Third entries will be withdrawn if the size of the competition is too large (and also second entries if necessary).
3. Images may have been entered previously in the themed competitions i.e. George Dellar, President's, Quartet, Annual).
4. If 3 entries are shown the top 2 marks will count towards the entrant's cumulative score.
5. An image (DPI or Print) may only be entered twice in the Monthly Competitions.
6. Monthly competitions have an 'open' category (i.e. no specific theme).
7. In the event of a tie after the final round of the Competition, the trophy will be shared.

2.2. George Dellar Trophy

1. Held annually.
2. Image to be taken within Cambridgeshire (including Peterborough).
3. Images should feature one, or a combination of, a Landscape, Building or Landmark, People or Events within the county.
4. The features must be easily identifiable.
5. DPI images only, **not** previously entered in any internal competition.
6. Maximum of 2 entries.
7. The location of capture must be entered in the "Entry Reference" box of PhotoEntry.
8. Only the highest scoring image from each member is counted toward the final scores.
9. Only one image is to be awarded the maximum of 10 points, to ensure that there is a clear winner.

2.3. President's Challenge Trophy

1. Held annually on a theme decided by the current President of the club.
2. Digital images only, **not** previously entered in any internal competition.
3. Maximum of 2 entries.
4. Only the highest scoring image from each member is counted toward the final scores.
5. Only one image is to be awarded the maximum of 10 points, to ensure that there is a clear winner.

2.4. Quartet Competition

1. DPI and Prints.
2. Entries should consist of a panel of 4 separate images on a common theme and are judged as a panel, NOT individual images.
3. DPI's should be submitted as a single digital file and the 4 images should be clearly distinguishable. Prints can be on any number of mounts e.g. 4 images on 1 mount, or 4 separate mounts, or 2 mounts with 2 prints on each.
4. Maximum of 2 entries, **not** previously used in any internal competition.
5. Only the highest scoring image from each member is counted toward the final scores.
6. Only one image is to be awarded the maximum of 10 points, to ensure that there is a clear winner.

2.5. Monochrome Trophy

1. Any monochrome image, DPI or Print, that has scored 9 or above in the Monthly Competitions over the season, or in the Annual Competition, is automatically entered for the Monochrome Trophy, which is judged separately.

2.6. Annual Competition

1. DPI and Prints.
2. Images should be entered in 4 out of 6 categories of the entrant's choice.
3. Each year there will 3 core categories and 3 additional categories to choose from. The categories will be chosen by the Internal Competition Secretary, in such a way that there is a changing variety every year.
4. The Core categories are:
 - a. **Creative** – defined as Altered Reality. There must be a change to an original image, although the main content should still be identifiable. Artwork or computer graphics generated by the entrant may be included as part of the image. The image cannot have been entirely constructed by computer.
 - b. **Landscape** - Images of inland, coastal or maritime scenes.
 - c. **Natural History** – Images conforming to the PAGB definition of Nature, which is as follows:
 - May depict landscape, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the main subject matter.
 - This includes subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums or enclosures.
 - Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible.
 - 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.
 - Photographs of anthropology or archaeology, 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.
- d. **People** – Formal, informal, candid and environmental portrait images are all allowed, as are figure studies and groups of people.
 - e. **Sport** – Images of a sporting activity.
5. Additional Categories are:
- a. **Architecture** - An Architectural image must have the primary emphasis on either the interior or exterior of a building or architectural structure.
 - b. **Night** - Images taken outdoors between dusk and dawn using either artificial light or long exposure techniques. Astro photography is also permitted within this category.
 - c. **Macro** - A macro image must portray either a small subject (such as an insect) or a small part of a larger object (such as a leaf on a tree) in great detail. The subject is not limited to the natural world.
 - d. **Still Life** - An image of a pre-arranged setup of inanimate objects.
 - e. **Street** - Informal, candid portraits of people and incidents in public places.
 - f. **Transport** - Studies of any form of transport that is being or has been used for moving either people or goods from one location to another.
6. Entries are judged as individual images and must **not** have been used in a previous Club competition.
7. As well as the Trophy for the highest overall score, there are also awards for the Best DPI and Best Print.
8. In the event of a tie at the end of the competition, the trophy will be shared.