

Rules for Club Competitions

Navan Camera Club

2023/24

Club competitions

There will be a total of six competitions in the club year. The Theme for each competition will be decided by the club committee and will be indicated in the club programme at the beginning of the season.

All competitions:

- Should be inclusive and should allow all members to participate fairly based on their capabilities. Members will have their entries judged in one of three categories; Novice, Intermediate or Senior, depending on their assigned membership category.
- Shouldn't exclude members who join after the start of the season or who cannot enter every competition
- MUST reward quality NOT quantity (see scoring)
- All submitted images must be the original work of the entrant but printing/mounting may be done either by the photographer or a 3rd party
- Recognisable images of minors are allowed in club competitions however these images will not be displayed on the camera club website, or any social media sites
- Members may not enter competitions if their subscriptions are in arrears.
- Closing dates for submission of images and judging dates will also be indicated in the Club Programme.
- Prints will be collected on evenings of in-person meetings on dates indicated in the programme. No late entries will be accepted
- Members can enter up to four images in each competition (2 print and 2 digital). All submitted images must be uploaded on the Photo-entry software. Entries must be sized at 1920px on the longest side. Print submissions must have a digital copy of the image uploaded to the Photoentry software as well (this is for marking and feedback purposes only).

- **MEMBERS MUST SUBMIT AT LEAST ONE PRINT PER COMPETITION. If a member does not submit a print, their digital entries will not be judged. THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO NOVICE CATEGORY**
- All prints should be mounted. **Minimum** print size should be 10 inches on the **longest** edge. **Maximum** mount size should be **20 X 16ins or 500 x 400mm**. When submitted they should be labelled with **ONLY** the title of the image and the **sequence number** on the back of the mount. (The sequence number is generated by the Photo-entry software when you upload the image. This saves the competition secretary a lot of work). The top of the image should also be indicated. There should be no watermarks or other marks that could identify the member. Your name should not appear anywhere on the image or mount.
- Images used in demonstrations of processing by a third party during the club programme cannot be used in competition.
- Images (or duplicates) should not have been submitted to any previous club competition (see note on duplicates below). The only exceptions to this rule are entries for Print of the Year and the Panel Competition (see below)
- If an image is deemed to be a duplicate or has been used before it will be awarded a score of 0.
- Images deemed by the judge not to be adhering to the theme for that competition will be awarded a score of 0. Themes for each competition are in the "Documents" tab on the club website.
- No images generated either whole or in part by artificial intelligence are allowed. For composite images, all component parts must be generated by the author. You must own all the pixels!
- Each image will be judged with a maximum of 20 marks. 1st, 2nd & 3rd will be awarded in each category and also for print and digital entries separately. Judges may award honourable mentions or other commendations as they see fit.

Photographer of the Year

- Marks from each competition will then be accumulated towards Photographer of the Year in each of the three categories.
- The **TOP** score for each member in any competition will count towards this award (this can be either a print or digital score).
- NB only **ONE** top score for each competition will count. This is not an accumulation of points for all entries in any one competition.
- The **5 best scores out of 6 competitions** will be added at the end of the season to give an overall score
- Only a maximum of 5 competition scores will be used however if you enter less than 5 competitions only one score from each competition entered can be used.

What constitutes a 'Duplicate Image'?

An image will be deemed as duplicate if it is so similar to a previous image that it is virtually indistinguishable from the original. There must be a visually demonstrable difference between the two, and whilst this is subjective it is requested that authors exercise common sense when submitting an image. If in doubt the Competition Secretary will advise.

The identification of what constitutes a 'duplicate' image is very challenging and debatable. In deciding whether the rule has been contravened the relevant images may be circulated to our Committee members to adjudicate.

In outlining this rule we suggest that authors consider whether entering two such similar images is really stretching yourselves or developing your skills and portfolio.

The following is a list of examples of what might be considered 'duplicate' images. It is not exhaustive as the list could be endless.

- An image submitted as a colour image cannot be subsequently submitted as a monochrome, and vice-versa – they will be deemed to be the same image.
- Photographing a building (for example) and then taking a second one which is from virtually the same place/aspect – even if it is a different day, sky, camera setting, crop, lens... Unless it is a substantially different resulting image.
- Capturing a model in a studio setting striking a pose with eyes open and then another with eyes closed, or slightly different facial expression.
- Capturing a bird or animal in flight or in action taken on a 'burst' and then using a second image from the same burst.

- Taking a long exposure seascape with a boat on the horizon and then a second one from the same place, but which has no boat on the horizon

If in doubt you might want to ask yourself whether two images might be 'duplicates' – "would you enter these two images in the same competition?". If the answer is no then they are probably too similar and then shouldn't be entered into different competitions either

Print of the year (POTY)

This competition will be held towards the end of the season. Dates for close of entries and judging will be indicated in the club programme.

- There will be a maximum of 2 entries per member for this competition.
- **Only print format will be accepted**
- Submitted images **must** have been previously entered into the club competitions in the current season.
- No new images will be accepted
- Images previously submitted in digital format **CAN** be used in this competition, however for the **POTY** competition, they can only be submitted as a **PRINT**.
- Submissions to POTY will **not** be judged in separate categories

Panel competition.

This competition does not count towards any awards or photographer of the year. It is entirely for the education and enjoyment of the members. In the last couple of years it has proved extremely popular and well supported.

There will be 5 digital entries per panel (see PowerPoint presentation on constructing a panel on the club website)

Each member can submit multiple panels

These will be judged as per other competitions

Details of this competition will be made available throughout the season

Inter-Club, National and International Competitions

There are several IPF competitions annually for both individuals and clubs. Navan CC takes part in these competitions on an annual basis.

A maximum of two images per member can be submitted to any panel for competition

For **ALL** competitions both FIAP and the IPF state that an image which has been entered to represent a club previously cannot be resubmitted to a subsequent competition.

Individuals may be members of more than one club. It is up to an individual as to which club they wish to represent at national and international competitions. It is up to the individual to choose which club they represent, however that person can only represent **one** club in **any competition/Calendar year** – so the person must choose which club they want to represent at the beginning of the calendar year (not at start of club season as this varies from club to club)

Note on Labelling images

Try to use original titles. Avoid the use of common titles that could be duplicated by another member eg “Flower”, “Bridge”, “Solitary Tree”.

The use of original titles can actually convey a message to the judge and may benefit when being scored.

IT IS NOT THE ROLE OF THE COMPETITIONS SECRETARY TO CHANGE INCORRECT LABELLING OR TO MAKE SURE THAT IMAGES ARE ON THEME FOR A PARTICULAR COMPETITION. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ENTRANT TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL IMAGES COMPLY WITH THE RULES. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN IMAGES BEING EXCLUDED FROM A COMPETITION