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## INTRODUCTION

Sevenoaks Camera Club aims to be a friendly club. Its competitions are intended primarily as ways to learn and improve one’s own photography, and to encourage the enjoyment of photography. They are not intended to encourage any elitist attitudes that may detract from our overall positive culture. These competition rules aim to give a clear framework for all members. Contravention of the rules may attract appropriate action, which in the event of serious or repeated cases may extend to disqualification.

## COMPETITIONS HELD

- 1) Each season normally includes the following competitions:
  - a) Four print competitions – open subject
  - b) Four projected digital image (“PDI”) competitions – open subject
  - c) One themed PDI competition – on a theme set by the Club
  - d) One print panel competition – on a theme of the entrant’s choice
  - e) One team challenge competition for prints – on a theme set by the Club
  - f) One print final (see Rule 23 for eligibility)
  - g) One PDI final (see Rule 23 for eligibility)
  - h) One Audio Visual (AV) competition for digitally projected presentations.
- 2) Other competitions may be held at the Committee’s discretion. These may have their own set of rules.

## GENERAL RULES

- 3) Only paid-up members of the Club may enter competitions.
- 4) There is one entry class for all members.
- 5) Each paid-up member is assigned a competition number. To ensure anonymity of entries during judging, this is to be used instead of the member's name on every print entered.
  - a) In digital competitions entrants’ names are used for file identification only and are not revealed to the judge before judging.

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- b) The photographer's name for each print or PDI is not revealed until marks have been awarded for it (and until the final 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Imagination placings have been announced in the event of equal marks).
- 6) All components of an image, whether print or PDI, 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.
- 7) Except where specifically allowed in these rules, entries may only be entered in one Club competition (plus a Final).
  - 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.
- 8) Entries must be submitted by the dates indicated in the Programme or other announcement. Competition Secretaries do not have to accept late entries.
- 9) **Prints:** unless otherwise stated in these rules, prints for competitions:
  - a) must be at least 180 mm in the longest dimension
  - b) must be mounted. The maximum size of the mount must be 400 x 500 mm. (*But note that 400 x 500mm is the only size allowed for the Club's Annual Exhibition and for Kent County Photographic Association competitions and exhibitions.*)
  - c) must be labelled in the top left hand corner of the reverse of the mount with a title (if any), the entrant's competition number, and also the Club name 'Sevenoaks CC' (in case the picture is chosen by the Selection Committee for external events)
  - d) Each entry should also be marked as the member's 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> choice entry. If the number of entries has to be reduced for any reason, entries numbered 02 from all entrants will be omitted.
- 10) **Projected Digital Images:** unless otherwise stated in these rules, PDI files for competitions:
  - a) must be in the jpg format, with colour representation of sRGB
  - b) must have images of a maximum width of 1920 pixels and a maximum height of 1200 pixels
  - c) must have file names that adhere exactly to the following format:  
01 A DAY AT THE SEASIDE by John Smith  
02 THE ROAD TO NOWHERE by John Smith  
  
If the number of entries has to be reduced for any reason, entries numbered 02 from all entrants will be omitted.
  - d) The two image files must be in a folder/directory in your name, which must match exactly your name in the image file.
  - e) Image files may be submitted on a USB flash drive, memory card, DVD or CD, or other media agreed by the Committee. The name of the photographer or competition number must appear on the media used. The PDI Competition Secretary may accept entries by email.

## JUDGING

- 11) Each competition will be judged by a judge(s) approved by the Committee.
- 12) Images will be awarded points out of a maximum of 20 if the competition is marked. The judge will be asked to nominate a 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the event of equal points, and in any competitions that are not

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marked. In a competition with a theme for entries, the mark (or position if not marked) will reflect both photographic quality and interpretation of the stated theme.

- 13) For the four print competitions and four PDI competitions for open subject matter, plus the Finals, the judge will also be asked to select the most 'imaginative' image submitted.
- 14) Competition Secretaries will keep a record of marks awarded and establish the cumulative scores of competitors over the season.

### PRINT COMPETITIONS (1a)

- 15) A maximum of two prints may be entered by each competitor in each competition unless the Committee decides otherwise. The requirements of Rule 9 apply.

### PROJECTED DIGITAL IMAGE COMPETITIONS (1b & 1c)

- 16) A maximum of two PDI images may be entered by each competitor in each competition unless the Committee decides otherwise. The requirements of Rule 10 apply.

### PRINT PANEL COMPETITION (1d)

- 17) Each entrant may submit up to two panels of six prints each that have not previously been entered in a Club competition. The prints in each individual panel should be linked by common theme(s) of the entrant's choice and the panel must have an overall title.
  - a) If two sets are entered, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices must be given to the Competition Secretary. If the total number of entries has to be reduced, the 2<sup>nd</sup> choice sets of all entrants will be omitted.
- 18) The requirements of Rule 9 apply, except that individual prints do not need titles.
  - a) The prints will be displayed in two rows of three. The reverse of each mount should have a key to the layout of the panel and the position of the print in the panel.
- 19) A panel may optionally be accompanied by a written commentary not exceeding 150 words for the guidance of the audience and judge. This will be read out by the Print Competition Secretary as the panel is displayed.
- 20) 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.
- 21) Individual prints from the panel may afterwards be entered by the relevant individual photographer direct into the print finals in the same season OR in print competitions in the same or subsequent seasons (and subsequent final if wished).

### PRINT & PDI FINALS (1f & 1g)

- 22) The Finals are held to determine the 'Print of the Year' and the 'Projected Digital Image of the Year' together with the most imaginative print and digital projected image.
- 23) Members may enter up to two images of their own choice in each final, provided that the images have been previously entered in a judged Club competition, normally:
  - a) the four print competitions (1a)
  - b) the four PDI competitions (1b)
  - c) the themed PDI competition (1c)
  - d) individual prints from the print panel competition during the season (1d)
  - e) individual prints from the team challenge competition during the season (1e) [Cont'd over]

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Entries for the final must be as previously entered in the earlier competition, no additional editing or enhancement is allowed.

### TEAM CHALLENGE COMPETITION (1e)

- 24) 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 March to December each year.
- The team may submit a second set of prints, but this must interpret the theme in a different way.
  - If two sets are entered, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices must be given to the Competition Secretary. If the total number of entries has to be reduced, the 2<sup>nd</sup> choice sets of all teams will be omitted.
- 25) Each panel must contain at least one photo taken by each team member.
- 26) The requirements of Rule 9 apply, except that individual prints do not need titles.
- The prints will be displayed in two rows of three. The reverse of each mount should have the Challenge team number, the print number, and a diagram indicating its position in the panel. The author's name must not be shown.
- 27) 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 deemed relevant for the guidance of the judge. These will be read out to the judge and audience by a non-entrant as the panel is displayed.
- 28) 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.
- 29) 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.
- The judge will only be asked to nominate 1st and 2nd places, entries need not be scored.
- 30) Individual prints from the panel may afterwards be entered by the relevant individual photographer direct into the print finals in the same season OR in print competitions in the same or subsequent seasons (and subsequent final if wished).

### STARTER CUP

- 31) New members entering competitions in their first two seasons of membership are eligible for the Starter Cup. This is awarded to the 'starter' who achieves the highest aggregate of marks in the four print *and* four PDI competitions each season.
- 32) A winner of the Starter Cup is not eligible to win it again.

### AWARDS

- 33) Trophies are awarded to the following:
- The entrant with the highest aggregate marks in the four Print competitions (1a) : *Ernest Fielder Shield*
  - The entrant with the highest aggregate marks in the four PDI competitions (1b) : *Keyhole Challenge Cup*
  - The winners of the Print and the PDI finals (1f & 1g) : *County Camera Cup* (Prints) and *White's Joinery Cup* (PDI)
  - The winners of the most imaginative Print and Projected Digital Images in the respective finals (1f & 1g) : *George Elliot's Cup* (print) and *Herbert Inglin Shield* (PDI)

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- e) The winner of the Print Panel competition (1d) : *St Julian's Cup*
  - f) The winner of the *Starter Cup*.
  - g) The winner of the Theme competition (1c) : *Sevenoaks Challenge Bowl*
- 34) In the event of a tie in a competition for which a trophy is awarded, each member in the tie will share equally in the tenure of the trophy.
- 35) Certificates are awarded to the following:
- a) Each of the trophy winners
  - b) The overall and imagination winners in each print and PDI competition (1a & 1b). Those coming second and third in all competitions can also be awarded certificates at the discretion of the committee.
  - c) The winner of the themed PDI competition (1c)
  - d) The winning team in the Team Challenge (1e)
  - e) Merit Award winners in the Annual Exhibition.

### ANNUAL EXHIBITION

- 36) Every effort will be made to arrange an annual exhibition, subject to suitable venue being available. Separate rules will be issued for this.
- 37) Trophies will be presented to the photographers of the Best Print and the Imagination Award in the Annual Exhibition
- a) The Annual Exhibition Print winner : *Barclays Bank Shield*
  - b) Annual Exhibition Print Imagination winner. : *Derek Medhurst Cup*
- 38) When possible to hold an exhibition for PDIs, similar awards will be made in that section also.

### EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS

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

### DISCLAIMER & DISPUTES

- 40) All reasonable care will be taken of work submitted, but neither the Club nor its officers can accept any liability for loss or damage however caused.
- 41) The Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to any picture that they consider to be unsuitable.
- 42) 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.

**AUDIO-VISUAL (AV) COMPETITIONS:**

Audio-Visual competitions are open to all members of the club. A maximum of two AV sequences may be submitted for any competition. Multiple entries must be prioritised by the author as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice submissions. If the number of entries has to be reduced for any reason, 2nd choice entries from all entrants will be omitted.

**SUBJECT MATTER:**

There is no restriction on subject matter, but please see “Unacceptable Sequences” below.

**DURATION:**

The duration of a sequence must not exceed 5 minutes.

**AUTHORSHIP:**

1. The production must be the original work of the entrant.
2. The use of third party images, animated graphics, video clips or other visual material, whilst not excluded, should be limited and appropriate to the production. But see section below about copyright.
3. Wherever possible, the identification of the author should not be possible from the AV sequence being shown, except if the author uses his/her own voice in “voice overs” to add information to the sequence.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Any AV sequences already presented at a previous Sevenoaks Camera Club AV competition will not be eligible.

**JUDGING:**

The judge(s) appointed by Club Committee will decide the winners of the various awards. The judge(s) need not be from outside the Club.

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- A. The AV can be created in any of the following formats .exe .avi .mov .m4v
- B. The sequence must play with a double click on the computer file and return to the window from which it was opened. Where software is required for projection ( i.e. the sequence is not in EXE format ) the club will use software appropriate to the sequence’s format.
- C. The Competition will be played through a digital projector, with maximum resolution of 1920 x 1200 pixels and it is recommended that AV sequence sizes do not exceed the projectors output. If the size is smaller (such as 1024 x 768 or 1400 X 1050) then it will project smaller with a black background.  
NB If considering entering a sequence into an external competition as well, eg KCPA’s AV competition, the member may wish to check specification requirements for their entries and use a resolution appropriate for both competitions, or be prepared to have different versions.
- D. The club will use a Windows computer platform to facilitate projection and will provide an appropriate sound system
- E. All AV sequences will be copied to the computer’s hard drive for projection.
- F. Entries should be submitted to the AV Competition organiser(s) on CD or flash drive. Any supplied computer medium which is found to contain viruses or other malware will be rejected.

**CLOSING DATE:**

All submissions must be given to the AV Competition organiser 1 week prior to the competition date, ie, usually at the prior Monday club meeting.

**UNACCEPTABLE SEQUENCES:**

The organisers reserve the right to refuse entry to sequences that they consider unsuitable or incorrectly programmed for projection.

**RETURN OF ENTRIES:**

All AV material will be erased from the club computer immediately following the competition and the supplied computer medium returned to the author. All care will be taken in the handling of sequences, but the Club cannot accept responsibility for loss, theft or damage.

**COPYRIGHT:**

In accordance with established copyright regulations, sequences presented at the competition should be free of all rights of ownership, artistic or otherwise, which others may hold, whether for images or soundtrack. By participating in the competition authors of audio visual sequences indemnify Sevenoaks Camera Club (and the individual organisers) against all and any action which may be taken against them by owners of copyrights. The Club will accept no responsibility in the case of dispute or litigation.