

Surrey Photographic Association

Inter-Club Competition Rules 2009 - 2010

This is an Annual Competition for Prints (Surrey Comet Shield) and Projected Digital Images (Founders Trophy), open to clubs that are paid up members of the Surrey Photographic Association (SPA).

1. Format

- a) The 1st round will consist of 8 leagues each containing 4 clubs. In the event that the number of clubs entered is not equal to 32 the SPA will adjust the leagues accordingly. It may be necessary to adjust the number of leagues or the number of clubs in each league depending on the number of clubs entering.
- b) There will be two competitions within each league, one for prints and one for projected digital images (PDI).
- c) For each league there will be one match in which all clubs in that league compete. The SPA will appoint one club in each league to organise each of these matches. Judges will be appointed, and their expenses paid, by the SPA. Although host clubs will be responsible for managing their league match, they may arrange for that match to take place at any club within their league.
- d) The winners and runners-up in each league in both prints and PDI competitions will go forward to the second round.
- e) The 2nd round will normally consist of four matches with four clubs in each medium in each match. These matches will be arranged by the SPA with the assistance of clubs who have indicated a willingness to host these events. Judges will be appointed, and their expenses paid, by the SPA. The winners of each of the four 2nd round matches will go forward to the Final.
- f) The winners from the four 2nd rounds will compete in one Final arranged by the SPA.

2. Timetable

- a) The SPA will endeavour to notify clubs of the draw, including nominated host clubs, by the end of November.
- b) All 1st Round matches must be played by the last day of February. The 2nd Round will be held during April. Final's Night will be held in May.
- c) In general, it will be assumed that clubs entering the competition in the previous year will continue to enter each year. Clubs wishing to join or leave the competition must give notice to the SPA by the 15th October prior to the draw.

3. Panels

- a) Competing clubs must submit panels of 8 prints and 8 PDI files. The titles and photographers of both panels, must be notified to the SPA before the 1st round matches have been played. All images must be titled. No photographer shall have more than 3 images in their club's panels, with a maximum of 2 prints or 2 PDI. The panels submitted for Round 1 will be used, unchanged, through all subsequent rounds.
- b) A photographer may not represent more than one club in any season.
- c) Prints or PDI that are identical to each other or identical to entries in previous SPA Inter-Club Competitions or as similar as to be deemed the same, are not acceptable.
- d) The copyright of all submitted work must be at the disposal of the author. The use of clip art and other imagery derived from sources other than the authors own original images are unacceptable. The SPA accepts no liability for any breach of copyright by an entrant.
- e) Prints must be mounted on card with maximum dimensions of 50cm x 40cm. Mounts must be free of Velcro, sticky areas or any other material that might damage other entries.
- f) All prints must have a legibly completed SPA Entry Label firmly attached on the back.
- g) Prints will normally be delivered on the night of the competition. However, a text file listing print titles and authors **MUST** be included on the CD or other media that contains the PDI files to enable host clubs to prepare composite score sheets.
- h) Files for PDI must be submitted in accordance with the specific rules in section 4 below.

4. Projected Digital Images

- a) All sources of photographic images are allowed. As examples, but not an exclusive list, this includes: digital camera files and scans of slides, negatives or prints. Please also note Rule 3d above.
- b) All image files will be in JPEG (.jpg) format.
- c) Image files are required to be a maximum of 1024 pixels wide x 768 pixels high. Photographers are free to make whatever use they choose of the area within these boundaries.
- d) Image files should be supplied in sRGB. Images supplied in different colour spaces will not be converted but projected as supplied.
- e) Image files shall be named according to the following convention:
<Club ID code – (as listed in the SPA Handbook) > + <space, hyphen, space> + <the picture title>.jpg
It is essential that pictures should have a unique title. “Untitled” is not acceptable.
Examples: T2 - The Old Cottage.jpg. or B1 - DG0934.jpg
- f) Entries for the competition must arrive at the host club no later than 14 days before the date of the event. The method and the media for delivery of the competition files should be agreed between the competing clubs and the host. It is suggested that CDs are likely to be the most convenient delivery medium. All media submitted must be clearly marked with the name of the club and the name and full contact details of an informed representative.
- g) Each set of entries must be accompanied on the same media by a text file linking the photographers with their image titles, identifying the club and providing full contact details of an informed club representative. Please note rule 3g) re also including a text file listing print entries on the same CD/media.
- h) Immediately prior to the PDI competition a test image will be projected so that the judge may assess the quality of the projection prior to the marking taking place. The test image is available on the SPA website.
- i) Images will be shown randomly and not as a club panel.
- j) Submitted media must be available for collection by competing clubs at the event. If not collected, and other arrangements have not been previously made for their return, they will be destroyed by the host. Copies of the photographs must be removed from the competition computer immediately after the event.

5) Judging and marking of all matches

- a) The title of each image will be read out at the same time that it is displayed.
- b) The judge will mark each photograph out of ten using half marks as appropriate.
- c) In the event of a tie, the club scoring the greatest number of tens will be the winner. If the tied clubs have an equal number of tens, the judge will be requested to select a “star” print from the tens to determine the winner.

6) Best print and Best PDI

- a) The print and PDI in each club’s panel with the highest total score in the 1st and 2nd rounds are eligible for the Best Print and Best PDI Competitions on Finals Night. If more than one print or PDI within a club has identical total scores they are all eligible. A list will be sent out to all clubs, prior to Finals Night, of those images that are eligible.

7) Responsibilities of Competing Clubs

- a) Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their panels comply with these rules. Non-compliance may result in disqualification.
- b) Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their panels arrive on time for scheduled matches. Failure to do so will normally result in disqualification.

8) Responsibilities of 1st Round Host Clubs

- a) In conjunction with the other clubs in the league to agree a suitable date and location for the 1st round match and provide composite score sheets for all competing clubs.
- b) To return the Match Form with details of the fixture date to the SPA by the due date. The SPA will select a judge and inform the host club of his/her identity. It is the host club's responsibility to ensure that the judge knows the location and timing of the match.
- c) To provide a suitable illuminated print easel, a screen and a colour calibrated digital projector with associated computer, together with a competent operator.
- d) To read out the title or description of each photograph, at the time it is displayed, to ensure correct identification.
- e) To send completed and signed composite Score Sheets to the SPA within 2 days of the match.

9) Responsibilities of 2nd Round Host Clubs

- a) As stated in the rules under 8) Responsibilities of 1st Round Host Clubs c), d) and e).

10) Additional Responsibilities of the SPA Inter Club Competition Secretary

- a) To administer the Competition.
- b) To appoint host clubs for all first and second round matches
- c) To select judges for all matches from a list supplied by the Judges Committee and ensure that all judges receive a copy of the Rules prior to the event.
- d) To resolve any enquiries or disputes that may occur in relation to the conduct of the competition.

11) SPA right to use images and Disclaimer

- a) The SPA reserves the right to reproduce, without payment, but with due credit to the author, any images accepted for the competition for publicity and promotion purposes in connection with the competition and the SPA in general, including the SPA's web site.
- b) The SPA and host clubs will take all reasonable care to protect the competition entries whilst they are in their possession. However, no liability will be accepted for any misappropriation, loss, damage or misuse of competition entries.

Guidelines and General Comments

1. It is important that submissions comply with the 1024 x 768 size requirement. Images that are smaller are likely to lose impact in comparison with the full size projections. Images that are larger than the required size may be sampled down by the presentation software or the projector or may even be cropped. The judge will mark what is displayed on the screen.
2. Apple Macintosh users please Note: Image files **MUST** be saved with the three letter file extension (.jpg). It is most likely the competition will be projected from a Windows PC.
3. It is recommended that the projection system (projector and associated computer) should be calibrated and profiled together. If the projector settings for profiling are chosen as factory defaults it will be easier for the host club to ensure that the projector is set correctly.
4. During set-up for the competition it is the host club's responsibility to ensure that the projector settings and display profile are correct, and that the test image is displayed to the satisfaction of the competing clubs and the judge. In the extreme event that such agreement cannot be reached the host club will declare a postponement and consult with the ICC Secretary to arrange a rematch as soon as practical.
5. It is suggested that image titles are not displayed on screen during the judging as they may prove to be a distraction.